

# OUR LADY OF RANSOM

Our Lord Jesus Christ the King – Year A –  
Divine Office Wk 2 – 21<sup>st</sup> / 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2020



Sam was not a very nice person. He died and went to hell. He was missed by old friends. His work's manager went to hell to see if he could bring him back. He pleaded profusely, no luck. So his football captain went, he begged that he may play football for one more season. No joy. His parish priest went and declared that he wasn't that bad, so please give him another chance! Nothing. Many others did the same, begging Satan to *let him out*. Still no joy. Then his mother went. She spoke no word of his release. Quietly, and with a strange catch in her voice, she said to Satan, *let me in*. The doors opened, and immediately she found herself redeeming her son. Only love can penetrate the gates of hell and redeem the lost.

Perhaps this image may help us understand Jesus' own descent into hell, showing his refusal to accept our choice of personal destruction. Our God is so loving that he will wait for however much time it takes, he will suffer hell with us, until the final person has made a choice for Him. And yet we have words like "eternal" and "punishment". Is it really "eternal"? Is really "punishment"?

These are clearly mistranslations, maybe used to instil fear and control. The word eternal is the original word *aion*, (like our word eon), which can mean an indeterminate period of time, or an intensity of experience. Time goes quickly when we're happy, slowly when we're bored - intensity of experience. Quality of time, not quantity. The original word for punishment is the word *kolasis*, referring to the pruning of branches so a plant can flourish. It's also a therapeutic word connected with healing. So when Jesus refers to "eternal punishment", a better translation might be – *an unspecified time of pruning that involves an intense experience of correction and healing*. Maybe more akin to our purgatory. However much "time" it takes, it's God's time – not ours. God *will* bring healing in God's time – not our concept of time. The only occasions "forever" is mentioned in the Scriptures is when referring to God himself... makes sense.



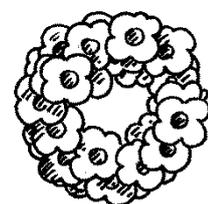
We so need to understand our Scriptures and see the pattern of teaching that is going on, rather than take phrases out of context, and "think" we understand!

Our loving Christ is redeeming "everything" - everyone". Our prayers in the Mass declare it, our faith professes it. Surely that is why he is Christ *the King*.

**God Bless, Fr. Paul.**

## **Remembrance Poppy Wreath**

*Will remain on the Altar throughout November with lighted candles to encourage prayer for the war-dead and all Holy souls.*



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

<b>MASS INTENTIONS</b>	
<b>Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> Nov.</b>	
	Parish Community Ints
<b>Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup></b>	<b>OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST THE KING</b>
	Michael Barry RIP (Jim Harforth)
<b>Monday 23<sup>rd</sup></b>	
	Holy Souls RIP
<b>Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Ss Andrew Dung-Lac &amp; Comps</b>
	Nora McPherson (Ints)
<b>Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup></b>	
	Hilary Barry (Ints) (Sylvester Family)
<b>Thursday 26<sup>th</sup></b>	
	Deceased members of Curnock & Hobkirk families RIP (Mike & Tricia)
<b>Friday 27<sup>th</sup></b>	
	Michael Barry RIP (Pat & Mary Rickard)
<b>Saturday 28<sup>th</sup></b>	
	Parish Community Ints
<b>Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> Nov.</b>	<b>FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT</b>
	Michael Barry RIP (Sylvester Family)

<p><b>PARISH PRIEST</b> Father Paul Fox 50 London Hill, Rayleigh Essex SS6 7HP 01268 742229 <a href="http://www.olorchurch.org">www.olorchurch.org</a> email: <a href="mailto:rayleigh@dioceseofbrentwood.org">rayleigh@dioceseofbrentwood.org</a></p>	<p><b><i>In accordance with Government guidelines, there are now <u>no public celebrations of Mass</u> until further notice.</i></b> <b><i>The Church will be open at certain times for personal prayer – please see main newsletter notice for details.</i></b></p>
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**Our Parish is part of The Brentwood Diocesan Trust, Registered Charity Number 234092**

## CHRISTMAS MASSES

Working on the assumption we can have Mass, along with the current Covid restrictions, the times of Masses will be:

Christmas Eve 6pm (family Mass)

Christmas Eve 8pm (this will be the Mass of Midnight brought forward).

Christmas Day 8am

Christmas Day 10am

A booking system for the two Christmas Eve Masses is being considered. Once we know where we stand after December 2<sup>nd</sup>, a decision will be made and details will be given.

## OPENING OF THE CHURCH FOR PRIVATE PRAYER

The Church will be open for private prayer as follows –

<b>Saturdays</b>	<b>5.30pm – 6.15pm</b>
<b>Sundays</b>	<b>9.30am – 10.15am</b>
<b>Wednesdays</b>	<b>10.00 – 10.30am</b>
<b>Fridays</b>	<b>10.00 – 10.30am</b>

These timings will be continually under review and subject to change as different needs arise. Please keep an eye on this space for ongoing updates.

The church will be both cleaned and sanitised regularly.

## WEEKLY MESSAGES FROM FR PAUL AND MASS

Fr Paul will record a Mass and a message each weekend.

These will be available to view on the parish website ([www.olorchurch.org](http://www.olorchurch.org))

or via the parish “Ransomers” facebook page.

## NATIONAL YOUTH SUNDAY.

Today is the Feast of Christ the King, and the weekend where we especially honour and celebrate the place of young people. Last year Pope Francis wrote a letter to young people, *Christus Vivit*, where he said “Young people ... are meant to dream great things ... and to offer the best of themselves to the building of something better.” Covid has had particular effects on the young; since March our Brentwood Catholic Youth Service has offered online opportunities for prayer and service, in wonderful ways, and reaching thousands of people. To discover more – including a series of short videos where young people share their experience of the BCYS – go to [www.bcys.net](http://www.bcys.net).

**Donations:** This year, in addition to lost retreat income, the lack of congregations at Mass will dramatically affect the second collection that usually takes place today – please give a donation to support the BCYS via the website [www.bcys.net/donate](http://www.bcys.net/donate) or post a cheque to “Brentwood Catholic Youth Service” through the presbytery letterbox and we will pass it on.



## 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.

**† † PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS...**

**Kathleen Kirkland** who died on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> November. Her funeral service will be held on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> December at 1.15pm followed by cremation at Southend Crematorium.

May she rest in peace. † †

**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 the beginning of February.**



**PLEASE PRAY**

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

**† ANNIVERSARIES †**

Kindly pray for Elisabeth Anna Powley, Bill Gray, Catherine Davis, Anne Handley and Chris O'Callaghan whose anniversaries occur about this time.

**CONFESSIONS**

The Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confessions) is available – but needs to be offered openly (ie. not in the traditional Confessional Box). If you wish for the Sacrament, please make a personal time by calling Fr. Paul. (The request itself is treated confidentially).

**BCCS - VIRTUAL TREE OF ANGELS**

This November, Brentwood Catholic Children's Society is pleased to launch their virtual Tree of Angels initiative which will allow you to light up an angel on a virtual Christmas tree in memory of a loved one who has died while making a donation to the work of 'bccs'.

Please visit <https://www.bccs.org.uk/christmas/tree-angels> where you can read more about this initiative or click directly onto the Tree of Angels portal here <https://visufund.com/tree-of-angels> to make your dedication and secure donation.

If you have any questions about lighting an angel, please contact Julie [jabbott@bccs.org.uk](mailto:jabbott@bccs.org.uk)

**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 visiting a church/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 in the church.***

## **Our Lady of Ransom School - September 2021 Admissions – Meetings for Prospective Parents**

We are very sad that we are unable to welcome prospective parents and children to school this term. Instead we have created a new webpage so that we can share all of the necessary information and hopefully convey why the children, parents and staff are so proud to be members of the Our Lady of Ransom family.



Please share this link with anybody that you know who might be interested in applying for a place in our Reception classes for September 2021.

<https://sites.google.com/olorcps.net/welcometoolor/home>

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

**Will be on sale in the Bethany room whenever possible when the church is open. 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.

***If there is no-one there to help you, please leave payment in the Church wall box marked Repository (by the front door).***

***All the Christmas Repository items that are for sale are also available to view online on the “Ransomers Recipes and Christmas Love” Facebook page with details of how to purchase.***

## **OLOR FUNDRAISING RECIPE BOOK – GRAB A SLICE OF OLOR RECIPE HISTORY!**

**Don't miss out on your chance to delve into a collection of OLOR family recipes.**

The first edition was published in the 1980's, a second in 2007 for the OLOR's 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary and this third edition is also bound to provide a joyful souvenir of OLOR for many years to come.

Thank you very much for all the orders and payments for the OLOR Recipe books. We shall be distributing them via school bags and home addresses (where applicable) as soon as they have been delivered and quarantined.

**If you would like to order one** (or more copies) contact [clareconjoy@aol.com](mailto:clareconjoy@aol.com) / 07900 513 112 stating the number of copies, your name and mobile number. Copies are £10 each. (Payment to “Our Lady of Ransom Theatre Club” Account 85498941 / Sort Code 09-01-27, your surname for reference)

Thank you for all the recipes donated and to everyone buying them and supporting our fundraising for the school and parish. Deliveries will be made adhering to social distancing measures.



All funds raised will support OLOR School and Church.



## 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.

## 2021 DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES

The Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes in 2021 is planned for Sunday 25 – Friday 30 July. However, because of Covid-19 it is not possible to know yet whether a pilgrimage will be practical or in what form. Therefore, any decisions and announcements regarding the Diocesan Pilgrimage, and our young people intending to travel with the BCYS, will be made in January. Until then, do keep the dates for the pilgrimage in your diaries.

## FOODBANK

The Hopeworx (Castle Road) Foodbank collection box is now situated 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.

## NEWSLETTERS

**Just a few printed newsletters will be left on the shelf outside the presbytery.** These are primarily designated for anyone who has no email access.

If you are able to print off newsletters yourselves 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.***

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

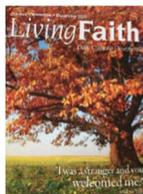
- normally sold in the Repository - these can now be obtained at the presbytery. Please contact Fr. Paul to arrange a convenient time to come, choose, collect and pay for the cards.

**2021 Brentwood Diocesan Directories** are now available from the Presbytery- £2.80



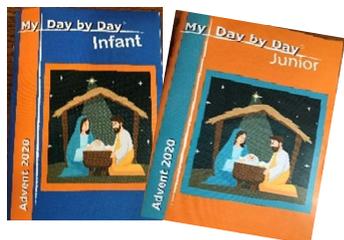
### MY DAY BY DAY

Booklets for Advent  
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



### INFANT & JUNIOR ADVENT DAY BY DAY BOOKLETS

also available – Donations 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.

### 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.

### 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.

### HAVENS HOSPICES – LIGHT UP A LIFE SPECIAL SERVICE

**Friday 11<sup>th</sup> December 2020, 7pm**

Havens Hospices understands the importance of having support when a loved one dies, so this year we are bringing together our community to grieve and remember our friends in a different way.

We will be ‘live-streaming’ a special Light up a Life service on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> December 2020 at 7pm which can be viewed on our Facebook page [@HavensHospices](https://www.facebook.com/HavensHospices).

You don't need to book and if you can't tune in, visit our YouTube channel from 8pm that evening.

## 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.**

## 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](mailto:safespaces@victimsupport.org.uk)

LiveChat at [www.SafeSpacesEnglandWales.org.uk](http://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](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 phonenumber** 0808 999 4040 [www.respectphonenumber.org.uk](http://www.respectphonenumber.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 4years old upwards.

### **Coronavirus-related scams / Fraud or Attempted Fraud**

For the latest information go to <http://actionfraud.police.uk/news>

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.

**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)** Call 0845 390 6232  
email – [support@ocdaction.org.uk](mailto: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**.



**Rochford District Community Response Hub Helpline**

If you have no friends or family close by and you need support during this Coronavirus crisis, or are feeling isolated, please call **01268 -779999**

Rochford District Council, act, Rochford, Parish of Rayleigh, The Town of Rayleigh, The Town of Wickham, The Town of Wickham, The Town of Wickham

## READINGS AT MASS – CHRIST THE KING

### First reading – Ezekiel 34:11-12,15-17

*The Lord will judge between sheep and sheep*

The Lord says this: I am going to look after my flock myself and keep all of it in view. As a shepherd keeps all his flock in view when he stands up in the middle of his scattered sheep, so shall I keep my sheep in view. I shall rescue them from wherever they have been scattered during the mist and darkness. I myself will pasture my sheep, I myself will show them where to rest – it is the Lord who speaks. I shall look for the lost one, bring back the stray, bandage the wounded and make the weak strong. I shall watch over the fat and healthy. I shall be a true shepherd to them.

As for you, my sheep, the Lord says this: I will judge between sheep and sheep, between rams and he-goats.

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### Psalm 22

***The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.***

1. The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.  
Fresh and green are the pastures where he gives me repose. *(R.)*
  2. Near restful waters he leads me, to revive my drooping spirit.  
He guides me along the right path; he is true to his name. *(R.)*
  3. You have prepared a banquet for me in the sight of my foes.  
My head you have anointed with oil; my cup overflowing. *(R.)*
  4. Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me all the days of my life.  
In the Lord's own house shall I dwell for ever and ever.
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### Second reading - 1 Corinthians 15:20-26,28

*Christ will hand over the kingdom to God the Father; so that God may be all in all*

Christ has been raised from the dead, the first-fruits of all who have fallen asleep. Death came through one man and in the same way the resurrection of the dead has come through one man. Just as all men die in Adam, so all men will be brought to life in Christ; but all of them in their proper order: Christ as the first-fruits and then, after the coming of Christ, those who belong to him. After that will come the end, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father, having done away with every sovereignty, authority and power. For he must be king *until he has put all his enemies under his feet* and the last of the enemies to be destroyed is death, for everything is to be *put under his feet*. And when everything is subjected to him, then the Son himself will be subject in his turn to the One who subjected all things to him, so that God may be all in all.

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**Alleluia, alleluia!**

**Blessings on him who comes in the name of the Lord!**

**Blessings on the coming kingdom of our father David!**

**Alleluia!**

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### **Gospel - Matthew 25: 31-46**

*I was naked and you clothed me; sick, and you visited me*

Jesus said to his disciples: 'When the Son of Man comes in his glory, escorted by all the angels, then he will take his seat on his throne of glory. All the nations will be assembled before him and he will separate men one from another as the shepherd separates sheep from goats. He will place the sheep on his right hand and the goats on his left.

'Then the King will say to those on his right hand, "Come, you whom my Father has blessed, take for your heritage the kingdom prepared for you since the foundation of the world. For I was hungry and you gave me food; I was thirsty and you gave me drink; I was a stranger and you made me welcome; naked and you clothed me, sick and you visited me, in prison and you came to see me." Then the virtuous will say to him in reply, "Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you; or thirsty and give you drink? When did we see you a stranger and make you welcome; naked and clothe you; sick or in prison and go to see you?" And the King will answer, "I tell you solemnly, in so far as you did this to one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did it to me."

'Next he will say to those on his left hand, "Go away from me, with your curse upon you, to the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. For I was hungry and you never gave me food; I was thirsty and you never gave me anything to drink; I was a stranger and you never made me welcome, naked and you never clothed me, sick and in prison and you never visited me." Then it will be their turn to ask, "Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty, a stranger or naked, sick or in prison, and did not come to your help?" Then he will answer, "I tell you solemnly, in so far as you neglected to do this to one of the least of these, you neglected to do it to me."

'And they will go away to eternal punishment, and the virtuous to eternal life.'

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