

OUR LADY OF RANSOM

4th Sunday of the Year - Year C

Psalter Week 4 – 29th /30th January 2022



Imagine coming home tired and finding a person of the street in your bed. Drug addicts, people of the street, whoever, would show up at Father's door. He gave them a bed for the night. In the middle of my conversation with Father, he would excuse himself and deal with these people coming to his front door. He would discern quickly and maybe take one of these poor people in and if needed, give them a meal and a bed for the night – his own bed! Sacrificing his own bed meant he had to sleep in a tatty old sleeping-bag on a torn old sofa. I saw them for myself. Wow! What a witness! Occasionally, if there was a second person, one would be given a fellow-priest's bed, much to the other priest's horror – they did not always share this aspect of ministry! This is Jesus' agape love advocated by St. Paul today.

Such love - shown through commitment, compassion, real self-sacrifice and empathy – it needs working at, requiring maturity. It's about choice. Love is not an emotion or feeling, but involves both heart **and** will. Both are needed. Like faith and hope, love cannot be forced or coerced. True; Jesus'-love is always open to something bigger than ourselves, like Father's love mentioned above. Yet hasn't love been so desecrated by our language, culture and pop music? It seems that Jesus, St. Paul, and the ancients were much clearer about love. We have one word – *love*! They had at least five. They categorised the five as follows, so understood the nature of love much in a much fuller way.

For the ancients, love was

- 1) **Philia**: friendship, companionship, loyalty, familiarity.
- 2) **Eros (erotic)**: an intense drive to want to connect, an urgent longing to move from yourself towards another, a nervous energy for life. You can be truly celibate and erotic. How we have desecrated eros love!
- 3) **Storghe**: affection, seeing people and things as cute, sympathy; this has often been mistaken for charity, eg. feeling sorry for, pitying, giving to the poor - patronising maybe. Genuine charity, (*caritas*) will always include justice. We see how *caritas* has been softened over the years as justice is normally not included.
- 4) **Thelema**: desire, eg. you might *love* cakes, the sun, whatever - what we 'love' occupies our minds, it is important to us. But we don't 'love' cakes in the same way we 'love' our children.
- 5) **Agapé**: - the most profound love given through total self-sacrifice, authentic marital and celibate love, the 'Jesus-love'. The first 4 are open to will-power, the mind, but not *agape* love. Agape, 'Jesus-love' implies experiencing being part of something bigger than ourselves, that directs and holds us. Can that be, or is that our experience of love? What does *love*, finally, really mean for us?

God Bless, Fr. Paul



TODAY'S READINGS:

Jeremiah 1: 4-5, 17-19

Psalms 70

1 Corinthians 12: 31-13:13

Luke 4: 21-30

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

MASS INTENTIONS	
Saturday 29th Jan.	
5.30pm Mass	Mick Toomey RIP
Sunday 30th	4th Sunday of the Year
8am Mass	Parish Community Ints
9.30am Mass	Emma Louise Lucibello RIP (Susan & Damian)
Monday 31st Jan.	St John Bosco
	Fr Dominic Byrne RIP
Tuesday 1st Feb.	
	Jack Kuss RIP (The Bunker family)
Wednesday 2nd	The Presentation of the Lord
10am Mass	John Enever RIP (The Curnock family)
Thursday 3rd	St Anne Line
	Private Intention
Friday 4th	
10am Mass	Rodolfo, Jimmy & family RIP (Evangeline Perrott)
Saturday 5th	
5.30pm Mass	Parish Community Ints
Sunday 6th Jan.	5th Sunday of the Year
8am Mass	Margaret Thomas RIP (Esther Thomas)
9.30am Mass	Walenty Krolkowski RIP (Krolkowski family)

<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

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.**

FACE COVERINGS:

Although the legal requirement to wear a face covering no longer applies, the government suggests you continue to wear a face covering in crowded and enclosed spaces. ***We strongly encourage parishioners to continue wearing a face mask while moving around the Church. While you remain seated you may remove your face covering if necessary.***

PUBLIC MASSES

If you are strict about social-distancing, the pews on the right hand side (as we face the altar) are largely reserved for those who wish to do so.

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

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

Social Distance should be maintained as much as possible – again – out of mutual respect.

Please continue to follow **only** the directions of the Stewards.

Holy Communion only to be received on the hand for added protection.

The church will continue to be both cleansed and sanitised regularly



THINKING ABOUT THE CATHOLIC FAITH? ...

Perhaps you are, or maybe you know someone who has stopped coming to Church, and is wondering about returning. Or, you yourself might just want to informally ask questions, deepen your understanding and faith. Whatever your circumstances, you are welcome to come along to our Parish RCIA programme and learn more about what it means to be a Catholic Christian.

Our next programme will be starting on Monday 25th April at 8pm in the Bethany Room (covid restrictions permitting).

If you are not part of the Catholic Tradition, and you decide during the programme you would like to commit to the Catholic Faith, you will be received into the Church at Easter next year.

If you are interested in joining the programme, please contact Fr. Paul for more details.

(01268 382499 / rayleigh@dioceseofbretnwood.org)

† † The **FUNERAL SERVICE** for **John Enever** will be held on Tuesday 1st February at 11.45am. For those who knew John you may recall he liked to wear bright clothing therefore please feel free to wear something colourful. Burial at Hall Road Cemetery at 1pm. May he rest in peace. † †

† † The **FUNERAL SERVICE** for **Margaret Thomas** will be held on Wednesday 9th February at 14.15pm at St Teresa's Rochford and 15.20pm at Southend Crematorium. There is a "donations and obituaries" page on Stibbards & Sons website if anyone would like any further information and it gives details of how to donate to her given charities. May she rest in peace. † †

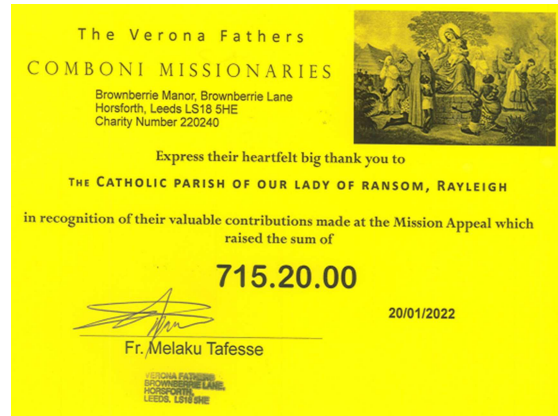
VACANCY AT SIR WILLIAM PETRE ALMSHOUSES, INGATESTONE

A vacancy has arisen at the Almshouses situated along the High St in Ingatestone. The Almshouse is a one-bedroom property for single persons. Candidates must be over 50 years of age and in need. Preference may be given to Roman Catholics.

To apply please contact Mike Falcone, Trustee, Ginge Petre Trust on tel 07935 959388

FR MELAKU TAFESSE WRITES...

Many thanks for the £715.20 which we received from you as the proceeds from the Mission Appeal which took place in your parish. I also thank you so much for the kind and friendly hospitality that you gave me at your wonderful Presbytery House. Please pass on to your parishioners our heartfelt gratitude for their generosity towards our missionary work in the fields of first evangelisation, human promotion and social development in many African countries, Central & South America and in a few countries in the South East of Asia. God Bless you all.



THRESHOLDS OF HOPE QUESTION: *What do the Martyrs teach us about the life of faith?*

Input will be given by Fr Paul Keane, Vice Rector at Oscott seminary, Birmingham on 30th January 4–5pm. To join this Zoom meeting simply forward a contact email to adultformationvicariate@dioceseofbrentwood.org. For more information go to www.thresholdsofhope.co.uk

BCYS FEBRUARY YOUTH MASS WITH TALK FROM MILLION MINUTES

Our next Youth Mass will be on **Thursday 3rd February**. at Brentwood Cathedral.

From 6pm join the BCYS for pizza and drink in the Parish Hall, and from 6:30pm Beth Warren, former Walsingham House Assistant Manager and now Senior Parish Engagement Officer for “Million Minutes” will help us prepare for the upcoming Lenten Season, with their SiLENT campaign and other exciting ventures! This will be followed by Mass at 7:30pm, where we will be joined by Fr Paschal Uche and Fr Michael Barwick who will preach the gospel.

All information about this and other events can be found on our website www.bcys.net , or you can follow us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram by searching @brentwoodcys



WORLD DAY OF PRAYER SERVICE

FRIDAY 4TH MARCH. 10.30am AT RAYLEIGH BAPTIST CHURCH.

This is an Interdenominational, Ecumenical service for ALL. Light refreshments after service. NO PARKING. Drop off only. Please park in town



SPONSORED SLEEPOUT 2022

SLEEP OUTSIDE TO RAISE FUNDS FOR CHARITIES
SUPPORTING THE HOMELESS IN ESSEX & EAST LONDON
AND THE BRENTWOOD CATHOLIC YOUTH SERVICE

Caritas Diocese of Brentwood are inviting people from the night of April 8th to the morning of April 9th, to join the 2022 Sponsored Sleepout; Raising awareness and money to help our local homeless charities and the Brentwood Catholic Youth Service.

All information can be found at

www.caritasbrentwood.org/sleepout or by emailing
sleepout@dioceseofbrentwood.org

BE PART OF THE WALSINGHAM HOUSE TEAM 2022/23:

If you are 18+ and looking for an exciting gap year opportunity, then a year on the Walsingham House Team could be for you. Spend a year as a volunteer in a thriving young Catholic Community, working with thousands of young people from Essex and East London. We are looking for inspiring individuals who want to share their faith with other young people and are also looking to learn new skills, grow deeper in their own faith and enjoy a challenge.

For more information please contact Joseph Beattie, manager of Walsingham House, by emailing josephbeattie@dioceseofbrentwood.org or calling 01277 373959. There is more information about our work on our website (www.bcys.net) and social media @Brentwoodcys Applications close Monday 21st February 2022.

BISHOP'S CERTIFICATE IN CATECHESIS AND YOUTH MINISTRY:

The Bishop's Certificate is designed to be an entry level qualification to help in the ongoing formation of adults involved in sacramental preparation or youth ministry in the Diocese of Brentwood. It includes both the development of practical skills & the deepening of theological knowledge. The course is online and taught through engaging, short videos with expert interviews. The course will begin on the evening of **24th February**, with an introduction and welcome evening, held at Walsingham House at Abbotswick. For more information please see our website: <https://bcys.net/bishops-cert/> or email your expression of interest to bishopscertificate@dioceseofbrentwood.org by Monday 22nd February.



PLEASE PRAY

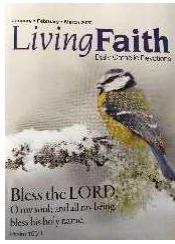
For all the sick members in our Parish and all our relatives and friends.

† ANNIVERSARIES †

Kindly pray for Cherry Etherington, Anthony Buckle, Glenda Bunn, Maura Fallon, Mary McAulay, Eileen Coyne and Noreen Gunn. May they rest in peace.

MASS AND SYMPATHY CARDS... can be obtained at the repository shop and the presbytery. Please contact Fr. Paul to arrange a convenient time to come, choose, collect and pay for the cards if the shop is closed.

LIVING FAITH (Jan – March)



Popular booklet with a thought for every day for the next three months.

Limited number available in the porch....
Voluntary donations for the booklets welcome.



**2022 Brentwood
Diocesan Directories**
Now available from the
Porch or Presbytery –
£2.80 each

PLEASE SAVE YOUR USED STAMPS....

Please save your used stamps and leave them in the container in the Porch.

These are being collected for the MS charity. Thank you in advance, Ruth Fitzgerald.

THE DIOCESAN LOURDES PILGRIMAGE IN 2022, led by Bishop Alan, will take place from Sunday 24 – Friday 29 July in Lourdes. Costs have not yet been confirmed.

This will be the first time in three years that the diocese has returned to Lourdes. Brochures for the pilgrimage, which will include costs, will be available soon. If you would like further information now, please contact Cathy O'Connor, the Administrative Director: cathy@dioceseofbrentwood.org or 07813 710070.

BCYS SUMMER LOURDES PILGRIMAGE 2022: 23rd – 30th JULY 2022.

Applications are **now open** for our summer pilgrimage to Lourdes for those in Years 11-13, with those of school leaver age (18+) invited to join us as young leaders. This is one of our most popular events and after a 2 year gap we are excited to be returning next year. The week is spent travelling alongside the main Diocesan pilgrimage as we assist the elderly and infirm with going to Masses and services, as well as visiting shops and cafes within the town. For those travelling with the BCYS the week will also include a retreat, reconciliation service, as well as social events and a party. Please see www.bcys.net/events/sl22/ for more information including visas, vaccinations and how to apply.

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>

GIFT AID / ENVELOPES. If you are a taxpayer and donate to the parish online, it's worth a reminder that we could get **an extra 25%** on your donations if you sign up to the Gift Aid scheme.

Please contact Sandra our Gift Aid Co-ordinator

(olorgiftaid@hotmail.com / 01268 772998) if you have any questions. Thank you.

