

Parish of St. Theresa of Lisieux Stansted

The Little Flower Messenger

THE SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

14th May 2023

Parish Priest: Fr. Liam Hayes frliamhayes@brcdt.org ☎ 01279 814 349

The Presbytery, High Lane, Stansted Mountfitchet, CM24 8LQ

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Mass book (P. 268) - Gospel: John 14:1-12: *I shall ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate*

1st Reading: *Acts 8:5-8*

Psalm 65: *Cry out with joy to God all the earth.*

2nd Reading: *1 Peter 3:15*

Gospel Acclamation: *Alleluia, alleluia! Jesus said: 'If anyone loves me he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we shall come to him'. Alleluia!*

A thought from Fr Liam...

CHRIST IS TRULY RISEN!!



ALLELUIA! ALLELUIA!

Dear Friends,

One of the great joys of priesthood for me is meeting so many different people from so many walks of life both within and beyond our parishes. The great diversity of people that I am privileged to journey alongside, with such rich and often amazing stories to share, continues to enrich both my life and my understanding of what it means to be human. I am truly blessed to be allowed to get to know so many, and invited to share something of life together, often at very significant and poignant moments. So it is often very frustrating for me when I allow life to become so full of activity that sitting down for a chat and a cuppa feels like an indulgent luxury.



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

So I was really rather glad, if not somewhat relieved this week, when I was brought up short during a conversation with my doctor, as we were chatting about the similarities in our lifestyles and vocations – ‘when did busyness in our life become a virtue?’ he asked. ‘Hmmm, when indeed’ was my response, as we both reflected upon our thinly hidden collusion with such a lifestyle. Such busyness chimes with the notion of *rapidification* that Pope Francis exposes in *Laudato Si’* - to describe a life that is full of frenetic activity and frenzied thoughts, that perpetuates a culture of permanent availability, and relegates the importance of family, relationships and friends to the sidelines of life. It is a pattern and rhythm of life that not only tends to devalue and discard the value of rest, relationships and reflection for fullness of life lived in harmony with God, Creation and each other, but is also one that rather significantly finds no place in the life and ministry of Jesus that we encounter in the gospels.

May God grant us the wisdom to rediscover the joy and necessity of rest and reflection, play and contemplation, time ‘wasted with God’ and of course the delight of a cuppa with each other.

Wishing you and yours a restful sixth week of Easter.

Liam

PRAYER OF THE WEEK

Living God,
have mercy on us,
for the times we forget
that we belong to each other.

You call us to be still,
to hear the whisper of our Sister Wind,
to feel the radiance of our Brother Sun,
and to be nourished by our Mother Earth.

Renew us in your healing love.
Inspire us to water the earth,
and nurture one another,
so all may flourish.

Together, as one family,
may we always sing your praise.
Through Christ our Lord,
Amen.

Rachel McCarthy/CAFOD

Our Parish

YourPlace: To help raise funds for YourPlace the Parish Visions Group will be holding a Musical Evening in our Parish Centre on 20th May. Tickets will be on sale after Mass every weekend up to the event. As this is our Parish Charity a Just Giving page linked to the YourPlace has been set up on our website, so should you be unable to attend the event (or even if you can), please feel free to leave a donation. All funds are passed directly to YourPlace, so please visit: [St Theresa Church Stansted is fundraising for Your Place \(justgiving.com\)](https://www.justgiving.com/St-Theresa-Church-Stansted)



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The Retreat at Clare Priory: The Retreat at Clare Priory "Ways of Silence; Based on the poetry of Gerard Manley Hopkins" takes place this Tuesday (16th May) starting with Mass at 10am. Bring own refreshments and packed lunch. All welcome.

Offertory:

Date	Gift Aid	Loose Cash	Standing Orders	Total
07/05/2023	£304.00	£209.90	£406.25	£920.15

Thank you very much for your generous financial support for our parish.

CAFOD Thank you: The Parish received a thank you from CAFOD for supporting the Harvest and Lent campaigns. As a Parish we raised a total of £969.40. Your support is much appreciated.

Our Diocese

Do you know someone who no longer comes to Mass?



*Maybe it's a friend or family, neighbour or colleague,
or maybe its you?*



+ Bishop Alan from Brentwood would love to hear from you +

- Many Catholics have for one reason or another lost interest in the Church
- Others may still be interested and attracted to the Church, but don't have time for Sunday Mass
- Many others may not have returned to the Church since the Covid pandemic.
- Others may feel alienated from the Church because it's harmed or rejected them in some way.

This survey provides a space for the story and experience of you, your family and friends to be shared and heard, and seriously listened to by me as your Bishop and our wider diocesan Church.

Click on the link, or snap the QR code – it should take no more than 10-15 mins to complete



https://cambridge.eu.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_9Gn08WXvvKfwJts



PLEASE ASK your friends or family, your neighbours and colleagues who no longer come to Church to complete the survey so that we might hear from as many people as possible.

*"Thank you for taking the time to share your story and experience,
and allowing me the chance to listen once more."* **Bishop Alan**

World Youth Day: World Youth Day is a truly amazing opportunity to deepen and grow in faith, in the company of other young adults from across the world. If there is someone in your school/parish who would benefit from this, please do encourage them. As these are last-minute, regrettably the time to apply for a WYD visa has passed, and so we can only take people with a British or EU passport. Their passport should have an expiry date of at least 10th February 2024 (i.e. 6 months after our return date). They will need to be 17-27 years old, and able to deal with large crowds and the heat of a Portuguese summer. They will undoubtedly have much to share in the parish/school when they return. First come, first served!



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Mass for the altar servers of the diocese of Brentwood: A Mass for the altar servers of the diocese of Brentwood, with The Right Reverend Alan Williams Bishop of Brentwood, takes place on Saturday 10th June 2023 at 2:00pm at the Cathedral Church of St Mary & St Helen, Brentwood. All Altar servers and their parents are invited to attend. Should you wish to attend please confirm your details to Fr Liam or Clair by 31st May 2023. Thank you.

Interested in the Catholic response to homelessness, welcoming refugees and migrants, assisting with the Cost of Living Crisis, or tackling the causes and effects of climate change? Come to the first Caritas Brentwood networking day, **Saturday 10th June, 10am – 2.30pm, at Sacred Heart of Mary School, Upminster** (on C2C & District lines, close to M25 & A127). Hear national speaker **Raymond Friel, OBE**, Chief Executive of the Catholic Social Action network. This day is a chance to be sustained, share ideas and good practices with people from parishes across Essex and East London and hear about charities and resources available. Details and Registration (free!) at www.caritasbrentwood.org/network

‘The Priests’ Charity Concert: Brentwood Catholic Children’s Society is delighted to announce that the Northern Irish classical singing trio **‘The Priests’** will be performing a second charity concert on Friday 30th June 2023 at the Brentwood Cathedral at 7.30pm. All tickets can be purchased directly through Eventbrite and are £30 per person plus booking fee: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/528414691567>

Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes 2023: Join Bishop Alan in Lourdes from Monday 24th to Saturday 29th July. We can support those with medical needs. For further information, please 'phone Tangey Tours on 01732 886 666 or book online: [Brentwood Lourdes - Lourdes - Tangney Tours \(tangney-tours.com\)](http://Brentwood Lourdes - Lourdes - Tangney Tours (tangney-tours.com))

Mass Times and Intentions

THE SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER – YEAR A		
Saturday 13 th May	Confessions: 5:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. Mass: 6:00 p.m. <i>Livestreamed</i>	People of the Parish
Sunday 14 th May	Mass: 10:00 a.m. <i>Livestreamed</i>	Wednesday Club Thanksgiving (B&E Quinn)
Wednesday 17 th May	Mass: 12:30 p.m. <i>Livestreamed</i>	Private Intention (Wee Family)
Thursday 18 th May <i>The Ascension of the Lord</i>	Mass: 7:30 p.m. <i>Livestreamed</i>	
THE SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER – YEAR A		
Saturday 20 th May	Confessions: 5:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. Mass: 6:00 p.m. <i>Livestreamed</i>	People of the Parish
Sunday 21 st May	Mass: 10:00 a.m. <i>Livestreamed</i>	Gordon Barratt 102nd Birthday (T. Aldridge)



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