

# The Little Flower Messenger

Year C – EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – 31<sup>st</sup> July 2022

Welcome to our Parish Community of St. Theresa of Lisieux

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## Gospel: Luke 12:13-21

*'This hoard of yours, whose will it be?'*

### Mass book (P. 117)

#### 1st Reading:

*Ecclesiastes 1:2, 2:21-23*

#### Psalm 89:3-6:

*O Lord, you have been our refuge from one generation to the next.*

#### 2nd Reading:

*Colossians 3:1-5, 9-11*

#### Gospel Acclamation:

*Alleluia, alleluia! Your word is truth, O Lord, consecrate us in the truth. Alleluia!*

#### Communion Antiphon: (P. 121)

*You have given us, O Lord, bread from heaven, endowed with all delights and sweetness in every taste.*

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## This Week's Good News

Dear Friends,

The theme of today's readings is the futility of the greedy acquisition of wealth and power because everything and everyone is "here today and gone tomorrow." So, the meaning of life cannot be found in selfishly hoarding wealth and possessions, but only in sharing these with the needy.

The first reading, taken from Ecclesiastes, reminds us that the greedy acquisition and hoarding of material wealth is useless because when the hoarder dies, he goes to eternity empty-handed, and his heir gains, and perhaps squanders, his riches. In the Responsorial Psalm (Ps 90), the Psalmist challenges us to listen to God and allow Him to soften our hearts that we may share our blessings with others. The Psalm Response urges, "If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts" (Ps 95:8). In the second reading, Paul directs our attention to lasting, Heavenly treasures and warns that greed (pleonexia) for wealth and influence is idolatry. He advises, "Put to death, your parts that are earthly: immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and the greed that is idolatry" (Col 3:5).

In today's Gospel, Jesus, telling the parable of the foolish rich man, warns us against all types of greed, because greed takes our life's focus away from God and away from serving and loving Him in Himself and in other people. Jesus says that God calls the greedy rich man a fool because the man thought he would not die soon and that he was not accountable for the way he used his riches. Besides, the rich man forgot the fact that his wealth had been lent to him by God for sharing with the needy. Jesus also warns us that our eternal life does not consist of earthly possessions (Lk 12:15), which we should share to gain eternal life.



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

We are invited to share our blessings with others. The parable of the rich fool gives us a warning as well as an invitation. It reminds us that our possessions are merely lent to us by God, and that we are accountable for their use. We must be generous in sharing our time, our treasure, and our talents in Christian stewardship. Even if we are poor financially, we may be blessed with intelligence, good will, a sense of humour, or the ability to console, encourage, inspire, support, and help others. God expects us to give our thanks to Him for all these blessings by sharing them with others for His glory. The Old Testament Scriptures are clear about tithing – giving 10% of our income for God’s cause and for helping the needy. God never allows tithers to regret their generosity.

Let us control our greed. Our greed takes different shapes and forms. For some, it may be the desire for the approval and praise of others. For others, it is the uncontrolled desire for power, control, or fame. For still others, greed takes the form of excessive and sinful indulgence in eating, drinking, gambling, drugs, or sexual activities. Greed also turns our life away from God and away from loving and serving Him in Himself and in other people. As greed directs all our energy and attention to fulfilling the self, its objects become our false gods, and they will consume us, unless we become rich in the sight of God.

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/](http://www.cbcew.org.uk/st-bernadette-relic-tour-2022/)

### **Parish News**

**Francis Braeckman:** Please continue to pray for Francis and his family as he remains in hospital. I know that Francis, Judith, Edward, George and all the family are grateful for the many prayers offered and we pray for a return to health and a return to his family for Francis.

**Father Lee farewell:** Father Lee’s last Masses will be on the weekend of the 6th/7th August 2022. After discussion with Father Lee, it has been decided that after the 10am Mass on the 28th August there will be a farewell gathering in the parish centre where all can take the opportunity to have tea/coffee and hopefully some cake and to say goodbye to Fr Lee and Helen.

This date has been chosen as Fr Lee will be around that weekend. The date of the 7th August is not possible as Fr Lee has the Latin Mass at midday.

**Bishop Alan Mass Celebration Sunday 21st August 2022:** Bishop Alan will be celebrating Mass here on Sunday 21st August 2022. There will be coffee and tea in the parish centre after the 10am mass and a chance for people to say hello to the Bishop.

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

**Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> August:** Fr Stewart Foster

**Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> August:** Fr Stewart Foster

**Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> August:** Fr Michael Halsall

**Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> August:** Fr Stewart Foster

**Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> August:** Bishop Alan Williams SM

**Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> August:** Fr Michael Halsall

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



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**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. Please make yourself known to Fr Lee or Deacon Des. Alternatively, you can email the parish office at [stansted@dioceseofbrentwood.org](mailto: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.

**First Holy Communion Programme 2022/2023:** Thank you to those that have registered their children for our 2022/2023 programme, registration is now closed. Details of the workshop dates and an administration meeting 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](mailto: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.



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## Mass Times and Intentions

<b>EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – YEAR C</b>		
Saturday 30 <sup>th</sup> July	Confessions: <b>5:15 p.m. – 5:45 p.m.</b> Mass: <b>6:00 p.m.</b> <i>Livestreamed</i>	<b>Mia Catton R.I.P.</b> (M. Thurgood)
Sunday 31 <sup>st</sup> July	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>Anel &amp; Joseph Zuniga-Daly</b> <b>Wedding Anniversary</b> <b>Thanksgiving</b> (A. Zuniga-Daly)
Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> August <i>St Alphonsus</i>	Confessions: <b>9:00 a.m.</b> Mass: <b>9:30 a.m.</b> <i>Livestreamed</i>	<b>Ints of Francis Braeckman</b> (Fr Lee)
Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> August <i>St Alphonsus Maria Liguori</i>	Confessions: <b>7:15 p.m.</b> Mass (Latin): <b>8:00 p.m.</b> <i>Livestreamed</i>	<b>Fr Gerard Mary</b> (O.Salici)
Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> August	Confessions: <b>12:00 p.m.</b> Mass: <b>12:30 p.m.</b> <i>Livestreamed</i>	
Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> August <i>St John Vianney</i>	Confessions: <b>9:00 a.m.</b> Mass: <b>9:30 a.m.</b> <i>Livestreamed</i>	
Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> August	Confessions: <b>9:00 a.m.</b> Mass: <b>9:30 a.m.</b> <i>Livestreamed</i>	
<b>NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – YEAR C</b>		
Saturday 6 <sup>th</sup> August	Confessions: <b>5:15 p.m. – 5:45 p.m.</b> Mass: <b>6:00 p.m.</b> <i>Livestreamed</i>	<b>Mary O'Regan R.I.P.</b> (O'Regan Family)
Sunday 7 <sup>th</sup> August	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> Mass (Latin): <b>12:00 p.m.</b> <i>Livestreamed</i>	<b>People of the Parish</b>  <b>Joe Bonavia R. I. P.</b> (N&L Handzel- Bonavia)



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



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