

OUR LADY OF RANSOM



**15th Sunday of the Year – Year B –
Divine Office Wk 3 – 10th /11th July 2021**

Robert was deaf and dumb. Nineteen years old, the doctors said he had the mind of a 2 year-old. We got on well, Makaton sign language helped. Visiting him after a 6-month absence, I found out he had an illness which paralysed his legs. He needed a wheel-chair. *Why!*, I quietly screamed at God. *Doesn't he have enough disabilities?* Then, horror of horrors, moments later I found out he had gone blind. Too much! *God, where are you*, again I agonisingly wondered. Something had to give. Desperately trying to get him to recognise me, I took his hands, moved them over my face – nothing. Frustrating. Then I remembered. I took his hands and gave him the “double-fives” we used to before I went away. YES! It worked. He screamed with joy, (so did I), he pulled me down to his wheelchair, hugging me tightly shouting his garbled *hello, hello*. Wow! Powerful. Moving. Where was God? God was in that moment. God was Robert, in all his vulnerability, dependency, weakness. The vulnerable Christ. No question.

I took Robert out in his wheelchair periodically. He would feel the grass under his chair and attempt to articulate “grass”. The same with “tree” and other words. Fantastic. Sadly the disease that ravaged his body took his life about a year later. He certainly left an indelible mark on my soul. Truly. Who really taught who? I offer this as truth, not some kind of romanticism. I think of him often, and what he taught me about God, vulnerability, dependence, and joy, despite seemingly having nothing.

Robert had a “pre-conscious” knowledge and experience of the divine. No formal teaching, but he knew. Maybe as a result of his vulnerability, his powerlessness. What else had he? (Read Henri Nouwen’s books, he has a similar story with his friend Adam).

Nature made Robert that way. Why? Who knows? Yet in all that, he gave much.

Most “mainstream” people have to harshly re-learn something through vulnerability to really experience the Lord’s power. Jesus offers it to his disciples today, pre-empting inflated egos, and it works. They must be free and empty enough to allow God to work through them, which is exactly what happens. God’s power, not theirs – so no inflated egos. And what about us? Where is, or was God in our own vulnerability? That is finally where His power lies. How far are we prepared to empty ourselves to find His power? So it’s not about us, but Him.

God Bless, Fr. Paul.



All Masses and Church Services are now Live Streamed.

To take part please go to

<https://stream.seccomgroup.com/channel/olor>

Masses can be watched “live” or later as a recording.

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

MASS INTENTIONS	
Saturday 10th July	
5.30pm Mass	Parish Community Ints
Sunday 11th	15th Sunday of the Year
8am Mass	Mary Lucy RIP (Pat Jones)
9.30am Mass	Ints of Modupe Macaulay
Monday 12th	
	Tess Bourkes RIP (Julia Dillane)
Tuesday 13th	
	John & Norah Dillane RIP (Norah McPherson)
Wednesday 14th	
10am Mass	Paddy Yore RIP (Eileen Price)
Thursday 15th	St Bonaventure
	Len Smith RIP (Debbie Smith)
Friday 16th	
10am Mass	Noreen McMullen RIP (Clare & Simon Mason)
Saturday 17th	
5.30pm Mass	Peter & Pat Smith RIP (Gwyn Derrick)
Sunday 18th July	16th Sunday of the Year
8am Mass	Grace McNamee (Ints) (Una Slough)
9.30am Mass	Parish Community Ints

<p>PARISH PRIEST Father Paul Fox 50 London Hill, Rayleigh Essex SS6 7HP 01268 382 499 www.olorchurch.org email: rayleigh@dioceseofbrentwood.org</p>	<p><u>Public Mass times:</u> Saturdays 5.30pm Sundays 8am & 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

OFFERTORY CONTRIBUTIONS

Thanks to all who continue to support our parish financially.

DONATIONS USING QR CODES

To avoid having too much cash lying around, it is now possible to make donations in Church using your mobile phone and QR codes.



There are notices in the porch for contributions to the parish

ONLINE DONATIONS

To make a donation online go to <https://stream.seccomgroup.com/donations/olor>



FIRST HOLY COMMUNION



Congratulations to all our children of 2020 who have recently made their First Holy Communion.

**They have been very patient waiting for covid restrictions to be lifted.
Our thanks go to Sharon Morris and the catechist team who have worked so hard under difficult circumstances to enable this to happen.**

RED MISSIO BOX HOLDERS

If your Red Missio Box has not been emptied for sometime, please get in touch with your local Missio Promoter or feel free to drop in your box to church for safe keeping and it will be dealt with in good time.

Thank you to all the Promoters and individual box holders who have already done so during these difficult times.



RELAY 100: summer community event.

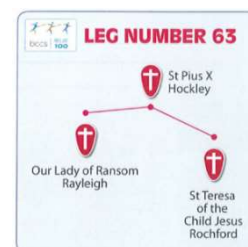
Bccs have organised a fundraising event called Relay 100, an epic journey – the aim is to visit 100+ Churches throughout the Diocese covering over 500 miles.

Rayleigh parish has been allocated LEG 63 which entails walking from OLOR Church to St Teresa's Rochford, via St Pius X in Hockey.

**KSC
456**

Sponsor forms and further information can be had from Tom Kennedy 01702 230 578.

Please support this event and use my name, as a reference, on your donation so that bccs can let us know how much our parish has raised.



Visit <https://www.bccs.org.uk/fundraising-and-events/all-events/relay-100> to read more about this event.

THE THRESHOLDS OF HOPE WEBSITE has now been launched. This new online resource is the work of the Brentwood Diocese Vicariate for Adult Formation and aims to help adults to deepen their relationship with Christ and His Church. Please have a look at the website and watch it develop over time. Do let us know what you think of it. The website address is www.thresholdofhope.co.uk



THE KNIGHTS OF ST COLUMBA:

The Knights of St Columba (K.S.C.) in Province 10 which covers the Diocese of Brentwood invites young people to take part in a photographic competition.

The theme for 2021 is '**ALL THINGS BRIGHT AND BEAUTIFUL**' and submissions must be made by Saturday 11th SEPTEMBER 2021.

The competition aims to encourage young people to experiment with their camera or mobile phone, use digital methods of photography, and give an interpretation of the photograph (s).

The age group categories are: Junior 7-10 years old, Year Group 7, 8 and 9 (11-14yrs), and 10-13 (14-18yrs).

Entrants must not be over the age group on 31st JULY 2021. Age must be shown on the entrant form.

Submissions should be made in the first instance to Brother Martin Doyle Action and Youth Officer Council 456 via e-mail to: marting.doyle@blueyonder.co.uk All the details are on KSC Council 456 Facebook page.

BCYS EVENTS:

"Lourdes at Your Local", 26th – 30th July 2021

From Monday 26th - Friday 30th July, the Brentwood Catholic Youth Service will be hosting "**Lourdes at your Local**" for Summer 2021. There will be a Mass celebrated each morning at 11am, with Anointing of the Sick and joyful music, followed by coffee and refreshments. These will then be streamed online each evening, as well as Daily Rosary, a Torchlight Procession and Talent Show (which we encourage you to also get involved in!). The Masses will take place in Leigh-on-Sea, Clacton-on-Sea, Canning Town, Wanstead and Brentwood, and we are welcoming **all ages**, with particular invitation to those who have been housebound or shielding over the last year. Further details and a full itinerary are available on our website www.bcys.net/events or you can email gabriellafusi@dioceseofbrentwood.org for more information.

"Lourdes on the Lawn", 31st July 2021

This event is open to anyone currently in school Year 13 or above (approx. age 18-28) from 12pm – 4pm on Saturday 31st July. We will celebrate Mass together with Bishop Alan at Midday, and invite those attending to bring a picnic to enjoy in the beautiful grounds of Walsingham House at Abbotswick during the afternoon. You can find more information at www.bcys.net/events or email gabriellafusi@dioceseofbrentwood.org.

Youth Gather – 23rd October. One day Youth Gather at Walsingham House at Abbotswick. There will be input from John Pridmore and Leila Bousbaa. This event will be for Year 9 and above.

Catechists Training and Resource Day – 6th November. Being held at Sacred Heart of Mary School, the day will be an opportunity for Catechists to come together and receive input from different organisations including Caritas Brentwood and the BCYS.

For more information on all of our events please see www.bcys.net

VIRTUAL LONDON MARATHON

Brentwood Catholic Children's Society has several charity places for this event taking place over 24 hours on 3rd October 2021. This can be run anywhere and on completion, runners will receive the official London Marathon Finisher's medal and New Balance T shirt. They will also have access to the London Marathon App allowing them to plot their run on the official London Marathon course. If you would like one of our places and think you could raise a fundraising total of £300, please email Julie jabbott@bccs.org.uk for registration details.

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.

CONFESSIONS

The Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confessions) is available – **can now be offered openly and in the traditional Confessional Box.** At the present time, if you wish for the Sacrament, please contact Fr. Paul - the request itself is treated confidentially.

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 mid-August.**



PLEASE PRAY

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

† ANNIVERSARIES †

Kindly pray for Eileen Young, Pat Moye, Andrew Lowe and Roger Heath whose anniversaries occur about this time.

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 July are now available priced £1 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 or the church 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.



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.

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

A few printed newsletters will be left on the shelf outside the presbytery after each weekend Mass. 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.

Here are a few top tips on how to support your wellbeing at home

Identify your triggers

We're all different. What affects someone else's mental wellbeing won't necessarily affect yours in the same way. Whether it's challenges in work or the current circumstance we all find ourselves in, we all have times where we feel stressed, upset or find it difficult to cope, especially at the moment.

Working out what triggers poor mental health for you can help you anticipate problems and find solutions. Whether it's taking in too much negative news and media regarding the current circumstance or a heavy workload. Finding out your triggers can help.

Take time for yourself

Spending time on yourself is essential for your wellbeing, and helps you be more resilient. It's vital to prioritise your own needs sometimes, rather than the demands of your work. Ignoring your needs can lead to stress and burn-out.

Take short breaks throughout the day as well as at least half-an-hour to get some food. A short break can help you feel recharged and refreshed. It can also give you a different perspective on any work problems.

Quick tip: Simple self-care

Not having to get formally dressed for work can be great. But if you feel low, putting on some nice clothes or having a five-minute grooming session is an easy boost for your self-esteem that can help you feel work-ready.

Be kind to yourself

In our current climate, we're all going through a difficult time. It's important to be kind to yourself and remember it's okay to not be okay. We may feel different from one day to the next as situations change so it's important to be kind to yourself.

Quick tip: Create a home workstation.

It's important to try create boundaries if your home is your office and having a dedicated area of the house or your room for you to work from can help delineate your work time from your leisure time.

Connect with others

Depending on the circumstance, working from home right now can be a lonely job. Evidence suggests that feeling close to, and valued by other people is a basic human need. Good relationships are important to our wellbeing.

Try joining morning or evening online exercise classes, joining Facebook groups or even starting your own.

Celebrate the small successes

We all want to contribute and make a difference to the things we work on, we want to feel accomplished and that we've achieved something. So it's important to celebrate the successes, big and small. Some days that might mean a great piece of work, other days it could mean doing housework or making the bed. Try to identify one small thing each day that you can accomplish.

2nd July 2021

SCAM CALLS FROM 'MATCHING' PHONE NUMBERS

Residents are warned to be vigilant of scam calls that appear to be coming from numbers similar to their own.

Commonly, the first seven digits (07nnnnn) match the individual's own number. The calls impersonate well-known government organisations, or law enforcement agencies, and will ask the recipient of the call to "press 1" in order to speak with an advisor, or police officer, about unpaid fines or police warrants.

There are reports of individuals receiving these types of calls, and messaging, via widely-used messaging apps, such as WhatsApp.



Protecting yourself from phone scams:

Who is really calling?

Government and law enforcement agencies will not notify you about unpaid fines or outstanding police warrants by phone call or text. Do not respond to any calls or texts you receive about these.

Take Five

Always take a moment to stop and think before parting with money or your personal information, it could prevent you from falling victim to fraud. Remember, it's okay to reject, refuse or ignore any requests. Only criminals will try to rush or panic you.

Report it

If you receive a suspicious text message, you can report it by forwarding the message to **7726** free of charge. Suspicious telephone/mobile calls can be reported to Action Fraud via their website: [police.uk/report-phishing](https://www.actionfraud.police.uk)



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](https://www.actionfraud.police.uk) or call 0300 123 2040

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



THE SCAMMERS RENTING OUT OTHER PEOPLE'S HOMES

Rental fraud continues to be an issue across the country and can affect people of all ages. It occurs when would-be tenants are tricked into paying an upfront fee to rent a property.

In reality, the property does not exist, has already been rented out, or has been rented to multiple people at the same time. Criminals often use images of properties already for sale to create their fake listings.

The renter loses the upfront fee they have paid and is not able to rent the property they thought they had secured with the payment. Rental fraudsters often target students looking for university accommodation.



Protect yourself from rental fraud:

- **Is the advertiser genuine?**
Always use a reputable company where possible. Do not send money to anyone advertising rental properties online until you are certain the advertiser is genuine.
- **Moving from abroad?**
If you need to secure accommodation in the UK from overseas, seek the help of the employer or university you are coming to. Alternatively, get a friend, contact or relative to check the property exists and is available.
- **Visit the property first**
Do not pay any money until you or a reliable contact has visited the property with an agent or the landlord.
- **Ask for documentation**
Ask for copies of tenancy agreements and any safety certificates such as Gas Electricity or HMO Licence.
- **Do not be pressured into transferring large sums of money**
Transfer funds to a bank account having obtained the details by contacting the landlord or agent directly after the above steps have been followed. Be sceptical if you're asked to transfer any money via a money transfer service like Western Union.

Be
Fraud
Smart!

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



Essex Police Fraud Alert System

40

11th June 2021

MOBILE PHONE UPGRADE SCAM



Summary

The NFIB are aware of an ongoing scam where consumers are being cold called by individuals impersonating employees of legitimate mobile network operators and suppliers.

Victims are offered early handset upgrades, or new contracts, at significant discounts. Once customers have been convinced that the deals are genuine and agree to proceed, suspects then ask for their online mobile account credentials, including log-ins, address and bank account details.

Suspects then place orders with genuine companies on behalf of victims, however select a different handset to that requested and have it shipped to the customer's address.

Upon receipt, suspects assure victims that this has been an error and instruct them to 'return' the handset to a different address not affiliated to the mobile company. These addresses are usually residential.

Upon intercepting the 'returned' handsets, the suspects cease contact and victims find themselves stuck with no phone and liable for the entirety of a new contract taken out in their name.

The NFIB have received over **300** reports since January 2020 with reported losses in excess of **£86,000**.



What you need to do

- Cold calls about mobile upgrades and contracts - If you're unsure that the person calling you is an official representative of the company they claim to be from, hang up and do not reveal any personal information.
- Only contact your mobile network provider on a number you know to be correct. For example, 191 for Vodafone customers, 150 for EE customers, 333 for Three customers, 202 for O2 customers, 4455 for Tesco Mobile, 789 for Virgin Mobile and 150 for Sky Mobile.
- If you receive a device that you did not order or expect, contact the genuine sender immediately. The details for this will be within the parcel.
- NEVER post a device directly to a given address. All genuine Mobile Network Operators would send out a jiffy bag for you to return without you incurring additional cost.

For more information about how to protect yourself online, visit
www.cyberaware.gov.uk and takefive-stopfraud.org.uk



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



BE ONLINE SHOPPING SAVVY

IS THAT CAR REALLY FOR SALE?

In recent weeks, Essex Police has seen a increase in residents purchasing vehicles online and paying the full amount without ever having seen the car in person. When they arrive to collect the vehicle, it does not exist.



TOP TIPS

- **Always view and test drive the car before buying** - arrange to view in the daylight, preferably when it's dry. Make sure you're insured and test drive the car for about 15 minutes on different types of road.
- **Buy from an established firm or trusted seller** - you can look for a trade association sign or for sellers that have been inspected by an independent engineer or motoring organisation.
- **Use secure method of payment** - don't pay anything until you have seen the car. Once you are satisfied with what you are buying, use a secure method of payment such as a credit card to ensure you are protected if something goes wrong.

BOGUS BANK TRANSFERS

Essex Police have also received reports of residents selling electronic items online such as mobiles and laptops to suspects who attend the address and request to pay by bank transfer. They will pay on the doorstep claiming that it can take up to 2-3 hours for the payment to go through. The payment never arrives by which time the suspect has already left with the goods.

TOP TIPS

- **Arrange an instant payment** - consider using cash or using an instant payment service.
- **Wait for the payment to go through** - most transfers should be quite quick, don't let the item go without knowing you have received the payment.



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 at 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.mensadvice.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.

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 – 15th Sunday of the Year

First reading – Amos 7: 12-15

Psalm 84

Let us see, O Lord, your mercy and give us your saving help.

Second reading – Ephesians 1: 3-14

Alleluia, alleluia!

Your words are spirit, Lord, and they are life: you have the message of eternal life.

Alleluia!

Gospel – Mark 6:7-13

