

Parish of St. Theresa of Lisieux Stansted

The Little Flower Messenger

CHRIST THE KING SUNDAY

26th November 2023

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

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Mass book (P.158)

1st Reading:

2nd Reading:

Gospel Acclamation:

Gospel: Matthew 25:31-46

Ezekiel 34:11-12

Psalm 127: O blessed are those who fear the Lord.

1 Corinthians 15:20-26, 28

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

The Greatness and dignity of the holy Mass by Padre Pio: At the start of my ministry as your priest among you in September 2023, I chose to visit the Church of Padre Pio in Italy where he was baptised and where he received his mystical experiences. I was very touched by Padre Pio's witness that the **Mass is always ONE**, that is, the same Sacrifice of Our Lord at Calvary that is perpetually being enacted and made present again and again for our eternal redemption.

The Mass of Padre Pio: The celebration of the holy Mass was for Padre Pio the centre of his religious life. Humble and recollected, he approached the altar to celebrate holy Mass, to renew the Passion of Jesus. The culminating point of the celebration of the Eucharist was the Consecration. At that moment, the stigmatised friar with sobs and tears, re-enacted the divine tragedy of Calvary to the point of showing forth in his own flesh the awful torments of Jesus crucified. Padre Pio's Mass was different from all other Masses celebrated throughout the world because he re-enacted the Passion of Jesus by becoming a living sacrificial victim. Materially, Padre Pio was on the altar, but spiritually he was close to Jesus, for he seemed to speak to Him and to weep and suffer for Him. On the altar he was a soul in pain who prays for souls in pain. All those present at his Mass became more alert, more alive and more genuine as if they had escaped from this earth and were contemplating an invisible world (*by Fr. Pacifico Giuliano*).

Picnic Mass next Saturday 2nd December at 11.30 am followed by a meeting with the children along with their parents and grandparents. Afterward, there will be further celebrations in the Parish Hall in memory of St Theresa's 150th Birthday. All are invited. Thank you.

Eucharistic Ministers' Meeting on Saturday 2nd December after 6.00 pm Mass (7pm). I invite all extraordinary ministers of the Holy Eucharistic for a meeting at St Theresa's Room. Thank you.

Children's Service and Christmas Party Saturday December 16th 2023: The Children's Christmas Service will be on Saturday 16th December at 2:00 p.m. and will be followed by the Christmas Party in the Parish Centre. All are very welcome to the service but please let us know if your child / children wish to attend the party so that we may cater for everyone. Please email us at



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helenhall5@yahoo.co.uk or phone 01842 879766 with your child's name and age as soon as possible. A voluntary donation of £4.00 can be given on the day of the party. We are very excited because Fr. Christmas has contacted us to say that he will prioritise a visit during this very busy time for him. Please let Helen and Mark know by **Saturday 9th December 2023**.

World Youth Sunday - 26th November 2023: World Youth Day is a unique opportunity to celebrate the role and significance of young people in the Catholic Church. There will be a second collection for the Brentwood Catholic Youth Service, and any money raised will go towards supporting those in need of financial support to go on pilgrimages and to events, as well as allowing the BCYS to continue running these events, such as the monthly Youth Masses, provide support and training to those working with young people and so much more. You will also see posters around the church with details on how you can get involved or donate online, and please pray for all our young people and those who work with them. Please do pray for the work of the Brentwood Catholic Youth Service and Walsingham House, for all young people and those who work with them, and to donate online, please visit www.bcys.net/donate

Wednesday Club Christmas Raffle to raise funds for the New Boiler: The Wednesday club will be selling Raffle Tickets at Sunday Coffee following the mass on the 3rd, 10th & 17th December. Please can you donate raffle prizes for this worthy cause by giving to any member of the Wednesday Club. The draw will take place after Mass in the Parish centre on 17th December.

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. I hope you do not mind but I have asked Suzanne to make calls to those who have indicated that they are happy to help.

Hall Fund: Thank you from the bottom of my heart for the donations I have received for the Hall Fund- so far £1600 has been received but we still need much more. Our Parish Centre does not have funds and there is a real danger of it being closed at any time. For example, we urgently need a new boiler for the Hall and I have a quote of £6000. **Please support me in this effort and your donations will be gratefully received and very much appreciated.**

We pray for the Sick and all who may need our prayers at this time especially Joanne Dellow, Stephen Craston, Rachel Taylor and Fr Francis Coveney. Please let me know if you would like your name to be included here.

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 can give their contributions online, **please take the Standing Order forms which are in the Church entrance or give directly via our Parish account number: 41017519, Sort Code: 401322,** and account name: Catholic Church Stansted St Therasas - please note that these bank details are intended for parishioners only and so they will not be available online.

Two urgent Parish Projects: Following the last Finance Committee meeting, I learned that we do need a New Boiler for the Parish Hall. We are required to have a minimum of three quotes and are 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



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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.

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. Thank you so much for your Mass intentions and your offerings.

Fr Clement's Prayer Basket: Please help yourself with whatever you find in Fr. Clement's basket. For example, you will find St Theresa's prayer card, which is meant to fit in your phone case or purse/wallet. Let us all try to rediscover this great Doctor of the Church who has been given to our Parish as our patron, protector and prayer-partner. You will also find Our Lady's miraculous medals and other prayer cards. Please help yourself.

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 available in our Church Entrance. Thank you.

Missio Red Boxes (formerly APF Red boxes): Could all red box holders please return their Missio Red box this weekend (25th / 26th November). Should you wish to know how much your box contained please place your name, address and email on the label fixed to the underside of the box. Please take a new box with you for the coming year. You will find these on a table in the entrance and I will available after each of this weekend's Masses. If anyone else would like to take a box to support Missio, the Pope's charity for world mission, then please do. I will be in the entrance of Church to collect full boxes and distribute new boxes. Many thanks, Dave Horton.

Offertory:

Date	Gift Aid	Loose Cash	Standing Orders	Total
19/11/2023	£71.00	£222.08	£414.91	£707.99

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 practice of lighting a candle and dedicating it in prayer is so ancient and ever beautiful. Currently we are asking parishioners to dedicate these candles in memory of the departed loved ones. The act of lighting a votive candle at the altar, before an icon, a relic and statue is an act of communion with Our Lord. We light a candle and then we walk away but the candle continues to shine as a symbol of love and devotion and a physical, tangible reminder of our faith in the mercy, compassion, and love of God. I intend to promote this practice after the month of holy Souls. We should promote this practice of lighting the votive candles at the Statues of Our Lady, St Theresa and St Anthony of Padua. Each candle costs £5 and will remain lit for seven days as I pray for your intentions during the week. The other usual votive candles which usually last for two hours when lit are also available and you can use them too. Thank you.

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



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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.

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

CHRIST THE KING SUNDAY - YEAR A

Date	Mass Time	Mass Intention
Saturday 25 th November <i>Memorial of Our Lady</i>	Mass: 9:00 am <i>Livestreamed</i>	Holy Souls for our departed relatives & friends (Dead list)
	Confessions: 5:00 pm – 5:30 pm Vigil Mass: 6:00 pm <i>Livestreamed</i>	Margaret Aldridge Sr R.I.P. (by Tony & family)
Sunday 26 th November <i>Our Lord Jesus Christ the King</i> (Youth Day)	Mass: 8:30 am <i>Livestreamed</i>	For Carmine Zuniga-Daly's intentions and prayers
	Mass: 10:00 am <i>Livestreamed</i>	Margaret Hurley R.I.P. (Claire)
Wednesday 29 th November	Mass: 12:30 pm <i>Livestreamed</i>	For Rachel Taylor's welfare (by Mary Warnett)
Thursday 30 th November <i>St Andrew the Apostle- Feast</i>	Mass: 10:00 am <i>Livestreamed</i>	Holy Souls for our departed relatives & friends (Dead list)
Friday 1 st December	Mass: 10:00 am <i>Livestreamed</i>	Holy Souls for our departed relatives & friends (Dead list)

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT - YEAR B (The Year of the Gospel of Mark)

Date	Mass Time	Mass Intention
Saturday 2nd December	Mass: 9:00 am <i>Livestreamed</i>	Holy Souls for our departed relatives & friends (Dead list)
	Confessions: 5:00 pm – 5:30 pm Vigil Mass: 6:00 pm <i>Livestreamed</i>	Vernon Keith R.I.P (By S. Keith)
Sunday 3 rd December	Mass: 8:30 am <i>Livestreamed</i>	For Keith Foulser R.I.P (by Tina Foulser)
	Mass: 10:00 am <i>Livestreamed</i>	Peter Bennett R.I.P (by Mary Bennett)



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