

Parish of St. Theresa of Lisieux Stansted

The Little Flower Messenger

Year C – TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – 16th October 2022

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Gospel: Luke 18:1-8

'God will see justice done to his chosen who cry to him.'

Mass book (P. 152)

1st Reading:

Exodus 17:8-13

Psalm 120 r.2:

Our help is in the name of the Lord who made heaven and earth.

2nd Reading:

2 Timothy 3:14–4:2

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ enlighten the eyes of our mind, so that we can see what hope his call holds for us. Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon: (P. 154)

Behold, the eyes of the Lord are on those who fear him, who hope in his merciful love, to rescue their souls from death, to keep them alive in famine.

Welcome to Fr Gregory Pearson who celebrates Mass with us this weekend

A thought from Fr Liam...

Dear Friends

Last Tuesday, 11th October, witnessed the 60th anniversary of the opening of the Second Vatican Council, a defining and precious journey through which the Holy Spirit continues to breathe new life into our Church. At the inauguration of the Council, Pope John invited the whole Church to 'look to the future without fear', so that together as the holy People of God, we might courageously respond to the call of the Holy Spirit to discern the signs of the times and help bring the tender love and radical justice of Jesus into the modern world.

This invitation appears just as apposite for us today amidst our world that is scarred by so much distress and confusion, war and injustice. So just as Pope John at Vatican II threw 'open the windows of the church so that we can see out and the people can see in', so now Pope Francis through our own current Synod journey continues to invite us as the People of God to **dream and bring about a different Church** that might bring our troubled world into a new encounter with the good news, love and justice of Jesus.

Pope Francis invites us all to re-imagine and recreate such a *different* Church - a Church that is open to the newness that God wants to suggest, a Church that is immersed in solidarity with the struggles and aspirations of all humanity, a Church that reflects and embodies the way and practices of Jesus – so that we are kept from becoming a 'museum Church, that is beautiful but mute, with much past but little future.'



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

I wonder what such a *different Church* might look like for you? – I wonder what image of a different Church you imagine, what picture of a different Church you wish to paint, what story of a different Church you would tell, what dream of a different Church you have? And perhaps most interestingly *what your role would be* in this different Church? *I look forward to hearing your thoughts and wisdom.*

I am very grateful for your prayers, thoughts and kindness as I continue to recover from Covid, albeit a little more slowly than anticipated. My stay at the hospital this past week was mercifully brief and I am grateful to all the nurses, doctors and parishioners who so kindly helped me last Monday. I am most grateful to our Dominican friends at Blackfriars for celebrating our masses this weekend. I shall continue my self-isolation in the presbytery until I get the ‘all clear’ and I look forward to joining you again for our celebration of Mass together next weekend.

I wish you and yours every blessing for the coming week - Happy Dreaming!

Liam

Thought for the Week from Pope Francis

"A Church in love with Jesus has no time for quarrels, gossip and disputes. May God free us from being critical and intolerant, harsh and angry! This is not a matter of style but of love."

Pope Francis marking the 60th anniversary of Vatican II

This Week's Good News

Dear Friends,

Today's readings give us a message about prayer. That we must persevere in prayer, to be constant in our petitions and to place our trust in God completely when we pray.

The readings also have another message. The message that God's justice works through those who trust in Him. That the poor and the weak can achieve amazing things through constant prayer and trust.

In the first reading we see Moses asking for God's intercession for victory for the army of Israel over Amalek. In the second reading St Paul instructs Timothy to persevere in his ministry, and to constantly proclaim the word of God with persistence in all circumstances and to do it with the intention to "correct, reprove, and appeal with patience. "Our Gospel reading presents us with the parable of the unjust judge and the persistent widow. Here, Jesus emphasises the "necessity of praying always and not losing heart."

The widow in the Gospel never gives up and provides us with the model of how we should pray. With trust, perseverance, and tenacity. The widow was not asking for great riches and status but was asking for something that she was entitled to and something which God would certainly want for her, which was justice.

However, this parable does not suggest that God will guarantee everything we ask for, every time we ask for it. We need to remember that there will be times that God will refuse the request we ask for, because God knows that what we may be asking for may not be good for us and would hinder rather than help. We may want to be reconciled with someone who has hurt us and whom we feel we want to be associated with again, but God knows what is good for us in the long term and may refuse such a request to spare us from further suffering in the future. We must trust in God and to say during our petitional prayer, "Your will be done Lord, not mine." Constant prayer and trust in God help us to accept God's will. He will never deny us those things we ask for which help us to grow and draw us closer to him.

Deacon Des



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Catholic Social Teaching – Thought for the Day

“What we would like to do is change the world--make it a little simpler for people to feed, clothe, and shelter themselves as God intended them to do. And, by fighting for better conditions, by crying out unceasingly for the rights of the workers, the poor, of the destitute--the rights of the worthy and the unworthy poor, in other words--we can, to a certain extent, change the world; we can work for the oasis, the little cell of joy and peace in a harried world. We can throw our pebble in the pond and be confident that its ever widening circle will reach around the world. We repeat, there is nothing we can do but love, and, dear God, please enlarge our hearts to love each other, to love our neighbour, to love our enemy as our friend.”

— Dorothy Day

Dorothy Day was instrumental in founding the Catholic Worker Movement in America and was active in anti-war civil disobedience and championing of the rights of the poor.

She died on the 29th November 1980, aged 83. The Catholic Church has opened the cause for her possible canonisation and has granted her the title of ‘Servant of God’.

Deacon Des

World Mission Sunday 23rd October : Next weekend we celebrate World Mission Sunday. Donations are collected at Masses worldwide and they go, in their entirety, to support churches, hospitals, schools and vocations in countries where the Church is new, young or poor.

World Mission Sunday is our chance to show love and solidarity to our brothers and sisters overseas who share our faith. In offering our prayers, we join with missionaries everywhere in communion and compassion to support them in spreading the Good News, and by giving a donation we respond to Christ’s call to feed the hungry and clothe the naked.

Missio is responsible for coordinating World Mission Sunday and provides new, young or poor dioceses with the essential support they need on their journey to becoming self-sufficient.

They work through local bishops, churches and missionary congregations to ensure that resources are distributed equitably and justly – on the basis of need. The money goes directly from England and Wales to the bishops in the mission territories – local church directly helping local church!

Envelopes will be placed into next weekend’s Newsletter for you to donate if you’re able. Thank you.

Parish News

Teams4U Christmas Shoeboxes for Deprived Children: Thanks to all of you, your friends, and everyone from the village and the other churches who came and supported this fundraising night in aid of this wonderful charity. Every table full, and the raffle also made a record amount. Altogether we made over £800. The Wednesday Club intend filling the boxes with the items our church has donated on 2nd November between 2pm and 4pm. If you would like to pop in to see what happens we’d be happy to see you. We will continue to collect items until the end of October. Thank you. Eileen Quinn

Visions Group: We 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.

Encounter Group: Our second meeting of the year takes place next Friday (21st October) at St Joseph’s WCC. The topic is ‘Beautiful yesterdays’ reflecting on one’s day the Ignatian way.’ Starting at 10.00a.m. with coffee, meeting opens at 10.30a.m. Shared lunch from 12.30p.m., finishing at 2.00p.m. All are welcome.



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Mass Times and Intentions

TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – YEAR C		
Saturday 15 th October	Confessions: 5:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. Mass: 6:00 p.m. <i>Livestreamed</i>	Margaret Bennett R.I.P (M. Dalzell)
Sunday 16 th October	Mass: 8:30 a.m. <i>Livestreamed</i> Mass: 10:00 a.m. <i>Livestreamed</i>	People of the Parish
Monday 17 th October <i>St Ignatius</i>	❖	
Tuesday 18 th October <i>St Luke</i>	❖	
Wednesday 19 th October	❖	
Thursday 20 th October	❖	
Friday 21 st October	Mass: 9:30 a.m. <i>Livestreamed.</i>	
THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – YEAR C		
Saturday 22 nd October	Confessions: 5:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. Mass: 6:00 p.m. <i>Livestreamed</i>	
Sunday 23 rd October <i>World Mission Day</i>	Mass: 8:30 a.m. <i>Livestreamed</i> Mass: 10:00 a.m. <i>Livestreamed</i>	People of the Parish Robbie Moser R.I.P. (E.Moser)



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



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