

# The Little Flower Messenger

Year B – TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 26<sup>th</sup> September 2021

Welcome to our Parish Community of St. Theresa of Lisieux

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## Gospel: Mark 9: 38-43

*'Anyone who is not against us is for us. If your hand should cause you to sin, cut it off'*

**Mass book (P. 138)**

**Hymn No:**

**1st Reading:**

**Psalm 18:8**

**2nd Reading:**

**Gospel Acclamation:**

**Communion Antiphon: (P. 140)**

**Hymn No:**

*Sunday 10:00 a.m. Mass only*

*Numbers 11:25-29*

*The precepts of the Lord gladden the heart*

*James 5:1-6*

*Alleluia, alleluia! Your word is truth, O Lord, consecrate us in the truth. Alleluia!*

*Remember your word to your servant, O Lord, by which you have given me hope. This is my comfort when I am brought low.*

*Sunday 10:00 a.m. Mass only*

## This Week's Good News

Dear Friends,

One of the best kept secrets of the Catholic Church is its social doctrine, or Catholic Social Teaching. Social justice and fair treatment for workers and their rights, was the motivation for the first social encyclical of the Catholic Church by Pope Leo XIII in 1891 and named, 'Rerum Novarum.' Hopefully, many of you will attend the parish lecture on this encyclical and the social teaching of the Church next month. In the readings for today we are reminded of how important it is for each Christian to fight for social justice.

In today's second reading from James, we see how he attacked the violation of the principles of social justice, by the greedy and morally corrupt wealthy who grew rich by the unjust treatment of workers and failure to pay them according to their efforts, instead spending money on self-indulgence. This is perhaps one of the most damning condemnations in the New Testament and is so forthright due to the serious nature of the act of withholding wages in the farming communities found throughout the Middle East.

In the Gospel account from Mark, we are given a lesson in Christian Tolerance and how we should live our lives. We hear John complaining to Jesus that a stranger was driving out demons in Jesus' name, though he was not one of the group attached to Jesus. The response from Jesus is certainly not what the disciples were expecting. Rather than condemn the man, Jesus reprimands the disciples for their distrust and jealousy and tells them to welcome God's power wherever it is found. God can and does use anyone to do His work. This is an important lesson for us today, as a world full of intolerance and suspicion of others, makes it so easy to denounce those who perhaps are different to us terms of belief and tradition but are nonetheless, involved in the sowing of the seed of God's word. As Jesus tells the disciples, 'Anyone who is not against us is for us.'



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Jesus also provides a warning against those who cause scandal. The reference to 'little ones' is considered by many theologians to include the smallest or the least, not just children. It can also include those who are weak in faith or new to the faith. To cause scandal is defined by the Catechism as 'an attitude or behaviour which leads another to do evil.'

As Christians we must ensure that we protect the vulnerable and weak. Those in positions of religious leadership both clergy and lay, must bear true witness to Christ, and be careful not to turn the weak and innocent away from God by a false, counter witness, and cause them to sin. Today we are beset by criticism and hostility to religion. We see it in the media, public education, political manifestos, and entertainment industry under the guise of 'freedom of speech.' As Christians we are called to be respectful and tolerant of others, but at the same time, we are also called to courageously profess our faith and oppose those issues which are at odds with our faith.

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**

**CAFOD Climate Crisis Appeal:** 1<sup>st</sup> October 2021 is CAFOD's Family Fast Day and GoGREEN Challenge. To take part, you can organise your own Family Fast Day Meal and send pictures/videos to CAFOD via social media using @CAFOD and #GoGreenChallenge. To find out more about the changes your family can make to protect our World and Go Green today go to [www.cafod.org.U.K./gogreen](http://www.cafod.org.U.K./gogreen)

CAFOD have local experts helping people all over the world to adapt to climate change and protect their homes. By donating to CAFOD this Family Fast Day you can help communities affected by the worst impacts of the climate crisis.

Donations can be made online through the CAFOD website, using a CAFOD envelope, or by text. Text CAFOD10 to 70580 to donate £10\* or any amount between £1 and £20 by texting CAFOD, followed by the amount you would like to donate to 70580. \*Texts cost £10 plus one standard rate message. If you don't wish to receive more marketing communications text CAFODNOINFO to 70580. More info [www.cafod.org.U.K./privacy](http://www.cafod.org.U.K./privacy)

**Confirmation Course 2021/2022:** We are pleased to invite young adults who wish to be confirmed to register for the 2021/2022 course. Should we have enough interest we are planning to start the course after the October Half term break. Candidates should be in Year 10 or above. Please contact Clair in the Parish office via email or phone to be added to the waiting list. Thank you.

**RCIA:** Are you interested in learning more about the Catholic faith? Are you a member of a different church and are looking to come into full communion with the Catholic Church? We are looking to run a Right of Christian Initiation of Adults course from October through to Easter. All are welcome to attend this course. If this is of interest and you want to know more, please speak with Deacon Des or Fr. Lee. To register please contact Clair in the Parish Office. Thank you.



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**Private Prayer:** The church will be open for private prayer on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 10:00a.m. until 11:00a.m. All are welcome.

**Baptism Courses:** The courses will take place on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> October, 17<sup>th</sup> November, 15<sup>th</sup> December and one in the New Year on the 12<sup>th</sup> January 2022 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.

**Catholic Social Teaching - Parish Lectures:** 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)

**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@diocesesofbrentwood.org](mailto:stansted@diocesesofbrentwood.org) or contact Clair via the Parish Office numbers above.



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## Mass Times and Intentions

<b>TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – Year B</b>		
Saturday 25 <sup>th</sup> September	Confessions: <b>5:15 p.m. – 5:45 p.m.</b> Mass: <b>6:00 p.m.</b> <i>Livestreamed</i>	<b>Bridget McCreanor R.I.P.</b> (S. Wood)
Sunday 26 <sup>th</sup> September	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>
Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> September <i>St. Vincent de Paul</i>	Confessions: <b>9:00 a.m.</b> Mass: <b>9:30 a.m.</b> <i>Livestreamed</i>	<b>Intentions of the Lucey Family</b> (S. McDowall)
Tuesday 28 <sup>th</sup> September <i>St. Wenceslaus</i>	Confessions: <b>7:15 p.m.</b> Latin Mass (EF): <b>8:00 p.m.</b> <i>Livestreamed</i>	<b>Zenon Handzel R.I.P</b>
Wednesday 29 <sup>th</sup> September <i>Sts Michael, Gabriel and Raphael, Archangels</i>	Confessions: <b>12:00 p.m.</b> Mass: <b>12:30 p.m.</b> <i>Livestreamed</i>	
Thursday 30 <sup>th</sup> September <i>St. Jerome</i>	Confessions: <b>9:00 a.m.</b> Mass: <b>9:30 a.m.</b> <i>Livestreamed</i>	
Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> October <i>St. Therese of Lisieux</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>	<b>For the Intentions &amp; Families of those who have donated to the St. Therese Statue</b> (Fr. Lee)
<b>TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – Year B</b>		
Saturday 2 <sup>nd</sup> October	Confessions: <b>5:15 p.m. – 5:45 p.m.</b> Mass: <b>6:00 p.m.</b> <i>Livestreamed</i>	<b>Michael Bambridge</b> (J. Bambridge)
Sunday 3 <sup>rd</sup> October          <i>St. Therese of Lisieux</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>  Mass (EF) (Latin): <b>12:00 p.m.</b> <i>Livestreamed</i>	<b>People of the Parish</b>  <b>Apolonia Babura R.I.P.</b> (E. Moser)  <b>For the Intentions &amp; Families of those who have donated to the St. Therese Statue</b> (Fr. Lee)

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



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