

# OUR LADY OF RANSOM

**23<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the Year – Year A – Divine Office Wk 3**  
**5<sup>th</sup> / 6<sup>th</sup> September 2020**



“But Father, I don’t need to go to church to pray, I can pray at home....”

Still today many people hold this very mistaken attitude. *What happens if I just stay at home?* Our private thoughts so easily drift in to fantasy without us knowing it. Our prayer becomes unfocussed. We remain unchallenged, become spiritually withdrawn, spiritually not stretched, and unfulfilled.

Despite Pandemics, *going to Church* grounds us. We realise we are part of other peoples’ lives, they can take us beyond our private little cocooned selves, to realise that there is something wonderfully bigger going on. We begin to see ourselves as part of a wholeness of all God’s people – the Body of Christ. How can we do this if we just stay at home? A good community will be steadying, have a good rhythm, a routine and regularity that can be so calming. Our lives take on a fresh meaning, and purpose, because of other people and mutual needs. Together we reinforce and strengthen each other as Christ’s Body. Of course, arguments, fall-outs happen, breaking down community life. They need correction and reconciliation, which, when authentic, is so powerful. It strengthens and restores community life.

“Where two or three meet in my name, I am there with them” – two or more people equal community. Jesus is clearly pushing community involvement over the individual. The therapy of being part of church community life, with all its inherent wonderfulness and sillinesses, according to some studies, results in people largely being steadier, emotionally healthier and less obsessed.

We see why gossip and tittle-tattle are so evil, they utterly destroy community life and reputations. (By the way, most people who pride themselves on not being gossips are often the biggest. They just can’t or daren’t believe it of themselves).

Who knows how much we help each other by our prayerful presence in community. It certainly happens. Can all this happen if we stay at home?

So, pandemics aside, we see why going to church, and going frequently has its importance. Does our example encourage others to go to church and feel part of community?

***God Bless, Fr. Paul.***

**WEEKLY MESSAGES FROM FR PAUL AND MASS ONLINE**

These will not be happening for the foreseeable future.

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

<b>MASS INTENTIONS</b>	
<b>Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> Sept.</b>	
<b>5.30pm Mass</b>	Margaret Hand RIP (M. Ashkuri) and Parish Community
<b>Sunday 6<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>23<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the Year</b>
<b>9.30am Mass</b>	Tina Rance and Family Ints (Slough family)
<b>Monday 7<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary</b>
	Margaret Hand RIP (Jean Wood)
<b>Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup></b>	
	Kath Geeson RIP (Pat & Mary Rickard)
<b>Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup></b>	
<b>10am Mass</b>	Mary & Ron Sanders & Eileen Griffiths RIP (Pat & Mary Rickard)
<b>Thursday 10<sup>th</sup></b>	
	Canon Vincent Berry RIP
<b>Friday 11<sup>th</sup></b>	
<b>10am Mass</b>	Margaret Hand RIP (Curnock Family)
<b>Saturday 12<sup>th</sup></b>	
<b>5.30pm Mass</b>	Bob & Joan Walker Ints (Tom & Isobel Kennedy)
<b>Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> Sept.</b>	<b>24<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the Year</b>
<b>9.30am Mass</b>	Margaret Hand RIP and Parish Community

<p><b>PARISH PRIEST</b>  Father Paul Fox  50 London Hill, Rayleigh  Essex SS6 7HP  01268 742229  www.olorchurch.org  email: rayleigh@dioceseofbrenbtwood.org</p>	<p><b><i>The Church is now open at certain times for Mass – please see main newsletter notice for details.</i></b></p>
--	--

**Our Parish is part of The Brentwood Diocesan Trust, Registered Charity Number 234092**

## **St. Thomas More High school - OPEN DAY, Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> September**

**9-11.30am, Headteacher talk 10am or 1pm to 3.30pm, Headteacher talk 2pm.**

For families who have a son due to transfer to secondary school in September 2021 - come and see the school.

Parents of boys who wish to apply to St. Thomas More School for a place in September 2021 should complete the local education authority single application form (saf) and fill in the supplementary information form (sif) that can be collected on the open day.

If you are unable to come to the open day, please contact the school in order to get the supplementary information form. The form can also be downloaded from the school web site:-

[WWW.ST-THOMASMORE.SOUTHEND.SCH.UK](http://WWW.ST-THOMASMORE.SOUTHEND.SCH.UK)

## **BCCS 2020 VIRTUAL FUN WALK**

Brentwood Catholic Children's Society has registered for the Fun Walk which normally takes place at the Barleylands Farm site in Billericay.

This year, participants and parish groups are invited to walk 2k or 5k **anywhere they wish at any time during September** and ask for sponsorship from friends and family to help support our work.

All details & sponsorship forms are available on [www.bccs.org.uk](http://www.bccs.org.uk) under the Events/Virtual Fun Walk tab or follow us on social media for updates. We would be very happy to hear from parish or family groups who would like to walk for us – please email Libby: [lphillips@bccs.org.uk](mailto:lphillips@bccs.org.uk)



## **SITE MANAGER VACANCY**

The Diocese is looking for a Site Manager for the Cathedral Site to manage the routine maintenance of the buildings and grounds at the Cathedral Site. A job description is available upon request but the key elements are as follows:

- Overall premises management
- Maintain the premises in a safe and healthy condition
- Identify anything requiring repair or maintenance and action as required
- Ensure all matters are logged as appropriate
- Liaise with Contractors as required

The expected closing date is Friday 2 October. For more information and a full job description and person specification contact [recruitment@dioceseofbrentwood.org](mailto:recruitment@dioceseofbrentwood.org)

## **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.


**Our Lady of Ransom**  
**Catholic Primary School**  
"OUTSTANDING" OFSTED INSPECTION 2016 "GOOD" OFSTED INSPECTION 2018

**\*\*\* OPEN MORNINGS \*\*\***  
Reception entry September 2021  
 Monday 9<sup>th</sup> November    Friday 11<sup>th</sup> December  
 Monday 16<sup>th</sup> November    Friday 8<sup>th</sup> January  
 Friday 27<sup>th</sup> November    Starting @ 9.30am

[www.olorcps.net](http://www.olorcps.net)    [info@olorcps.net](mailto:info@olorcps.net)  
 01268 785741



## 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](mailto:rayleigh@dioceseofbrentwood.org)) and ask to be added onto the distribution list. The newsletter will be emailed by the Saturday morning.*

## FACE COVERINGS IN CHURCH



**PLEASE  
WEAR FACE  
COVERINGS  
THANK YOU!**

Please note that as of 8<sup>th</sup> 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.*



### **PLEASE PRAY**

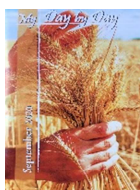
For all the sick members of our Parish and all our relatives and friends.

### **† ANNIVERSARIES †**

Kindly pray for Brian Gilbert and Anthony Rickard 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.



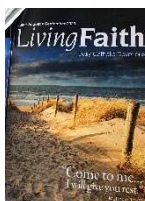
### **MY DAY BY DAY**

Booklets for September are available priced £1 each.



### **BIBLE ALIVE**

Booklets for 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](mailto: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](mailto: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](http://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](http://www.actionfraud.police.uk) or call 0300 123 2040.

## 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](http://www.nationaldahelpline.org.uk)

**Men's advice line** 0808 801 0327 [www.mensadviceline.org.uk](http://www.mensadviceline.org.uk)

**Rape Crisis** 0808 9999 [www.rapecrisis.org.uk](http://www.rapecrisis.org.uk)

**Respect phoneline** 0808 999 4040 [www.respectphoneline.org.uk](http://www.respectphoneline.org.uk)

**Karma Nirvana** – a national honour based abuse helpline 0808 5999 247  
[support@karmanirvana.org.uk](mailto: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](mailto:help@nspcc.org.uk)

**Childline** 0800 1111

**Child Exploitation and Online Protection** [www.thinkuknow.co.uk](http://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](http://www.actionfraud.police.uk)  
or call Essex Police on 101

**Suspicious emails** NCSC (National Cyber Security Centre) [report@phishing.gov.uk](mailto:report@phishing.gov.uk)



## **SUPPORT -**

**Anxiety**      Call 08444 775774

**Obsessive Compulsive Disorder (OCD)**

email – [support@ocdaction.org.uk](mailto:support@ocdaction.org.uk)

Call 0845 390 6232

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**.





28th August 2020

## Pension Scams

During these times of uncertainty there are increased offers of financial investment and figures from the Financial Conduct Authority and the Pensions Regulator show over £30 million has been lost to pension scams since 2017.

Fraudsters will target pension pots large and small with losses anywhere between £1,000 and £500,000.



Some **Top Tips** on how to protect your retirement:

- 1 Know how much is in the pot**—many people admit to not knowing how much money is currently in their pension making it difficult to make informed decisions.
- 2 Do your research**—you wouldn't make any sort of large purchase without checking the product out first. I should be the same with financial decisions! Take your time to ensure you know exactly what you are purchasing and make use of resources such as the FCA (Financial Conduct Authority) Register to ensure that the firm is registered or speak to a financial advisor.
- 3 Don't be overconfident**—nearly two thirds of people (65%) say they feel that they would be confident in spotting a scam, and yet many would still unknowingly put themselves at risk, with nearly 40% of people saying they would be swayed by tactics such as 'limited time offers'
- 4 Spot the signs**—as above, be wary of 'limited time offers', legitimate firms will never try to panic you or push you into making a rushed decision. Many scams also promise 'guaranteed high returns' on your savings and most offers will be as a result of unexpected emails, phone calls or social media messages.

For more information, read the Action Fraud article [here](#).

You can find more help and advice at [www.fca.org.uk/scamsmart](http://www.fca.org.uk/scamsmart)

Keep up to date with fraud and  
do **even more** Online  [essex.police.uk](http://essex.police.uk) 



## Government Number 'Spoofing'

The government has issued a warning following a number of scam calls being made that appear to come from a legitimate government telephone number. The number is that of the Government Legal Department and fraudsters are attempting to scare people into making payments by telling them they will be arrested if they refuse.

A Government spokesman said:

"We have been made aware that the Government Legal Department (GLD) general enquiry number (020 7210 8500) is being used by fraudsters to try and extract money from members of the public.

In most of the reported cases, the fraudsters claim they are calling from GLC or HMRC, with the GLD enquiry line number showing in the caller ID.

They are usually very aggressive on the phone, threatening members of the public that if they do not pay a certain amount of money, the police will arrest them. The calls are NOT being made by GLD or HMRC.

GLD will never call you from its enquiry line number. We will never ask you for your bank details or to pay us money over the phone.

If you receive a call of the type described above, please hang up and call Action Fraud on 0300 123 2040 immediately. When making your report, please ask for it to be associated with report reference NFRC200803859141."

## CALLER ID SPOOFING

**Don't  
trust your  
caller ID.**

Scammers can make any name or number show up on your caller ID. That's called spoofing.

How it can happen:



1. Scammers use automated dialing software to set up robocalls.



2. They decide what to display on your caller ID. It could look like a local call.



3. They start calling, and can make millions of calls over internet phone lines in minutes.

What you can do:

Use call blocking. Talk to your phone carrier and read expert reviews about your options.

For more  
information  
visit the  
Ofcom  
website  
[ofcom.org.uk](http://ofcom.org.uk)

Keep up to date with fraud and  
do **even more** Online  [essex.police.uk](http://essex.police.uk) 



## READINGS AT MASS – 23<sup>rd</sup> SUNDAY OF THE YEAR

### First reading – Ezekiel 33:7-9

**If you do not speak to the wicked man, I will hold you responsible for his death**

The word of the Lord was addressed to me as follows: 'Son of man, I have appointed you as sentry to the House of Israel. When you hear a word from my mouth, warn them in my name. If I say to a wicked man: Wicked wretch, you are to die, and you do not speak to warn the wicked man to renounce his ways, then he shall die for his sin, but I will hold you responsible for his death. If, however, you do warn a wicked man to renounce his ways and repent, and he does not repent, then he shall die for his sin, but you yourself will have saved your life.'

---

### Psalm 94

***O that today you would listen to his voice! Harden not your hearts.***

1. Come ring out our joy to the Lord;  
hail the rock who saves us.  
Let us come before him giving thanks,  
with songs let us hail the Lord. *(R.)*
  2. Come in; let us bow and bend low;  
let us kneel before the God who made us  
for he is our God and we  
the people who belong to his pasture,  
the flock that is led by his hand. *(R.)*
  3. O that today you would listen to his voice!  
"Harden not your hearts as at Meribah,  
as on that day at Massah in the desert  
when your fathers put me to the test;  
when they tried me, though they saw my work." *(R.)*
- 

### Second reading - Romans 13:8-10

**Your only debt should be the debt of mutual love**

Avoid getting into debt, except the debt of mutual love. If you love your fellow men you have carried out your obligations. All the commandments: *You shall not commit adultery, you shall not kill, you shall not steal, you shall not covet*, and so on, are summed up in this single command: *You must love your neighbour as yourself*. Love is the one thing that cannot hurt your neighbour; that is why it is the answer to every one of the commandments.

---

***Alleluia, alleluia!***

***Your word is truth, O Lord:  
consecrate us in the truth.  
Alleluia!***

---



## **Gospel - Matthew 18:15-20**

### **If your brother listens to you, you have won back your brother**

Jesus said to his disciples: 'If your brother does something wrong, go and have it out with him alone, between your two selves. If he listens to you, you have won back your brother. If he does not listen, take one or two others along with you: the evidence of two or three witnesses is required to sustain any charge. But if he refuses to listen to these, report it to the community; and if he refuses to listen to the community, treat him like a pagan or a tax collector.

I tell you solemnly, whatever you bind on earth shall be considered bound in heaven; whatever you loose on earth shall be considered loosed in heaven.

'I tell you solemnly once again, if two of you on earth agree to ask anything at all, it will be granted to you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three meet in my name, I shall be there with them.'