

The Little Flower Messenger

THIRTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

5th November 2023

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

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Mass book (P. 149)

1st Reading:

2nd Reading:

Gospel Acclamation:

Gospel: Matthew 23:1-12

Malachi 1:14-2:2 Psalm: **Keep my soul in peace before you, O Lord.**

1 Thessalonians 2:7-9

Alleluia, alleluia! Speak, Lord, your servant is listening; you have the message of eternal life. Alleluia!

THANK YOU ALL FROM THE BOTTOM OF MY HEART: I would like to express my heartfelt thanks and appreciation for your warm welcome and support as I start my ministry here among you. Everyone has been smiling at me and welcoming me with open arms and I have not seen or sensed any negativity at all due to my different cultural and missionary roots. A number of friends from my former parishes who have visited me have told me how friendly and lovely you all are. One of the very experienced and wise English Priests I know told me it is important that parishioners know that the parish is “your home and family,” and not anywhere else. When once asked by some parishioners to say when he will go home to visit his family, he had to correct them and say: ‘this parish is my home and family’. You all have made me feel at home here and yes, you are my home and family. I look forward to getting to know you and your families.

The Month of Holy Souls: Thank you so much to those who have given me their November dead list. I am also grateful for the Mass intentions and Offerings you have given me. 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. Thank you.

Month of Holy Souls - Sanctuary Candles: We are pleased to offer the chance to purchase a candle to be lit in loving memory of your departed loved ones. Each candle will have a printed label with the names of your departed loved ones on it. Each candle costs £5 and will remain lit for seven days. The sheets to “book” a candle are inserted in this week’s newsletter and available on the table as you come into Church. Could we ask that those who wish to book a candle please fill in this sheet and return it and the payment to Fr Clement or Clair. Thank you.

Parish Finances: I have been touched by your very kind and generous response following my appeal to consider increasing your contributions, for those who may find it possible. Given the rising cost of living and many families struggling, it is fairly obvious the parish finances are affected. I am very touched and forever grateful for your generosity and support. For those who



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can give their contributions online, please take the Standing Order forms which are in the Church entrance.

Two urgent Parish Projects: Following the recent Finance Committee meeting, 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.

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.

Tea and Coffee Rota: Suzanne Shutes has kindly agreed to look after the Rota for Tea/Coffee after Sunday Mass. On behalf of the parish, I am very grateful for her help and support. If for any reason you are unable to turn up on the day you signed up for on the rota, please be in touch with Suzanne at 07732 627 382 or via email suzanne.shutes@btinternet.com.

A Celebration of cake and tea/coffee for Calvin Samuels and Alana Perera: After baptising these two children at a private service, I thought it would be good to pray for them and welcome them in the Sunday Mass. Everyone is invited to share their joy in the Parish Centre after Mass.

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! I think I already know about 10 parishioners by name.

The Parish Website: We have a beautiful website and I am very grateful to ALL who have assisted to 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.

Christmas Cards: We have a few different varieties of Christmas Card available in our repository. As one of the ways to fundraise for the parish, please consider buying our Christmas cards after Mass. Thank you.

Jambo to All,



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I wonder if you have already done an event to mark the Special Birthday of our most beloved Patron Saint, St Theresa of Lisieux. St Theresa was born on 2nd January 1873, which means she would be 150 years old. Well, the Holy Father has recently published an Apostolic Exhortation, 'C'est La Confiance', about the life of Saint Therese of the Child Jesus and the Holy Face, and sent it to the universal Church to mark the 150th anniversary of this very special saint. The Holy Father is appealing to all Catholics and all peoples of goodwill to imitate the virtues and values of this humble saint - please read Pope Francis' special Letter on our website. Surely, we can do something to mark the event since we are a Church of St Theresa?

We are so blessed and privileged to have St Theresa's patronage and prayers to accompany our pilgrimage through this world, until we are united with God the Father in Heaven and with all the saints and all our departed relatives and fellow parishioners.

If you have not done anything to mark this special event, can we please do something before Christmas? We can have a Mass followed by a hot dinner together as a parish. Obviously, this will take some organising. Please email me your ideas. Please feel free with me as I would like to be a family member to all of you.

Thank you from the bottom of my heart for supporting me and welcoming me so warmly to the parish.

May God Bless you.

Fr. Clement.

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.

Offertory:

Date	Gift Aid	Loose Cash	Standing Orders	Total
22/10/2023	£166.00	£214.12	£400.00	£780.12
29/10/2023	£74.50	£152.15	£400.00	£626.65

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

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.

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.

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.



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

THIRTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR A

Date	Mass Time	Intention
Saturday 4th November	Mass: 9.00 am <i>Livestreamed</i> 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 5th November	Mass: 8:30 am <i>Livestreamed</i> Mass: 10:00 am <i>Livestreamed</i>	John Whiting R.I.P. (K. Whiting) Hutchinson Private Intention
Wednesday 8th November <i>Feria</i>	Mass: 12:30 pm <i>Livestreamed</i>	Holy Souls of departed relatives & friends
Thursday 9th November <i>Dedication of the Lateran</i> <i>Basilica</i>	Mass: 9.00 am <i>Livestreamed</i>	Holy Souls of departed relatives & friends
Friday 10th November <i>St Leo the Great</i>	Mass: 10:00 am <i>Livestreamed</i>	Holy Souls of departed relatives & friends

THIRTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR A

Date	Mass Time	Intention
Saturday 11th November	Mass: 9.00 am <i>Livestreamed</i> Confessions: 5:00 pm - 5:30 pm Vigil Mass: 6:00 pm <i>Livestreamed</i>	Holy Souls of departed relatives & friends Elaine Smythe R.I.P. (S. Keith)
Sunday 12th November <i>Remembrance Sunday</i>	Mass: 8:30 am <i>Livestreamed</i> Mass: 10:00 am <i>Livestreamed</i>	People of the Parish Mick Bennett R.I.P. (S&K McDowell)



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