

Parish of St. Theresa of Lisieux Stansted

The Little Flower Messenger



Year C – THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – 13th November 2022

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Gospel: Luke 21:5-19

'Your endurance will win you your lives.'

Mass book (P. 164)

1st Reading:

Malachi 3:19-20

Psalm 97: 5-9 r.9:

The Lord comes to rule the peoples with fairness.

2nd Reading:

2 Thessalonians 3:7—12

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia! Stay awake, praying at all times for the strength to stand with confidence before the Son of Man. Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon: (P. 166)

To be near God is my happiness, to place my hope in God the Lord.

We remember



*'Peace is not merely the absence of war...
it is rightly and appropriately called an enterprise of justice.'*

Gaudium et spes, 78, Vatican II



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

Thought from Fr Liam

Dear Friends

As you may know I have been rather poorly recently following my encounter with Covid. I have found the slow pace of my recovery very frustrating - just at the time when I begin my ministry with you here in Stansted. I know however that I need to listen and pay attention both to my body and to all the good doctors that are keeping an eye on me so that once again I may return to full health.

My doctor has strongly advised me to take some time of extended rest to recover and convalesce and to get ready for our coming seasons of Advent and Christmas, to which I am very much looking forward. So next weekend Bishop Alan has kindly offered to celebrate mass here in the parish for the feast of Christ the King and I know that you will make him most welcome. I am also grateful to Deacon Des for leading our Service of Word and Communion at 8.30a.m. on Sunday mornings and this will continue over these next few weeks. I hope to be back up and running by the end of the month.

In the meantime I remain most grateful for your continued prayers and kind wishes and I wish you and yours a blessed week ahead.

Liam

This Week's Good News

Dear Friends,

Today we remember all of the fallen in two world wars, as well as in all the conflicts since then. The conflict during 1914-1918 was known as the 'war to end all wars'. The savagery and tremendous loss of life during those four years of fighting saw whole generations killed. Boys and their fathers from villages across the land, signed up to serve King and Country and marched off to war, with many of them never to return home again.

Since that terrible conflict, the world has hardly ever enjoyed any period of sustained peace. World War II, Korea, Vietnam, the Falklands war, Iraq, Afghanistan and Iraq again. We also remember the fallen who died in another war, a war fought within the British Isles, the war known as the 'Troubles' in Northern Ireland and which lasted some thirty years.

Today we witness another tragedy as we see death and destruction on our TV screens in Ukraine. The list of conflicts since that great war in Europe during 1914-1918 are countless when one includes the deadly conflicts of Rwanda, Burundi, and the Democratic Republic of Congo and the killing fields of Cambodia. As well as Syria and Yemen and the genocide committed during the war in the former Yugoslavia.

Today's Gospel reading is therefore very relevant. Luke's Gospel today is commonly referred to as the 'apocalyptic discourse.' Whilst reading apocalyptic literature may have caused some to despair and lose hope, it was actually meant to signify that God is in control of history and that punishment of the wicked will come about by God's doing. Jesus tells us in today's Gospel that we must remain faithful throughout trials and ordeals to the end. Jesus also foretells of the destruction of Jerusalem which occurred in A.D 70.

During times of war and conflict it is understandable that some may look upon man's inhumanity to man and conclude that the end times are upon us. Earthquakes and plagues, famines are predicted and have been a constant feature throughout history.

However, the ideal way to accept Jesus' apocalyptic message is always to be ready to face our death. We must live holy lives of selfless love, mercy, compassion, and unconditional forgiveness, remembering the demands of justice in our day-to-day lives. We must also take time to rest and to pray in order to keep our



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hearts alive to God's presence with us and within us. Daily examination of our conscience at bedtime, asking God's pardon and forgiveness, also prepares us to face God at any time to give an account of our lives.

Millions of men and women who sacrificed their lives for our freedom went forward with courage in selfless acts of bravery. Their sacrifice is what we remember today, not in a way which glorifies the terrible reality of war, but in a way of remembrance and gratitude that for our tomorrow they gave their today.

At the Going down of the Sun and in the morning we will remember them.

Deacon Des

Catholic Social Action – Thought for the day.

Let us never forget that authentic power is service, and that the Pope too, when exercising power, must enter ever more fully into that service which has its radiant culmination on the Cross. He must be inspired by the lowly, concrete and faithful service which marked Saint Joseph and, like him, he must open his arms to protect all of God's people and embrace with tender affection the whole of humanity, especially the poorest, the weakest, the least important, those whom Matthew lists in the final judgment on love: the hungry, the thirsty, the stranger, the naked, the sick and those in prison (cf. Mt 25:31-46).

— Pope Francis, Installation Homily, March 2013

Deacon Des

Parish News

Confirmation Course 2022/2023: We are pleased to invite young adults who wish to be confirmed to register for the 2022/2023 course. The Confirmation classes begin on Wednesday 7th December at 7pm in the church. Please contact Deacon Des or Clair in the Parish office via email or phone no later than Monday 5th December to be added to the course

Visions Group: A reminder that Helena Koupis from Anchor House, now called "Your Place", will be visiting us tomorrow (Monday 14th November) at 4:00 p.m. in the Church to talk with the Visions Group and Parish about the work they carry out. All are welcome.

Encounter: The next meeting takes place on Friday 25th November in the Parish Centre from 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. The talk and discussion topic is '**The Art of Advent**', a book by Jane Williams. Copies will be provided at the meeting. After the discussion we have a shared lunch. All welcome for all or part of the event.

Teams4U - Shoeboxes. Thanks to your generosity the Wednesday Group were able to fill 100 boxes with toys, sweets and items for school and hygiene. Hats, mittens and teddy bears were knitted throughout the year by members of the Wednesday Club and added warmth and colour to the boxes. We are very grateful for all their hard work. Churches Together in Stansted (CTS), with generous village donations also filled almost 100 boxes and the Manuden Guides filled 35 boxes. Well done to them. The boxes will be taken to the distribution centre this week and hopefully will arrive in time for the Christmas Season.



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They will be distributed by the charity Teams4U to poor families in Eastern Europe. The cost of shipping will be met by the funds raised on the Quiz Night.

Christmas Cards & Advent Calendars: We have a lovely selection of Christmas cards and some lovely Advent calendars. Our Repository is open to all whenever the church is open. Pop in and take a look.

Sacrament of Marriage: People who wish to be married in the Catholic Church are invited to approach Fr. Liam / Deacon Des, at least 6 months prior to the intended date of their wedding, and before setting a wedding date.

🌸 Mass Times and Intentions 🌸

THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – YEAR C		
Saturday 12th November	Confessions: 5:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. Mass: 6:00 p.m. <i>Livestreamed</i>	Peter Bennett R.I.P. (M. Dalzell)
Sunday 13th November <i>Remembrance Sunday</i> <i>World Day of the Poor</i>	Service of Word & Communion: 8:30 a.m. <i>Livestreamed</i> Mass: 10:00 a.m. <i>Livestreamed</i>	Alina Hancock R.I.P.
Monday 14th November	❖	
Tuesday 15th November	❖	
Wednesday 16th November <i>St Edmund of Abingdon</i>	❖	
Thursday 17th November	❖	
Friday 18th November	❖	
OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST THE KING – YEAR C		
Saturday 19th November	Confessions: 5:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. Mass: 6:00 p.m. <i>Livestreamed</i>	Elaine Smith R.I.P. (S. Keith)
Sunday 20th November <i>Youth Day</i>	Service of Word & Communion: 8:30 a.m. <i>Livestreamed</i> Mass: 10:00 a.m. <i>Livestreamed</i>	Patrick Deehan R.I.P. (Sally, Ann & Helen)



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



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