

Parish of St. Theresa of Lisieux Stansted

The Little Flower Messenger

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B

21st January 2024

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

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Mass book (P.129)

1st Reading:

2nd Reading:

Gospel Acclamation:

Gospel: Mark 1:14-20

Jonah 3:1-5, 10 Psalm 24:4: Lord, make me know your ways.

1 Corinthians 7:29-31

Alleluia, alleluia! The kingdom of God is close at hand; believe the Good News. Alleluia!

Brother Laurence Ezeilo: I am sincerely grateful for your amazing generosity and the hospitality you shared with Brother Laurence. I am sure you will agree with me that we were blessed by his visit and by his homilies at the Masses he celebrated. He reminded us that without personal prayer coupled with the lack of attention as to who we are and who has called us, we can be afflicted by Acedia, Noonday Devil and Loneliness which are some of the common challenges for a monk, and indeed, all of us. **Special Thanks** to a parishioner who very kindly and graciously offered a new laptop to Brother Laurence. Given his visible humility, he did not ask for anything but having stayed with him for a week in the Presbytery, I realised that he does have some personal needs. He gratefully received a small donation I gave him towards the medical expenses of his ailing sister in Nigeria. Please let us pray for Brother Laurence's intentions even as he promised to pray for all of us in the Monastery. Once again thank you so much for your kindness.

Diocesan News

BCYS YOUTH MASS - Thursday 1st February, 6pm at Brentwood Cathedral Beginning with pizza & refreshments in the Parish Hall from 6pm, with a speaker from the SVP joining us to help prepare for the start of Lent. Youth Mass will then be celebrated in the Cathedral at 7:30pm. Absolutely everyone is welcome, please bring instruments, and sing, serve or read if you wish! No need to book, but do let us know if you have a group coming - just email info@bcys.net

YEAR 12 RETREAT - Friday 16th to Sunday 18th February "Life to the Full" - You are at a stage where you are about to start making decisions and dreaming about future plans. You might be at a stage where you are looking to explore your faith further and learn more about the role God plays within your life. This retreat will give you time to think, pray and chat with those in your year from across Essex and East London. There will be a mix of fun and games, along with times of reflection and personal prayer. For just £35, the cost will include meals, accommodation and youth-led formation. Apply now at www.bcys.net/events/yr12retreat/

BCYS SUMMER LOURDES YOUTH PILGRIMAGE - Last week of July 2024 (exact dates TBC)
Bookings are now open online for the Brentwood Catholic Youth Service pilgrimage to Lourdes in July. Serve the main Diocesan pilgrimage, assist the elderly and infirm, with times of retreat,



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reconciliation, visit the baths, take part in the beautiful Processions, as well as an afternoon in the mountains, party and social nights - all with other young Catholics from around our Diocese. The pilgrimage is open to all those in school year 10 – 13, with all those of school leaver age (18+) invited to join us as young leaders (subject to attending a training weekend). All details and applications can be found on the website www.bcys.net/events/sl24

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.**

Some of the Recommended 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).

Hail 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



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Tea and Coffee: Please join us this Sunday (21st January) in the Parish Centre after the 10:00am Mass. If you would like 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 £390 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.

Children Picnic Mass, Lunch & Social First Saturday 3rd February at 11.30 am. All are welcome.

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 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: If you do not have cash, please give your donation via a cashless gadget which is kept in the Church entrance porch. The Cashless gadget accepts your contactless debit or credit cards. Thank you for your gracious and generous help.

Offertory:

Date	Gift Aid	Loose Cash	Standing Orders	Total
14/01/2024	£98.00	£198.59	£418.88	£715.47



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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**

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

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 parishioners
Wednesday 24 th January <i>St Francis de Sales</i>	Mass: 12:30 pm <i>Livestreamed</i>	Intentions of Teresa and Arthur Kemp (by B & E Quinn)
Thursday 25 th January <i>The Conversion of St Paul</i> FEAST	Mass: 10:00 am <i>Livestreamed</i>	Intentions & recovery of Loui (By Maria Noronha)
Friday 26 th January <i>Sts Timothy & Titus</i> FEAST	Mass: 10:00 am <i>Livestreamed</i>	Janine Kergall R.I.P (by Chantal Armstrong)
Saturday 27 th January <i>Feria</i>	Mass: 9.00 am <i>Livestreamed</i>	Intentions and prayers for Dominique & David (Birthday intentions)

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

Date	Mass Time	Mass Intention
Saturday 27 th January	Confessions: 5:15 pm - 5:45 pm Vigil Mass: 6:00 pm <i>Livestreamed</i>	John Paul Loughlin 10 th Anniversary R.I.P (By John & Janice)
Sunday 28 th January <i>Racial Justice Day</i>	Mass: 8:30 am <i>Livestreamed</i> Mass: 10:00 am <i>Livestreamed</i>	Stuart Gibby R.I.P (by M & S Jacobs) Helen Baker's Thanksgiving and Prayers



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