

OUR LADY OF RANSOM



**4th Sunday of Easter – Year B –
Divine Office Wk 4 – 24th /25th April 2021**

Abusive, foul language - the drunken yob is disturbing the peace. The police are called. Using force to try and shut him up and arrest him, he only hurls even more abuse back. Suddenly “sir” appears. “Sir” is a well-respected and loved retired teacher who taught this young man. Loving with discipline, he would discipline the children with love. No surprise -he had fewer discipline problems.

“Barry, come on young man, and let’s get you home” sir says. “Good evening sir” says Barry, he apologises to everyone and ‘sir ‘calmly escorts him home.

The difference? It’s between force and authority. Force can increase negative energies, sending us deeper into our fears and anxieties. “Sir”, by contrast, had authority, an authority that came from within. Authority is the ability to “author” other people’s lives, to help people write the direction of, and find meaning to their lives. Leadership, service, authoring with respect and dignity.

This is Jesus’ way. Watch him carefully. He never appeals to other priestly/rabbinical authority; never to other sacred texts, or to anyone else – and certainly never force. His power and truth come from within, demonstrated by his life-style. A life-style that simply reflects – truth. He is simply - the Good Shepherd.

Power without or outside the Holy Spirit becomes force, domination, oppression.
Power inside and with the Holy Spirit becomes service, authority, leadership.

Life-style must reflect truth -‘this is Jesus/Good shepherd authority. The “lie” is often seen in the craving for possessions, dominative power, unhealthy ambition and status. Who in their right mind would listen to people like that?

The Jesus-authority is the authority that casts out demons, calms abusive people down, an authority that can surprise others. Don’t be surprised at the authority we can have with other people’s lives, when life-style simply reflects - truth. Can that be us?

God Bless, Fr. Paul.



NEXT SATURDAY – 1st MAY – at 5.30pm MASS,
We WELCOME Charley, Lucas, Kristian, Harry and Abigail
who will be making their First Holy Communion.



*On 7th May the Parish Telephone Number is changing –
Please make a note of the new number: 01268 386 467*

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

| MASS INTENTIONS | |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| Saturday 24th April | |
| 5.30pm Mass | Annie Gray RIP (Pat & Mary Rickard) |
| Sunday 25th | 4th Sunday after Easter |
| 9.30am Mass | Parish Community Ints |
| Monday 26th | |
| | Peter Taffurelli RIP (Brenda & Terry Askem) |
| Tuesday 27th | |
| | Dorothy Walker RIP (Norah McPherson) |
| Wednesday 28th | |
| 10am Mass | Gwen Wood RIP (Pat Wood) |
| Thursday 29th | St Catherine of Siena |
| | Lotsi Hidveghy RIP (Leo, Rose & Paul) |
| Friday 30th April | |
| 10am Mass | John O'Donnell RIP (Una Slough) |
| Saturday 1st May | |
| 5.30pm Mass | Parish Community Ints |
| Sunday 2nd May | 5th Sunday after Easter |
| 8am Mass | Con Parker RIP (Pat Wood) |
| 9.30am Mass | Kathleen Gumley RIP (Marie Smith) |

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|--|---|
| <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> |
|--|---|

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

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THIS SUNDAY IS THE GOOD SHEPHERD SUNDAY – THE WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS.

The second collection supports the education and formation of our seminarians. We have nine seminarians in formation for our diocese at this time.

At the Bede in Rome we have the Rev. Deacon Tony Grant who is to be ordained a priest in the summer. At Oscott College in Birmingham we have the Rev. Deacon Michael Barwick who is to be ordained in the summer also. Also at Oscott is Alexander Johnson, Jonathan Burden, Frank Westcott and Alex Wyndham. At Allen Hall in Westminster we have Damien Wade who is to be ordained deacon this year and also at Allen Hall are Matúš Meleg and Moses Itene, please pray for them all today and in the future.

PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS

Lord Jesus Christ,

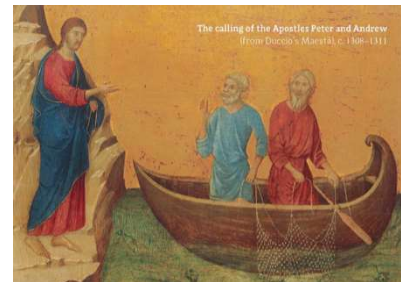
You have chosen the Apostles and their successors, the Bishops and Priests of the Catholic Church, to preach the true faith throughout the whole world. We earnestly beseech You to choose from among us in our parishes, priests and religious who will gladly spend their entire lives to make You better known and loved.

Sacred Heart of Jesus have mercy on us.

Immaculate Heart of Mary pray for us

St Joseph pray for us.

St John Vianney pray for us.



ANNUAL MIGRANTS' MASS

In the Year of St Joseph, and in honour of St Joseph the Worker, the London dioceses of Southwark, Westminster and Brentwood will celebrate **the 16th Annual Mass for Migrants on Saturday 1st May 2021 at 11.20am.**

The Mass will be celebrated by Bishop Paul McAleenan and live-streamed from St William of York Roman Catholic Church, Forest Hill. Although we cannot welcome the faithful in person this year, this lively online service will still celebrate of the significant contribution made by migrants to life of our dioceses.

Livestream the Mass at: <https://actionnetwork.org/events/migrants-mass>

FR GERRY – HOSPITAL VISITS

The Chaplaincy Team are now allowed to resume duties at Southend Hospital.

Fr Gerry, Chaplain at Southend Hospital, is now visiting all people (unless Covid positive). If you wish him to visit yourself or a family member please feel free to email him at frgerryd@gmail.com or call 07919 416263.

THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

If you are 16 years old or above and would like to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation, please let Fr. Paul know in writing, with your name and contact number explaining the reasons you wish to receive the Sacrament. Thank you.

HAVE YOU LOST A SILVER CROSS & CHAIN?

Found outside Church – please contact Christina on 07910 206 154 if you have lost a necklace.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION. Please note and read carefully..



1. Through lockdown, our children have been absolutely phenomenal in patiently waiting for a year in order to make their First Holy Communion. All credit to them and their families.
2. With this in mind, through May, June and July this year our children will be making their First Holy Communion **incorporated into the 5.30pm or 9.30am weekend Masses, or both**. There will be between 3 and 5 children making their First Holy Communion at these Masses, although not every weekend.
3. For this reason, I will celebrate an additional 8am Mass on Sundays, throughout May June and July, whether or not there are children making their First Holy Communion that weekend. This will be reviewed after July.
4. Please give careful thought about whether you would prefer to come to an 8am Mass, or one of the weekday Masses. Remember the obligation for Sunday Mass is still suspended.
5. Bear in mind, we have to be strict with Covid restrictions in place at the moment so spreading ourselves out over the other Masses is important, even if we *don't 'normally attend'* a certain Mass. Numbers of relatives/friends of the children who might attend is always an unknown quantity. Also be prepared that your usual place may be taken at a Mass you normally come to.
6. There will be a notice in the newsletter the weekend before if children are making their First Holy Communion at one of the 2 Masses the following weekend. There will be no First Holy Communions at the 8am Masses (or weekdays). Thank you.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION CARDS AND GIFTS

A wonderful selection of cards and gifts are on display and for sale in the Bethany room which is accessible whenever the church is open for Mass.

Gift Catalogues are also available for people to browse and select further items provided they are ordered in good time and depending on availability.

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

THE MISSION OF HOPE

Sister Mary Joachim, who spent some time in the parish following an operation, recently went back to her Mission in the Somali region of Ethiopia. When she got back, the Mission had been deserted and was full of the red dust from the desert. The houses had to be cleaned inside, the walls and shelves, with the help of some former Mission beneficiaries but the trees she had planted some years before were growing well. Please pray for the people of God and Sister Joachim in the challenges ahead.

ASSISTANT MANAGER, WALSINGHAM HOUSE AT ABBOTSWICK.

We are seeking to appoint an Assistant Manager at Walsingham House at Abbotswick to begin in the late summer.

All information can be found on our website: <https://bcys.net/assistantmanager>

Closing date for applications is midday on Monday 10th May 2021.

TRUSTEE VACANCIES AT BCCS

We at the Brentwood Catholic Children' Society (bccs) are seeking to appoint new members to our Board of Trustees to help guide and support our work. It is important for us to maintain a broad, diverse Board of Trustees that brings a wide range of expertise and ages to the table. Experience as a trustee is not required as a full induction programme will be provided. We are particularly keen to attract the input of youth trustees (age 18 +) to ensure our provision and services remain contemporary and there is no upper age or gender limitation to the role. Please read our full Trustee Advert and Role Description on our website <https://www.bccs.org.uk/who-we-are/trustees> and contact our Director, Bernadette Fisher bfisher@bccs.org.uk for more information.



MISSIO / RED BOXES

Thank you from Missio for the £2,621.98 raised by our parish to support their sisters and brothers around the world.



OFFERTORY CONTRIBUTIONS

Thanks to all who continue to support our parish financially.

GIFT AID / ENVELOPES

- We want to encourage everyone to pay online, so from now on, envelopes will need to be requested
- Envelope numbers are being reorganised so if your envelope number is changed, there will be a red label on the box.
- There will be no Special Collection envelopes for those paying by Standing Order. Please use either a charity's own Special Collection envelope, or pay online using Surname and Gift Aid No. or use a blank/yellow envelope with your details printed on the front.
- Some people have started donating to the parish online during lockdown. If you are a taxpayer it's worth a reminder that we could get **an extra 25%** on your donations if you sign up to the Gift Aid scheme. Thank you.



Please contact Sandra our Gift Aid Co-ordinator (olorgiftaid@hotmail.com / 01268 772998) if you have any questions.



MY DAY BY DAY

Booklets for May are now available priced £1 each.



LIVING FAITH (April - June)

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.

MASS CARDS & SYMPATHY CARDS ...

can be obtained at the presbytery. Please contact Fr. Paul to arrange a convenient time to come, choose, collect and pay for the cards.

MANY THANKS FOR ALL THE MASS INTENTIONS AND CONTRIBUTIONS

Please note: At present we have a large number of outstanding Mass Intentions, which takes us to early July.



PLEASE PRAY

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

† ANNIVERSARIES †

Kindly pray for Hugh Kirkland whose anniversary occurs about this time.



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.

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).

Public Masses:

Please **do not come** if you have symptoms, sniffles, sneezes, coughs, immunity issues etc.

Use common sense and **think of others**.

Remember to wear a mask and SANITISE hands on entering the church.

Social Distance regulations MUST be adhered to at all times

Please follow only the directions of the Stewards.

The church will be both cleaned and sanitised regularly.

Wash your hands, cover your face, make space.



HANDS



FACE



SPACE

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) and ask to be added onto the distribution list.

The newsletter will be emailed by the Saturday morning.

FAST COVID-19 TESTING CENTRE IN RAYLEIGH

A fast testing centre, offering the fast Lateral Flow Tests and giving results in around 30 minutes, is open at The MegaCentre, 7 Brook Road, Rayleigh, Essex, SS6 7UT **for people who DO NOT have symptoms** of Covid-19.

Tests are by appointment only. Anyone booking should live in the Rochford area of Essex.

Book online through the website (<https://www.essex.gov.uk/getting-tested-for-covid-19/if-you-dont-have-symptoms>)

If you're not able to book using the online form, you can call 0333 772 6144 to arrange an appointment. Lines are open from 8am to 8pm, every day including Saturday and Sunday.

You can also email: booking.confirmation@nhs.net and a member of staff will contact you to arrange an appointment.

Anyone WITH symptoms should book a test on the NHS Test and Trace App or the [gov.uk](https://www.gov.uk) [website](#).

Be
Fraud
Smart!

[www.police.uk/
beFraudSmart](http://www.police.uk/beFraudSmart)



Essex Police Fraud Alert System

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16th April 2021

SOLAR PANEL SCAMS

Essex has recently seen an increase in residents falling victim to rogue traders mis-selling solar panels.

Criminals target the vulnerable and those who already have solar panels to offer unnecessary maintenance contracts, extended warranties or battery replacements—all at a high price. One 'customer' in Rayleigh received forged paperwork, whereas most receive none. Following the payment, no service is provided.

Residents have been contacted via the phone or by cold callers knocking at the door. Contact out of the blue should always be treated as suspicious—don't be rushed to make a decision there and then.

Remember to Take Five:

- **STOP** - Taking a moment to stop and think before parting with your money or information could keep you safe.
- **CHALLENGE** - Could it be fake? It's ok to reject, refuse or ignore any requests. Only criminals will try to rush or panic you.
- **PROTECT** - Contact your bank immediately if you think you've fallen for a scam and report it to Action Fraud.

Be
Fraud
Smart!

essex.police.uk/
befraudsmart



Essex Police Fraud Alert System

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9th April 2021

ROYAL MAIL SCAMS — UNDELIVERED PARCEL TEXT MESSAGE

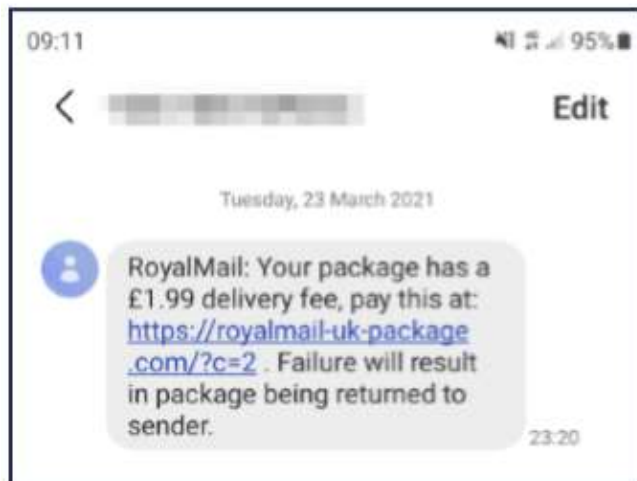
The public are being warned to stay alert to a new wave of scam text messages claiming to be from Royal Mail.



Criminals are taking advantage of the new reliance on online shopping and deliveries to obtain personal and banking details. This follows on from a similar scam where people would receive an email telling them that their parcel could not be delivered and they would have to pay a fee for it to be released.

The text messages come from a variety of different numbers but all will ask for a small payment which is accessed by clicking on a link in the message.

Royal Mail have stated that this is not a text that they would send out, they will only send text messages to those who have opted in to their SMS service.



Remember:

- Unexpected messages should be treated with caution
- Phone numbers can be easily spoofed by criminals—don't trust a number just because it **appears** to come from a genuine organisation
- Never click on links sent via email or SMS text message.



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 actionfraud.police.uk or call 0300 123 2040

Keep up to date with fraud and
do **even more** Online  essex.police.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 phonenumber 0808 999 4040 www.respectphonenumber.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.

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 or call 0300 123 2040.

SUPPORT -

Anxiety Call 08444 775774

Obsessive Compulsive Disorder (OCD)

Call 0845 390 6232

email – support@ocdaction.org.uk

skype 0303 040 1112

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



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**.

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.

READINGS AT MASS – 4th Sunday of Easter

First reading – Acts 4:8-12

The name of Jesus Christ is the only name in which we can be saved

Filled with the Holy Spirit, Peter said: 'Rulers of the people, and elders! If you are questioning us today about an act of kindness to a cripple, and asking us how he was healed, then I am glad to tell you all, and would indeed be glad to tell the whole people of Israel, that it was by the name of Jesus Christ the Nazarene, the one you crucified, whom God raised from the dead, by this name and by no other that this man is able to stand up perfectly healthy, here in your presence, today. This is the stone rejected by you the builders, but which has proved to be the keystone. For of all the names in the world given to men, this is the only one by which we can be saved.'

Psalm 117 – *The stone which the builders rejected has become the corner stone.*

Second reading – 1 John 3:1-2

We shall be like God because we shall see him as he really is

Think of the love that the Father has lavished on us, by letting us be called God's children; and that is what we are. Because the world refused to acknowledge him, therefore it does not acknowledge us. My dear people, we are already the children of God but what we are to be in the future has not yet been revealed; all we know is, that when it is revealed we shall be like him because we shall see him as he really is.

Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the good shepherd, says the Lord;

I know my own sheep and my own know me.

Alleluia!



Gospel - John 10:11-18

The good shepherd is one who lays down his life for his sheep

Jesus said: 'I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd is one who lays down his life for his sheep. The hired man, since he is not the shepherd and the sheep do not belong to him, abandons the sheep and runs away as soon as he sees a wolf coming, and then the wolf attacks and scatters the sheep; this is because he is only a hired man and has no concern for the sheep. 'I am the good shepherd; I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I lay down my life for my sheep. And there are other sheep I have that are not of this fold, and these I have to lead as well. They too will listen to my voice, and there will be only one flock, and one shepherd. 'The Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. No one takes it from me; I lay it down of my own free will, and as it is in my power to lay it down, so it is in my power to take it up again; and this is the command I have been given by my Father.'
