

Parish of St. Theresa of Lisieux Stansted

The Little Flower Messenger

Year C – OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST THE KING – 20th November 2022

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Gospel: Luke 23:35-43

'Lord remember me when you come into your kingdom.'

Mass book (P. 167)

1st Reading:

2 Samuel 5:1-3

Psalm 121:1-5 r.2:

I rejoiced when I heard them say: 'Let us go to God's house.

2nd Reading:

Colossians 1:12—20

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia! Blessings on him who comes in the name of the Lord! Blessings on the coming kingdom of our father David! Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon: (P. 169)

The Lord sits as King for ever. The Lord will bless his people with peace.

This Week's Good News

Dear Friends,

“How worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and divinity, and wisdom and strength and honour. To him belong glory and authority for ever and ever.”

Words of the Entrance Antiphon which the entire Church prays today as we celebrate the last Sunday of Ordinary time, the solemnity of Christ the King.

This solemnity is a relative newcomer in the Church's calendar. Pope Pius XI added it to the liturgical calendar in 1925. Pope Pius XI intended this feast to be an antidote to the poison of secularism, which was spreading at that time. Some countries were struggling against the anti-Catholic ideas of communism and fascism. Some other affluent democratic countries were simply losing interest in religion and giving over their lives to the pursuit of pleasure. Yet, Pius remained hopeful, writing that “when once men recognize, both in private and public life, that Christ is King, society will at last receive the great blessings of real liberty, well ordered discipline, peace and harmony.”

In today's Gospel, St. Luke recounts how Our Lord Jesus Christ, who from the Cross, the glorious throne through which He offered Himself as an eternal sacrifice to redeem humanity, has shown us that His Mercy knows no bounds. Jesus, mocked by the Jews, and by the bad thief, who hardens his heart



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blasphemes Jesus. The other thief, a criminal himself but who humbly and contritely recognizes his sins and meekly directs himself to Our Lord, defends and consoles Our Lord:

Now one of the criminals hanging there reviled Jesus, saying, "Are you not the Christ? Save yourself and us." The other, however, rebuking him, said in reply, "Have you no fear of God, for you are subject to the same condemnation? And indeed, we have been condemned justly, for the sentence we received corresponds to our crimes, but this man has done nothing criminal." Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." He replied to him, "Amen, I say to you, today you will be with me in Paradise."

St. Ambrose comments: **"The Lord always grants more than one asks: the thief only asked him to remember him, but the Lord says to him, 'Truly, I say to you, today you will be with me in Paradise.' Life consists in dwelling with Jesus Christ, and where Jesus Christ is there is his Kingdom"**

All of us are sinners, but Jesus, the King of the Universe, is determined to reign in each one of us, if we have the same humble and contrite dispositions of the good thief. Therefore, let no one despair, for God, as we have seen many times in the Gospels, especially at the hour of his Death on the Cross, is bent to wait for us with His arms wide open, ready to forgive us. Let us then allow God's mercy to reign in our soul through humility, contrition, and confession.

Deacon Des

Catholic Social Action – Thought for the day.

"If I define my neighbour as the one I must go out to look for, on the highways and byways, in the factories and slums, on the farms and in the mines, then my world changes."

Gustavo Guitierrez

Deacon Des

World Youth Sunday: This weekend we celebrate World Youth Sunday, providing us with a unique opportunity to celebrate the role and significance of young people in the Catholic Church in England and Wales, along with the global Church.

We will, therefore, be holding a second collection for the Brentwood Catholic Youth Service this weekend. Alternatively, you can donate online at www.bcys.net/donate. Your support is greatly appreciated, as any money raised will go towards supporting those who are in need of financial support to go on pilgrimages and to events, as well as allowing them to continue running their events, provide support and training to those working with young people, and so much more.

Please also pray for all young people in our Parish, in our Diocese and around the world.

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

Encounter: The next meeting takes place this 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.



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First reading - 2 Samuel 5:1-3
They anointed David king of Israel

All the tribes of Israel then came to David at Hebron. 'Look' they said 'we are your own flesh and blood. In days past when Saul was our king, it was you who led Israel in all their exploits; and the Lord said to you, "You are the man who shall be shepherd of my people Israel, you shall be the leader of Israel."' So all the elders of Israel came to the king at Hebron, and King David made a pact with them at Hebron in the presence of the Lord, and they anointed David king of Israel.

Second reading - Colossians 1:12-20
The Father has created a place for us in the kingdom of the Son that he loves

We give thanks to the Father who has made it possible for you to join the saints and with them to inherit the light.

Because that is what he has done: he has taken us out of the power of darkness and created a place for us in the kingdom of the Son that he loves, and in him, we gain our freedom, the forgiveness of our sins.

He is the image of the unseen God
and the first-born of all creation,
for in him were created
all things in heaven and on earth:
everything visible and everything invisible,
Thrones, Dominations, Sovereignities, Powers –
all things were created through him and for him.
Before anything was created, he existed,
and he holds all things in unity.
Now the Church is his body,
he is its head.

As he is the Beginning,
he was first to be born from the dead,
so that he should be first in every way;
because God wanted all perfection
to be found in him
and all things to be reconciled through him and for him,
everything in heaven and everything on earth,
when he made peace
by his death on the cross.

Gospel - Luke 23:35-43

The people stayed there before the cross watching Jesus. As for the leaders, they jeered at him. 'He saved others,' they said 'let him save himself if he is the Christ of God, the Chosen One.' The soldiers mocked him too, and when they approached to offer vinegar they said, 'If you are the king of the Jews, save yourself.' Above him there was an inscription: 'This is the King of the Jews.'

One of the criminals hanging there abused him. 'Are you not the Christ?' he said. 'Save yourself and us as well.' But the other spoke up and rebuked him. 'Have you no fear of God at all?' he said. 'You got the same sentence as he did, but in our case we deserved it: we are paying for what we did. But this man has done nothing wrong. Jesus,' he said 'remember me when you come into your kingdom.' 'Indeed, I promise you,' he replied 'today you will be with me in paradise.'



Mass Times and Intentions

OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST THE KING – YEAR C		
Saturday 19 th November	Confessions: 5:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. Mass: 6:00 p.m. <i>Livestreamed</i>	Elaine Smyth R.I.P. (S. Keith)
Sunday 20 th 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)
Monday 21 st November <i>The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary</i>	❖	
Tuesday 22 nd November <i>St Cecilia</i>	❖	
Wednesday 23 rd November	❖	
Thursday 24 th November <i>St Andrew Dung-Lac</i>	❖	
Friday 25 th November	❖	
FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT – YEAR A		
Saturday 26 th November	Confessions: 5:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. Mass: 6:00 p.m. <i>Livestreamed</i>	Carmen Zuniga-Daly 1st Birthday Thanksgiving (A&J Zuniga Daly)
Sunday 27 th November	Service of Word & Communion: 8:30 a.m. <i>Livestreamed</i> 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.



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