

The Little Flower Messenger

Year C – SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER – 29th May 2022

Welcome to our Parish Community of St. Theresa of Lisieux

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

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Gospel: John 17:20-26

'May they be completely one.'

Mass book (P. 281)

1st Reading:

Acts 7:55-60

Psalm 96:1-2, 6-7, 9 r.1.9:

The Lord is king, most high above all the earth.

2nd Reading:

Apocalypse 22:12-14, 16-17, 20

Gospel Acclamation:

*Alleluia, alleluia! I will not leave you orphans, says the Lord;
I will come back to you, and your hearts will be full of joy.
Alleluia!*

Communion Antiphon: (P. 283)

Father I pray that they may be one as we are also one, alleluia.

This Week's Good News

Dear Friends,

Today's readings are about people's bearing heroic witness to Jesus through life and death, and the Source of the inspiration behind such witness-bearing. They urge us to work for greater Christian unity and to consider the power of Christian witness.

The first reading describes the martyrdom of Stephen, showing us how he bore witness to the forgiving love of Jesus by his last prayer. In the second reading, taken from the Book of Revelation, Jesus, the Alpha, and the Omega is pictured as having all the forces of Heaven and earth at his disposal, standing ready to help us in our Christian witness-bearing. It is relatively easy to acknowledge our oneness with Stephen and to long for the experience of eternal oneness with "all those who have washed their robes in the blood of the Lamb" (Rv 22:14, Douay- Rheims). But to remain truly one with all our brothers and sisters continues to be a daily challenge. Today's Gospel is the last part of the "priestly prayer" of Jesus after the Last Supper. This chapter of John has been called "The Testament of Jesus" or "Jesus' High Priestly (or Intercessory) Prayer." During that long prayer, Jesus prayed first for himself – for his own glorification – as he faced the cross. Then, he prayed for his disciples that they might be unified and protected in the face of opposition from the world, and finally he prayed for those in distant lands and far-off ages, including ourselves, who would enter the Christian Faith through the witness-bearing of the Apostles and their successors. Thus, this is Jesus' prayer for each one of us. We have complete Faith and certainty because Jesus put his confidence in God and entrusted us to Him.

We need to pray for unity and serve one another in unity. We must pray for unity and discuss the similarities we share with others as well as our differences. Along with prayer, we must put our words into action. This means that we are to serve one another and to love one another as brothers and sisters in the Lord. What unites us is greater than what divides us. As we move nearer to Jesus Christ, in him we



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move nearer to one another. Such unity is ultimately a gift of the Holy Spirit and of His guidance. The soul of the ecumenical movement then, is spiritual. Only by a renewal of the spiritual, by common prayer and common listening to the Word of God, can we hope to overcome the present ecumenical impasses and difficulties. In the words of Pope St. John Paul II: "The door to ecumenism is opened only on our knees." We need to have a clear idea about the Catholic stand on ecumenism. In his encyclical *Ut Unum Sint*, Pope St. John Paul II warns against compromise for the sake of unity. He states, "the ultimate goal of the ecumenical movement is to re-establish full visible unity among all the baptized [77.1]." He adds, "It is already possible to identify the areas in need of fuller study before a true consensus of Faith can be achieved." Our Lord himself prayed for this unity, and this should be our prayer now and always.

Deacon Des

Parish News

Confirmandi: Congratulations to our three Confirmandi Ethan, Emilia and Vivian who will be confirmed on Sunday 5th June at 4:00. p.m. Please pray for them.

Weekday Masses: Please note there will be no weekday Masses this week or the week commencing 6th June 2022. Weekend Masses will continue as normal.

Parish Office closure: Please note the office is now closed and will reopen on Tuesday 7th June 2022. Thank you.

Baptism Course: The next two course dates are 15th June and 24th July; both on a Wednesday at 7:00p.m. To enrol on the course, please email the Parish Office stansted@dioceseofbrentwood.org

Private Prayer: Please note the church will not be open for private prayer this week. Thank you.

May Crowning of Mary

A longstanding Catholic tradition, the May Crowning of Mary honours the Virgin Mary. A "May Crowning" is typically held, where Mary is presented with a floral crown.

Short Liturgy for the crowing of Our Lady (6pm Mass Only):

Kneeling before the statue we say:

**Hail, holy Queen, Mother of mercy, hail, our life, our sweetness and our hope.
To thee do we cry, O poor banished children of Eve,
to thee do we send up our sighs, mourning and weeping in this vale of tears.
Turn then most gracious advocate, thine eyes towards us,
and after this, our exile, show into us the blessed fruit of thy womb, Jesus.
O clement, O loving, O sweet Virgin Mary;**

Priest: Pray for us O holy Mother of God,

All: That we may be worthy of the promises of Christ.



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The Litany to the Blessed Virgin Mary.

Priest: We fly to thy patronage, O holy Mother of God.

Despise not our petitions in our necessities; but deliver us from all dangers,
O ever glorious and Blessed Virgin.

Priest: Lord, have mercy.

All: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: Christ, have mercy

All: Christ, have mercy.

Priest: Lord, have mercy

All: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: Holy Mary, Mother of God

All: Pray for us.

Priest: Immaculate Heart of Mary

All: Pray for us.

Priest: Mary Assumed into heaven

All: Pray for us.

Priest: Mary conceived without sin

All: Pray for us.

Priest: Our Lady of Walsingham

All: Pray for us.

Priest: Our Lady of Lourdes

All: Pray for us.

Priest: Our Lady of Good Help

All: Pray for us.

Priest: Mother most pure

All: Pray for us.

Priest: Virgin of virgins

All: pray for us.

Priest: Ark of the Covenant

All: Pray for us.

Priest: Refuge of sinners

All: Pray for us.

Priest: Help of Christians

All: Pray for us.

Priest: Comfort of the afflicted

All: Pray for us.

Priest: Queen of angels

All: Pray for us.

Priest: Queen of Martyrs

All: Pray for us.

Priest: Queen of all the Saints

All: Pray for us.

Priest: Queen of peace

All: pray for us.

We then offer for the Holy Father's intentions:

Our Father..., Hail Mary..., Glory Be...



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Mass Times and Intentions

SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER – YEAR C		
Saturday 28 th May	Confessions: 5:15 p.m. – 5:45 p.m. Mass: 6:00 p.m. <i>Livestreamed</i>	Elaine Smythe R.I.P. (S. Keith)
Sunday 29 th May <i>World Communications Day</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>	People of the Parish
Monday 30 th May <i>The Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary</i>	No Mass	
Tuesday 31 st May <i>Dedication of the Cathedral Church of St Mary</i>	No Mass	
Wednesday 1 st June <i>St Justin</i>	No Mass	
Thursday 2 nd June	No Mass	
Friday 3 rd June <i>St Charles Lwanga & Comps</i>	No Mass	
PENTECOST SUNDAY – YEAR C		
Saturday 4 th June	Confessions: 5:15 p.m. – 5:45 p.m. Mass: 6:00 p.m. <i>Livestreamed</i>	Elaine Smythe R.I.P. (S. Keith)
Sunday 5 th June	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> Mass of Confirmation: 4:00 p.m. <i>Livestreamed</i>	For the Intentions of Eileen Ngeh (E.Ngeh) People of the Parish Fr Neil Brett (L.Barker) Our Confirmandi



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



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