

# The Little Flower Messenger

Year A THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 15<sup>th</sup> November 2020

*Welcome to our Parish Community of St. Theresa of Lisieux*

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

Tel. 01279 814349 • [stansted@dioceseofbrentwood.org](mailto:stansted@dioceseofbrentwood.org) • [www.sttheresasstansted.org](http://www.sttheresasstansted.org)

• Twitter: @StStansted • Instagram: sttheresasstansted

**Priest-in-Charge:** Fr. Lee Bennett [frleebennett@dioceseofbrentwood.org](mailto:frleebennett@dioceseofbrentwood.org) ☎ 814349

**Parish Deacon:** Rev. Des Connors [desconnors@dioceseofbrentwood.org](mailto:desconnors@dioceseofbrentwood.org)

**Parish Administrator:** Clair Rava [stansted@dioceseofbrentwood.org](mailto:stansted@dioceseofbrentwood.org) ☎ 07734 273 969

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## Gospel: Matthew 25:14-30

*'You have been faithful in small things; come and join in your master's happiness'*

<b>1st Reading:</b>	<i>Proverbs 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31</i>
<b>Psalm 127:1-5:</b>	<i>O blessed are those who fear the Lord.</i>
<b>2nd Reading:</b>	<i>1 Thessalonians 5:1-6</i>
<b>Gospel Acclamation:</b>	<i>Alleluia, alleluia! Even if you have to die, says the Lord, keep faithful, and I will give you the crown of life. Alleluia!</i>
<b>Communion Antiphon:</b>	<i>To be near God is my happiness, to place my hope in God the Lord.</i>

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## This Week's Good News

Dear Friends,

This penultimate Sunday of the liturgical year reminds us, not only of the end of the liturgical year, but also of the end of all things and of the preparations we need to make to reach Heaven. The main theme of the three readings is an invitation to live in such a way that we make the best use of the talents God has given us, so that at the hour of our death Our Lord will say: "Well done, my good and faithful servant!... Come and share the joy of your master" Matthew 25: 21).

The first reading suggests that we should be as diligent and industrious as a loyal and faithful wife, in the use of our God-given gifts and talents with "the fear of the Lord." Unlike the one-talent man, she takes her gifts and "brings forth good, not evil"; she "reaches her hands to the poor and extends her arms to the needy," and she is a portrait of responsible readiness. In today's Responsorial Psalm, Ps 128, the Psalmist echoes the concept of the blessedness of the faithful servant of the Lord. The Psalm affirms that the fear of the Lord is the key to human happiness and joy.

In the second reading, Paul advises us as "children of the Light" to "stay alert and sober," living in such a way that we will be ready when Jesus does come and will encourage and build each other up as we wait for the "Day of the Lord."

Today's Gospel asks us if we are using our talents and gifts primarily to serve God and doing everything we can to carry out God's will. The parable of the talents challenges us to do something positive, constructive and life-affirming with our talents here and now.

We need to trust God enough to make use of the gifts and abilities we have been given. Some of us are, clearly, very gifted with valuable abilities, but there is no one, absolutely no one, who can say he has been gifted with nothing. We may be especially talented in teaching children, or cooking meals, or repairing homes, or programming computers. So, we should ask ourselves how we are using our particular gifts in the service of our Christian community and the wider society. We need to make use of our talents in our



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parish. God calls us to live in a world of abundance by taking risks and being generous. In addition to our homes and families, the best place to do this is in our parish. This means that we should be always willing to share our abilities in fulfilling the needs we will find right in our parish: feeding the hungry, visiting the sick or the elderly, housing the homeless, and welcoming strangers in our midst. We need to make the bold assumption that there is going to be a demand for every one of our talents in our parish community. We should step out, with confidence, believing that every God-given gift we have is going to be exceedingly useful and fruitful!

We need to “trade” with our talent of Christian Faith: All of us in the Church today have received at least one talent. We have received the gift of Faith. Our responsibility as men and women of Faith is not just to preserve and “keep” the Faith. We need to work with it. We need to offer it to the men and women of our times. Unless we do this, we stand in danger of losing the Faith just as the third servant lost his talent. The way to preserve the Faith, or any other talent that God has given us, is to put it to work and help it bear fruit.

Deacon Des

### **Making an Act of Spiritual Communion**

**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.**

### **Parish News**

**Lockdown:** Following the Government announcement regarding further restrictions in England, places of worship have been required to end all acts of collective worship since Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> November. Funeral ceremonies can continue throughout lockdown with restrictions. We shall livestream Masses via our YouTube channel: <https://www.sttheresastansted.org/youtube-livestream/>

The Mass and Private Prayer times are as follows:

<b>Day</b>	<b>Livestreamed Mass Time</b>	<b>Private Prayer</b>	<b>Livestreamed Rosary, Exposition of the Sacrament &amp; Benediction</b>
Tuesday	10am	1pm -2pm	
Wednesday	10am	1pm -2pm	7pm
Thursday	10am	1pm -2pm	
Friday	10am	1pm -2pm	7pm
Saturday	12 Noon	1pm -2pm	
Sunday	10am	11am -12pm	

Please note that the church is **open for Private Prayer only**. Confession will be available during Private Prayer, and on request.

Things may be subject to change so please do continue to check the website, Facebook page and Newsletter for updates and information.

We are reliant on volunteers to open for Private Prayer, if you are able to helping during the day please contact Clair via the [stansted@dioceseofbrentwood.org](mailto:stansted@dioceseofbrentwood.org) email address.

**Keep in touch:** As we start another lockdown your emotional and mental health well-being is just as important as your spiritual well-being. It is normal to feel stressed or lonely so remember to reach out to your usual supports, like family and friends, and talk about how you feel.



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As an additional support Fr. Lee and Deacon Des are happy to chat with you to see how you are and to offer guidance. If this is something that is of interest to you 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 & Email Distribution List:** If you would like to be on the parish WhatsApp group and /or email distribution list please email [stansed@dioceseofbrentwood.org](mailto:stansed@dioceseofbrentwood.org).

**Christmas Boxes with TEAMS4U:** Thank you to all our generous parishioners for supporting us with donations for the postage, toys, school supplies, sweets and many more items too varied to mention. Also, a special thank you to those of you that spent all year knitting teddies, dollies and hats in all sizes and colours. Together with village donations we have filled and sent 218 Boxes of Love. Unfortunately, COVID prevented us from getting together with our volunteers to fill the shoeboxes this year, however, details on how we managed it are in the Stansted Link Magazine for December. Teams4U have a website so you can keep up to date with their work throughout the year: <https://teams4u.com/> Thank you once again for your generous support. Brian, Eileen and Helen.

**Sunday Coffee morning:** If you would like to socialise virtually then why not join us for a chat and a short fun quiz from the comfort of your own home? Held every Sunday at 11.10 a.m. via the following Zoom details: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83024819984> Meeting ID: 830 2481 9984 Password: CM24Thrsx - All are welcome.

**Youth Mass:** During lockdown BCYS will be offering a weekly Youth Mass on Wednesdays at 8:00 p.m. It will be streaming on Instagram Live.

- **November 7th. BCYS Voices with Fr. Pascal Uche:** This will be the first in a series of videos from veteran BCYS-ers sharing their experiences and insights. Fr. Pascal Uche will speak about the pain and problem of racism, and the potential for young Catholics. Available to watch on You Tube.
- **November 22nd: National Youth Sunday:** BCYS will share the work of BCYS members and young pilgrims that has taken place this year. Available on You Tube, Instagram and Facebook.
- **November 26th:** Walsingham volunteers will be starting a series of Advent Reflections, exploring the meanings of characters in the Nativity, the meaning of the 4 Advent candles plus more. There will be two reflections released each week on You Tube, Instagram and Facebook.



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## Mass Times and Intentions

Saturday 14 <sup>th</sup> November <i>Saturday Memorial of the BVM</i>	Mass: 12:00 p.m. <i>Livestreamed</i>  Church open for Private Prayer: <b>1:00 p.m. until 2:00 p.m.</b>	<b>James McCreanor RIP</b> (S.Wood)
<b>THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - Year A</b>		
Sunday 15 <sup>th</sup> November <i>World Day of the Poor</i>	Mass: 10:00 a.m. <i>Livestreamed</i>  Church open for Private Prayer: <b>11:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m.</b>	<b>William Shevlane RIP</b> (M.Michelson)
Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> November <i>St. Edmund of Abingdon</i>	Mass: 10:00 a.m. <i>Livestreamed</i>	<b>Peter Chick RIP</b> (H.Chick)
Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup> November <i>St Gregory Thaumaturgus</i>	Latin Mass (EF): 10:00 a.m. <i>Livestreamed</i>  Church open for Private Prayer: <b>1:00 p.m. until 2:00 p.m.</b>	<b>Holy Souls</b>
Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> November	Mass: 10:00 a.m. <i>Livestreamed</i>  Church open for Private Prayer: <b>1:00 p.m. until 2:00 p.m.</b>  Rosary, Exposition of the Sacrament & Benediction: 7:00 p.m. <i>Livestreamed</i>	<b>Peter Bennett RIP</b> (Bennett & Dalzell Families)
Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup> November	Mass: 10:00 a.m. <i>Livestreamed</i>  Church open for Private Prayer: <b>1:00 p.m. until 2:00 p.m.</b>	<b>Departed members of the Quinn &amp; Walsh Families RIP</b> (B&E Quinn)
Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> November	Mass: 10:00 a.m. <i>Livestreamed</i>  Church open for Private Prayer: <b>1:00 p.m. until 2:00 p.m.</b>  Rosary, Exposition of the Sacrament & Benediction: 7:00 p.m. <i>Livestreamed</i>	<b>Holy Souls</b>
Saturday 21 <sup>st</sup> November <i>The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary</i>	Mass: 12:00 p.m. <i>Livestreamed</i>  Church open for Private prayer: <b>1:00p.m. until 2:00 p.m.</b>	<b>Mrs Margaret Aldridge RIP</b> (T.Aldridge)
<b>OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE - Year A</b>		
Sunday 22 <sup>nd</sup> November <i>Youth Day</i> <i>1st Reading: Ezekiel 34:11-12, 15-17</i> <i>Psalms: 22:1-3, 5-6 r.1</i> <i>2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 15:20-26, 28</i> <i>Gospel: Matthew 25:31-46</i>	Mass: 10:00 a.m. <i>Livestreamed</i>  Church open for Private prayer: <b>11:00a.m. until 12:00 p.m.</b>	<b>Our Young People</b>



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