

The Little Flower Messenger

Year B – SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER 16th May 2021

Welcome to our Parish Community of St. Theresa of Lisieux

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

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Gospel: John 17:11-19

That they may be one like us!

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|----------------------------|---|
| 1st Reading: | <i>Acts 1:15-17,20-26</i> |
| Psalm 102: | <i>The Lord has set his sway in heaven.</i> |
| 2nd Reading: | <i>1 John 4:11-16</i> |
| Gospel Acclamation: | <i>Alleluia, alleluia! I will not leave you orphans, says the Lord; I will come back to you, and your hearts will be full of joy. Alleluia!</i> |
| Communion Antiphon: | <i>Father, I pray that they may be one as we also are one, alleluia.</i> |

This Week's Good News

Dear Friends,

Today's Gospel is set in the context of taking place after the Passover washing of the Apostles' feet. This discourse is known as Jesus' High Priestly prayer as Jesus begins to prepare the disciples for his departure. Having already foretold them of his betrayal, and having given them the great commandment of love, Jesus tells them that he is going to the Father's house to prepare a place for them. He promises them the gift of the Holy Spirit and assures them that the Holy Spirit will teach them everything. He warns them of the world's hatred and explains that the Spirit cannot come unless Jesus goes. Finally, he promises them joy and peace. Jesus then prays his "High Priestly Prayer," of which our Gospel lesson is part.

Various scholars have distinguished the prayer into three parts. 1) Jesus Prays for His Glorification (17:1-8). 2) Jesus Prays for the Faith Community (17:9-23). 3) Jesus Prays for the Eschatological Union of Father, Son, and Believers (17:24-26). The main elements of the prayer are a) the founding of the community (17:6-8), b) the petition for the preservation and sanctification of the community (17:9-19), c) the petition for the oneness of the community (17:20-23), and d) the petition for the perfecting of the believers (17:24-26).

This prayer shows us how Jesus' relationship with his disciples is meant to work: (i) The disciples are given to Jesus by God. It is the Holy Spirit, God, who prompts us to become Jesus' disciples. (ii) Through the disciples, glory has come to Jesus, because the men whom Jesus has redeemed bring honour to him. (iii) A disciple is commissioned to a complete task. As the Father has sent Jesus to redeem the world, Jesus sends out his disciples into the world, in order to make that world aware of God and then to lead that world back to Him. He prays for his men in order that they may be such as to win the world for him.

However, Jesus also warns them that they were different from the world, and that they could expect hatred and hostility, because the message and the values and standards they possessed were wildly different from those of the world. The disciples must win the world for Christ by living out their Christianity within the



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world. They must bear witness to Christ through their transparent Christian lives, by reflecting Christ's love, mercy, forgiveness and spirit of humble service.

Jesus prayed for His Father's protection for his disciples from the attacks of the Evil One. If the disciples of Christ fall, it is because they try to deal with life themselves and fail to draw upon the presence of their protecting God and seek His help. God has chosen us and dedicated us for His special service of loving and obeying Him and bringing others to do the same. He has not left us to carry out that great task with only our own strength, but by His grace He fits us for our task, if we place our lives in His hands.

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

100th Birthday Wishes: Many Congratulations to Gordon Barrett who will celebrate his 100th Birthday on Friday next, 21st May 2021. Gordon, Have a Wonderful Day.



COVID Guidance: As the Government enters its latest phase of 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 apply from Monday 17th May 2021:

- 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.
- Funerals or commemorative events linked to someone's death are no longer capped, but determined by the size of venue permitted under current COVID rules.
- Weddings and Private Baptisms can now take place with the maximum number of 30 attendees.

As we approach Step Four which will commence after 21st June 2021, we continue to hope it will still 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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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 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. Please contact Clair in the office and she will arrange for them to be delivered to you. Should you have any questions about Gift Aid, or wish to become a contributor, please contact us via email: Stansted-giftaid@diocesesofbrentwood.org or speak to Clair in the office.

Parish Presentation By Dr. Carole Murphy: We are delighted to be able to announce that Dr. Carole Murphy, head of the Bakhita Institute at St. Mary's University, Twickenham, will be giving a presentation on Monday 7th June 2021 at 6:00 p.m. via Zoom.

The Bakhita Centre for Research on Slavery, Exploitation and Abuse, named after St. Josephine Bakhita, patron saint of trafficking, was launched in 2021 at St. Mary's University.

The Centre was created to continue the work of the Centre for the Study of Modern Slavery and to recognise the development of a broader research remit that takes account of intersections of other factors within human trafficking and modern slavery.

Although initially focused only on modern slavery, the research addresses broader issues to do with inequality on a global scale including gender-based violence, sexual exploitation and associated discrimination based on structural inequalities, race, ethnicity, asylum seeking/refugee and migrant status. The research also takes account of the intersection of factors that produce precarious situations for people, including migration due to conflict, corruption, and lack of economic resources, and helps to illustrate how this makes people vulnerable to exploitation. Through applied research, the Centre aims to address failures and limitations of statutory systems to protect victims of trafficking, domestic abuse and sexual exploitation; and offer understanding of the underlying issues.

Dr. Murphy will give a presentation of this important topic as part of our parish commitment to raise awareness of Catholic Social Teaching in the modern world.

All are welcome and there is no need to register. The joining details with the meeting ID and passcode are set out below. It would be wonderful to get as many people as possible to attend.

Please contact Deacon Des for further information if required.

Topic: Dr. Carole Murphy - Human Trafficking

Time: Jun 7, 2021 06:00 PM London

Join Zoom Meeting via the following link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83728545665?pwd=cTk0cHROV1RjUGZXSGNKMEtYUNIUOT09>

Meeting ID: 837 2854 5665

Passcode: 802057

“Visions” Zoom Group: Please note the time change, meetings are now held every Tuesday at 2:30 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.



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Mass Times and Intentions

| SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER – Year B | | |
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| Saturday 15 th May | Confessions: 5:15 p.m. – 5:45 p.m. Mass: 6:00 p.m. <i>Livestreamed</i> | People of the Parish |
| Sunday 16 th May <i>World Communications Day</i> | Mass: 8:30 a.m. <i>Livestreamed</i> Confessions: 9:15 a.m. – 9:45 a.m. Mass: 10:00 a.m. <i>Livestreamed</i> | Michael Bambridge (J. Bambridge) |
| Monday 17 th May | Confessions: 9:00 a.m. Mass: 9:30 a.m. <i>Livestreamed</i> | |
| Tuesday 18 th May <i>St. Venantius</i> | Confessions: 7:15 p.m. Latin Mass (EF): 8:00 p.m. <i>Livestreamed</i> | |
| Wednesday 19 th May | Confessions: 12:00 p.m. Mass: 12:30 p.m. <i>Livestreamed</i> | |
| Thursday 20 th May | Confessions: 9:00 a.m. Mass: 9:30 a.m. <i>Livestreamed</i> | |
| Friday 21 st May | Confessions: 9:00 a.m. Mass: 9:30 a.m. <i>Livestreamed</i> Rosary, Exposition of the Sacrament & Benediction: 7:00 p.m. <i>Livestreamed</i> | Gordon Barrett – 100th Birthday (T. Aldridge) |
| PENTECOST SUNDAY – Year B | | |
| Saturday 22 nd May | Confessions: 5:15 p.m. – 5:45 p.m. Mass: 6:00 p.m. <i>Livestreamed</i> | People of the Parish |
| Sunday 23 rd May | Mass: 8:30 a.m. <i>Livestreamed</i> Confessions: 9:15 a.m. – 9:45 a.m. Mass: 10:00 a.m. <i>Livestreamed</i> | Eileen Barrett RIP (G.Barrett) |

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



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