

The Little Flower Messenger

Year A TWELTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME 21st June 2020

Welcome to our Parish Community of St. Theresa of Lisieux

The Presbytery, High Lane, Stansted Mountfitchet, CM24 8LQ

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(Office Hours: Tuesday–Thursday 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.)

Gospel: Matthew 10:26-33

‘Do not be afraid of those who kill the body.’

1st Reading: *Jeremiah 20:10-13*

Psalm 68: *In your great love, answer me, O God.*

2nd Reading: *Romans 5:12-15*

Gospel Acclamation: *Alleluia, alleluia! The Word was made flesh and lived among us; to all who did accept him he gave power to become children of God. Alleluia!*

Communion Antiphon: *The eyes of all look to you, Lord, and you give them their food in due season.*

This Week’s Good News

Dear Friends,

Our Scripture readings for this Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time call us to preach Christ through our words and lives without fear. The first reading tells us how the prophet Jeremiah trusted in the power of God while he faced opposition for his prophetic ministry. The psalmist in today’s Responsorial Psalm (Ps 68) displays the same trust in the kindness and great mercy of God when he is misunderstood and ill-treated even by his brothers and relatives. In the second reading, Paul assures the Christians in Rome that they need not be afraid of opposition both because they share in the death of Jesus and his Resurrection and because they are united with Christ, the new Adam, in his Resurrection.

Today’s Gospel passage is taken from the end of Jesus’ instruction to the Twelve apostles as he sends them forth in pairs to prepare the people for His own coming, giving them a share in His own powers of miraculous healing. He instructs them to live simply and to expect opposition and rejection. After having predicted future opposition and persecution, Jesus encourages his disciples to stand firm. Three times they are urged, “Do not fear!” “Do not be afraid!” Instead of shrinking from their task, they are to proclaim the Gospel boldly because they will be protected, just as Jeremiah was assured of God’s protection. Hence, Jesus commands his disciples not to fear their persecutors. He presents before them the image of the sparrow to reinforce the disciples’ trust and Hope in God. The readings hint at the opposition the Apostles themselves would meet, and we future Christians will encounter as we carry on the work of Jesus in the world, and they encourage us to persevere in doing the work of Jesus. They assure us that we will be successful despite the opposition we encounter.

Today is also Father’s Day!!! May all earthly fathers draw strength from their Heavenly Father! On this Father’s Day, please remember to pray for our Priests and all clergy, your spiritual Fathers—men who are called to be Fathers of an immensely large parish family through the Sacrament of Holy Orders.

Deacon Des

Mass Times

We are keen to share Mass with you as often as we can, and we livestream Masses via our YouTube page. This can be accessed via our website under the 'Live Mass Times' tab.

<https://www.sttheresastansted.org/live-mass/>

The Mass times are:

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| Monday | 10:00 hrs |
| Tuesday | 10:00 hrs (Latin Mass – will not be livestreamed) |
| Wednesday | 10:00 hrs |
| Thursday | 10:00 hrs |
| Friday | 10:00 hrs |
| Saturday | 10:00 hrs |
| Sunday | 10:00 hrs |

Please continue to check the website, Facebook page and Newsletter for updates and information.

Mass Intentions: Fr. Lee is still happy to receive intentions for Mass. If you would like a Mass offered at St. Theresa's for a deceased friend or relative or you would like a Mass said for yourself, please submit the details via the form on our website. <https://www.sttheresastansted.org/live-mass/mass-intentions/>

Private Prayer

The Church will be open at the following times for private prayer:

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| Monday | 11:00 hrs – 12:00hrs – Over 70's & people with underlying medical conditions only |
| Tuesday | 13:00 hrs – 15:00hrs |
| Wednesday | 13:00 hrs – 15:00hrs |
| Thursday | 11:00 hrs – 12:00hrs – Over 70's & people with underlying medical conditions only |
| Friday | 13:00 hrs – 15:00hrs |
| Saturday | 13:00 hrs – 15:00hrs |
| Sunday | 13:00 hrs – 15:00hrs |

Entry to the church will be via the front doors, with a one-way system operating inside the church. Exit can be made via the fire exit doors in St. Theresa's room. You will be asked to sanitise your hands on entering and leaving the church. We also ask that you listen to and respect the Stewards at all times. Please be aware that the church toilets will **not** be open to members of the public and children under the age of 16 must be accompanied by an adult. Various posters and signs will be on display to assist with the new guidelines.

Please note that these may be subject to change so please check our website

<https://www.sttheresastansted.org/keep-in-touch/private-prayer/>, Facebook page and Newsletter for updates.

Thank you to all the volunteers for their support, without which, we wouldn't have been able to reopen the church for private prayer.

Children's Liturgy

This week we have added to our website some information about Saint Faustina which families can follow together and use to support collective worship. We have also added a link to a useful document around advice on how parents can support their child/children through periods of transition and change.

<https://www.sttheresastansted.org/live-mass/childrens-liturgy/>

Pope's prayer intention for June: the Heart of Jesus

This month, during which the Solemnity of the Sacred Heart occurs, the Holy Father asks that 'we pray that all those who suffer may find their way in life, allowing themselves to be touched by the Heart of Jesus.'

More details can be located via this link: <https://www.pathwaystogod.org/resources/centre-news-ignatian-insight/praying-pope-june-2020>

Sacramental Preparation

Sacrament of Marriage: Catholics must approach the Parish Priest / Deacon, at least 6 months prior to their intended wedding, and before setting a wedding date.



Making an Act of Spiritual Communion

When we cannot fulfil our obligation to attend Mass on a Sunday or Holy Day of Obligation, whether because of illness or bad weather, or some other reason outside of our control, we can, and indeed should make an Act of Spiritual Communion. It is also good to make an Act of Spiritual Communion when we can attend Mass, but when something prevents us from receiving sacramental Communion that day—say, a mortal sin that we know we have not had the opportunity to confess yet.

We can make an act multiple times a day—even on days when we have been able to receive the Eucharist; because each Act of Spiritual Communion that we make increases our desire to receive sacramental Communion, and also helps us to avoid the sins that would make us unable to receive Communion worthily.

My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the most Blessed Sacrament. I love You above all things and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot now receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there, and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.



Gift Aid – Annual Statements

We would like to thank all parishioners for their continuing generosity in the donations made to Parish funds. Without this important source of income, we would not be able to continue to do the things we do.

This year we will not be printing and handing out the annual Gift Aid statements to all donors who have completed Gift Aid Declarations. Many of you have told us in the past that you do not need them.

So from this year, if you require an annual statement of your Gift Aided donations for the tax year ended on 5 April 2020, whether to assist with the completion of tax returns, or for any other purpose, please ask for one by emailing Angelo at : stansted-giftaid@dioceseofbrentwood.org and a statement will be sent to you as a 'pdf' attachment to the response email. No more paper or envelopes, which will be good for the environment, and save costs.

If you have any questions about Gift Aid, or would like to Gift Aid all your donations to the Parish (you must be a UK tax payer), please contact Angelo via the email above.



Planned Giving Envelopes & Continued Support

As we are unable to attend church in person, should you wish to continue making donations you can consider the following options:

Weekly Donation: Should you wish to make your usual weekly donation to St Theresa's you can do so via <https://www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/donations/?parish=stansted>. Please ensure that Stansted Mountfitchet – St Theresa of Lisieux is selected. Any funds donated will come in full to the Parish.

Current Gift Aid Envelope Donor or New Gift Aid Donor: If you would like to start making donations via standing order please email stansted-giftaid@dioceseofbrentwood.org for details on how to set this up.

Current Gift Aid Donor – change of circumstances: If your circumstances have changed and you no longer wish to contribute via the Gift Aid Donor scheme please advise by email to stansted-giftaid@dioceseofbrentwood.org

During these difficult times, we recognise that the financial impact on some parishioners can be significant. Your continued support for our Parish is appreciated.



NHS Track & Trace Scam

You may recall in our Newsletter dated 7th June we added some guidance from Essex police regarding the new NHS Track and Trace system. We have been made aware of some scams taking place in Essex. Please remember the following guidelines:

When the NHS contact you:

If the NHS test and trace service contacts you, the service will use text messages, email or phone. All texts or emails will ask you to sign into the NHS test and trace contact-tracing website.

If NHS test and trace calls you by phone, the service will be using a single phone number: 0300 013 5000. All information you provide to the NHS test and trace service is held in strict confidence and will only be kept and used in line with the Data Protection Act 2018.

Contact tracers will:

- call you from 0300 013 5000
- send you text messages from 'NHS'
- ask for your full name and date of birth to confirm your identity, and postcode to offer support while self-isolating
- ask if you are experiencing any coronavirus symptoms
- provide advice on what you must do as you have been in contact with someone who has tested positive for coronavirus

Contact tracers will never:

- ask you to dial a premium rate number to speak to us (for example, those starting 09 or 087)
- ask you to make any form of payment or purchase a product of any kind
- ask for any details about your bank account
- ask for your social media identities or login details, or those of your contacts
- ask you for any passwords or PINs, or ask you to set up any passwords or PINs over the phone
- disclose any of your personal or medical information to your contacts
- provide medical advice on the treatment of any potential coronavirus symptoms
- ask you to download any software to your PC or ask you to hand over control of your PC, smartphone or tablet to anyone else
- ask you to access any website that does not belong to the government or NHS

For the full guidance/information please check the GOV.UK website – www.gov.uk/guidance/nhs-test-and-trace-how-it-works

Remember the Essex Police advice:

If in doubt use the A, B, C of scam awareness:

A- Never Assume a caller, email or text is genuine.

B- Never Believe a caller, email or text is genuine.

C- Always Confirm by contacting a trusted number, family member, friend, your bank's fraud department or the police to check if it's genuine.



Online Shopping – How much do you trust them?

Now we have permission to shop again we still need to be aware of on-line shopping scams. Essex police have sent the following advice. Keep alert. Keep safe. With the majority of shops being shut due to the COVID-19 pandemic, our shopping habits have moved online. However, this has given rise to a new wave of people falling victim to online shopping fraud – reports to Action Fraud have increased by 51% since the start of lockdown. Always consider how much you trust the person you are buying from or selling to before parting with your hard-earned money.

As a buyer you should:

- Try to avoid paying by money transfers - they aren't secure.
- Be careful when using direct banking transactions to pay for goods. Make sure transactions are secure and to someone you trust.
- Don't send confidential personal or financial information by email.
- Use a credit card or an online payment option such as PayPal – it might cost a little more, but it will help to protect you.

As a seller you should:

- Ensure you have received payment of the item before posting it.
- Take photos of the item's condition prior to sending it in order to prevent fraudulent damage claims.
- Be wary of accepting payment by cheque. Even though it may clear, you are still liable if the cheque is forged or stolen.

There have also been a variety of online shopping frauds that relate to COVID-19, including the fraudulent sale of masks and other Personal Protective Equipment (PPE). In addition, criminals continue to be arrested for selling fake COVID-19 testing kits. These kits often contain harmful chemicals and the government have stated that **no home testing kits are available to buy in the UK**. Finally, as always with online shopping – **if it looks too good to be true, it usually is!**



Keep in touch

If you wish Father Lee or Deacon Des to call for a chat on a weekly basis to see how you are and offer guidance then please complete the form on the website <https://www.sttheresastansted.org/keep-in-touch/>, alternatively you can post your details to the Presbytery.

If you are in touch with people of the parish that may not have access to social media, or our website, then please ask them to also post their details to the Presbytery.

WhatsApp Group: Deacon Des started a parish WhatsApp group at the beginning of the pandemic. If you would like to join please email Des at desconnors@dioceseofbrentwood.org with your mobile number and he will send you an invitation to join the group.



Mass Times and Intentions (no public attendance)

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| Saturday 20 th June <i>The Immaculate Heart of Mary</i> | Mass: 10:00 a.m. <i>Livestreamed on our YouTube channel</i> Private Prayer: 1:00p.m. – 3:00 p.m. | People of the Parish |
| TWELFH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME Year A | | |
| Sunday 21 st June | Mass: 10:00 a.m. <i>Livestreamed on our YouTube channel</i> Private Prayer: 1:00p.m. – 3:00 p.m. | Claire O’Neill (RIP) Pat (Patricia) Dewar (RIP) D O’Neill |
| Monday 22 nd June <i>SS John Fisher & St Thomas More</i> | Mass: 10:00 a.m. <i>Livestreamed on our YouTube channel</i> Private Prayer: 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Over 70’s & people with underlying medical conditions only | Prayers for those who suffer Persecution, Oppression & Denial of Human Rights |
| Tuesday 23 rd June <i>Vigil of Nativity of St John the Baptist</i> | Mass (Latin): 10:00 a.m. Private Prayer: 1:00p.m. – 3:00 p.m. | |
| Wednesday 24 th June <i>The Nativity of St John the Baptist</i> | Mass: 10:00 a.m. <i>Livestreamed on our YouTube channel</i> Private Prayer: 1:00p.m. – 3:00 p.m. | |
| Thursday 25 th June | Mass: 10:00 a.m. <i>Livestreamed on our YouTube channel</i> Private Prayer: 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 pm Over 70’s & people with underlying medical conditions only | |
| Friday 26 th June | Mass: 10:00 a.m. <i>Livestreamed on our YouTube channel</i> Private Prayer: 1:00p.m. – 3:00 p.m. | Monica Kapalia (RIP) K Kapalia |
| Saturday 27 th June | Mass: 10:00 a.m. <i>Livestreamed on our YouTube channel</i> Private Prayer: 1:00p.m. – 3:00 p.m. | Laurence McCreanor (RIP) S Wood |
| SS PETER AND PAUL - Year A | | |
| Sunday 28 th June <i>SS Peter & Paul. Apostles</i> <i>1st Reading: Acts 12:1-11</i> <i>Psalms:33</i> <i>2nd Reading: 2 Timothy 4:6-8, 17-18</i> <i>Gospel: Matthew 16:13-19</i> | Mass: 10:00 a.m. <i>Livestreamed on our YouTube channel</i> Private Prayer: 1:00p.m. – 3:00 p.m. | People of the Parish |

