

Parish of St. Theresa of Lisieux Stansted

The Little Flower Messenger

TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

24th September 2023

The Presbytery, High Lane, Stansted Mountfitchet, CM24 8LQ ☎ 01279 814 349

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Mass book (P. 131) Gospel: Matthew 20:1-16

1st Reading: *Isaiah 55:6-9 Psalm: The Lord is close to all who call him.*

2nd Reading: *Philippians 1:20-24, 27*

Gospel Acclamation: *Alleluia, alleluia! Blessings on the King who comes, in the name of the Lord!
Peace in heaven and glory in the highest heavens! Alleluia!*

Fr Clement's Notices

Holy Baptism: Pope Francis advises that no one who requests to be baptised should be turned away. The Holy Father has in his mind the teaching of the Catechism of the Catholic Church (ccc) which states that the only ordinary means, that the Church knows of, by which a person is to be saved is via the Sacrament of Baptism (ccc1257), holy Baptism being the basis of the whole Christian life, the gateway to life in the Spirit, and the door which give access to other Sacraments (ccc1213).

With this in mind, I would like to welcome with joy everyone who asks to celebrate the Sacrament of Baptism. Please talk to me after Mass and I will give you a baptismal form on which to fill in the relevant details. On behalf of the parish, a couple of parishioners will accompany me to help you prepare well to celebrate this Holy Sacrament. Please place completed forms in the Sacristy during Fr Clement's absence. Thank you.

The First Holy Communion: After receiving holy Baptism, candidates (including children who are seven years and above) are invited to participate in the celebration of the Holy Eucharist and reception of Holy Communion. The holy Mass is the greatest gift that our Lord gave his apostles when on that evening of Holy Thursday, He commanded his apostles to celebrate the Mass by saying: *Do this in memory of me*. The apostolic Church shall in perpetuity treasure the celebration of the Holy Eucharistic, and after the Vatican II Council, the Church recommends a daily celebration of the Holy Eucharist besides the Sunday Obligation. The Church calls the Eucharist as the Source and Summit of the Christian Life (ccc1324). This means that every Christian spirituality flows from the Eucharistic and that all Christian activities should be directed towards the Eucharistic.

The celebrations of all other Sacraments and all other liturgical Services are to be linked to the Eucharistic. Given the above, let us support all those who will come forward during this time as Candidates to prepare for their First Holy Communion. This invitation is not limited to children



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only. Every young person or adult who, for whatever reason, has not been able to receive Holy Communion, is invited to talk to me after Mass, please. As a Parish Christian Community, we will be happy to discern and prepare with you to celebrate the Sacraments. If you are the prospective candidate, please speak to me after Mass and I shall give you the First Holy Communion Form to fill in the details. We are hoping to start the preparatory Lessons in October. Please place completed forms in the Sacristy during Fr Clement's absence. Thank you.

The Sacrament of Confirmation: The fullness of Christian initiation is completed by the celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation. Every baptised person should receive the Sacrament of Confirmation which is the way the Candidate's relationship to God the Father is deepened by the powerful grace of the Holy Spirit: "...the Sacrament of Confirmation confers upon the candidate an outpouring of the Holy Spirit with his sevenfold gifts and impresses upon the soul of the candidate an indelible character..." (ccc1285-1321). Please let me know if you know anybody in our parish who has not received the Sacrament of Confirmation.

Within our parish context, we are happy to present three Candidates who will receive the Sacrament of Confirmation on 1st October at 10.00 am Mass, which will be presided by Bishop Alan. The Confirmation Candidates Anthony Dellow, Abigail Ayaso and Isabel Nwako have been doing Catechetical Lessons and I am grateful to David Morson for being the lead Catechist. Please pray for the intentions of our candidates and their families.

Mass Intentions: As one of the ways of having a personal touch with you and getting to know you, it may be helpful if you personally give me your Mass intentions. You can speak with me about this before or after Mass. Mass intentions envelopes are available at the back of the Church. Hopefully with time, I will know each one of you by name! I think I already know about 10 parishioners by name.

Tea and Coffee after Mass: It would be lovely if we were able as a parish to spend a little more time together sharing tea or coffee every Sunday after Mass. I would like to appeal for volunteers to help me with this endeavour as from 1st October, our patronal feast day of St Theresa of Lisieux. I need two volunteers per Sunday to help with the preparation. Clair and I will volunteer on 8th October. Please have a look at the Rota in the entrance to see when you are able to volunteer. The more the merrier! Thank you for your help.

The Parish Handing over file: I have noticed a few missing items in this file. May I gently remind the person who is keeping the login details of the parish website to hand them to me as soon as possible? For security and insurance purposes, can I please have all the names of the persons with a key to the Church and the Parish Centre? Please get in touch with Clair in the Office to inform her. The Parish Finance Committee will be meeting soon and will examine this File.

Our Parish

Michael Lambe R.I.P: Michael died on Thursday 14th September. Please pray for Michael and his family during this sad time. Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him. May he rest in peace. Amen.

Thank you: A big thank you to Francis, Brian, John and Angelo for moving the benches back to our pre COVID layout.



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Christmas Child Quiz Evening: Taking place in the Parish Centre on Saturday 30th September, 7pm for 7.30pm Start. Please bring your own food and drink. Entrance £5. Raffle. All funds go to transporting a Christmas Box to Romania, costing £5 a box. For More information Contact David Morson 01279 850209.

Offertory:

Date	Gift Aid	Loose Cash	Standing Orders	Total
17/09/2023	£110.00	£190.59	£495.63	£796.22

Date	Evangelii Gaudium Sunday Collection
17/09/2023	£167.36

Thank you very much for your generous financial support for our parish and the special collection.

If you pay tax and would like any donations you make to our Parish to be Gift Aided, please email Angelo at stansted-giftaid@brcdt.org for details.

Miraculous Medal: Fr Clement brought some Miraculous Medals from Paris for you all. They are available next to the Newsletters in the church entrance; please do take one.

Our Diocese

Brentwood Catholic Children's Society (BCCS) Child and Family Counselling Service:

Brentwood Catholic Children's Society (BCCS) offers therapeutic support directly to children, young people, families and parents through their Child and Family Counselling Service (CFCS) located in their centre in Billericay. Their CFCS team consists of several experienced and highly qualified therapists working in specially adapted therapy rooms. Families can contact BCCS directly by emailing Donna Booth dbooth@bccs.org.uk who will outline the type of support that will be provided for them or their child. There is a charge for this service, but they urge any families needing support to contact them. More information is available on their website: www.bccs.org.uk

Caretaker/Cleaner, Epping: A vacancy has arisen for a part-time Caretaker at The Immaculate Conception, Epping. The post will be part-time (three hours per week – with a flexible working agreement to be agreed). Closing date is noon on 4th October 2023, please send your CV by email to admin@eppingparish.plus.com Job description: [JD014_08 - Caretaker Cleaner – Epping Official V.2 \(002\)](#)

Headteacher St Francis Catholic Primary School, Maldon: Required from 1st January 2023. Group 2: L11-L17 (Starting salary based on experience). NOR: 210 (1 form entry). St Francis: 210.

The Governors of Christ The King Federation are looking for an inspirational, enthusiastic and dedicated Headteacher from January 2024. This is following the impending retirement of our highly respected current Executive Headteacher. St Joseph's and St Francis are caring, friendly and highly successful school communities whose Catholic ethos is at the heart of all that they do. The successful applicant will work with governors to shape the strategic direction of St Francis School, and will be responsible for day-to-day leadership and management, leading a team that



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strives together for the good of every single child. Applications are invited from Head Teachers, Heads of School, Deputy Head Teachers or Assistant Head Teachers with outstanding leadership experience.

Deadline for applications: **4:00 pm on Friday 13th October 2023**. We warmly welcome and encourage applicants to visit our schools, please speak with the School Business Manager Elizabeth Chapman at admin@st-francisc.essex.sch.uk for more information. Application packs are available at finance@st-francisc.essex.sch.uk and completed applications should be sent to this address.

Our World

World Day of Migrants and Refugees 24th September 2023: The Church has been celebrating the World Day of Migrants and Refugees (WDMR) since 1914. It's always an occasion to express concern for different vulnerable people on the move; to pray for them as they face many challenges; and to increase awareness about the opportunities that migration offers.

The theme of Pope Francis' message for the 109th World Day of Migrants and Refugees is: Free to choose whether to migrate or to stay. The theme, and indeed the Holy Father's message, echoes many of the principles found in the Bishops' document on refugees and migrants published earlier in 2023 - [Love the Stranger](#).

[Read the Pope's message](#) via the Catholic Bishops of England and Wales website.

Mass Times and Intentions

TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR A		
Saturday 23 rd September	Confessions: 5:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. Mass: 6:00 p.m. <i>Livestreamed</i>	Bridget McCreanor R.I.P. (S. Wood)
Sunday 24 th September	Mass: 10:00 a.m. <i>Livestreamed</i>	People of the Parish
TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR A		
Saturday 30 th September	Confessions: 5:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. Mass: 6:00 p.m. <i>Livestreamed</i>	Kevin McLoughlin R.I.P. Margaret McLoughlin R.I.P. Eammon McLoughlin R.I.P. (SP. Whiter)
Sunday 1 st October	Mass: 10:00 a.m. <i>Livestreamed</i>	People of the Parish

Thank you to Bishop Alan and Fr Damien Wade for celebrating our Masses with us this weekend



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