

The Little Flower Messenger

Year C – SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – 24th July 2022

Welcome to our Parish Community of St. Theresa of Lisieux

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

Tel. 01279 814349 • stansted@dioceseofbrentwood.org • www.sttheresastansted.org

• Twitter: @StStansted • Instagram: sttheresastansted

Priest-in-Charge: Fr. Lee Bennett freebennett@dioceseofbrentwood.org ☎ 01279 814 349

Parish Deacon: Rev. Des Connors desconnors@dioceseofbrentwood.org ☎ 07748 464 101

Parish Administrator: Clair Rava stansted@dioceseofbrentwood.org ☎ 01279 816 889/07734 273 969

Gospel: Luke 11:1-13

'Ask, and it will be given to you.'

Mass book (P. 114)

1st Reading:

Genesis 18:20-32

Psalm 137:1-3:

On the day I called, you answered me, O Lord.

2nd Reading:

Colossians 2:12-14

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia! The Word was made flesh and lived among us; to all who did accept him he gave power to become children of God. Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon: (P. 117)

Bless the Lord, O my soul, and never forget all his benefits.

This Week's Good News

Dear Friends,

The first reading, taken from the book of Genesis, gives us the model for intercessory prayer provided by Abraham in his dialogue with God. Although Abraham seems to be trying to manipulate God through his skilful bargaining and humble, persistent intercession, God is actually being moved to mercy by the goodness of a few innocent souls. The Responsorial Psalm (Ps 138), with the Psalm Response, "Lord, on the day I called for help, you answered me," is a hymn of hope and trust in the Lord, reminding us that God is close to the humble of heart and to all those who call upon Him in their need. The second reading, taken from Paul's Letter to the Colossians, though it does not address prayer, reminds us of the need of perseverance in our living faith in Christ, which provides the basis for all Christian prayers, especially for liturgical prayer: the mystery of the Death and Resurrection of Jesus Christ. Paul assures us that even when we were dead in sin, God gave us new life through Jesus and pardoned all our sins.

In the Gospel passage, after teaching a model prayer, Jesus instructs his disciples to pray to God their Heavenly Father with the same boldness, daring, intimacy, conviction, persistence, and perseverance Abraham displayed and the friend in need in the parable employed. He gives us the assurance that God will not be irritated by our requests or unwilling to meet them with generosity.

Prayer is essential for Christian family life. To remain faithful in marriage, the spouses must pray, not only individually, but together. They must thank God and offer intercessory prayers for each other, for their children and for their dear ones. Daily prayer will help married couples to celebrate and reverence God's vision of human sexuality and honour life from conception to natural death. Here is St. John Marie Vianney's advice to a couple: "Spend three minutes praising and thanking God for all you have. Spend three minutes asking God's pardon for your sins and presenting your needs before Him. Spend three minutes reading the Bible and listening to God in silence. And do this every day." We need to accept



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

others as children of God and thereby our brothers and sisters: Through the Our Father, Jesus is giving us a new vision of human relationships: that we all, irrespective of our colour, creed or social background, are the children of God and thereby are brothers and sisters. When we learn this lesson – if we can learn this lesson, if we are able to treat God as our Father and love Him accordingly, and if we are able to treat every other human being as our own dear brothers and sisters and love them accordingly — then, and then only, shall we experience the Kingdom of God here on earth and enjoy this in the next life. When we love each other and forgive each other’s failings God also will love us and forgive us. This is the foundation of true faith.

Deacon Des

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

Dear All,

As you know, Fr Lee will be leaving us at the end of August to take up pastoral duties in the diocese of Shrewsbury. In order to mark his three years as our priest, a collection will be held after each of the masses for those who would like to contribute towards a farewell gift from the parish. The collections will be held after each of the masses this weekend (23/24th July).

Thank you, Deacon Des.

Masses: Fr Lee’s last weekend with us will be 6th/7th August. Following this date there will be no weekday Masses, however, weekend Masses will continue. Cover will be provided as follows:

Saturday 13th August: Fr Stewart Foster

Saturday 20th August: Fr Stewart Foster

Saturday 27th August: Fr Michael Halsall

Sunday 14th August: Fr Stewart Foster

Sunday 21st August: Bishop Alan Williams SM

Sunday 28th August: Fr Michael Halsall

Please continue to check the Newsletter, website, and Facebook page for any last-minute changes. Thank you.

Volunteering: We would welcome anyone that wishes to start volunteering as a greeter, server, reader, collector, counter or can offer any other skill/assistance 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.

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.



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

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.



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 will be having a summer break during August, with the last session taking place tomorrow (Monday 25th July 2022), returning on Monday 5th September 2022.



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

Mass Times and Intentions

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – YEAR C		
Saturday 23 rd July	Confessions: 5:15 p.m. – 5:45 p.m. Mass: 6:00 p.m. <i>Livestreamed</i>	Bambridge Family (J Bambridge)
Sunday 24 th July <i>World Day for Grandparents & Elderly</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>	For the intentions of Pat Maher. (P. Simons) People of the Parish
Monday 25 th July <i>St James</i>	Confessions: 9:00 a.m. Mass: 9:30 a.m. <i>Livestreamed</i>	James Braeckman R.I.P. (Braeckman Family)
Tuesday 26 th July <i>St Anne Mother of the BVM</i>	Confessions: 7:15 p.m. Mass (Latin): 8:00 p.m. <i>Livestreamed</i>	Family & Friends in Purgatory (O. Salici)
Wednesday 27 th July	Confessions: 12:00 p.m. Mass: 12:30 p.m. <i>Livestreamed</i>	
Thursday 28 th July	Confessions: 9:00 a.m. Mass: 9:30 a.m. <i>Livestreamed</i>	
Friday 29 th July <i>Ss Martha, Mary & Lazarus</i>	Confessions: 9:00 a.m. Mass: 9:30 a.m. <i>Livestreamed</i>	
EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – YEAR C		
Saturday 30 th July	Confessions: 5:15 p.m. – 5:45 p.m. Mass: 6:00 p.m. <i>Livestreamed</i>	Mia Catton R.I.P. (M. Thurgood)
Sunday 31 st 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>	People of the Parish



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



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