

# The Little Flower Messenger

Year B – THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER 18<sup>th</sup> April 2021

Welcome to our Parish Community of St. Theresa of Lisieux

The Presbytery, High Lane, Stansted Mountfitchet, CM24 8LQ  
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## Gospel: Luke 24:35-48

*'So you see how it is written that the Christ would suffer and on the third day rise from the dead'.*

<b>1st Reading:</b>	<i>Acts 3:13-15, 17-19</i>
<b>Psalms: 4:2, 4, 7, 9</b>	<i>Lift up the light of your face on us, O Lord.</i>
<b>2nd Reading:</b>	<i>1 John 2:1-5</i>
<b>Gospel Acclamation:</b>	<i>Alleluia, alleluia! Lord Jesus, explain the Scriptures to us. Make our hearts burn within us as you talk to us. Alleluia!</i>
<b>Communion Antiphon:</b>	<i>The disciples recognised the Lord Jesus in the breaking of the bread, alleluia.</i>

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## This Week's Good News

Dear Friends,

Today's readings remind us that the purpose of Jesus' death and Resurrection was to save us from our sins. The first reading, taken from the Acts of the Apostles, describes Peter continuing with the preaching mission which began on Pentecost in Jerusalem and which makes it clear that Jesus is the fulfilment of all the Old Testament Messianic prophecies. In the second reading, John tells us that Jesus is the source of the expiation of our sins. We acknowledge this fact daily by bearing witness to Him in our lives and by obeying His commandments. Today's Gospel leads us to reflect on Faith, doubts, and crises. It shows us how Jesus convinced his disciples of his Resurrection and then commissioned them to be his witnesses throughout the world. Jesus prepared them to receive God's power through the coming descent of the Holy Spirit upon them and commanded them to preach repentance and the forgiveness of sins.

This apparition of Jesus took place on Easter evening, after Jesus had appeared to the two disciples of Emmaus who immediately hurried back to Jerusalem to report the news: they had met Jesus, alive! He had seemed to be a stranger who had explained to them the Sacred Scriptures, but when he "broke the bread" they had recognised Jesus. The Emmaus disciples discovered that the apostles were already convinced of the resurrection of Jesus because Simon had seen him as well. While they were discussing these things in the still-locked Upper Room, Jesus appeared in their midst, shocking and terrifying them.

By inviting his apostles to look closely at him and touch him, Jesus removed any fear that they were seeing a ghost. He instilled confidence in them that he loved them by greeting them: "Peace be with you." By eating a piece of broiled fish before their eyes, he convinced them that they were not dreaming or having a mere vision or hallucination. Jesus wanted them to be authentic witnesses to the reality of his life as their risen Lord with his glorified soul and body.

Jesus told the disciples that they were to go out to the world and preach that the Son of God was crucified and died on the cross as expiation for our sins; that he rose from the dead and conquered death; and that all



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people must repent of their sins and obtain forgiveness in his name. In this Gospel passage, Jesus also commanded His disciples to remain in Jerusalem, waiting and praying for the coming of the Holy Spirit. Jesus needs us as witnesses to continue his mission. Witnessing to Jesus is testifying by our lives that the power of the Risen Jesus has touched us and transformed us in the most remarkable way imaginable. Witnessing to Jesus is letting Jesus speak through us to other people. Jesus needs Spirit-filled followers to be his eyes, ears, hands, and feet so that we may bear witness to his love, mercy, and forgiveness by exercising these gifts in our compassionate loving service of all our brothers and sisters. The Church desperately needs dedicated witnesses: priests, deacons, Brothers, Sisters, parents, teachers, doctors, and nurses – all of us. The essence of bearing witness is to testify by our lives that the power of the risen Jesus has touched and transformed us. In other words, Jesus is to speak to other people through us. In Calcutta, a dying old woman with her head in the lap of St. Teresa of Calcutta (Mother Teresa), looked at her for a long time, and, in a feeble voice, asked: “Are you the God Jesus who loves the poor and the sick?” The face of Jesus appears to others through 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**

**COVID Guidance:** As the Government continues with the COVID Roadmap, Mass and other acts of worship are still subject to the Covid-security guidance published by the Bishops’ Conference which they have issued following consultation with officials from Public Health England and the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG).

The following rules still apply:

- Face coverings must be worn in places of worship, unless you are exempt. This is now law.
- You can leave home to attend or visit a place of worship for communal worship, a funeral or event related to a death, a burial ground or a remembrance garden, or to attend a wedding ceremony.
- You should follow the guidance on the safe use of places of worship and must not mingle with anyone outside of your household or support bubble when attending a place of worship.
- Weddings, funerals and religious, belief-based or commemorative events linked to someone’s death are all subject to limits on the numbers that can attend, and weddings and civil ceremonies may only take place in exceptional circumstances.

We are hoping that when Step Four commences, after the 21<sup>st</sup> June 2021, it will bring fewer restrictions. Until that time we will continue to follow the guidance issued and look to keep everybody as safe as we can. Thank you for respecting these rulings.



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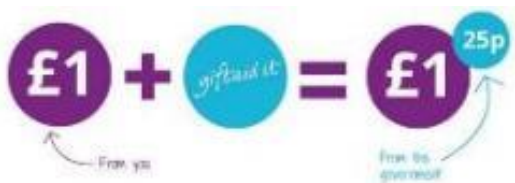
**Volunteers:** Can you help? We are looking for a Steward to assist with the 8.30am Mass on a Sunday morning. If you are under the age of 70, fit and well please contact Clair via [stansted@dioceseofbrentwood.org](mailto:stansted@dioceseofbrentwood.org), or call the Parish office. Thank you.

**Livestream:** Our new livestream is now up and running and so far, working very well! If you are unable to join us for Mass in person you can view the service via our YouTube channel <https://www.sttheresastansted.org/youtube-livestream/>



**Welcome to our Parish:** We would like to take this opportunity to welcome new Parishioners to our Parish. Anyone that has not yet contacted us about registration to the Parish please do so via email to [stansted@diocesesofbrentwood.org](mailto:stansted@diocesesofbrentwood.org) or contact Clair via the Parish Office numbers above.

**Gift Aid Envelopes 2021/2022:** Gift Aid envelopes for the current financial year are now available; should you wish to have them, please contact Clair in the office and she will arrange for them to be delivered to you. Your continued support for our Parish is appreciated during these difficult times; we recognise that the financial impact on some parishioners can be significant. We cannot thank you enough. Should you have any questions about Gift Aid, or wish to become a contributor, please contact us via email: [Stansted-giftaid@dioceseofbrentwood.org](mailto:Stansted-giftaid@dioceseofbrentwood.org) or speak to Clair in the office.



**“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:** Clair will be working from home on Tuesday (20<sup>th</sup> April) but can be contacted on the Parish Office mobile (listed above) and email. She will be in the office on Wednesday and Thursday. Thank you.



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## Mass Times and Intentions

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER – Year B		
Saturday 17 <sup>th</sup> April	Confessions: <b>5:15 p.m. – 5:45 p.m.</b> Mass: <b>6:00 p.m.</b> <i>Livestreamed</i>	<b>Dame Shirley Williams R.I.P.</b> (M Jacobs)
Sunday 18 <sup>th</sup> April	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>	<b>Jill Fitzgibbon R.I.P.</b> (B. Horton)  <b>People of the Parish</b>
Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> April	Confessions: <b>9:00 a.m.</b> Mass: <b>9:30 a.m.</b> <i>Livestreamed</i>	<b>Jonah Cairns (ill)</b> (M. Bennett)
Tuesday 20 <sup>th</sup> April	Confessions: <b>7:15 p.m.</b> Latin Mass (EF): <b>8:00 p.m.</b> <i>Livestreamed</i>	
Wednesday 21 <sup>st</sup> April	Confessions: <b>12:00 p.m.</b> Mass: <b>12:30 p.m.</b> <i>Livestreamed</i>	<b>Michael Bambridge</b> (J. Bambridge)
Thursday 22 <sup>nd</sup> April	Confessions: <b>9:00 a.m.</b> Mass: <b>9:30 a.m.</b> <i>Livestreamed</i>	<b>Peter Bennett Anniv.</b> (M. Bennett)
Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> April <i>St. George</i>	Confessions: <b>9:00 a.m.</b> Mass: <b>9:30 a.m.</b> <i>Livestreamed</i>  Rosary, Exposition of the Sacrament & Benediction: <b>7:00 p.m.</b> <i>Livestreamed</i>	
FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER – Year B		
Saturday 24 <sup>th</sup> April	Confessions: <b>5:15 p.m. – 5:45 p.m.</b> Mass: <b>6:00 p.m.</b> <i>Livestreamed</i>	
Sunday 25 <sup>th</sup> April <i>World Day of Pray for Vocations</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>	<b>People of the Parish</b>



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



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