

# The Little Flower Messenger

Year B – TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 12<sup>th</sup> September 2021

*Welcome to our Parish Community of St. Theresa of Lisieux*

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## Gospel: Mark 8:27-35

*'You are the Christ. The Son of Man is destined to suffer grievously'*

**Mass book (P. 132)**

**1st Reading:** *Isaiah 50:5-9*

**Psalm 114:** *I will walk in the presence of the Lord in the land of the living.*

**2nd Reading:** *James 2:14-18*

**Gospel Acclamation:** *Alleluia, alleluia! I am the Way, the Truth and the Life, says the Lord; no one can come to the Father except through me. Alleluia!*

**Communion Antiphon:** *How precious is your mercy, O God! The children of men seek shelter in the shadow of your wings.*

**Hymn No:** *Sunday 10:00 a.m. Mass only*

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## This Week's Good News

Dear Friends,

We are provided with the basis of our faith in today's Gospel reading. This being the acceptance of Jesus as the Christ, the Son of the living God, who suffered, died, and rose again for our salvation. Mark outlines the conditions that are required to become disciples, namely, denial of self, taking up our daily crosses, and following Jesus.

Today marks the beginning of a series of Sunday Gospel readings from Mark, chronicling the journey of Jesus and his apostles from Galilee to Jerusalem, during which Jesus provides instruction on what discipleship means and who He is.

In today's Gospel, Jesus provides the first of three prophecies found in Mark, concerning His passion, death, and Resurrection. This follows on from the Messianic confession of Peter.

Jesus declares to those present that, "Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross and follow me."

Denying self means to extinguish all selfish thoughts, evil desires and temptations from our heart and putting service of God at the forefront of our lives. To carry our cross with Jesus means to willingly accept suffering without bitterness or anger as part of our lives. It means that we must die to self and look to eternal life as the reward for our suffering. We offer our lives in the service of others and this may entail self-sacrifice and discomfort.



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To follow Jesus, means that we must follow His commands and listen to the word of God and ensure our actions are a witness to His word. However, this presents us with an interesting question. Do we have a strong enough faith to offer up a genuine sacrifice for the sake of Jesus?

In a world where it is frowned upon to put others first, can we put others before our own needs and sacrifice something for the sake of the Gospel?

This Sunday we are invited to look at our lives and to compare our lives with the life of Jesus. Are we ready to suffer and die for our faith? Are we ready to truly die to self?

We can do this in many ways, by setting aside time to visit Christ in a homeless shelter or care home. We can say no to unjust policies and practices, and by standing up for the truth when it is easier to just go along with the majority and do nothing. We can humbly accept the crosses that come our way and, even more to the point, we can stop in our busy lives and help to lift the weight of another's cross.

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**

**The Comboni Missionaries:** We would like to welcome Fr. Melaku Amente from The Comboni Missionaries who will be celebrating this weekend's Masses with us. The Comboni Missionaries are an international Catholic religious and missionary Order founded by Bishop Daniel Comboni in Verona (Italy) in 1867, specifically to serve the missionary endeavour of the Catholic Church. The Comboni Missionaries have been chosen by the Diocese as this year's appeal. This weekend's second collection will be for the work of the Comboni Missionaries so please be as generous as you can. Should you wish to view their work please visit their website: <https://www.comboni.org.uk/index.html> .

**St. Theresa's Church Grounds:** You will have noticed that the grounds have been looking beautiful this summer. We would like to thank all the parishioners who took time to keep our parish grounds looking lovely. A big thank you to the parishioner who cleaned and repaired the path, the parishioner who painted the steps to Our Lady's garden and those who have helped maintain and keep the grassed areas and gardens looking tidy. We are most grateful for your support and work.

**Parish Working Parties:** Unfortunately, we must postpone the deep clean of the Church and Parish Centre as only four volunteers came forward. We need many more people to come and help with this, therefore, until the cleaning can take place, the Parish Centre will remain closed until further notice. If you are able and willing to volunteer, please contact Clair via email or by phone. Thank you.

**First Holy Communion Programme 2021/2022:** There will be a meeting for parents of the children booked onto this year's FHC programme on **Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> September at 7:30 p.m.** in the Church. This is an opportunity to share the outline of the programme and for you to ask any questions. Please pray for our candidates and their parents as they prepare to make this next step in their faith journey.



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**Statement from Bishop Alan for Education Sunday, 2021:** This weekend sees the celebration of Education Sunday (12<sup>th</sup> September). Bishop Alan has released a statement, a copy of which is enclosed within this Newsletter. Thank you.

**Catholic Social Teaching - Parish Lecture Course:** Deacon Des will be holding the following presentations in the Parish Centre:

**Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> October 2021 at 12 noon and Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> October 2021 at 7:00 p.m. - Session 1:** History & Background of Catholic Social Teaching. "From Rerum Novarum to today."

This session will focus on the historical aspects of CST beginning with Pope Leo XIII and his encyclical 'Rerum Novarum,' examining the socio-economic landscape of the day and how subsequent papal encyclicals have continued this theme. The session will also examine the basic principles of CST.

**Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> November 2021 at 12 noon & Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> November at 7:00 p.m. - Session 2:** Just War & The Gospel.

This session will examine the doctrine of the Just War theory from Greco-Roman times, how this developed through St. Augustine and St. Thomas Aquinas, and discuss how or if this conflicts with the Gospel message of peace.

This pattern of monthly lectures will be held at 12 noon on the first date and will be repeated at 7:00 p.m. on the second date. Do please put these dates in your diary and come along. Please feel free to bring family and friends.

**Living Laudato Si – Online Retreat – 15<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup> October 2021:** Open to all, this retreat will help personal prayer and reflection, and parish action, on the critical issue of care for God's creation. Bishop Alan will open the retreat, which will be led by expert speakers. For more information see the poster at the church entrance or email [laudatosi@dioceseofbrentwood.org](mailto:laudatosi@dioceseofbrentwood.org)

**Baptism Courses:** The next course will be on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> September at 7:00 p.m. 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.

**Cashless Donations:** We are pleased to confirm that we are now able to offer you the option of making cashless donations via our new QR codes system. The codes have been placed by the exit of the church, next to the donation baskets. This system allows you to make payments via your mobile phone directly into our account for one of the set amounts or an amount of your choice. Please remember to gift aid the payment if you are eligible, it can make a big difference to the parish. Thank you.

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



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## Mass Times and Intentions

<b>TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – Year B</b>		
<b>Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> September</b>	Confessions: <b>5:15 p.m. – 5:45 p.m.</b> Mass: <b>6:00 p.m.</b> <i>Livestreamed</i>	<b>The Comboni Missionaries</b>
<b>Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> September</b>	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>Bill Blythe R.I.P.</b> (H. Bennett)  <b>People of the Parish</b>
<b>Monday 13<sup>th</sup> September</b> <i>St. John Chrysostom</i>	Confessions: <b>9:00 a.m.</b> Mass: <b>9:30 a.m.</b> <i>Livestreamed</i>	
<b>Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> September</b> <i>Exaltation of the Holy Cross</i>	Confessions: <b>7:15 p.m.</b> Latin Mass (EF): <b>8:00 p.m.</b> <i>Livestreamed</i>	
<b>Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> September</b> <i>Our Lady of Sorrows</i>	Confessions: <b>12:00 p.m.</b> Mass: <b>12:30 p.m.</b> <i>Livestreamed</i>	<b>Michael Bambridge</b> (J. Bambridge)
<b>Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> September</b> <i>Cornelius &amp; Cyprian</i>	Confessions: <b>9:00 a.m.</b> Mass: <b>9:30 a.m.</b> <i>Livestreamed</i>	
<b>Friday 17<sup>th</sup> September</b>	Confessions: <b>9:00 a.m.</b> Mass: <b>9:30 a.m.</b> <i>Livestreamed</i>  Rosary, Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Benediction: <b>7:00 p.m.</b> <i>Livestreamed</i>	<b>Holy Souls</b> (J&C Welsh)
<b>TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – Year B</b>		
<b>Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> September</b>	Confessions: <b>5:15 p.m. – 5:45 p.m.</b> Mass: <b>6:00 p.m.</b> <i>Livestreamed</i>	
<b>Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> September</b>	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.**



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