

The Little Flower Messenger

Year C – TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – 28th August 2022

Welcome to our Parish Community of St. Theresa of Lisieux

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Gospel: Luke 14:1, 7-14

'Everyone who exalts himself will be humble, and the man who humbles himself will be exalted.'

Mass book (P. 130)

1st Reading:

Ecclesiasticus 3:17-20. 28–29

Psalm 67:4-7. 10-11 r.11:

In your goodness, O God, you prepared a home for the poor.

2nd Reading:

Hebrews 12:18-19, 22-24

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia! If anyone loves me he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we shall come to him. Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon: (P. 132)

How great is the goodness, Lord, that you keep for those who fear you.

Welcome to Fr Michael Halsall who will celebrate Mass with us this weekend.

This Week's Good News

Dear Friends,

On this twenty second Sunday of Ordinary Time, the Church calls our attention to a very important Christian virtue, humility. It is an attribute and quality of God which all his children must strive to possess and live. We are therefore enjoined this Sunday to reflect deeply on this great virtue. Also, we are called to imitate the humility of Jesus Christ our Lord, who is the mediator of the new covenant.

The first reading of this Sunday is a candid advice from the Preacher. He gives us the key to a successful fellowship with God, and of course, with one another. He advises us: "Behave humbly and you will find favour with the Lord." This is absolutely right. Humility was a distinctive mark of the life and ministry of Jesus Christ our Lord. So, it must also be for us as Christians. The Preacher also reminds us that pride is a disease. However, the good news is that it can be cured through the imitation of Christ's humility.

The second reading reminds us that our destination is Mount Zion, the heavenly Jerusalem, and the city of the living God. In this city, only the humble like the of Angels and Saints can dwell there. Certainly, the proud cannot because, a proud heart cannot worship the Lord. Furthermore, in this city "everyone is a first born and a true citizen." Hence, as citizens of this city we must cloth ourselves with humility just like Christ our Mediator.

The gospel takes us to the climax of today's good news. Christ exhorts us: "...Everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and the man who humbles himself will be exalted." Jesus teaches the importance of humility and simplicity in our Christian journey. In this regard, we have a lot to learn from



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the Blessed Virgin Mary who humbled herself. Her humility was so remarkable that God exalted her to be the Mother of His Son.

Mary attested to this through her Magnificat: “My soul glorifies the Lord...for He has been mindful of the humble state of His servant...He has brought down rulers from their thrones and has lifted up the humble” (Lk 1:47. 59). Therefore, there is no reason to wonder why Christ was humble. He had humble parents and learnt humility from them. Also, we must emulate the humility of Christ and Mary in order to be like them.

There is nothing to lose by being humble. Proverb tells us that: “Humility and the fear of the Lord brings wealth, honour, and life” (Prov 22:4). On the contrary, pride results in defeat and shame. Any spiritual life that is not based on humility will be an empty one. This is because such a Christian will only work for himself, and without regards for others.

Finally, the church teaches us that: “Humility is the foundation of prayer.” (CCC 2559). Only a humble heart can come and prostrate before God in prayer. A humble person is always ready to ask for guidance from God and from others. He is also ready to listen and learn from others. It takes humility to say please, and, to ask for forgiveness. So, let us humbly implore the Lord: “O Jesus! Meek and humble of heart, make my heart like yours. From the desire to be honoured and esteemed deliver me!”

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/



Vocations Enquirers: The next “Enquirers’ Evening” for those considering or interested in a vocation to the priesthood is on Tuesday 6 September at St Edmund of Canterbury Church in Loughton. The speaker will be Bishop Alan.

For further information please contact Fr Mark Swires vocprom@dioceseofbrentwood.org

Is God calling you to be a Priest?

There is a monthly vocations group to help those who would like to find out more about a possible vocation to the priesthood.

There will be a talk, a time of prayer and some food.

The sessions take place at St Edmund of Canterbury Church,
9 Traps Hill, Loughton IG10 1SZ

Tuesday 6th Sep 7pm
Tuesday 4th Oct 7pm
Tuesday 8th Nov 7pm
Tuesday 6th Dec 7pm

If you would like to join us or to find out more please get in touch with the Vocations Promoter, Fr Mark Swires:
vocprom@dioceseofbrentwood.org
www.brentwoodvocations.org

A circular illustration showing three figures in a small boat on water. One figure is standing and pointing towards the others, who are seated. The scene is set against a golden background.

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Parish News

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 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. Please note however, the church will be closed from Tuesday 23rd August and reopen on Tuesday 6th September. Thank you.

Parish Office: Please note that the Parish Office will be closed from Friday 19th August and reopen on Tuesday 6th September.

Sacrament of Marriage: People who wish to be married in the Catholic Church must approach 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.



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Mass Times and Intentions

TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – YEAR C		
Saturday 27 th August	Confessions: 5:15 p.m. – 5:45 p.m. Mass: 6:00 p.m. <i>Livestreamed</i>	
Sunday 28 th August	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 29 th August <i>The Passion of St John the Baptist</i>	No Mass	
Tuesday 30 th August	No Mass	
Wednesday 31 st August	No Mass	
Thursday 1 st September <i>St Sebbi, King of the East Saxons</i>	No Mass	
Friday 2 nd September	No Mass	
TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – YEAR C		
Saturday 3 rd September	Confessions: 5:15 p.m. – 5:45 p.m. Mass: 6:00 p.m. <i>Livestreamed</i>	John Whiting R.I.P. (K. Whiting)
Sunday 4 th September	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>	Hanh Tran R.I.P. (W. Dodd) People of the Parish



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



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