

OUR LADY OF RANSOM

8th Sunday of the Year - Year C

Psalter Week 4 – 26th /27th February 2022



Tim was a bitter, angry, self-righteous young lad. He came from a difficult family set-up. So maybe no surprise. In Tim's eyes, he was always correct, never admitted his mistakes, (although you felt sure he secretly did know), he wanted to make others look silly, basically everyone else was a fool. He knew it all, always had an answer. Does that maybe sound familiar in someone else we know? Please read on, slowly, carefully and thoughtfully.

Today psychologists and psychiatrists are recovering much of Jesus' teaching with more scientific understandings using words like 'projection', 'scapegoating', 'denial of the shadow'. Tim was clearly all these. Jesus' language talks of splinters and planks in the eye.

'Denial of the shadow' is the dishonesty about our own weaknesses and faults. We're only prepared to show our 'good' side, even if it means lying and deceiving, just like Tim. 'Projection' – having denied my own faults, I project them on to others, then I accuse them, make them suffer, make them pay a price. All because I just cannot admit that these are already my own issues. We see why Jesus says *do not judge*. The reality is that the problem is already living in me, not so much the other person. Now I have 'scapegoated' them. Unconsciously putting my faults on to them so I can ridicule them. All because of the bitterness, anger, self-righteousness that is already malignant in me. Stuff I refuse to deal with. Jesus' splinter and plank brilliantly says it all.

What if Tim were adopted by a lovely family, who really came to healthily love him, and were committed to him? Might he change for the better? Wouldn't such love allow for a greater sense of trust, faith, self-worth and dignity? Now, any self-righteousness, bitterness, and anger would make no more sense? Such ghastly emotions probably disappear before too long.

And so God's love for us allows us to change. With God's love. any criticising of others, and gossip make no sense, as we don't feel so horribly unworthy ourselves; judging others makes no sense as judgement is already a bad judgement on ourselves; negative anger makes no sense as we see it is already an unhealthy self-anger. Denial of the shadow, projection, scapegoating – in other words, planks and splinters, all blocking out the extraordinary love God is pouring in to us.

All this prevents God's love from getting through. So which is it to be? Tim's issues in our lives, (however similar)... or God's love?

God Bless, Fr. Paul



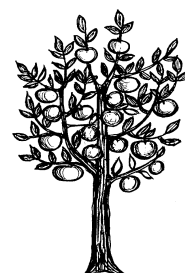
TODAY'S READINGS:

Ecclesiasticus 27: 4-7

Psalms 91

1 Corinthians 15: 45-58

Luke 6: 39-45



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

MASS INTENTIONS	
Saturday 26th Feb.	
5.30pm Mass	Parish Community Ints
Sunday 27th 8th Sunday of the Year	
8am Mass	Mick O'Malley RIP
9.30am Mass	Charlie McLaughlin RIP (M & S McLaughlin)
Monday 28th Feb.	
	Gina O' Herlihy RIP (Mary and Barrie Mason)
Tuesday 1st March St David	
	Charlie McLaughlin RIP (Sadie & Joe Christie)
Wednesday 2nd ASH WEDNESDAY	
7.30am Mass	Parish Community Ints
9.30am Mass	John and Michael Healy RIP (Rae & Mike Healy)
8pm Mass	John Enever RIP (Mary & Barrie Mason)
Thursday 3rd	
11.15am	Requiem Mass - Mick O' Malley RIP
Friday 4th	
10am Mass	Mick O' Malley RIP (Marie and Colin Griffin)
Saturday 5th	
5.30pm Mass	Eric May RIP (Adrian Short)
Sunday 6th March 1st Sunday of Lent	
8am Mass	Mick O' Malley RIP (Eithne Rennie)
9.30am Mass	Parish Community Ints

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>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



EXTRA MASS DURING LENT – Monday Evenings at 7.15pm

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

ASH WEDNESDAY - 2nd MARCH

MASSES

7.30am, 9.30am & 8pm

ASH WEDNESDAY is a day of Fasting & Abstinence



Please note there will be no Coffee Morning after Mass on Ash Wednesday.

LENTEN GIVING CALENDAR

Caritas Diocese of Brentwood are inviting people of all ages to collect items throughout Lent, by following our Lenten Giving Calendar. All the items you collect can be placed into a box or container, topped with an Easter Egg, and then donated to your local foodbank just in time for Easter week.

All information, including the calendar itself, can be found at www.caritasbrentwood.org/lenet or by emailing sianthomas@dioceseofbrentwood.org

Copies of the calendar are also available in the porch.



LENT READINGS: The Scripture readings for Lent are particularly rich and a major source of help in living a good Lent. Fr Adrian Graffy, parish priest, Scripture scholar, and member of the Pontifical Biblical Commission, has prepared commentaries on all the readings in the Liturgy of the Word at Mass throughout Lent, from Ash Wednesday to Good Friday. The full text of the biblical readings and commentary are accessible from the home page of www.whatgoodnews.org

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 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 yourself to the Catholic Faith, you may 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@dioceseofbrentwood.org)



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 29th March at 7pm in the Bethany Room. Thank you.

MASS AND SYMPATHY CARDS...

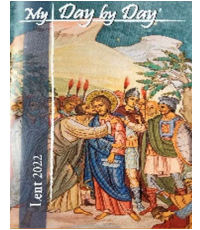
can be obtained at the repository shop and the presbytery.

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 REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS...

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

Also **Jean Flight** from Rosedale Court who died recently.

May they rest in peace. † †



PLEASE PRAY

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

† ANNIVERSARIES †

Kindly pray for Alfred Porwol, Susan Ray, John Smith, Margaret Eberle, Ursula Ferrigno, Brian Denton and Maura Wright whose anniversaries occur about this time. May they rest in peace.

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

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

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 worshiping 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.

BCYS EVENTS

BCYS Youth Mass, - Thursday 3rd 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 EVENTS cont...

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.

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 for more information and to take part.

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

FAITH LIFT DAY at the Sion Community on Saturday 12th 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 14TH 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 or 07813 710070.

Fully escorted PILGRIMAGE TO KNOCK SHRINE, IRELAND, 23rd May 2022.

£699.00 per person sharing. Price includes flight with 10kg hand luggage, all transfers, 4 nights' in Knock House Hotel with full board. All entertainment and excursions included. Lunches on days out. Wheelchair accessible rooms. Single room supplement £100. Contact Patricia on 01268 762 278 or 07740 175557 or email knockpilgrimages@gmail.com. Knock Pilgrimages is a member of the Travel Trust Association and is fully protected by ATOL T7613.

CARE FOR THE FAMILY – 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 continue to save your used stamps and leave them in the container in the Porch.

Ruth Fitzgerald would like to thank everyone who has donated used stamps – these have been passed on to the MS charity.

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.

