

Parish of St. Theresa of Lisieux Stansted

The Little Flower Messenger

THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

29th October 2023

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

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Mass book (P. 146)

1st Reading:

2nd Reading:

Gospel Acclamation:

Gospel: Matthew 22:34-40

Exodus 22:20-26 Psalm: *I love you, Lord, my strength.*

1 Thessalonians 1:5-10

*Alleluia, alleluia! Open our heart, O Lord, to accept the words of your Son.
Alleluia!*

The Infant Baptism of Alana: I am happy to inform every one of the good news of the baptism of Alana which will take place this Sunday after Mass. Please pray for the spiritual wellbeing and health of Alana as well as for the intentions of all her family members.

Tea and Coffee after Mass in the Hall: Thank You to one and all who remain behind to spend a little more time together sharing tea or coffee every Sunday after Mass. No problem if you are unavailable this Sunday because of other commitments but please do plan to share some time after Mass with fellow parishioners at least twice a month. I would like to appeal for more volunteers to help me with this endeavour. We need two volunteers per Sunday to help with the preparation. 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.

Children Picnic Mass on Saturday 4th November at 11.30 am: I would like to invite fathers and mothers with young children to come for Mass next Saturday followed by a picnic lunch. This will give me the opportunity to interact with the children and also consult with their parents about our parish matters especially on the kind of preparations we need to have for the Christmas Eve Children's Mass. Whilst confirming to attend this Mass, would parents please email me and share their views at frclementorango@brcdt.org

Parish Finances: Before I start asking you for more donations to support our parish, I thought it is important for you, my parish family, to be informed of the current parish financial situation. Our Parish finances for the year starting April 2022 until April 2023 showed a deficit of £18,139 (Income received was £69,735 while expenses incurred were £87,874). As I start my ministry in this parish, I have looked at the half-year figures of the Parish Accounts as at October 2023, and I realise this deficit continues to linger. The parish income received in the last six months was £28,192.19 while the expenses incurred during the same period were £33,174.38. The only source of the parish income comes from the Sunday Collections, and this includes Standing Orders for those who give online. There was no fundraising income through social activity in the last six



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months. Meanwhile, Routine Repairs to the Church building during the last six months stood at £2,158.51 while some of the other expenses during the same period, were as follows: Presbytery gas & electricity £936.98, Church gas & electricity £1,878.34, Parish Hall gas & electricity £1,204.30 (please note that the cost of heating during the winter months would be much more than this), Council Tax £1,134.00, Flowers £703.47, Insurance £936.93, New hymn Books & Sunday Missals £1,287.75, Supply Priests £1,500, Water £316.98, and the diocesan quota £6,688.08. The Diocesan quota is the amount of money every parish sends to the Bishop to enable him to run the diocese, and this is calculated at 26.5% of the Sunday Collections, that is, for every £1 you give as your Sunday Collection, the diocese takes 26p. The diocese does not take anything from the money given for specific parish projects. In the last six months, there were also Bank Charges of £463.36 - note that the bank takes a cut of all cash and cheques placed in the basket, whether in Gift Aid envelopes or loose, and there are also charges for using the Contactless donation system and the diocesan online donations website. **The only way to be certain that the whole of your donation goes to the Parish is to pay by standing order or electronic banking transfer.** Thus, please consider giving your Sunday Collection via Standing Order or electronic bank transfer, if at all possible, in which case please speak to me or a member of the Finance Committee after Mass. Having explained all the above, mine is to thank you all from the bottom of my heart for your continued support as the Church recovers from the impact of COVID-19 especially the declining numbers of parishioners. The parish cannot survive well without the support of your prayers and your financial contributions. I would appreciate very much if you are able to give more donations or contributions towards a specific expense of the parish. Thank you very much for your continued help and support. On behalf of the parish, I am sincerely grateful to all members of the Finance Committee for giving so much of their time and skills to serve the parish in this way.

Two urgent Parish Projects: Following the Finance Committee held last week, I learned that we do need a New Boiler for the Parish Hall. I am currently looking for quotes in order to establish how much it will cost. The second project is Built-in Sacristy Cupboards so that vestments may be kept well. I have been told that this project was always intended to be done and the drawings are available. I am looking for joiners to provide the quotes. I will keep you informed with the progress.

The Synod: Bishop Alan has reminded us to pray for Pope Francis and everyone currently meeting in Rome for the SYNOD (For a Synodal Church- Communion, Participation, Mission). Pope Francis has published a new Apostolic Exhortation LAUDATE DEUM - 'To all people of good will on the climate crisis' - it is available online. Please continue to pray for the intentions and anxieties of the Holy Father and for the world in which we live that all peoples will turn to our God in Christ who is never outdone in generosity and gives us such great gifts to use for our common good.

The Month of Holy Souls: In November, the Church invites us to pray for the departed souls including but not limited to our departed parishioners and relatives. Please take Holy Souls envelopes for those who wish to book Mass intentions for their departed relatives. Seven-day holy souls Candles will be available to purchase, and everyone will be invited to light them.

All Saints and All Souls Masses: Mass will be offered on All Saints at 12.30pm and 7.30pm; and All Souls at 10.00am and 7.30pm. All are welcome.

8.30 am Sunday Mass: I'm happy to confirm that the 8.30am Sunday Mass will restart on 5th of November. Many thanks to those who have written to me to express their ideas.



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Mass Intentions: As a personal touch with you and getting to know you individually, 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!

The Parish Website: We have a beautiful website and I am very grateful to all who have assisted develop and support it. It just shows we have a wonderful volunteering spirit to support the parish. As I take responsibility for all data and information on the website, administrative access to the website will be limited and controlled. Please send all the information to me to approve before I upload it on the website. Please use this email to send your requests: stansted@brcdt.org

St Theresa's wallet/purse prayer card: St Theresa's prayer card which is meant to fit in your phone case or cover and in your purse or wallet is available for you all. It is Fr. Clement's gift to everyone as we all try to rediscover this great Doctor of the Church who has been given to our Parish as our patron, protector and prayer-partner. Extra copies of these prayer cards and Our Lady's medals can be found in Fr. Clement's Basket in the Church porch.

New to the Parish?: A big welcome to everyone who is new to our parish and all who may be visiting us today. Please come over to the Parish Hall to share a cup of tea/coffee with us.

St Theresa's Bonus Ball Competition: St Theresa's Bonus Ball competition, as you may know, is based on the bonus ball drawn at each Saturday's National Lottery Main Lotto Draw. Currently we have some numbers available. All money raised goes to our own Parish's good causes. The cost is £1 per week. This is payable in a number of ways: £4.33 monthly, £26 twice yearly or £52 per year. If you would like to join the competition, please either email Dave at bonusballstol@hotmail.com or telephone Clair in the parish office and she will pass your details over to Dave.

Church Flowers: Further to the announcement in last week's newsletter, I would like to invite anyone in the Parish who is interested in flowers and becoming involved in a very informal flower group with the intention of coming together to create an arrangement or two in our beautiful church. Guidance lessons will be given in small groups in the afternoon in the Parish centre. A chance to meet old and new friends who have a love of flowers. For further information please contact me - sharoncatherineking@gmail.com or the Parish Administrator Clair via email stansted@brcdt.org or call on 01279 816 889.

Christmas Shoeboxes with Teams4u: We are sending Love in a Box again this Christmas to the Ukraine/adjointing camps by lorry and would be very grateful for any suitable items to send. Everything must fit into a shoebox. There will be a large box in the entrance hall for any of the following items you are able to give: - Toothbrushes, paste, soap etc. stationery and pens, pencils, crayons, sharpeners, colouring books, small games, skipping ropes, puppets, dolls, craft sets, toy cars, socks, sweets. For older children, notebooks, biros, maths sets, makeup, bath products, hair gel, bands, jewellery, gloves etc. The Wednesday Club will be filling the boxes with all the donated items on the 1st November from 2.30pm onwards. Normally we fill over 100 boxes, and then take them to the central pick-up point in Loughton. You can see the children's beaming faces online or @teams4Utube. There is a poster on the Notice Board with our phone number if you have any questions. Eileen and Brian Quinn.

Everyone is invited to the Celebration of the holy Mass this week as per the schedule here below:

THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR A



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Date	Mass Time	Intention
Saturday 28 th October	Mass: 9.00 am <i>Livestreamed</i> Confessions: 5:00 pm - 5:30 pm The Holy Rosary for Peace: 5.40 pm Vigil Mass: 6:00 pm <i>Livestreamed</i>	People of the Parish
Sunday 29 th October	The Holy Rosary for Peace: 9.40 am Mass: 10:00 am <i>Livestreamed</i>	Alina Hancock R.I.P.
Wednesday 1 st November <i>Holy Day of Obligation</i> <i>All Saints</i>	Mass: 12:30 pm <i>Livestreamed</i> Mass: 7:30 pm <i>Livestreamed</i>	
Thursday 2 nd November <i>All Souls</i>	Mass: 10.00 am <i>Livestreamed</i> Mass: 7:30 pm <i>Livestreamed</i>	
Friday 3 rd November <i>Feria</i>	Mass: 10:00 am <i>Livestreamed</i>	

THIRTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR A

Date	Mass Time	Intention
Saturday 4 th November	Children's Mass: 11.30 am <i>Livestreamed</i> Confessions: 5:00 pm - 5:30 pm Vigil Mass: 6:00 pm <i>Livestreamed</i>	People of the Parish
Sunday 5 th November	Mass: 8:30 am <i>Livestreamed</i> Mass: 10:00 am <i>Livestreamed</i>	Hutchinson Private Intention



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