

The Little Flower Messenger

Year A OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE 22nd 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 • www.sttheresastansted.org

• Twitter: @StStansted • Instagram: sttheresastansted

Priest-in-Charge: Fr. Lee Bennett frlee@dioceseofbrentwood.org ☎ 814349

Parish Deacon: Rev. Des Connors desconnors@dioceseofbrentwood.org

Parish Administrator: Clair Rava stansted@dioceseofbrentwood.org ☎ 07734 273 969

Gospel: Matthew 25:31-46

'He will take his seat on his throne of glory, and he will separate men one from another.'

1st Reading:	<i>Ezekiel 34:11-12, 15-17</i>
Psalm 22:1-3. 5-6 r.1:	<i>The Lord is my shepherd: there is nothing I shall want.</i>
2nd Reading:	<i>1 Corinthians 15:20-26, 28</i>
Gospel Acclamation:	<i>Alleluia, alleluia! Blessings on him who comes in the name of the Lord! Blessings on the coming kingdom of our father David! Alleluia!</i>
Communion Antiphon:	<i>The Lord sits as King for ever. The Lord will bless his people with peace.</i>

This Week's Good News

Dear Friends,

Today's Scripture Readings revolve around the Last Judgement scene of Jesus Christ coming in glory and power. It was Pope Pius XI who brought the Feast of Christ the King into the liturgy in 1925 to bring Christ as Ruler, and Christian values, back into lives of Christians, into society, and into politics. The Feast was also a reminder to the totalitarian governments of Mussolini, Hitler and Stalin that Jesus Christ is the only Sovereign King. Although Emperors and Kings now exist mostly in history books, we still honour Christ as the King of the Universe by enthroning Jesus in our hearts, surrendering our lives to God. This feast challenges us to see Christ the King in everyone, especially those whom our society considers the least important, and to treat each person with the same love, mercy, and compassion Jesus showed.

The first reading, taken from the Prophet Ezekiel, introduces God as the Good Shepherd reminding us of Christ's claim to be the Good-Shepherd-King, leading, feeding and protecting his sheep. In today's Responsorial Psalm (Ps 23), we rejoice in Jesus, who is our Good Shepherd. In the second reading, St. Paul presents Christ as the all-powerful Ruler-King Who raises the dead and to Whom every form of power and authority must eventually give way.

Today's Gospel describes Christ the King coming in Heavenly glory to judge us, based on how we have shared our love and blessings with others through genuine acts of charity in our lives. Jesus is present to us now, not only as our Good Shepherd leading, feeding and healing his sheep, but also as dwelling in those for whom we care. In the parable of the separation of the sheep from the goats at the Last Judgement, every person to whom we give ourselves, "whether hungry, thirsty or a stranger, naked, sick or in prison," is revealed to us as having been the risen Jesus. Our reward or punishment depends on how we have recognised and treated this risen Jesus in the needy.

Jesus Christ still lives as King in thousands of human hearts all over the world. The cross is his throne and the Sermon on the Mount is his rule of law. His citizens need obey only one law: "Love others as I have



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loved you” (John 15:12). His love is selfless, sacrificial, kind, compassionate, forgiving, and unconditional. That is why the Preface in today’s Mass describes Jesus’ Kingdom as “a Kingdom of truth and life, a Kingdom of holiness and grace, a Kingdom of justice, love, and peace.” He is a King with a saving and liberating mission: to free mankind from all types of bondage, so that we may live peacefully and happily on earth and inherit Eternal Life in Heaven. His rule consists in seeking the lost, offering salvation to those who call out to him, and making friends of enemies.

This feast reminds us today as it did when it was instituted in 1925, that no matter how powerful a nation may appear, how grand the palaces and thrones of worldly sovereigns are, there is only one King who matters, Jesus Christ. We are reminded today that Christ the King is found not in wealthy palaces and throne rooms, in luxurious surroundings, but rather in the faces of the homeless, the destitute and the poor. This is clear from today’s Gospel reading, where we are reminded that we ignore Christ if we ignore those in need around us.

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: Our current Mass and Private Prayer times are as follows:

Day	Livestreamed Mass Time	Private Prayer	Livestreamed Rosary, Exposition of the Sacrament & Benediction
Saturday	12 Noon	1pm -2pm	
Sunday	10am	Please note there will be no Private Prayer on Sunday 22nd November	
Monday	10am		
Tuesday		1pm -2pm	
Wednesday	10am	1pm -2pm	
Thursday	Please note there will be no Mass or Private Prayer on Thursday 26th November		7pm
Friday	10am	1pm -2pm	7pm

Funeral ceremonies can continue throughout lockdown with restrictions. We shall livestream Masses via our YouTube channel: <https://www.sttheresasastned.org/youtube-livestream/>.

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 email address.



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Mary Liz Simon R.I.P: Please remember Mary Liz Simon in your prayers, who sadly died earlier this week. Please pray for Jan her husband and Fiona, her daughter and all the family during this difficult time. Eternal rest grant unto her O Lord. Let perpetual light shine upon her. May she rest in peace. Mary Liz will be received into church on Wednesday 25th November at 16:30, followed by a Committal service at the crematorium on Thursday 26th November at 15:00. The rule of 30 applies to both services.

Christmas Masses: Christmas Masses will need to be booked in advance this year and will be based on a first come - first served basis. Numbers at these Masses will be limited to maintain social distancing and you will be allocated a seat for the Mass. Please can we ask that you only attend one Mass, so please book for Christmas Eve or Christmas Day, not both. This is to make it fair for all and that everyone gets the opportunity to attend Mass. **Bookings for these Masses will open for everyone from 1st December until 23rd December Details of how to book these Mass will be issued in next week's Newsletter.** The Mass times are as follows:

Christmas Eve: 4:00 p.m. & 7:00 p.m.

Christmas Day: 8:30 a.m. & 10:00 a.m.

Unfortunately, the current restrictions prevent us from having carols this year and holding any activities for the children.

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.

Safeguarding: Unfortunately, during these unusual times it is a sad fact that some people will use the vulnerability of others for their own gain and gratification. The safeguarding page on our website is updated on a regular basis with the Essex Police Fraud Alert Newsletter <https://www.sttheresastansted.org/safeguarding/>



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Mass Times and Intentions

Saturday 21 st November <i>The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary</i>	Mass: 12:00 p.m. <i>Livestreamed</i> Church open for Private Prayer: 1:00 p.m. until 2:00 p.m.	Mrs. Margaret Aldridge RIP (T.Aldridge)
OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE - Year A		
Sunday 22 nd November <i>National Youth Day</i>	Mass: 10:00 a.m. <i>Livestreamed</i> Church closed – No Private Prayer	Our Young People
Monday 23 rd November	Mass: 10:00 a.m. <i>Livestreamed</i>	Peter Bennett RIP (S.Woods)
Tuesday 24 th November <i>St. John of the Cross</i>	Latin Mass (EF): 10:00 a.m. <i>Livestreamed</i> Church open for Private Prayer: 1:00 p.m. until 2:00 p.m.	Fr. John Garrett RIP (Rev. D Connors)
Wednesday 25 th November	Mass: 10:00 a.m. <i>Livestreamed</i> Church open for Private Prayer: 1:00 p.m. until 2:00 p.m. Rosary, Exposition of the Sacrament & Benediction: 7:00 p.m. <i>Livestreamed</i>	Peter Bennett RIP (J.Bennett)
Thursday 26 th November	No Mass or Private Prayer	
Friday 27 th November	Mass: 10:00 a.m. <i>Livestreamed</i> Church open for Private Prayer: 1:00 p.m. until 2:00 p.m. Rosary, Exposition of the Sacrament & Benediction: 7:00 p.m. <i>Livestreamed</i>	Departed members of the Welsh & Glen Families RIP (J&C Welsh)
Saturday 28 th November <i>Saturday memorial of the BVM</i>	Mass: 12:00 p.m. <i>Livestreamed</i> Church open for Private prayer: 1:00 p.m. until 2:00 p.m.	Mick & Jim Cassidy RIP (E Cassidy-Jones)
FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT - Year B		
Sunday 29 th November <i>1st Reading: Isaiah 63:16-17; 64:1 3-8</i> <i>Psalms: 79</i> <i>2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:3-9</i> <i>Gospel: Mark 13:33-37</i>	Mass: 10:00 a.m. <i>Livestreamed</i> Church open for Private prayer: 11:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m.	Deceased Catenians RIP (J. Richardson)



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