

The Little Flower Messenger

Year C – THIRTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – 26th June 2022

Welcome to our Parish Community of St. Theresa of Lisieux

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

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Gospel: Luke 9:51-62

'Jesus resolutely took the road for Jerusalem. I will follow you wherever you go.'

Mass book (P. 102)

1st Reading:

1 Kings 19:16, 19-21

Psalm 15:1-2,5 7-11 r. 5:

O Lord, it is you who are my portion.

2nd Reading:

Galatians 5:1, 13-18

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia! Speak, Lord, your servant is listening: you have the message of eternal life. Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon: (P. 104)

Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all within me, his holy name.

This Week's Good News

Dear Friends,

There is a sense of call in today's readings, underlying our theme of Vocation explored on the Fourth Sunday of Easter. We hear Elisha called to assume the prophetic mantle of Elijah after first kissing his parents goodbye and setting off to follow the prophet's call; we hear Jesus saying "Follow me", and St Paul tells us that we are "called to liberty." All of this begs the question, what does this all mean for us in our current state of life? It is interesting that the Gospel focuses on the beginning of Jesus' journey to Jerusalem, where he would bring his three-year ministry to its sacrificial high point. His entire ministry was a journey, and in as sense his journey becomes symbolic to the journey of all Christians; we might even call this journey a pilgrimage. We are not headed for an earthly destination but are on the pilgrim journey to the heavenly Jerusalem. The difference is that we are pilgrims with Jesus, just as his disciples were.

All the incidents that Luke has gathered together in today's Gospel reading are in fact instructions meant to guide us on the way, almost like a manual of the Christian way of discipleship. They tell us how to respond to Jesus' call; how to follow him; how to walk with him. We can see that the requirements are radical: they involve challenging our whole outlook and thought about life, the usual human experiences of rejection and anger, our solutions to social and political problems, racial and cultural differences, religious prejudices; our attitude to home and possessions, undue possessiveness; attitudes to family and friends, introverted and self-centred affection. We are required to hear the urgent and uncompromising call of Our Lord, to answer him without fear, knowing that he has already attained the goal on our behalf. In fact, we are to assume the prophet's mantle, and to become spokespeople for the Truth. This is possible because his service is perfect freedom in the service of each other through the love of Christ. St Paul tells us that the Spirit will enable us to discover the true meaning of liberty in the mystery of love, and the assumption of Jesus' yoke which is light. He will bring us rest and refreshment for our souls. He will free us so that we can set others free in his name.

Fr Lee



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

Pastoral Message Marking the 10th World Meeting of Families

Please note the following letter from Bishop Alan which will be read out at all Masses this weekend:

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

This Sunday marks the end of the Year of the Family which Pope Francis inaugurated in 2021. The conclusion of this Year is marked by a gathering in Rome, the 10th World Meeting of Families, and as part of his Sunday Angelus Pope Francis will bless all families throughout the world.

One of the greatest insights of the Second Vatican Council is that everyone is called to holiness – to become a saint. In this Sunday's Gospel (Luke 9.51-62) Jesus gives a clear if challenging message about the urgency of following Him - whoever we are and whatever the cost.

But holiness does not simply equate with one particular way of life. Pope-emeritus Benedict once said that there are as many paths to heaven as there are people. Though it is always Jesus Christ, 'the Way, the Truth and the Life' who leads the way and opens the door, our journey is unique to each one of us. If we try and follow another person's path, we will soon lose our way and grow disheartened. Instead, we must allow ourselves to be led by the Holy Spirit on the path that is meant for us.

Depending on our own particular vocation, our work or our family life should not be an obstacle to holiness but rather the very means by which God wants to make me holy.

We all find ourselves in very challenging times- including war in Europe and increasing economic uncertainty. Pope Francis in his Letter to Married Couples [2021] recalled Jesus' miracle of the calming of the sea and said, "Marriage, as a vocation, calls you to steer a tiny boat – wave-tossed yet sturdy, thanks to the reality of the sacrament – across a sometimes stormy sea. Let us never forget, though, that by virtue of the Sacrament of Matrimony, Jesus is present in that boat; he is concerned for you and he remains at your side amid the tempest".

Whenever we find ourselves in stormy waters we have the wonderful guarantee that Christ, Who alone fills us with joy, is always with us.

With all good wishes and prayers,
In Christ and Mary,

+Alan Williams, sm
Bishop of Brentwood

St Bernadette Relic Tour 2022

In September and October this year, the relics of St Bernadette will journey on pilgrimage to England, Scotland, and Wales for the very first time. This very special once in a lifetime event will provide an opportunity for people of all ages and backgrounds to experience the special gifts and charisms of Lourdes, in a church or cathedral. More details of the tour can be found on the Catholic Bishops of England and Wales website: www.cbcew.org.uk/st-bernadette-relic-tour-2022/

Parish News

Feast of Ss Peter and Paul Wednesday 29th June: This feast is a Holy Day of Obligation, and we shall be holding two Masses on this day, our usual 12:30 p.m. and an additional Mass at 7:30p.m. Please do try and attend, all are welcome.



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First Holy Communion Programme 2022/2023: Should you wish your child to be registered for the First Holy Communion programme commencing around September 2022, please contact Clair by email or phone (details above) no later than noon on **Thursday, 28th July 2022**. (Late registration may mean your child will be registered for the 2023-2024 programme). Your child will need to be in Year 3 or above from September 1st 2022. The workshops dates and an administration meeting with the new group and parents will be arranged in due course. Please look out for further details.

Volunteering: We would welcome anyone that wishes to start volunteering as a greeter, server, reader, collector, counter or can offer any other skill/assistance you can give to support the Parish; to make themselves known to Fr Lee or Deacon Des, Alternatively you can email the parish office at stansted@dioceseofbrentwood.org . Thank you.

Baptism Course: The next baptism course takes place on Wednesday 24th July; at 7:00 p.m. To enrol on the course, please email the Parish Office stansted@dioceseofbrentwood.org

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.

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.

Gift Aid: If you pay tax on your income and would like to donate using envelopes, please email Angelo at stansted-giftaid@dioceseofbrentwood.org for details.

Donating through Gift Aid means we can claim an extra 25p for every £1 you give. It will not cost you any extra.

If you are a Gift Aid donor and your circumstances have changed, such that you no longer wish to donate via the Gift Aid scheme, please let Angelo know (using the same email account above) so that we can reallocate your envelope.

During these difficult times, we recognise that the financial impact on some parishioners can be significant. Your continued support for our Parish is appreciated.



Visions Group: The Visions Group would like to invite anyone who wishes to share and grow their faith to join us every Monday at 4:00 p.m. in the Parish Centre. All are welcome. Visit the parish website calendar or contact Isobel for details.



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Mass Times and Intentions

THIRTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – YEAR C		
Saturday 25 th June	Confessions: 5:15 p.m. – 5:45 p.m. Mass: 6:00 p.m. <i>Livestreamed</i>	Michael Mchugh R.I.P. (Shameera)
Sunday 26 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>	People of the Parish Bill Spencer R.I.P. 1st Anniversary (Spencer Family)
Monday 27 th June	Confessions: 9:00 a.m. Mass: 9:30 a.m. <i>Livestreamed</i>	
Tuesday 28 th June <i>Vigil of Ss Peter & Paul</i>	Confessions: 7:15 p.m. Mass (Latin): 8:00 p.m. <i>Livestreamed</i>	Omar's Intentions (O. Salici)
Wednesday 29 th June <i>Ss PETER & PAUL</i>	Confessions: 12:00 p.m. Mass: 12:30 p.m. <i>Livestreamed</i> Confessions: 7:00 p.m. Mass: 7:30 p.m. <i>Livestreamed</i>	Departed Relatives R.I.P. (T. Kemp)
Thursday 30 th June	Confessions: 9:00 a.m. Mass: 9:30 a.m. <i>Livestreamed</i>	
Friday 1 st July	Confessions: 9:00 a.m. Mass: 9:30 a.m. <i>Livestreamed</i>	
FOURTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – YEAR C		
Saturday 2 nd July	Confessions: 5:15 p.m. – 5:45 p.m. Mass: 6:00 p.m. <i>Livestreamed</i>	Rene Warren R.I.P. (M. Oakes)
Sunday 3 rd July	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 (Latin): 12:00 p.m. <i>Livestreamed</i>	People of the Parish Holy Souls (J&C Welsh) Suzy Reindorp (L. Barker)



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



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