

# The Little Flower Messenger

Year B – Pentecost Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> May 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](mailto:stansted@dioceseofbrentwood.org) • [www.sttheresastansted.org](http://www.sttheresastansted.org)  
• Twitter: @StStansted • Instagram: sttheresastansted

**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) ☎ 01279 816 889/07734 273 969

---

## Gospel: John 20:19-23

*As the Father sent me, so am I sending you: receive the Holy Spirit*

<b>1st Reading:</b>	<i>Acts 2:1-11</i>
<b>Psalm 103:</b>	<i>Send forth your Spirit, O Lord, and renew the face of the earth.</i>
<b>2nd Reading:</b>	<i>Galatians 5:16-25</i>
<b>Gospel Acclamation:</b>	<i>Alleluia, alleluia! Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in them the fire of your love. Alleluia!</i>
<b>Communion Antiphon:</b>	<i>They were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke of the marvels of God, alleluia.</i>

---

## This Week's Good News

Dear Friends,

Pentecost marks the memorial of the day the Holy Spirit descended upon the apostles and the Virgin Mary in the form of fiery tongues. This event took place fifty days after the Resurrection of Jesus, and it marks the end of the Easter season.

This feast also commemorates the official inauguration of the Christian Church by the apostolic preaching of St. Peter and is also the official birthday of the Church. The first reading from the Acts of the Apostles describes in detail the fulfilment of Jesus' promise to his apostles that they would receive "power from on high". A noise like a strong driving wind was followed by "tongues as of fire" resting on the disciples, and each of them was filled with the Holy Spirit. The disciples had been hiding away in the upper room and despite having witnessed the risen Jesus, were still frightened, and confused. The reception of the gift of the Holy Spirit was manifested immediately by the transformation of the disciples from fear to going out into the street and proclaiming the Good News of Jesus. Everyone who was there, regardless of their native language, was able to understand the disciple's proclamation of salvation, "in his own tongue." This miracle of tongues reverses the confusion of tongues that we read about in the book of Genesis at the Tower of Babel.

The Gospel reading today describes how the Risen Jesus appears to the disciples on the evening of Easter Sunday, sending them to carry on the mission started by Jesus. This encounter is a precursor to Pentecost as Jesus empowers them for this mission by breathing on them and saying, "receive the Holy Spirit." The gift of the Holy Spirit or Paraclete enables the Apostles to carry out the great commission given to them by Jesus to preach the Gospel to all nations.

The Gospel also tells us how Jesus gave the Apostles the power and authority to forgive sins. "Receive the Holy Spirit. For those whose sins you forgive, they are forgiven; for those whose sins you retain, they are retained."



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

This relates directly to the Sacrament of Reconciliation, but it also has a wider context. These words remind us of our duty as Christians to love and to forgive those who hate us, just as we have been loved and forgiven.

The feast of Pentecost offers us the chance to look at the role which forgiveness should play in our dealings with others. Thus, we are challenged to examine our sense of compassion, patience, tolerance, and magnanimity. Learning to forgive is a lifelong task, but the Holy Spirit is with us to make us agents of forgiveness. If we are prepared on this day of Pentecost to receive the Holy Spirit into our lives, we can have confidence that our lives will be marked by the Spirit of forgiveness.

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 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 17<sup>th</sup> 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.
- Stewards are only required for weekend Masses.
- 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 21<sup>st</sup> 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.

**Baptism Courses:** The next baptism courses will be held on Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> May, 16<sup>th</sup> June, and 15<sup>th</sup> July at 7:00 p.m. in the church. To enrol on the course please e-mail the Parish Office [stansted@dioceseofbrentwood.org](mailto:stansted@dioceseofbrentwood.org) . Thank you.

**Sacrament of Marriage:** Catholics must approach Fr. Lee / Deacon Des, at least 6 months prior to their intended wedding, and before setting a wedding date.



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

**Weekday Masses:** Please note there will be no weekday Masses the week commencing 31<sup>st</sup> May 2021. Weekend Masses will continue as normal. Thank you.

**St. Therese of Lisieux - Wood Carved Statue:** We are hoping to purchase a beautiful and unique statue of St. Therese of Lisieux. It is hand-carved and hand-painted oak and for an antique piece is in excellent condition. The cost of the statue and pedestal will come to a little over £3,000. Should you wish to donate in memory of a loved one or any other dedication please contact the Parish Office, Fr. Lee or Deacon Des. All dedications will be listed in a memorial book.

**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 7<sup>th</sup> 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=cTk0cHROV1RjUGZXSzGNKMEtYUNlUT09>

**Meeting ID:** 837 2854 5665

**Passcode:** 802057

**“Visions” Zoom Group:** 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.



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

## Mass Times and Intentions

<b>PENTECOST SUNDAY – Year B</b>		
Saturday 22 <sup>nd</sup> May	Confessions: <b>5:15 p.m. – 5:45 p.m.</b> Mass: <b>6:00 p.m.</b> <i>Livestreamed</i>	<b>People of the Parish</b>
Sunday 23 <sup>rd</sup> May	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>Michael Bambridge</b> (J. Bambridge)  <b>Eileen Barrett RIP</b> (G. Barrett)
Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> May <i>Mary, Mother of the Church</i>	Confessions: <b>9:00 a.m.</b> Mass: <b>9:30 a.m.</b> <i>Livestreamed</i>	
Tuesday 25 <sup>th</sup> May <i>Whit Tuesday</i>	Confessions: <b>7:15 p.m.</b> Latin Mass (EF): <b>8:00 p.m.</b> <i>Livestreamed</i>	
Wednesday 26 <sup>th</sup> May <i>St. Phil Neri</i>	Confessions: <b>12:00 p.m.</b> Mass: <b>12:30 p.m.</b> <i>Livestreamed</i>	<b>Michael Bambridge</b> (J. Bambridge)
Thursday 27 <sup>th</sup> May <i>Our Lord Jesus Christ The Eternal High Priest</i>	Confessions: <b>9:00 a.m.</b> Mass: <b>9:30 a.m.</b> <i>Livestreamed</i>	
Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> May	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>	
<b>THE MOST HOLY TRINITY – Year B</b>		
Saturday 29 <sup>th</sup> May	Confessions: <b>5:15 p.m. – 5:45 p.m.</b> Mass: <b>6:00 p.m.</b> <i>Livestreamed</i>	<b>People of the Parish</b>
Sunday 30 <sup>th</sup> May <i>The Most Holy Trinity</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>	



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



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