

The Little Flower Messenger

Year C – FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – 30th January 2022

Welcome to our Parish Community of St. Theresa of Lisieux

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Gospel: Luke 4:21-30

'Like Elijah and Elisha, Jesus is not sent to the Jews only.'

Mass book (P. 132)

1st Reading:

Jeremiah 1:4-5, 17-19

Psalms 70:1-6:

My lips will tell of your help.

2nd Reading:

1 Corinthians 12:31-13:13

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: (P. 135)

Let your face shine on your servant. Save me in your merciful love. O'Lord, let me never be put to shame, for I call on you.

This Week's Good News

Dear Friends,

Along with the Law, the Prophets are the dominant theme of the Old Testament. The Power, beauty, and disturbing truthfulness of the Prophets Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel, and the Minor Prophets take hold of our consciousness, and they come to the fore during our Advent and Lent Liturgies. The Prophet is one who is singled out, elected, called to fulfil a special task of preaching, a ministry of truth. And whilst truth will set us free, it is rarely appreciated by its hearers at the time of telling. The Prophet is asked to reveal what is hidden, to show up hypocrisy and hidden motivation, to direct people towards God. This often involves provoking resentment, anger, misunderstanding, isolation, rejection, and even death. Running through it all, though, is the promise of God's total support because of this work of prophecy, the proclamation of truth.

Today's First Reading points us beyond Jeremiah to Jesus. Like Jeremiah, Jesus was consecrated in the womb and sent as a "prophet to the nations" (see Luke 1:31–33). Like the prophets before Him, Jesus too faces hostility. In today's Gospel reading, the crowd in His hometown synagogue quickly turns on Him, apparently demanding a sign, some proof of divine origins—that He's more than just "the son of Joseph." The sign He gives them is that of the prophets Elijah and Elisha. From their colourful careers Jesus draws two stories. In each, the prophets bypass "many . . . in Israel" to bestow God's blessings on non-Israelites who had faith that the prophets were men of God (see 1 Kings 17:1–16; 2 Kings 5:1–14). "None . . . not one" in Israel was found deserving, Jesus emphasises. His point isn't lost on His audience. They know He's likening them to the "many . . . in Israel" in the days of the prophets. That's why they try to push Him off the cliff. As He promised to protect Jeremiah, the Lord delivers Jesus from those who would crush Him.



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

As were Elijah and Elisha, Jesus is sent to proclaim God's gift of salvation—not exclusively to one nation or people, but to all who realise in faith that from the womb God alone is their hope, their rescuer, their “rock of refuge,” as we say together in today's Psalm.

Prophecies, Paul tells us in today's second reading from his first letter to the Corinthians, are partial and pass away “when the perfect comes.” In Jesus, the word of the prophets has been brought to perfection, fulfilled in those who have ears to hear, as He declares in today's Gospel. Greater than the gifts of faith and hope, Jesus shows us how to love as He loved—to love God as our Father, as the one who formed us in the womb and destined us to hear His saving Word. This is the salvation, the “mighty works of the Lord,” that we, like the psalmist, are thankful to proclaim daily in the Mass.

Fr Lee

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

COVID19 – Bishops' Conference Guidance: The guidance below has been issued by the Bishops of England and Wales following the removal of restrictions by HM Government on 27th January 2022.

- Those attending an act of worship may continue to wear a face covering (both nose and mouth) whilst in the church building.
- There is no need for formal social distancing in church buildings, although those present should be sensitive to the needs of others around them.
- Churches should continue to ensure there is good ventilation, balancing this against the need for church heating, especially at this time.
- It is clear from scientific evidence that transmission from surfaces (touch transmission) is now minimal and so the use of hymn books, missals and other worship aids can be resumed with immediate effect.
- Whilst it is still good practice to sanitise hands on entry and exit of churches, there is no need for readers (or other ministers) to sanitise their hands before reading or performing other ministries in the church. All ministers of Holy Communion (clergy and lay people) should still sanitise their hands for the distribution of Holy Communion.
- Holy water stoups may be refilled but care should be seen that the water is changed regularly (at a minimum of once a week). Usual forms of church cleaning are sufficient.
- Regarding the liturgical action, there should be a return to the normal mode of celebrating Mass respecting the integrity of the Rite. This would include the reintroduction of the Prayer of the Faithful (where this has not been reinstated already), the Sign of Peace may be offered again if felt appropriate, and Holy Communion should be distributed at the usual place and in the usual mode (i.e. with the faithful approaching the minister in an orderly procession). For the time being, Holy Communion must continue to be given under one kind only (the Sacred Host) and for concelebrations of clergy, intinction of the Precious Blood with the Sacred Host should continue to be used.
- Congregational singing may continue and there is a general encouragement to wear face coverings while singing. However, it is recognised that not everyone will feel able to do this.



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Volunteering: As we are now able to return to normal, we would welcome anyone that wishes to continue or start volunteering as a greeter, server, or reader to make themselves known to Fr Lee or Deacon Des, Alternatively you can email the parish office at stansted@dioceseofbrentwood.org . Thank you.

PPC Meetings: The latest minutes of the PPC dated 20th September 2021 are available to view on our Website. Dates of the 2022 meetings are as follows:

- May 9th 2022 at 7:00 p.m.
- July 11 2022 at 7:00 p.m.
- July 17th 2022 APM after the 10:00 Mass
- October 17th 2022 at 7:00 p.m.

Baptism Course: Forthcoming courses take place on 23rd February, 16th March and 6th April, all on a Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. To enrol on the course, please email the Parish Office stansted@dioceseofbrentwood.org Thank you.

Sacrament of Marriage: People who wish to be married in the Catholic Church must approach Fr. Lee / Deacon Des, at least 6 months prior to the intended date of their 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 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.

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.

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 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. If you are still using envelopes from a previous financial year, please collect this year's envelopes; using current envelopes avoids unnecessary processing delays.

The 2022/2023 envelopes will be available at the start of the new Tax Year. We are looking to distribute them at the Masses and will confirm the dates/times soon.

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 or speak to Clair in the office.



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Mass Times and Intentions

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – YEAR C		
Saturday 29 th January	Confessions: 5:15 p.m. – 5:45 p.m. Mass: 6:00 p.m. <i>Livestreamed</i>	John Paul Loughlin 8th Anniversary R.I.P. (The Loughlin Family)
Sunday 30 th January	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>	Margaret Barrett R.I.P. Stuart Gibby R.I.P. (M. Jacobs) People of the Parish
Monday 31 st January <i>St John Bosco</i>	Confessions: 9:00 a.m. Mass: 9:30 a.m. <i>Livestreamed</i>	
Tuesday 1 st February <i>St Ignatius</i>	Confessions: 7:15 p.m. Mass: 8:00 p.m. <i>Livestreamed</i>	
Wednesday 2 nd February <i>The Presentation of the Lord</i>	Confessions: 12:00 p.m. Mass: 12:30 p.m. <i>Livestreamed</i>	
Thursday 3 rd February <i>St Anne Line</i>	Confessions: 9:00 a.m. Mass: 9:30 a.m. <i>Livestreamed</i>	Apolonina Babula R.I.P. (E. Moser)
Friday 4 th February	Confessions: 9:00 a.m. Mass: 9:30 a.m. <i>Livestreamed</i>	
FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – YEAR C		
Saturday 5 th February	Confessions: 5:15 p.m. – 5:45 p.m. Mass: 6:00 p.m. <i>Livestreamed</i>	Margaret Barrett R.I.P. Stuart Gibby R.I.P. (M. Jacobs)
Sunday 6 th February <i>World Day of Prayer for Consecrated Life</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: 12:00 p.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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