

OUR LADY OF RANSOM

21st Sunday of the Year – Year A – Divine Office Wk 1

22nd / 23rd August 2020



Sinking in quicksand, he screamed for help. A philosopher walked past and developed a theory about sinking and fear. Another walked past and thought that this should be a lesson to everyone. Still sinking, another person walked past and thought he would be happy later in heaven. Another walked past and thought he would be reincarnated later in another form. Then Jesus walked by, reached out and pulled the man out.

One difference between Jesus and other religions is that Jesus gets stuck in. Gets stuck in to the social and political problems of the day – and pays a price. Many other religions have beautiful philosophies, but the founder doesn't get stuck in to the problems of the day – and pay a price. Jesus uses his own life and body and willingly pays the price.

The price he pays, of course is the cross. How many other founders of world religions die a broken, wounded, naked, bleeding, barbaric and gruesome death on a cross? Or something equivalent? You couldn't make it up! It's almost absurd - it just has to be true. This Jesus is our Christian hero. This is why we have crucifixes in our homes, and on our bodies – as Jesus saves the man in the quicksand, so he is saving us, if, of course, we are a people of real faith. Not superstition. That is the real power of the cross to save. That Jesus the Christ is totally with us.

When we look at other world contributions we see Jesus' teaching far surpasses all of the greatest world philosophers. Jesus painted no pictures, yet the greatest artists of all received their illumination from him. He wrote no poetry, yet the greatest poets were inspired by him. He composed no music, yet the greatest classical music reached their highest perfection - all in his honour.

Who is this Jesus for us? Many looked for a warrior, he came as Peace – they missed him. Many looked for a king, he came as Servant – they missed him. They looked for political liberation, yet he died on a Roman cross – they missed him. They looked for someone to fit their own ideas – he was the idea-breaker - they missed him. Must we miss him too?

And Jesus challenges us: "who do you say I am?"

God Bless, Fr. Paul.

WEEKLY MESSAGES FROM FR PAUL AND MASS ONLINE

Every week Fr Paul records a message for parishioners and also a Mass. These are available to view on the parish website or via the parish "Ransomers" facebook page.

Hopefully the website issues are now resolved.

If you wish to access the online Mass and message please use either option below -

<https://vimeo.com/user110595369>

or the parish website www.olorchurch.org

This week Fr Paul will say Mass for the following intentions:-

MASS INTENTIONS	
Saturday 22nd August	
5.30pm Mass	Kath Geeson RIP (Kat & Rebecca Lilley)
Sunday 23rd	21st Sunday of the Year
9.30am Mass	Margaret Hand RIP (Colin & Marie Griffin)
Recorded Mass	For all parishioners
Monday 24th	St Bartholomew
	Kath Geeson RIP (Esther Thomas)
Tuesday 25th	
	Holy Souls RIP
Wednesday 26th	
10am Mass	Pat Holohan RIP (Patricia Holohan)
Thursday 27th	St Monica
	Fr Paul Dynan RIP (Fr Paul)
Friday 28th	St Augustine
10am Mass	Doris Warrington RIP
Saturday 29th	The Passion of St John the Baptist
5.30pm Mass	Kath Geeson RIP (M. Ashkuri)
Sunday 30th August	22nd Sunday of the Year
9.30am Mass	Margaret Hand RIP (Slough family)
Recorded Mass	For all parishioners

<p>PARISH PRIEST Father Paul Fox 50 London Hill, Rayleigh Essex SS6 7HP 01268 742229 www.olorchurch.org email: rayleigh@dioceseofbrenbtwood.org</p>	<p><i>The Church is now open at certain times for Mass – please see main newsletter notice for details.</i> <i>To view Fr Paul's weekly recorded Mass and message to parishioners go to</i> <i>https://vimeo.com/user110595369</i></p>
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Our Parish is part of The Brentwood Diocesan Trust, Registered Charity Number 234092

PRIVATE LANDLORD for a 2 or 3 bedroom place in Rayleigh needed for reliable and trustworthy woman of the parish. Please contact Fr Paul if you have/know of a property to rent. Thank you.

CAN THE SVP HELP?

Whilst our activities and support have been adversely affected by the Coronavirus pandemic the SVP remains available to offer help, where current regulations permit. Should you need support, please contact **Colin Griffin** (tel. No. 01268 772322) or any other SVP member. Your call will be treated with complete confidentiality.

NEWSLETTERS

If you are able to print off newsletters and deliver to anyone who can't get out, that would be a great act of charity. Thank you.

If you, or anyone you know, would like to receive the newsletter by email each week, please in the first instance email a request to the parish office (rayleigh@dioceseofbrentwood.org) and ask to be added onto the distribution list. The newsletter will be emailed by the Saturday morning.



**PLEASE
WEAR FACE
COVERINGS
THANK YOU!**

UPDATED GUIDANCE - FACE COVERINGS IN CHURCH

Please note that as of 8th August in accordance with government guidelines, face coverings **must be worn** when attending Mass/ any celebration/ visiting a place of worship.

To read the government's guidelines, including exclusions for those unable to wear a facemask, visit <https://bit.ly/3k346Wm>

Therefore, we politely ask as far as is possible, face coverings are worn whilst attending Mass or any other celebration in church.

MANY THANKS FOR ALL THE MASS INTENTIONS AND CONTRIBUTIONS

Please note: At present we have a large number of outstanding Mass Intentions, which will take us to up to around mid- November.

As things stand please indicate if you want the Mass celebrated publicly, otherwise it may be celebrated privately.

MASS DURING COVID-19 AT OLOR RAYLEIGH

Welcome back to OLOR. Lovely to be able to be at Mass again.

Public Mass times:

Saturdays 5.30pm

Sundays 9.30am

Wednesdays 10.00am

Fridays 10.00am

Please be aware - Times and days of Masses are subject to change.



PRESBYTERY GARDEN

Don't Forget!

You are welcome to use the Church Garden for some quiet time – especially now the weather is so lovely.

Please treat it respectfully.



PLEASE PRAY

For all the sick members of our Parish and all our relatives and friends.

† ANNIVERSARIES †

Kindly pray for Michael O'Shea, Mildred Lyden, William Eyre, Katie Williams and Christine Sugrue whose anniversaries occur about this time.

MASS CARDS, SYMPATHY CARDS AND OTHER CARDS FOR SPECIAL OCCASIONS...

- normally sold in the Repository – -these can now be obtained at the presbytery. Please contact Fr. Paul to arrange a convenient time to come, choose, collect and pay for the cards.



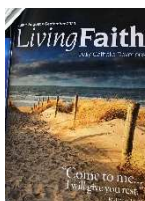
MY DAY BY DAY

Booklets for August & September are available priced £1 each.



BIBLE ALIVE

Booklets for August & September are available priced £3 each.



LIVING FAITH (July – Sept)

Popular booklet with a thought for every day for the next three months.
Limited number available.... Voluntary donations for the booklets welcome.

If you would like to collect these from the Presbytery please contact Fr Paul. If you usually purchase these but are unable to collect or arrange for one to be collected for you, then we can arrange delivery.

GIFT AID ENVELOPES ARE NOW AVAILABLE

Please contact Sandra our Gift Aid Co-ordinator (olorgiftaid@hotmail.com / 01268 772998) to arrange delivery/ collection of these.

Where possible it is easier if donations continue to be made by standing order quoting your gift aid number.

OFFERTORY CONTRIBUTIONS

Please continue to support the parish financially with your weekly contributions – please email Fr Paul if you would like the parish bank account details to set up a standing order or to make a bacs donation.

Thank you to those that have already made arrangements - ***Please make it clear whether it is an Offertory / Other donation on your payment reference and if you are already a gift-aider please quote your gift aid number.***

For Gift Aid enquiries the email address is olorgiftaid@hotmail.com
and the phone number is 01268 772998

At the bottom of the parish website there is a pink “gift aid it” logo which, if you click on it, takes you to another parish web page which goes into more detail and has some frequently asked questions.

FOODBANK

The Hopeworx (Castle Road) Foodbank collection box is now situated in the lobby (or you may find it behind the tills) at Sainsburys, Rayleigh Weir – please support this if you are able.

ASSOCIATION OF CHRISTIAN COUNSELLOR'S (ACC) COVID-19 CRISIS COUNSELLING SUPPORT SERVICE

ACC have set up a new service – a Covid 19 Crisis Counselling Support Service (CCSS) for NHS frontline staff, People working in a residential care home setting being directly impacted by caring for people who have Covid-19 and people who have been bereaved during the COVID-19 epidemic in the U.K.

The crisis counselling support service offers up to ten sessions of counselling on a no fee basis.



To find out more please visit ACC's website www.acc-uk.org or if you don't have access to a computer, please ring 024 7644 9694.



CORONAVIRUS-RELATED SCAMS

For the latest information and how to protect yourself go to <http://actionfraud.police.uk/covid19>

If you or someone you know is vulnerable and has been a victim of fraud, please call Essex Police on 101. Report fraud or attempted fraud by contacting Action Fraud at www.actionfraud.police.uk or call 0300 123 2040.

Please see the parish website (www.olorchurch.org) for specific information and the latest advice from Essex Police about the following topics:

Top ten Covid-19 scams the public should be on high alert for.

SOME USEFUL NUMBERS THAT MAY HELP YOU, YOUR FAMILIES OR NEIGHBOURS.



ABUSE AND OTHER HELPLINES – USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Police - call 999 – if you cannot respond due to danger, tap the mobile handset or cough, then when prompted press 55 (this takes you straight through to the police)

Freephone National Domestic Abuse Helpline: 0808 200 0247
www.nationaldahelpline.org.uk

Men's advice line 0808 801 0327 www.mensadviceline.org.uk

Rape Crisis 0808 9999 www.rapecrisis.org.uk

Respect phoneline 0808 999 4040 www.respectphoneline.org.uk

Karma Nirvana – a national honour based abuse helpline 0808 5999 247
support@karmanirvana.org.uk

Stay Safe East 0208 519 7241 (focus on people with disabilities) Text 07587 134122

NSPCC 0808 800 5000 Email help@nspcc.org.uk

Childline 0800 1111

Child Exploitation and Online Protection www.thinkuknow.co.uk

This site offers help for parents and children (at their level) from 4 years old upwards.

Fraud or Attempted Fraud 0300 123 2040 www.actionfraud.police.uk
or call Essex Police on 101

Suspicious emails NCSC (National Cyber Security Centre) report@phishing.gov.uk

SUPPORT -

Anxiety Call 08444 775774

Obsessive Compulsive Disorder (OCD) Call 0845 390 6232
email – support@ocdaction.org.uk skype 0303 040 1112

ISOLATED DUE TO CORONAVIRUS - HOW TO OBTAIN HELP

The source of your support depends on which category of 'shielding' you fall into.

Category 1 - you have been contacted by the NHS and told to remain at home for 12 weeks. You are being supported directly from the government. If you were not contacted by the NHS and told this then you do not fall into this category.

Category 2 - anyone over the age of 70, plus anyone under the age of 70 with certain serious health conditions plus pregnant women - you are being supported by Essex County Council through their Essex Welfare Service. Please contact them on 0300 303 9988.

Category 3 - Everyone else.

You are supported by the **new helpline** set up by Rochford District Council in partnership with local faith groups, churches and voluntary organisations. If you have no friends or family close by and you need support during this crisis, or are feeling isolated, please call **01268 779999**.



READINGS AT MASS – 21st SUNDAY OF THE YEAR

First reading – Isaiah 22:19-23

I place the key of the House of David on my servant's shoulder

Thus says the Lord of Hosts to Shebna, the master of the palace: I dismiss you from your office, I remove you from your post, and the same day I call on my servant Eliakim son of Hilkiah. I invest him with your robe, gird him with your sash, entrust him with your authority; and he shall be a father to the inhabitants of Jerusalem and to the House of Judah. I place the key of the House of David on his shoulder; should he open, no one shall close, should he close, no one shall open. I drive him like a peg into a firm place; he will become a throne of glory for his father's house.

Psalm 137

Your love, O Lord, is eternal, discard not the work of your hands.

1. I thank you, Lord, with all my heart,
you have heard the words of my mouth.
Before the angels I will bless you.
I will adore before your holy temple. *(R.)*
 2. I thank you for your faithfulness and love
which excel all we ever knew of you.
On the day I called, you answered;
you increased the strength of my soul. *(R.)*
 3. The Lord is high yet he looks on the lowly
and the haughty he knows from afar.
Your love, O Lord, is eternal
discard not the work of your hands. *(R.)*
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Second reading - Romans 11:33-36

All that exists comes from him; all is by him and from him.

How rich are the depths of God – how deep his wisdom and knowledge – and how impossible to penetrate his motives or understand his methods! Who could ever know the mind of the Lord? Who could ever be his counsellor? Who could ever give him anything or lend him anything? All that exists comes from him; all is by him and for him. To him be glory for ever! Amen.

Alleluia, alleluia!

***God in Christ was reconciling the world to himself,
and he has entrusted to us the news that they are reconciled.
Alleluia!***

Gospel - Matthew 16:13-20

You are Peter and on this rock I will build my Church

When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi he put this question to his disciples, 'Who do people say the Son of Man is?' And they said, 'Some say he is John the Baptist, some Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.' 'But you,' he said 'who do you say I am?' Then Simon Peter spoke up, 'You are the Christ,' he said, 'the Son of the living God.' Jesus replied, 'Simon son of Jonah, you are a happy man! Because it was not flesh and blood that revealed this to you but my Father in heaven. So I now say to you: You are Peter and on this rock I will build my Church. And the gates of the underworld can never hold out against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven: whatever you bind on earth shall be considered bound in heaven; whatever you loose on earth shall be considered loosed in heaven.' Then he gave the disciples strict orders not to tell anyone that he was the Christ.

