

# OUR LADY OF RANSOM

7<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the Year - Year C

Psalter Week 3 – 19<sup>th</sup> /20<sup>th</sup> February 2022



You must be joking! No way! Jesus - are you serious? Are you crazy?! *Love your enemy! Your enemy! Do good to those who hate you. What! Bless those who curse you.* This sounds pretty unreal. *Pray for those who treat you badly.* Come on! If you only knew how much that person has hurt me...

Again, like last week, unless we have had some glimpse or experience of the divine, our reaction will be something like the above. Jesus' wisdom only begins to make sense once we have responded to the divine.

What does this forgiveness stuff really mean? Certainly not the superficial *I'll forgive but not forget* piece of nonsense we often hear about. To forgive is to forget, to let go of the emotional hurt. That's the forgetting. We remember in our minds, but the emotional pain has been let go of, forgotten.

Again, we think maybe of someone being big-hearted saying it's all forgiven. That can be an act of condescension. Big-hearted me! In forgiving, we are not called to look big-hearted, magnanimous or just a nice person. This can demean the other person, and often doesn't make them feel better about themselves. They just see you as being big-hearted in forgiving. Jesus calls us to go a little deeper.

Forgiveness is about affirming the person, believing in them once again so you help them bring out their best selves. Truly believing in another person through forgiveness can prevent that person being destroyed by self-hatred. It helps them recover their self-worth. See how forgiveness takes a great act of love, not duty.

This kind of forgiving, the real way, often does not make us look good, but makes the other person look good. It's Jesus' forgiveness from the cross. Not looking very good, in his broken, bleeding dying body, yet redeeming us all, ensuring us our dignity and self-worth as children of God.

So forgiveness is much more than just being big-hearted. And of course so difficult, seemingly impossible. We see why we need to have had that glimpse or experience of the divine – to really forgive... it really is loving the enemy. And we see how true forgiveness can bring about real transformation and healing in the other person, the enemy, the hated one. That's the nature of God's forgiveness. Can we work at that so it can be ours?

***God Bless, Fr. Paul***



## **TODAY'S READINGS:**

1 Samuel 26: 2-23

Psalms 102

1 Corinthians 15: 45-49

Luke 6: 27-38



## **BISHOP ALAN'S VISIT**

***Bishop Alan is visiting our Parish this week on the afternoon of Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> February. There will be an evening Mass at 7.30pm.***

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

<b>MASS INTENTIONS</b>	
<b>Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> Feb.</b>	
<b>5.30pm Mass</b>	John Enever RIP (Hilary Barry)
<b>Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> 7<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the Year</b>	
<b>8am Mass</b>	Mick O'Malley RIP (Lorna Warren)
<b>9.30am Mass</b>	Parish Community Ints
<b>Monday 21<sup>st</sup></b>	
	Michael Barry RIP (Hilary Barry)
<b>Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> The Chair of St Peter</b>	
	Andrew Mellett RIP (Delia Flaherty)
<b>Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> St Polycarp</b>	
<b>10am Mass</b>	Andrew Costelloe RIP (Marie Smith)
<b>7.30pm Mass</b>	Parish Community Ints
<b>Thursday 24<sup>th</sup></b>	
	Brede Rogers (Ints) (Geraldine Paul)
<b>Friday 25<sup>th</sup></b>	
<b>10am Mass</b>	Beryl Moynihan RIP (Adrian & Jenny Short)
<b>Saturday 26<sup>th</sup></b>	
<b>5.30pm Mass</b>	Parish Community Ints
<b>Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> Feb. 8<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the Year</b>	
<b>8am Mass</b>	Mick O'Malley RIP
<b>9.30am Mass</b>	Charlie McLaughlin RIP (M & S McLaughlin)

***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.***

<p><b>PARISH PRIEST</b>  Father Paul Fox  50 London Hill, Rayleigh  Essex SS6 7HP  <b>01268 382 499</b>  <b>www.olorchurch.org</b>  email: <a href="mailto:rayleigh@dioceseofbrentwood.org">rayleigh@dioceseofbrentwood.org</a></p>	<p><b><u>Public Mass times:</u></b>  <b>Saturdays 5.30pm</b>  <b>Sundays 8am &amp; 9.30am</b>  <b>Wednesdays 10.00am</b>  <b>Fridays 10.00am</b>  <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**

## EXTRA MASS DURING LENT – Monday Evenings at 7.15pm

During Lent there will be a Monday evening Mass at 7.15pm – starting on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> March - if this proves popular then we will make it a more permanent fixture.



### 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. The next preparation course for Confirmation will start on Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> March at 7pm in the Bethany Room. Thank you.

### 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 wish 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 25<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:rayleigh@dioceseofbretnwood.org))

### † † PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS...

**Mick O'Malley**, whose Funeral will be celebrated on Thursday March 3<sup>rd</sup> at 11.15am here at Our Lady's. Please keep Ian, Louise and all the family in your prayers.

May he rest in peace. † †

### MASS AND SYMPATHY CARDS...

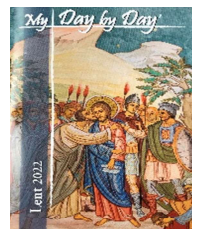
can be obtained at the repository shop and the presbytery.

Please contact Fr. Paul to arrange a convenient time to come, choose, collect and pay for the cards if the shop is closed.

### MY DAY BY DAY - LENT 2022

**Available now.**

**£1 each.**



### PLEASE PRAY

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

### † ANNIVERSARIES †

Kindly pray for Mrs Lily Worley, Catherine Butcher and Patricia Rita Sewell whose anniversaries occur about this time. May they rest in peace.

**EXAM INVIGILATORS** required at St Bernard's High School for this year's exam season.

£9.50 per hour. **Deadline for applications: Monday 21 February 2022**

Application Form on our website: [www.stbernardswestcliff.org.uk](http://www.stbernardswestcliff.org.uk) under shared information/vacancies

## BCYS EVENTS

BCYS Youth Mass, - Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> March, Brentwood cathedral

Come along from 6pm for pizza, followed by Sophie from the Walsingham House team and CAFOD, who will talk about her experiences, inspiring us to get involved and how we can take action!

Mass will begin in the cathedral from 7:30pm, joined by Fr Gary Dench who will preach the Gospel.

Open to all those in years 9 and above, no booking necessary.



*(YOUTH MASS takes place on the **First Thursday** of **EVERY MONTH** and groups are always welcome! Please let us know in advance if you wish to bring a group, if you are able, so that we can have an idea how much pizza to order! Any groups are always welcome!)*

### **BCYS Lenten Revision Retreat, 2nd - 3rd April, Walsingham House**

In years 11 -13 and preparing for exams this year? Get a change of scenery and a fresh perspective at Walsingham House at Abbotswick this lent for times of prayer, socialising and activities, but mostly to revise, alongside friends and the Walsingham House team members.

As always the chapel is here for times of quiet reflection throughout the day. Book online NOW at [www.bcys.net/events](http://www.bcys.net/events).

### **Sponsored Sleepout - 8th - 9th April, 8pm - 8am**

Wherever you are in the Diocese, take part in your gardens, schools or parishes, on your own or as part of a group and spend 12 hours sleeping rough outdoors to raise money for a local charity supporting the homeless.

Email [sleepout@dioceseofbrentwood.org](mailto:sleepout@dioceseofbrentwood.org) for more information and to take part.

### **BCYS Summer Lourdes Pilgrimage - 23rd - 30th July 2022**

Assist pilgrims going to Masses and services, shops and cafes of the beautiful French town, join in social time together, take part in retreats, reconciliation service, visit the baths, the stunning mountain town of Gavarnie, enjoy social nights, party and experience the amazing Lourdes processions. Open to all those in year 11 and above, for more information and to book you can visit [www.bcys.net/events/sl22](http://www.bcys.net/events/sl22) – **applications close SUNDAY 20<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY.**

### **BCYS Youth Gather - 22nd - 23rd October, Mersea Island**

Stay in cabins and try a brilliant range of outward bound activities from climbing high ropes, archery, zip wires and much more to keep you challenged and entertained, with guest speakers and workshops which will give you fresh insights into yourself, and your faith, by telling their stories. Open to all those in years 9 and above, book NOW at [www.bcys.net/events](http://www.bcys.net/events)

## THRESHOLDS OF HOPE QUESTION:

### What is new about the new evangelisation?

Input will be given by Fr Paschal Uche, assistant priest at

St James the Less, Colchester, today, **Sunday 20th February**, 4 – 5pm via Zoom

To join this Zoom meeting simply forward a contact email to [adultformationvicariate@dioceseofbrentwood.org](mailto:adultformationvicariate@dioceseofbrentwood.org). For more information go to [www.thresholdsofhope.co.uk](http://www.thresholdsofhope.co.uk)



## VOCATIONS

The next "Enquirers' Evening" for those considering or interested in a vocation to the priesthood is on **Tuesday 1 March** at St Edmund of Canterbury Church in Loughton.

The speaker will be Fr Maurice Gordon.

For further information please contact Fr Mark Swires [vocprom@dioceseofbrentwood.org](mailto:vocprom@dioceseofbrentwood.org)

### Is God calling you to be a Priest?

There is a monthly vocations group to help those who would like to find out more about a possible vocation to the priesthood.

There will be a talk, a time of prayer and some food.

The sessions take place at St Edmund of Canterbury Church,  
9 Traps Hill, Loughton IG10 1SZ



Tuesday 1st March

Tuesday 5th April

Tuesday 3rd May

Tuesday 7th June

If you would like to join us or to find out more please get in touch with the  
Vocations Promoter, Fr Mark Swires:  
[vocprom@dioceseofbrentwood.org](mailto:vocprom@dioceseofbrentwood.org)

[www.brentwoodvocations.org](http://www.brentwoodvocations.org)



## 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

## AROUND THE WORLD IN 36 HOURS

You too can be part of this journey. Starting in Samoa, travelling westwards across the Globe, across the Pacific, on through Asia, countries of Africa and the Middle East before reaching the shores of Europe. Then across to the Americas, ending the day as the sun sets over American Samoa. Thousands of people will be taking part in World Day of Prayer.

It all began in the 19th Century, in North America, when Christian women started praying with one another, making a difference to their lives, and the support and help they could give each other. So, we share hopes, fears, joys, sorrows, needs and opportunities of women around the world, praying with them and for them, to turn prayers into positive action. Gradually, over the years this spread over the World, and the decision to use ONE specific day a year was begun. There are now around 120 countries taking part. For several years it was known as Women's World Day of Prayer. But this interdenominational, ecumenical event is for EVERYONE, Men and Women, Youth and school children. So now it is known as WORLD DAY OF PRAYER.

It takes place on the first Friday in March each year. Each country uses the same Order of Service, but in their own language. Every Year the service is written by women of a different country, focusing on their country's social problems, as well as the joy from worshipping together.

It takes time to organise these services, and many years of hard work are involved in putting it together.

***You can be part of this event in RAYLEIGH.***

***Come and join us at RAYLEIGH BAPTIST CHURCH, on FRIDAY 4TH MARCH at 10.30.***

***It is free, and there are light refreshments after the service.***

***You may find a friend there, or you may make a friend there. So don't be shy.***

***Come and see us, and join in this world-wide event.***



**FAITH LIFT DAY at the Sion Community on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> March, Sawyers Hall Lane, Brentwood, CM15 9BX**

The programme begins with Mass at 12 noon, followed by lunch (please bring your own). 2pm praise and worship, 2.45pm Talk followed by Adoration until 4.30pm during which time Confession and prayer ministry will be available. Please feel welcome to join the day at any time, no booking is required. Tea and coffee will be available. Please share with anyone you think may be interested.

**EDEL QUINN PILGRIMAGE TO AYLESFORD, KENT  
SATURDAY 14<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2022.**

All parishioners, their families and friends are invited to join us for our annual pilgrimage to the Shrine in Aylesford.

We are hoping to book a coach but it does depend on how many would come as to whether we can afford it. The cost is usually about £12, maybe less if we have a full coach.

The format is usually as follows: Mass at 12noon, lunch (bring your own picnic, or buy refreshments there) Rosary procession in the afternoon and finishing with Benediction. Confessions available, book shop etc.

This event is organised by the Legion of Mary and is attended by Legionaries across the South East of England. Please let us know as soon as possible if you would come if we have a coach. Isobel Kennedy 01702 230578. Legion of Mary Our Lady of Ransom Rayleigh.



**DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO WALSINGHAM – 28TH MAY 2022:**

Join Bishop Alan and other parishes around the Diocese of Brentwood in Walsingham as we celebrate the Year of the Family 'Hearing and Doing the Word of God'.

We will celebrate Mass at the Basilica before walking the Holy Mile to the grounds of Walsingham Abbey to celebrate Vespers and Benediction on the site of the Holy House.

***If you are interested in going please speak to Fr Paul.***

**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](mailto:cathy@dioceseofbrentwood.org) or 07813 710070.

**CARE FOR THE FAMILY – [cff.org.uk](http://cff.org.uk)**

Care for the Family is a national charity which aims to promote strong family life and to help those who face family difficulties.

They believe that every family should have somewhere to turn to for support in both the good times and when family life is challenging and offer Couple support, Parent support and Bereavement Support.



## LOO NEWS!

A new hand drier has been installed in the outside toilet at the rear of the Church and this toilet is now open for use again – please feel free to make use of it if the Bethany room toilet is occupied!

## 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 covering/mask while moving around the Church. While you are in your place in Church, please feel free to remove your face covering if you so wish.***

## 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

Wash your hands, cover your face, make space.



## 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.

## 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.***

