

The Little Flower Messenger

Year B – TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 3rd October 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 • www.sttheresasstansted.org
• Twitter: @StStansted • Instagram: sttheresasstansted

Priest-in-Charge: Fr. Lee Bennett freebennett@dioceseofbrentwood.org ☎ 01279 814 349

Parish Deacon: Rev. Des Connors desconnors@dioceseofbrentwood.org ☎ 07748 464 101

Parish Administrator: Clair Rava stansted@dioceseofbrentwood.org ☎ 01279 816 889/07734 273 969

Gospel: Mark 10:2-16

‘What God has united, man must not divide’

Mass book (P. 142)

Hymn No: 146

1st Reading:

Psalm 127:

2nd Reading:

Gospel Acclamation:

Communion Antiphon: (P. 143)

Hymn No: 50

Sunday 10:00 a.m. Mass only

Genesis 2:18-24

May the Lord bless us all the days of our life.

Hebrews 2:9-11

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

The Lord is good to those who hope in him, to the soul that seeks him.

Sunday 10:00 a.m. Mass only

This Week's Good News

Dear Friends,

In the Gospel today we hear Christ's explicit teaching on marriage and divorce, family life and the indissolubility of marriage.

The Jewish tradition had a very high ideal of marriage and divorce was extremely frowned upon. However, despite this, divorce was very common and in fact very easy to obtain. Moses had commanded that if a man was going to divorce his wife, then he had to issue a certificate of divorce. The wife was a man's property, with no legal rights at all. Moses ensured that by the issuing of this certificate the woman was then at least free to marry again. If the man did not issue the wife with this certificate, then she remained his property. In this way, Moses was trying to offer the wife some protection, even though he only allowed divorce if the woman had committed 'some indecency', which was held to generally mean adultery. In addition, only the man could divorce his wife. The wife could not divorce her husband.

King Herod had married his brother's wife, Herodias, violating the Mosaic Law. John the Baptist showed courage in condemning the king in public and lost his head for it. In today's Gospel, the Pharisees were setting a trap, asking whether Jesus agreed with John on the non-legitimacy of divorce or would criticise the Mosaic tradition and alienate the people. But Jesus used the occasion to declare unequivocally that the bond of marriage comes from God, not man, and that it is permanent and indissoluble: "What God has joined, man must not separate".

Jesus' teaching on divorce here stands out dramatically for its sternness, which allows no exceptions unlike the Mosaic tradition. In the parallel version in the Gospel of Matthew, an exception for unchastity/adultery



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is added, whilst the account in Luke does not include this exception. As is the case with many of the teachings of Christ, these are difficult messages to preach in a society that embraces co-habitation and has no issue with divorce being freely available. The Gospel teaches that family life is sacred, that marriage is between a man and a woman and that the husband and wife are joined together as partners with equal rights.

The Church understands that marriages can break down and that there may be many reasons for this. As Christians we need to reach out to ensure that the divorced are not made to feel isolated and abandoned. Rather, that they are accepted and treated with respect, compassion, sensitivity, love, and support. There are also Catholic support groups as well as expert advice for those who have experienced the pain of divorce and may be able to pursue an annulment if the circumstances permit.

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: Friday (1st October 2021) was CAFOD's Family Fast Day and GoGREEN Challenge. It is not too late 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

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 do not wish to receive more marketing communications text CAFODNOINFO to 70580. More info www.cafod.org.U.K./privacy

T4U Annual Shoe Box Appeal 2021 - www.teams4u.com: We are again sending 'Love in a box' this Christmas and would be very grateful for any suitable items to send. There will be a large plastic box in the Entrance Hall of the church for any of the following items you are able to give:

- Toothbrush,-paste, soap etc
- Stationery and pens, pencils, small colouring books, crayons, sharpeners, rubbers etc.
- Small games, skipping ropes, puppets, dolls, craft sets, toy vehicles, socks, sweets, (use by date from June)
- For older children, makeup, bath products, hair-gel, - bands, jewellery, gloves etc.

The Wednesday Club will be filling the boxes with all the donated items on the 27th October 2021. Last year we made up over 100 boxes. You can see children's beaming faces online or @teams4Utube. Leaflets are available. There is a poster on the Notice Board with our phone numbers if you have any questions. Eileen, Brian and Helen.



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T4U Annual Shoe Box Appeal 2021 Quiz: On the 23rd October 2021 at the Free Church Hall, Chapel Hill, Stansted, 7:00 p.m. to raise funds to send the boxes, which cost £2.50 each. Tickets are £5, bring your own refreshments. David Morson will be the Quiz Master - so you know you will have a lot of fun as well! Please see Helen Baker for tickets. More Details on Notice Board.

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.

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

Baptism Courses: The courses will take place on Wednesday 13th October, 17th November, 15th December and one in the New Year on the 12th January 2022 at 7:00 p.m. To enrol on the course please e-mail the Parish Office 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 5th October 2021 at 12 noon and Thursday 7th 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 9th November 2021 at 12 noon & Thursday 11th 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 – 15th – 18th 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



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Mass Times and Intentions

TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – Year B		
Saturday 2 nd October	Confessions: 5:15 p.m. – 5:45 p.m. Mass: 6:00 p.m. <i>Livestreamed</i>	Michael Bambridge (J. Bambridge)
Sunday 3 rd October <i>St. Therese of Lisieux</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> Mass (EF) (Latin): 12:00 p.m. <i>Livestreamed</i>	People of the Parish Apolonia Babura R.I.P. (E. Moser) For the Intentions & Families of those who have donated to the St. Therese Statue (Fr. Lee)
Monday 4 th October <i>St. Francis of Assisi</i>	Confessions: 9:00 a.m. Mass: 9:30 a.m. <i>Livestreamed</i>	
Tuesday 5 th October	Confessions: 7:15 p.m. Latin Mass (EF): 8:00 p.m. <i>Livestreamed</i>	For the intentions of Angelo (O. Salici)
Wednesday 6 th October	Confessions: 12:00 p.m. Mass: 12:30 p.m. <i>Livestreamed</i>	
Thursday 7 th October <i>Our Lady of the Rosary</i>	Confessions: 9:00 a.m. Mass: 9:30 a.m. <i>Livestreamed</i>	
Friday 8 th October <i>St. Osyth</i>	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>	
TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – Year B		
Saturday 9 th October	Confessions: 5:15 p.m. – 5:45 p.m. Mass: 6:00 p.m. <i>Livestreamed</i>	Elizabeth & Michael Cassidy R.I.P (E. Cassidy)
Sunday 10 th October	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>	People of the Parish

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



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