

The Little Flower Messenger

Year B – TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 10th October 2021

Welcome to our Parish Community of St. Theresa of Lisieux

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

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Gospel: Mark 10:17-30

'Go and sell everything you own and follow me'

Mass book (P. 143)

Hymn No: 143

1st Reading:

Psalm 89:12-17:

2nd Reading:

Gospel Acclamation:

Sunday 10:00 a.m. Mass only

Wisdom 7:7-11

Fill us with your love that we may rejoice.

Hebrews 4:12-13

Alleluia, alleluia! Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, for revealing the mysteries of the kingdom to mere children, Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon: (P. 146)

The rich suffer want and go hungry, but those who seek the Lord lack no blessing.

Hymn No: 145

Sunday 10:00 a.m. Mass only

This Week's Good News

Dear Friends,

In today's Gospel selection (Mk 10:17-30), we find three sections: a narrative about Jesus' encounter with a rich man, Jesus' sayings about wealth as a possible obstacle to discipleship and Jesus' promise of reward for those who share their material possessions with the needy. Reminding the rich man of the commandments that deal with relationships with other people, Jesus challenged him to sell what he had, and to give the money to the poor.

Jesus shocks the disciples with this challenge to the Jewish belief that material wealth and prosperity are signs of God's blessings, while poverty and difficulties signal His displeasure. Instead, Jesus declares that true religion consists in sharing one's blessings with others rather than hoarding them and/or getting inordinately attached to them. Jesus' teaching exposes the shallowness of our own easy assumptions about wealth and raises questions about the real basis of our security and hopes.

The young man who came to Jesus claimed that, from his youth, he had observed all the commandments Jesus mentioned, including the fourth commandment. His tragedy was that he loved "things" more than people. He was trapped by the erroneous idea that he could keep his possessions for himself and still obtain God's mercy. He failed to realize the fact that his riches had built a wall between himself and God. In other words, his possessions "possessed" him. Even though the rich young man had never killed, stolen, or committed adultery, he was breaking both the commandment forbidding idolatry and the one commanding love of neighbour. He worshiped his wealth more than God. That is why Jesus challenged him to rid himself of the attachment to wealth, wherein lay what the young man saw as his security and social status and trust himself completely to God by following Jesus.



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We all have something in our lives that serves as a *major obstacle* to happiness and peace. We must recognize this obstacle and address it head-on. It may not be riches — it may be anger, holding grudges, alcohol, drugs, lust, apathy, lies, unfaithfulness, theft, or fraud. Let us invite God into our lives and into our efforts to face and remove that one obstacle to holiness. We have a decision to make whether to go away sad like the rich young man, or to follow Jesus and be happy. Let us choose happiness.

We need to follow Jesus on *His* terms, and not on our terms. This involves giving up whatever in our lives leads us to evil. That's step one. Sometimes it may involve giving up things which are good. As parents, we might consider all the *time* and *personal recreation* and *relaxation* (all good things), which we have given up over the years for the sake of the children. As a mother or father who is also a disciple of Jesus Christ, this is required of us, and we make the sacrifice gladly. When we follow Jesus on His terms, there may be certain crosses to bear, but deep down in the core of our being there is peace, and there is joy, because we know that we are doing our best to carry out God's perfect will in our lives.

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

A parishioner recently reminded me that we were not publishing figures for the weekly offertory collections. COVID has changed many things, amongst them the way people contribute to the Church and therefore to make a meaningful comparison it is better to compare the overall monthly contribution whether by way of plate, by way of standing order or by some other method. Below are the figures for the year to date and a comparison to last year:

Offertory Collections - Comparison Year on Year

	2020-21	2021-22	Change	%	YTD 2021	YTD 2022	Change	%
05-May	£2,357	£2,831	£474	20%	£2,357	£2,831	£474	20%
05-Jun	£2,170	£3,323	£1,153	53%	£4,527	£6,153	£1,627	36%
05-Jul	£1,865	£3,229	£1,364	73%	£6,392	£9,382	£2,990	47%
05-Aug	£3,498	£3,113	-£385	-11%	£9,891	£12,495	£2,605	26%
05-Sep	£3,346	£2,709	-£637	-19%	£13,237	£15,205	£1,968	15%

Can we thank all of you for your continued generosity. John Richardson, Chair of Finance and Fr Lee.

CAFOD Climate Crisis Appeal: Thank you so much for your donations to CAFOD this Family Fast Day. Your generous gifts will help the people in the Amazon to protect our common home. You can add your voice to our petition calling for the Prime Minister to show leadership in tackling the climate crisis, and find out more about how you can get involved by visiting www.cafod.org.uk/reclaim

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.



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- 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 childrens' 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.

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.

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 this 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 presentation in the Parish Centre:

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.

Visions Group: The meetings are restarting on a new schedule. We would like to invite anyone who wishes to share and grow their faith to join us on the 14th, 21st and 28th of October at 7.30 p.m.. We are initially restarting in zoom (online) modality until the Parish centre reopens.

- Zoom meeting ID: 822 2687 8791 +
- Passcode: visionst.

For a direct link visit the parish website calendar or contact Isobel.

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-EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – Year B		
Saturday 9th 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 10th 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
Monday 11th October <i>St John XXIII</i>	Confessions: 9:00 a.m. Mass: 9:30 a.m. <i>Livestreamed</i>	
Tuesday 12th October <i>St Ethelburga</i>	Confessions: 7:15 p.m. Latin Mass (EF): 8:00 p.m. <i>Livestreamed</i>	Bill Blyth R.I.P. 1st Anniversary (H. Bennett)
Wednesday 13th October	Confessions: 12:00 p.m. Mass: 12:30 p.m. <i>Livestreamed</i>	Michael Bambridge (J. Bambridge)
Thursday 14th October	Confessions: 9:00 a.m. Mass: 9:30 a.m. <i>Livestreamed</i>	Tommaso Mastrandrea R.I.P. (G. Galati)
Friday 15th October <i>St Theresa of Jesus (Avila)</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>	Ted Clarke R.I.P. (K, Clarke)
TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – Year B		
Saturday 16th October	Confessions: 5:15 p.m. – 5:45 p.m. Mass: 6:00 p.m. <i>Livestreamed</i>	Lawrence McCreanor R.I.P (S. Wood)
Sunday 17th 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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