

Parish of St. Theresa of Lisieux Stansted

The Little Flower Messenger

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B

14th January 2024

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

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Mass book (P.127)

1st Reading:

2nd Reading:

Gospel Acclamation:

Gospel: John 1-35-42

1 Samuel 3:3-10, 19 Psalm 39:2: Here I am Lord! I come to do your will.

1 Corinthians 6:13-15, 17-20

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

2024 New year resolutions: Please say a prayer to Our Lady every day

Volunteering: The Church relies on people volunteering and getting involved. Our parish needs you and relies on your services and donations. Could your New Year's resolution be getting more involved in the life of our Parish Church, if possible? Which aspects of our Parish Church brings you life or joy? Could you give a bit of time to help those parts flourish? Please have a look at the following list in need of helpers and let me know where you would like to volunteer.

1) Counting and Banking the Sunday Collection and donations. **2)** Hoovering and Cleaning the Church. **3)** The Cleaning and Caretaking of the Hall. **4)** Cleaning the windows and doors of the Church and Hall. **5)** Looking after the Church grounds by mowing the grass. **6)** Assisting in different Liturgical Actions during the Mass. **7)** Taking Holy Communion to the sick or housebound. **8)** Looking after the Sacristy. **9)** Serving the parish by giving the time and skills required in a parish group or committee. **10)** Doing the Teas or Coffees after Mass. **11)** Helping with Children's Liturgy, **12)** Supporting/Starting a prayer group. **13)** Helping with the Catechesis and Sharing your faith with those preparing to receive the Sacraments. **14)** Doing the Church flowers and decorations. **15)** Doing the ministry of greeting and welcoming. **16)** Cutting the hedge, collecting the leaves and rubbish etc. **17)** Checking the status of our heating, lights and water. **18)** Health and Safety jobs. **19)** Visiting fellow parishioners. **20)** Offering to drive someone who needs a lift. Etc. **I am immensely grateful to everyone for all your help and support.**

At the New Year Mass of thanksgiving, I requested that we all say a prayer every day to Our Lady in 2024. Many are already doing this, while others are saying the whole Rosary every day. Besides the usual Ave Maria (Hail Mary) prayer, please consider saying the following prayers:

Memorare

Remember, O most loving Virgin Mary, that it is a thing unheard of, that anyone ever had recourse to your protection, implored your help, or sought your intercession, and was left forsaken. Filled therefore with confidence in your goodness I fly to you, O Mother, Virgin of virgins, to you I come, before you I stand, a sorrowful sinner. Despise not my poor words, O Mother of the Word of God, but graciously hear and grant my prayer. Amen. (Please note there are other traditional versions/translations available).



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

Haily Holy Queen

Hail, holy Queen, Mother of mercy, hail, our life, our sweetness and our hope. To thee do we cry, poor banished children of Eve: to thee do we send up our sighs, mourning and weeping in this vale of tears. Turn then, most gracious Advocate, thine eyes of mercy towards us, and after this our exile, show unto us the blessed fruit of thy womb, Jesus, O Clement, O loving, O sweet Virgin Mary! Pray for us, O Holy Mother of God; that we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ. Amen.

A Prayer to St Joseph

O Blessed Joseph, husband of Mary, be with us this day. You protected and cherished the Virgin; loving the child Jesus as your Son, you rescued Him from the danger of death. Defend the Church, the household of God, purchased by the blood of Christ. Guardian of the Holy Family, be with us in our trials. May your prayers obtain for us the strength to flee from error and wrestle with the powers of corruption so that in life we may grow in holiness and in death rejoice in the crown of Victory. St Joseph, pray for us who have recourse to thee. Amen

Lessons and suggestions: While you remember, please do email me your suggestions or lessons that we need to consider for our 2024 Christmas Liturgical Celebrations, God willing. For example, I have received the suggestion that we consider holding a Christmas Carols Service before Christmas Masses. Please email me your suggestions or improvements we can make.

Tea and Coffee: Please join us this Sunday (14th January) in the Parish Centre after the 10:00am Mass. Should you wish to help and be added to the rota please contact Suzanne at 07732 627 382 or via email Suzanne.shutes@btinternet.com. Many thanks for your help.

Hall Fund: It would be ideal if the Parish Hall were able to raise enough funds to pay for all its bills throughout the year. To this end, the Hall Fund has been created within our Parish Accounts System in order that the expenditure incurred, and the income received for the Hall is monitored. Thank you immensely for the donations you have given for the Hall Fund: So far, a total of £4111.85 has been received. Please support me in this effort and your donations will be gratefully received and very much appreciated. Please note that donations by cheque are payable to:

Catholic Church Stansted St Therasas. This is AMAZING. Thank you so much for your help. Your donations will be gratefully appreciated.

THANK YOU: On behalf of the parish and I would like to express my sincere thanks to Barbara, her daughter Joanna Dellow, and everyone who supported the Christmas Raffle which raised £400 for the Hall Boiler. There were many lovely Raffle Prizes and the lucky winners were so happy. There are still two unclaimed items from the raffle, numbers Yellow 388 and Pink 113. They are located in the foyer. If they are not claimed by the end of January, they will be removed and used in a future raffle.

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

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 and a few other cards. Please help yourself. These are all for free.



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Brentwood Diocesan Directory 2024: Copies of this year's directories are available to purchase from the Repository. Ringbound copies are £4.15 and Paperback copies are £2.95. Thank you.

The Sacrament of Confirmation: Three young parishioners have asked if we could help prepare them to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation. Are there any more young people who would like to Receive the Sacrament of Confirmation? Please let me know as soon as possible so that all the concerned are consulted. The final date of application is 31st January and the Lessons will begin.

Flower Donation Box: We now have a box in the entrance hall (the old intentions box) for flower donations. These funds will go towards flowers for the church, especially at Christmas and Easter. Flowers are really expensive these days. Thank you for your support.

Cashless Donation Point: I have purchased a Cashless Donation Gadget which will be placed at a Cashless Donation Point at the entrance of the Church – it can also be taken to the Hall when having tea/coffee after Mass, and at any other event or meeting. The gadget is operated by SumUp, a global financial technology company based in London. There are no monthly subscription fees. However, like any other financial or banking institution, there will be very small transactional charges but this is not a problem - I have carefully considered this point and concluded that the benefits of a cashless donation gadget are greater. I have signed up this gadget to our parish bank account so that all donations are forwarded to our Account. Many parishes are doing the same. You can use any card or contactless payment method. It is easy and safe to use. The instructions are right next to it, if needed. Thank you for your generosity.

Prior to this, I had received a few requests from parishioners if I could make Cashless Donation an option available for everyone in the parish. One of the parishioners who wrote to me said this: "When you go to something at the church, it's cash only. That excludes those of us that prefer to pay by card. I've skipped coffee mornings I would have liked to attend, because I was out of cash. I try to keep coins for church, but it's difficult. It's not me. I've heard others express the same feelings. I hope we uncover an untapped source of income from people that prefer card payments and it turns out to be a benefit to our church."

Offertory:

Date	Gift Aid	Loose Cash	Standing Orders	Total
07/01/2024	£162.50	£252.51	£418.88	£833.89

Thank you very much for your generous financial support for our parish and the special collections. Cheques for the Parish are made payable to: **Catholic Church Stansted St Therasas**

Online Donations: 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 - they will not be available online. If you pay tax and would like any donations you make to our Parish to be Gift Aided, please email stansted-giftaid@brcdt.org for details.

Brother Laurence Ezeilo: We welcome Brother Laurence, a monk and priest of Mount St Bernard Cistercian Monastery at Loughborough, who has been staying with me in the parish for a week. Brother Laurence is currently grieving the death of his older brother, Paul Ezeilo, who died in Nigeria. Brother Laurence and I followed Paul's funeral Mass from Nigeria last Wednesday on Livestream. Hopefully, he will visit his home after Easter to see his ailing sister. Please let me know if you know anyone who has a second-hand laptop and thinking of upgrading or disposing



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of it. Brother Laurence is looking for a second-hand laptop and would be grateful to get one. Please let me know if you are in a position to help. Many thanks for your hospitality and generosity. Please remember Brother Laurence in your prayers.

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

SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR B (The Year of the Gospel of Mark)

Date	Mass Time	Mass Intention
Saturday 13 th January	Confessions: 5:15 pm - 5:45 pm Vigil Mass: 6:00 pm <i>Livestreamed</i>	For the welfare of Michael Bambridge
Sunday 14 th January <i>Peace Day</i>	Mass: 8:30 am <i>Livestreamed</i> Mass: 10:00 am <i>Livestreamed</i>	For Michael Jacobs R.I.P (by M. Jacobs) For Kali Kapadia R.I.P (by B. & E. Quinn)
Wednesday 17 th January <i>St Antony</i>	Mass: 12:30 pm <i>Livestreamed</i>	Holy Souls: those in our parish and our families
Thursday 18 th January <i>Feria</i>	Mass: 10:00 am <i>Livestreamed</i>	Coryn & Nicholas Nixon's Birthday Intentions & prayers
Friday 19 th January <i>Feria (Please note the time)</i>	Funeral Mass: 3:00 pm <i>Livestreamed</i>	Funeral Mass for Kali Kapadia
Saturday 20 th January <i>Feria</i>	Mass: 9.00 am <i>Livestreamed</i>	For those who are sick or struggling in our families.

THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR B (The Year of the Gospel of Mark)

Date	Mass Time	Mass Intention
Saturday 20 th January	Confessions: 5:15 pm - 5:45 pm Vigil Mass: 6:00 pm <i>Livestreamed</i>	Michael Aldridge R.I.P (Tony's brother)
Sunday 21 st January	Mass: 8:30 am <i>Livestreamed</i> Mass: 10:00 am <i>Livestreamed</i>	Margaret Barrett R.I.P (Monica's mum) Concerns, Prayers and Intentions of the people of the parish



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