

# *The Little Flower Messenger*

**EASTER SUNDAY THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD 4<sup>th</sup> April 2021**

*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.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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## **This Week's Good News**

Dear Friends,

He is Risen... Alleluia!

Today is a day of great joy. Jesus has risen as he said he would. Good has triumphed over evil, and light over darkness. The Saviour of the world has conquered the chains of death and in rising from the dead, he has brought all of us into new life.

In the Gospel account from John, Mary Magdalene is the first person to go to the tomb and witness the stone rolled back. Shocked and in fear and trembling she ran to the two disciples, Peter and John. John tells us that Peter entered the tomb first and saw the linen cloths on the floor and the cloth that had covered His head rolled up in a place by itself. John then enters and we are told it was at this point that he saw, and he believed.

This account from John tells us something very important about the role of Peter. When John went first into the empty tomb, he looked and deferred to Peter who, as the head of the apostles even then, had the duty to make certain what had happened and declare what it meant. At that moment of acceptance of the great truth of the resurrection, Peter was affirmed in his mission which was to be the first witness to resurrection to confirm his brethren in the faith and to lead the "little flock," the Church, in unity and charity. This very mission we see him practising in the first reading in Antioch when he recognises and preaches that God was with Jesus and raised him on the third day and granted that he is visible, and we are the witnesses chosen by God in advance who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead.

Whilst Mary Magdalene, Peter and John were the first witnesses, it is also our mission to witness Jesus today. When we profess our faith, we acknowledge Jesus' victory over sin and death. This is a victory for all of humanity, not just a few. We are called to bring this good news of salvation to all, to proclaim it at every opportunity and to work tirelessly for the good of the Kingdom, and the salvation of souls. To tell people that God so loved the world that He gave his only Son to take on the sin of the world, so that we may all believe and repent.

Today, light has conquered darkness. Love has overcome sin and death. Jesus has shown us that he wants all of us to share in His glory. Rejoice and be glad, He has risen just as he said he would. Alleluia!

Deacon Des



Please familiarise yourselves with the location of the fire exits, extinguishers, and assembly points at this church.

## **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.**

## **Season of Easter**

Dear friends, today we celebrate the start of the most wonderful season of the Church. The fifty days from Easter Sunday to Pentecost are celebrated in joyful exultation as one feast day, or better as one “great Sunday.” These above all others are the days for the singing of the Alleluia.

### **Sundays of Easter**

The gospel readings for the first three Sundays of the Easter season recount the appearances of the risen Christ. The readings about the Good Shepherd are assigned to the Fourth Sunday. This Sunday is known as Good Shepherd Sunday and we pray on this day for Vocations to the Priesthood and Diaconate, and to the religious life. On the Fifth, Sixth, and Seventh Sundays, there are excerpts from the Lord’s discourse and prayer at the last supper.

The first readings at these Masses come from the book of the Acts of the Apostles, in a three-year cycle of parallel and progressive selections: material is presented on the life of the early Church, its witness, and its growth.

For the reading from the apostles, 1 Peter (in Year A), 1<sup>st</sup> Letter of John (in Year B), and from the book of Revelation (in Year C). These are the texts that seem to fit in especially well with the spirit of joyous faith and sure hope, proper to this wonderful season.

### **Weekdays of Easter**

As on the Sundays, the first reading is a semi-continuous reading from the book of the Acts of the Apostles. The gospel readings during the Easter octave are accounts of the Lord’s appearances on Easter day. After that there is a semi-continuous reading of the Gospel of John, but with texts that have a paschal character in order to complete the reading from John during Lent. This paschal reading is made up in large part of the Lord’s discourse and prayer at the last supper.

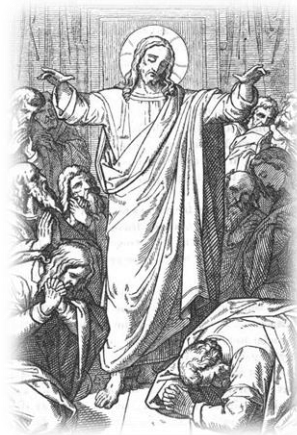
### **Two great Solemnities of the Ascension and Pentecost during Easter**

For the first reading, the solemnity of the Ascension retains the account of the Ascension according to the book of the Acts of the Apostles. This text is complemented by the second reading from the apostolic reflections on Christ in exaltation at the right hand of the Father. For the gospel reading, each of the three Years has its own text in accord with the differences in the Synoptic Gospels (Matthew, Mark, and Luke).

In the evening Mass, celebrated on the vigil of Pentecost, four Old Testament texts are provided; anyone of them may be used, in order to bring out the many aspects of Pentecost. The reading from the apostles shows the actual working of the Holy Spirit in the Church. The gospel reading recalls the promise of the Spirit made by Christ before his own glorification. For the Mass on Pentecost itself, in accord with received usage, the account in Acts of the great occurrence on Pentecost is taken as the first reading. The texts from Paul bring out the effect of the action of the Holy Spirit in the life of the Church. The gospel reading is a remembrance of Jesus bestowing his Spirit on the disciples on Easter evening; other optional texts describe the action of the Spirit on the disciples and on the Church.



Much like the season of Christmas, those outside of the Church might be fooled into thinking Easter lasts but one day, but it is a season of grace and great joy that lasts for weeks, a time to celebrate, and the Lord knows we all need to celebrate this Good News after a year of lockdown.



## Parish News

**Easter Weekday Masses:** Please note that all weekday Masses during Easter week (5<sup>th</sup> April – 9<sup>th</sup> April) will be at 10:00 a.m. Details of all other service times are listed on the last page of this Newsletter. Thank you.

**Livestream Installation:** We are pleased to confirm that our new Livestreaming service is up and running. Hopefully, this will prove to be more reliable in both the connection and quality of the picture than we have had in the past. The service will be improved whilst we go through the bedding in phase so please bear with us. Thank you to everyone that contributed to our fundraising plea.

**Thank you:** Both Deacon Des and I would like to say thank for all the cards, gifts, love and generosity shown this Easter. From our families to yours we wish you a very Happy and Blessed Easter. Fr. Lee.

**“Visions” Zoom Group:** Held every Tuesday at 3:00 p.m. via Zoom with the purpose of sharing scripture, promoting positive mental health, prayer, joy, and laughter, as well as pictures and art.

No commitment is asked, you can speak or just join and listen. The Zoom details are as follows:

- <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82226878791>
- Meeting ID: 822 2687 8791
- Passcode: visionst

**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.

**Parish Office Closure:** Please note the parish office will be closed from Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> April and re-open on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> April. Thank you.



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## Mass Times and Intentions

<b>EASTER SUNDAY THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD</b>		
Saturday 3 <sup>rd</sup> April <i>Holy Saturday</i>	Office of Readings & Morning Prayer: <b>9:00 a.m.</b>  Novena to the Divine Mercy: <b>3:00 p.m.</b>	
<i>Easter Vigil</i>	Liturgy of the Paschal Vigil: <b>8:00 p.m.</b> <b>Fully booked</b> <i>Livestreamed</i>	
Sunday 4 <sup>th</sup> April <i>The Resurrection of the Lord</i>	Mass: <b>8:30 a.m.</b> <b>Fully booked</b> <i>Livestreamed</i>  Confessions: <b>9:15 a.m. – 9:45 a.m.</b> Mass: <b>10:00 a.m.</b> <b>Fully booked</b> <i>Livestreamed</i>  Latin Mass (EF): <b>12:00 p.m.</b> <i>Livestreamed</i>  Novena to the Divine Mercy: <b>3:00 p.m.</b>	<b>Manuelinha</b> <b>(Lily Pereira) R.I.P.</b> (The Nazareth Family)  <b>People of the Parish</b>
Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> April <i>Octave of Easter</i>	Confessions: <b>9:30 a.m.</b> Mass: <b>10:00 a.m.</b> <i>Livestreamed</i>  Novena to the Divine Mercy: <b>3:00 p.m.</b>	<b>Marie Elizabeth Grace RIP</b> (T. Grace)
Tuesday 6 <sup>th</sup> April <i>Octave of Easter</i>	Confessions: <b>9:30 a.m.</b> Latin Mass (EF): <b>10:00 a.m.</b> <i>Livestreamed</i>  Novena to the Divine Mercy: <b>3:00 p.m.</b>	
Wednesday 7 <sup>th</sup> April <i>Octave of Easter</i>	Confessions: <b>9:30 a.m.</b> Mass: <b>10:00 a.m.</b> <i>Livestreamed</i>  Novena to the Divine Mercy: <b>3:00 p.m.</b>	<b>Michael Bambridge</b> (J. Bambridge)
Thursday 8 <sup>th</sup> April <i>Octave of Easter</i>	Confessions: <b>9:30 a.m.</b> Mass: <b>10:00 a.m.</b> <i>Livestreamed</i>  Novena to the Divine Mercy: <b>3:00 p.m.</b>	
Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> April <i>Octave of Easter</i>	Confessions: <b>9:30 a.m.</b> Mass: <b>10:00 a.m.</b> <i>Livestreamed</i>  Novena to the Divine Mercy: <b>3:00 p.m.</b>	
<b>SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER – Year B</b>		
Saturday 10 <sup>th</sup> April	Novena to the Divine Mercy: <b>3:00 p.m.</b>  Confessions: <b>5:15 p.m. – 5:45 p.m.</b> Mass: <b>6:00 p.m.</b> <i>Livestreamed</i>	
Sunday 11 <sup>th</sup> April <i>Divine Mercy Sunday</i>	Mass: <b>8:30 a.m.</b> <i>Livestreamed</i>  Confessions: <b>9:15 a.m. – 9:45 a.m.</b> Mass: <b>10:00 a.m.</b> <i>Livestreamed</i>  Divine Mercy Liturgy: <b>3:00 p.m.</b>	<b>For the intentions of</b> <b>Liam Baker</b> (Fr. L. Bennett)

**PLEASE TAKE THIS NEWSLETTER HOME WITH YOU AND DISPOSE OF IT RESPONSIBLY. THANK YOU.**



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