

# *The Little Flower Messenger*

Year B – THIRTY- THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 14<sup>th</sup> November 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 13:24-32**

*'He will gather his chosen from the four winds'*

**Mass book (P. 157)**

**1st Reading:**

*Daniel 12:1-13*

**Psalm 15:5:**

*Preserve me, God I take refuge in you.*

**2nd Reading:**

*Hebrews 10:11-18, 18*

**Gospel Acclamation:**

*Alleluia, alleluia! Stay awake and stand ready, because you do not know the hour when the Son of Man is coming. Alleluia!*

**Communion Antiphon: (P. 159)**

*To be near God is my happiness, to place my hope in God the Lord.*

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## **This Week's Good News**

Dear Friends,

The first reading today from the prophet Daniel, was given during a time of great persecution for the Jewish people by a cruel pagan King. It is a reminder to live in the moment rather than waste our time worrying about the future. The Gospel reading from Mark, offered hope to those Christians suffering persecution and torture under the Roman Emperor Nero. It reassured those Christians suffering torment that Jesus would return to earth to judge the living and the dead, and the just will receive an eternal reward.

Jesus gives us the parable of the fig tree to demonstrate how we must always be alert to His return and be ready to give an account of our lives to Him. He tells us to read the signs of the times, whilst declaring that we cannot know 'either the day or the hour' of his '*Parousia*', (Second Coming).

This doctrine of the 'end times' should not be a reason to fear. Rather, as Christians we should look forward to this, as it will be the culmination of the triumph of good over evil. We are not left alone to wait for this event, as Jesus is with us every day, along with the Holy Spirit, the '*Paraclete*'. We are asked not to worry but to live our lives in a state of readiness, serving God through service to others.

We are called to be agents of love, reconciling with our brothers and sisters, and striving to achieve the mission of the Church, the salvation of souls. Each year at this time, the Church asks us to consider the 'four last things' – Death, Judgement, Heaven and Hell – as happening to ourselves. Understandably, we do not like to dwell on death. This is because we are so attached to this world and everything, we have in it that the thought of leaving behind our loved ones rightly leaves us feeling sad.



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

However, as Catholics we profess that we believe in 'the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come'. This then, should be always at the forefront of our minds. There is a very old Catholic tradition called, 'Memento Mori', or 'remember death'. This is a tradition that goes back many years, and devotees of it will often have a skull at home or in their workplaces to remind them of their death. Sounds morbid? At first thought possibly, but it reminds us to be ready for our own judgement, which may come quickly and unexpectedly. If we strive to love and serve each day, then this personal judgement should hold no fears for us.

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**

**Month of Holy Souls:** November is the month of prayer for Holy Souls, when we pray for all the faithful departed, those known and dear to us, and those too, who have no one to pray for them. Should you wish, please write the names of departed loved ones on a piece of paper and once completed post through the Presbytery letter box. The names on the sheets will be kept on the altar for the month of November and will be remembered at the Masses during November. A Mass stipend can also be placed in this envelope.

**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.

**Rosary, Exposition of the Sacrament & Benediction:** The Friday evening sessions are now postponed over the winter months. A new date will be published as soon as it is known. Thank you.

**Baptism Course:** The next course takes place this Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> November. The next course will take place on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> December and one in the New Year on 12<sup>th</sup> January 2022, all at 7:00 p.m. To enrol on the course, please email 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.

**Visions Group:** We would like to invite anyone who wishes to share and grow their faith to join us every Monday from the 15<sup>th</sup> November at 3:45 p.m.

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

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

**Inaugural lecture of the Centre for Ecclesial Ethics:** You are warmly invited to the inaugural lecture of the Centre for Ecclesial Ethics on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> December at 6pm on zoom, in which Professor Jim Keenan SJ will explore how an ecclesial ethics of vulnerability can offer a pathway of renewal for our Church and enable us to become the different, attentive and vulnerable Church that God calls us to be in service of a fragile world emerging from Covid. Tickets are free and bookings can be made at <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/centre-for-ecclesial-ethics-inaugural-lecture-tickets-192356893647> - All are welcome and further details can be viewed at [www.mbit.cam.ac.uk](http://www.mbit.cam.ac.uk)



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**The Diocesan Lourdes Pilgrimage:** Led by Bishop Alan, the pilgrimage will take place from Sunday 24 – Friday 29 July 2022 in Lourdes. It will be the first time in three years that the diocese has returned to Lourdes. Brochures for the pilgrimage, which will include costs, will be available soon. If you would like further information now, please contact Cathy O'Connor, the Administrative Director via email [cathy@dioceseofbrentwood.org](mailto:cathy@dioceseofbrentwood.org) or by calling 07813 710070.

**Gift Aid Envelopes 2021/2022:** We still have a number of uncollected Gift Aid envelopes for the current financial year; should you wish to have them, please contact Clair in the office and she will arrange for them to be collected or delivered to you. Your continued support for our Parish is appreciated; we cannot thank you enough. If you are a tax payer and are donating to the Parish without a Gift Aid declaration in place, we are unable to claim the extra 25% from the government. Should you have any questions about Gift Aid, or wish to become a contributor, please contact us via email: [Stansted-giftaid@dioceseofbrentwood.org](mailto:Stansted-giftaid@dioceseofbrentwood.org) or speak to Clair in the office.



## Holy Souls

As the weather grows colder and the nights begin to draw in, it is natural that our thoughts turn to those whom we have loved who are no longer with us. How appropriate, then, that the Catholic Church offers us November as the Month of prayer for the Holy Souls in Purgatory.

In recent years, perhaps no Catholic doctrine has been more misunderstood even by Catholics ourselves than the doctrine of Purgatory. Consequently, we tend to downplay it, even seem a little embarrassed by it, and it is the Holy Souls who suffer because of our discomfort with the doctrine.

Purgatory is not, as many people think, one last trial; all of those who make it to Purgatory will one day be in Heaven. Purgatory is where those who have died in grace, but who have not fully atoned for the temporal punishments resulting from their sins, go to finish their atonement before entering Heaven. A soul in Purgatory may suffer, but they have the assurance that they will ultimately enter Heaven when their punishment is complete. Catholics believe Purgatory is an expression of God's love, His desire to cleanse our souls of all that might keep us from experiencing the fullness of joy in Heaven.

As Christians, we don't travel through this world alone. Our salvation is wrapped up with the salvation of others, and charity requires us to come to their aid. The same is true of the Holy Souls. In their time in Purgatory, they can pray for us, and we should pray for the faithful departed that they may be freed from the punishment for their sins and enter into Heaven.

We should pray for the dead throughout the year, especially on the anniversary of their death, but in this Month of the Holy Souls, we should devote some time every day to prayer for the dead. We should start with those closest to us—our mothers and fathers, for instance—but we should also offer prayers for all the souls, and especially for those most forsaken.

We believe that those Holy Souls for whom we pray will continue to pray for us after they have been released from Purgatory. If we live Christian lives, we too will likely find ourselves in Purgatory someday, and our acts of charity toward the Holy Souls there now will ensure that they remember us before the throne of God when we are most in need of prayers. It's a comforting thought, and one that should encourage us, especially in this month of November, to offer our prayers for the Holy Souls.



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## **Mass Times and Intentions**

<b>THIRTY- THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – Year B</b>		
<b>Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> November</b>	Confessions: <b>5:15 p.m. – 5:45 p.m.</b> Mass: <b>6:00 p.m.</b> <i>Livestreamed</i>	<b>James McCreanor R.I.P.</b> (S. Wood)
<b>Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> November</b> <i>Remembrance Sunday</i> <i>World Day of the Poor</i>	Mass of Requiem: <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>  Act of Remembrance: <b>11:00 a.m.</b>	<b>Those who have Fallen in Battle in Two World Wars and subsequent battles and conflicts</b>  <b>Roman Babula R.I.P.</b> (Moser Family)
<b>Monday 15<sup>th</sup> November</b> <i>St Albert the Great</i>	Confessions: <b>9:00 a.m.</b> Mass: <b>9:30 a.m.</b> <i>Livestreamed</i>	<b>Stephen Foster R.I.P.</b>
<b>Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> November</b> <i>St Edmund</i>	Confessions: <b>7:15 p.m.</b> Latin Mass (EF): <b>8:00 p.m.</b> <i>Livestreamed</i>	<b>The Health of Fr James</b> (O.Salici)
<b>Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> November</b> <i>St Elizabeth of Hungary</i>	Confessions: <b>12:00 p.m.</b> Mass: <b>12:30 p.m.</b> <i>Livestreamed</i>	<b>Holy Souls</b>
<b>Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> November</b>	Confessions: <b>9:00 a.m.</b> Mass: <b>9:30 a.m.</b> <i>Livestreamed</i>	<b>Roman &amp; Apolonia Babula R.I.P.</b> (Moser Family)
<b>Friday 19<sup>th</sup> November</b>	Confessions: <b>9:00 a.m.</b> Mass: <b>9:30 a.m.</b> <i>Livestreamed</i>	<b>Holy Souls</b>
<b>OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST THE KING – Year B</b>		
<b>Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> November</b>	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)
<b>Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> November</b> <i>Youth Day</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>	<b>People of the Parish</b>  <b>The repose of the souls of the Roberts &amp; Hurley Families</b> (F. Roberts)



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



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