

OUR LADY OF RANSOM

30th Sunday of the Year – Year A – Divine Office Wk 2

25th / 26th October 2020



Revolting to look at. The overwhelming stench of his rotting flesh, nauseating, as if you were smelling him with eyes and ears as well. Such was the revulsion that St. Francis of Assisi had for lepers. Francis would try and avoid them at all costs. Except on one occasion when something happened that only the Holy Spirit can explain. Francis got off his horse, reached out, touched, kissed and embraced one of these people that repulsed him. Francis says he felt his knees wobble and his body tremble, but he did it, he embraced and kissed him. After, Francis says he felt incredibly liberated. And the man with leprosy felt welcomed and accepted.

This is a well known story in St. Francis' life, it was a turning point for him. What Francis began to realise was that he was not just hugging a leper, but also hugging the leper within himself. Embracing his own imperfections. He wasn't just making a friend of a man with leprosy "over there", but making a friend of the leper within himself. This began his new found freedom.

When Jesus tells us to "love our neighbour as ourselves", I wonder how we can truly "love" ourselves until we have forgiven ourselves. Forgiven ourselves for all our imperfections, our own leprosy within. Forgiven ourselves for not being perfect, or not being the saint we thought we were. Or how can we possibly love our neighbour with all their issues, if we are not first loving and forgiving ourselves?

So, loving our neighbour is to love them with all *their* imperfections, leprosy, shortfalls, stupidities. And we do that because we first of all accept and embrace all these limitations within *ourselves*. Now there is nothing over there in other person to hate, be revolted by, or be frightened of. Why? Because you have met, embraced and forgiven it in your own soul. The passionate struggle with these ghastly things we do not like in ourselves becomes com-*passion* for such things going on in our neighbour. Yes, painful, demanding and tough at first, but truly liberating afterwards. Now living out Jesus' command to love our neighbour as ourselves becomes possible. This is a true following of Our Lord.

St. Francis got it, and it turned his life around. What about us?

God Bless, Fr. Paul.

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

MASS INTENTIONS	
Saturday 24th October	
5.30pm Mass	Mary Dillane RIP (Julia Dillane) and Parish Community Ints
Sunday 25th	30th Sunday of the Year
9.30am Mass	Paul Gurney RIP (Rita Gurney)
Monday 26th	St Cedd
	Kath Geeson RIP (Una & Eithne)
Tuesday 27th	
	John William Francis RIP (Audrey Francis)
Wednesday 28th	Ss Simon & Jude
10am Mass	53 rd Anniversary of the abrogation of the Abortion Act (Ted Brown)
Thursday 29th	
	Mrs Emma Lucibello RIP (Susan & Damian)
Friday 30th	
10am Mass	Friends & Family of Patricia Herlihy (Ints) (Eithne & Una)
Saturday 31st October	
5.30pm Mass	Fr Tom Jordan RIP and Parish Community Ints
Sunday 1st November	ALL SAINTS
9.30am Mass	Deceased members of Lucibello & Flower families RIP (Susan & Damian)

<p>PARISH PRIEST Father Paul Fox 50 London Hill, Rayleigh Essex SS6 7HP 01268 742229 www.olorchurch.org email: rayleigh@dioceseofbrentwood.org</p>	<p><u>Public Mass times:</u> Saturdays 5.30pm Sundays 9.30am Wednesdays 10.00am Fridays 10.00am <i>Please be aware - Times and days of Masses are subject to change.</i></p>
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Our Parish is part of The Brentwood Diocesan Trust, Registered Charity Number 234092

CONFESSIONS

The Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confessions) are available – but need to be heard openly (not in the traditional Confessional Box). If you wish for the Sacrament, please make a personal time by calling Fr. Paul.

**PLEASE
ENSURE BOTH
YOUR NOSE
AND MOUTH
ARE COVERED
THANK YOU!**

FACE COVERINGS IN CHURCH

Please note that 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.

THE CHURCH AND MASS

Covid regulations and guidance state that premises MUST be well ventilated. With this in mind, windows and doors during Mass will remain open. With the cold weather approaching, the suggestion is to bring blankets, wear thermals and bring hot-water bottles as you feel necessary. Apologies for any inconvenience caused.

OLOR, RAYLEIGH - TRACK AND TRACE

In order to support the NHS Track and Trace programme, we are taking contact details (name and telephone number) for all visitors to Our Lady of Ransom Church.

In line with guidance issued by the Department for Health and Social Care, we will keep your details safely and in compliance with GDPR legislation for 21 days before securely disposing of or deleting them. We will only share your details with NHS Test and Trace, if asked, in the event that it is needed to help stop the spread of coronavirus. We will not use your details for any other purposes or pass them on to anyone else. They are totally confidential. Thank you for your understanding.

QR - OLOR IS NOW QR READY

You will need to download the app on your mobile phone. QR posters are on the Church doors in the Entrance. You will need the App to access these. This allows for your personal details to be electronically sent to Test and Trace, without the need to write details on forms.

OLOR REPOSITORY – Christmas Cards, Catholic Diaries, Church Art and Advent Calendars etc

These are now on sale in the Bethany room AFTER each Mass whenever possible. Face Masks in Christmas Fabrics are also available.

ENTRY will be via the door at the front of the church, as usual, but payment and EXIT will be via the sacristy door. Payment will be by cash or cheque (made payable to OLOR or Our Lady of Ransom). Please remember to COVER YOUR FACE, SANITISE YOUR HANDS AND KEEP YOUR DISTANCE. Chairs are positioned around the tables to enable distancing and the number of people allowed in the room at any one time may be limited to ensure safety. Thank you in advance for your understanding in these difficult circumstances.

OLOR FUNDRAISING RECIPE BOOK

Work is well underway to completing our school and parish fundraising recipe book. Thank you so much to all those who have submitted recipes and helped to type them up! During this testing time of lockdown and Covid it's been a lovely positive project to be able to exchange, share and collate your treasured recipes. In what will be a difficult time for fundraising for both the parish and school we sincerely hope you will support us in purchasing copies of the recipe book. With 100 recipes, there is sure to be something you will enjoy and help get you through winter!

To register your support in purchasing a copy, please kindly email clare_simon@hotmail.co.uk so that we can establish how many copies to print. We also have a facebook page 'Ransomers Recipes' that you are welcome to join.

Thank you so much.



OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD – PACK A SHOEBOX

Go to <https://www.samaritans-purse.org.uk/what-we-do/operation-christmas-child/>

Leaflets are available if you wish. Please take one home with you. Special shoe boxes are already available, but must be taken home too. Or please make up your own shoebox. Details of what can and can't go in the box are in the leaflet.

Please help this worthy cause. Be assured, packing a shoebox for a needy child is hugely satisfying.

Shoeboxes must be brought back to the presbytery
no later than November 14th.



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. (<http://www.hopeworx.org.uk/foodhub.html>)



CHRISTMAS HAMPER COLLECTIONS

They are now specifically collecting the following items to make up Christmas hampers:

Christmas cake – sponge, fruit or log, Christmas pudding (can be chocolate), mince pies, tinned fruit, custard, large tin of ham, salmon, selection boxes / fudge / christmas sweets, large packet of crisps/ savouries cheese twists / twiglets / cheeselets, nuts / popcorn, box of biscuits or shortbread, 1 litre carton juice.



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.



DURING NOVEMBER – MONTH OF HOLY SOULS

There will be a white basket by the Altar for you to add the names of those who have died and whom you wish to be prayed for. These names will be prayed for at every Mass during November.

This will replace the usual Book of Remembrance.

MEMORIAL MASS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE WHO HAVE DIED

On Wednesday 4th November the Youth Mass from the chapel at Walsingham House at Abbotswick, streamed at 8pm via Instagram, will commemorate young people who have died. You will find more details at www.bcys.net. If you would like the name of a young person to be read during the Mass, and a candle lit for them, please email frdominic@dioceseofbrentwood.org, before 2nd November.

MEMORIAL MASS FOR THOSE COMMEMORATED AT ABBOTSWICK

On Sunday 8th November, at 3pm, there will be a Memorial Mass on the BrentwoodCYS YouTube channel. Those commemorated with plaques and benches at Abbotswick will be named, and a candle lit for each of them. If you are connected to Abbotswick, and are not sure if we already have the name of your loved one, or if someone has passed away recently, please email frdominic@dioceseofbrentwood.org before 5th November.

✠ ✠ PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS...

Patricia Hall who died on 10th October. Please keep Belinda and the family in your prayers. May she rest in peace. ✠ ✠



PLEASE PRAY

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

✠ ANNIVERSARIES ✠

Kindly pray for Josephine O'Connor, James Marshall, Molly Walmsley, Margaret Heath, Doris Haysman, Alan Burton and Christina Frost whose anniversaries occur about this time.

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 early 2021**.

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

WORLD MISSION SUNDAY – THANK YOU

Thank you very much for your donations to World Mission Sunday last week. Your prayers and contributions will help missionaries work alongside communities throughout the world that are poor or in need, regardless of their background or belief.

Please pray for the work of Missio and all those working to offer the love of Jesus, that we may remain strong in our witness to Christ's love for all peoples. To continue supporting mission throughout the year, please go to missio.org.uk or call 020 7821 9755 (office hours).



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.

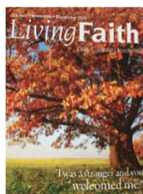
MASS CARDS, SYMPATHY CARDS AND OTHER CARDS FOR SPECIAL OCCASIONS...

- 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 October and November are available priced £1 each.



LIVING FAITH (Oct – Dec)

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.

SCHOOL ADMISSIONS: CERTIFICATE OF CATHOLIC PRACTICE

If you would like Fr Paul to complete a Certificate of Catholic Practice for your son/daughter please in the first instance download and print off a copy of the Certificate (available either from the relevant School website or <https://catholiceducation.org.uk/guidance-for-schools/admissions>) and then contact Fr Paul to arrange an appointment to get the form signed and sealed.

Please note that School Applications (together with the Certificate of Catholic Practice, where required) need to be submitted by the 31 October 2020 (for secondary transfer) and 15 January 2021 (for applications to primary school).

The current Guidance to Clergy on issuing Certificates already contains a reasonable amount of flexibility to allow clergy to exercise proper pastoral judgment in each case, taking into account all of the circumstances. The extraordinary situation we all find ourselves in this year will form part of the circumstances of each case. Ultimately, the priest is being asked to do no more than certify whether or not the child comes from a practising Catholic family to the best of his knowledge and belief, in all the circumstances.

Meetings for Prospective Parents -

September 2021 Admissions

We hope to be able to hold our usual information sessions (restrictions permitting) for parents who are thinking of applying for a place for their child.

Each session will take place from 9.30 - 10.30am and will include a talk from the Head Teacher, a tour of the school and the opportunity to ask questions.

Please visit the school website to book a place.



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

***** OPEN MORNINGS *****
Reception entry September 2021

Monday 9 th November	Friday 11 th December
Monday 16 th November	Friday 8 th January
Friday 27 th November	Starting @ 9.30am

www.olorcps.net info@olorcps.net
01268 785741



BRENTWOOD URSULINE – VIRTUAL OPEN EVENINGS SEPT 2021 INTAKE

Year 7 – October 2020

Sixth form – 5th November 2020

Virtual Open Evenings will be held for prospective Year 7 and Sixth Form students and their parents who wish to consider entry to the school in September 2021. For prospective Year 7 students the virtual Open Evening will go live from Wednesday 30th September 2020. Please contact the Admissions Officer Miss Lester (Tel: 01277 227 156 ext 405) for further information.

Please see our school website www.brentwoodursuline.co.uk and click on the tickertape running across the screen.

For sixth Form students the Virtual Open Evening will go live on the 5th November 2020.

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.



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.

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.**

ABUSE: Victim Support – Safe Spaces

Safe Spaces is a free and independent support service, providing a confidential, personal and safe space for anyone who has been, or feels, they have experienced abuse through their relationship with the Catholic Church of England and Wales.

Telephone 0300 303 1056

Email: safespaces@victimsupport.org.uk

LiveChat at www.SafeSpacesEnglandWales.org.uk



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)

email – 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**.



READINGS AT MASS – 30th SUNDAY OF THE YEAR

First reading – Exodus 22:20-26

If you are harsh with the widow and orphan, my anger will flare against you

The Lord said to Moses, 'Tell the sons of Israel this:

"You must not molest the stranger or oppress him, for you lived as strangers in the land of Egypt. You must not be harsh with the widow, or with the orphan; if you are harsh with them, they will surely cry out to me, and be sure I shall hear their cry; my anger will flare and I shall kill you with the sword, your own wives will be widows, your own children orphans.

"If you lend money to any of my people, to any poor man among you, you must not play the usurer with him: you must not demand interest from him.

"If you take another's cloak as a pledge, you must give it back to him before sunset. It is all the covering he has; it is the cloak he wraps his body in; what else would he sleep in? If he cries to me, I will listen, for I am full of pity."

Psalm 17

I love you, Lord, my strength.

1. I love you, Lord, my strength,
my rock, my fortress, my saviour.
My God is the rock where I take refuge;
my shield my mighty help, my stronghold.
The Lord is worthy of all praise:
when I call I am saved from my foes. (R.)
 2. Long life to the Lord, my rock!
Praised be the God who saves me.
He has given great victories to his king
and shown his love for his anointed. (R.)
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Second reading - 1 Thessalonians 1:5-10

You broke with idolatry and became servants of God; you are now waiting for his Son

You observed the sort of life we lived when we were with you, which was for your instruction, and you were led to become imitators of us, and of the Lord; and it was with the joy of the Holy Spirit that you took to the gospel, in spite of the great opposition all round you. This has made you the great example to all believers in Macedonia and Achaia since it was from you that the word of the Lord started to spread – and not only throughout Macedonia and Achaia, for the news of your faith in God has spread everywhere. We do not need to tell other people about it: other people tell us how we started the work among you, how you broke with idolatry when you were converted to God and became servants of the real, living God; and how you are now waiting for Jesus, his Son, whom he raised from the dead, to come from heaven to save us from the retribution which is coming.

Alleluia, alleluia!

Open our heart, O Lord,

to accept the words of your Son.

Alleluia!

Gospel - Matthew 22:34-40

The commandments of love

When the Pharisees heard that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees they got together and, to disconcert him, one of them put a question, 'Master, which is the greatest commandment of the Law?' Jesus said, 'You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and the first commandment. The second resembles it: You must love your neighbour as yourself. On these two commandments hang the whole Law, and the Prophets also.'

