

OUR LADY OF RANSOM

1st Sunday of Lent - Year C

Psalter Week 1 – 5th /6th March 2022



You look like an angel, you walk like an angel, you talk like an angel, but I got wise, you're the devil in disguise... Words from the famous Elvis song. Ring true? The best way evil communicates itself is by appearing “good or virtuous”. What we are called to exercise is “discernment and wisdom”. This is apparent goodness, but sometimes really motivated by evil intentions. For example: helping someone (which looks good) but the real motive is to achieve greater self-importance or increased attention to one-self. So the ‘helping’ really has selfish or self-centred motives. What is required is real discernment and this takes effort, it’s never easy.

Discernment is always about subtlety, distinguishing between shades of meaning, seeing the nuances in things, seeing the millions of shades of grey between black and white. This is why people who claim to be black-and-white thinkers are often people of little or no faith. St. Paul uses the term “discernment of spirits”, having the spiritual know-how to tell between true good, and maybe less-obvious evil.

Just as God is subtle, so is evil. Devils in disguise. Without discernment, we all fall into the traps of the world’s evils – the greeds, ruthless ambitions, games of superiority, importance, always climbing the social ladder of success and so on. Is what is going on in the Russian leadership any surprise?

Jesus’ own discernment and wisdom is clear today. He has come as God in the flesh to be totally at one with humanity. Evil wants to tempt him back to his God-head. To split from humanity. Sin is always about separation and splitting, alienating people from people, people from within themselves and people from God. Evil wants Jesus to demonstrate his Godly powers, splitting himself from humanity. He is tempted. But Jesus refuses – He is our God at one with our humanity. True God, true man.

Evil also loves to plant seeds of destructive doubt in us. “If” you are the Son of God “if” – the devil wanting Jesus to doubt his own oneness with God, and oneness with us. Sin happens because we doubt that inherent truth – that we also are inherently sons and daughters of the Lord. Jesus never doubted. Doubting our own oneness with God leaves us isolated, alienated, fending for ourselves, so we play the games mentioned above. We have to - to self-protect, to give ourselves self-importance, manipulate others for our own successes etc. The Russian situation, as well as other wicked regimes across the world, are extreme examples of this. All so destructive. *You look like an angel....but I got wise...* Do we use wisdom and discernment to check out the true good, and those devils in disguise?



TODAY’S READINGS:

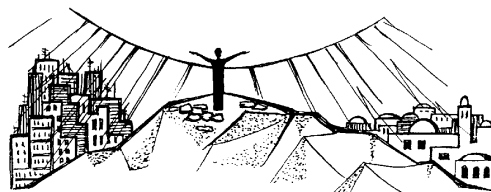
Deuteronomy 26: 4-10

Psalms 90

Romans 10: 8-13

Luke 4: 1-13

God Bless, Fr. Paul



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

MASS INTENTIONS	
Saturday 5th March	
5.30pm Mass	Eric May RIP (Adrian Short)
Sunday 6th	1st Sunday of Lent
8am Mass	Mick O' Malley RIP (Eithne Rennie)
9.30am Mass	Parish Community Ints
Monday 7th	
7.15pm Mass	Mick O'Malley RIP (Barrie & Mary Mason)
Tuesday 8th	
	Alice Allso RIP
Wednesday 9th	
10am Mass	Dec'd parents & relatives of Doreen Derrick RIP
Thursday 10th	
	John Enever RIP (Rita Gurney)
Friday 11th	
10am Mass	Charlie McLaughlin RIP (Mary & Tom Butterworth)
Saturday 12th	
5.30pm Mass	Parish Community Ints
Sunday 13th March	2nd Sunday of Lent
8am Mass	John McNamara RIP (Sally McNamara)
9.30am Mass	Malvine LiVigni RIP

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

Help the Ukraine.

Our School and Church Community are collecting emergency donations for Ukraine

URGENT DONATIONS:

flashlights - torches

candles

batteries and battery chargers

bandages

dressings/plasters

wound disinfectants

Painkillers and other medications

hygiene items (shower gel/ shampoo/soap/ deodorant)

nappies and sanitary items

sleeping bags

blankets (small and large)

duvets

Please kindly make a note on each parcel detailing what it contains.

Kindly NO CLOTHING/TOYS/SHOES

AND No filled dustbin bags to be left in the Church Porch. Thank you.

The school convent is being used as a collection point and there is a box at the school gate where donations can be left. A box for smaller items will also be left at the back of the church. A team of parents are sorting donated items and anyone wishing to help would be very welcome. We would appreciate any help in transporting items from the church to the school should you see the church donation box filling up! For further information please contact Clare Mason 07757138345. Thank you.



PLEASE PRAY

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

† ANNIVERSARIES †

Kindly pray for Joyce Harforth whose anniversary occurs about this time. May she rest in peace.

Please see notice at the end of the newsletter regarding rogue traders.

THRESHOLDS OF HOPE QUESTION: How has Catholicism enriched culture, music and the arts? Input will be given by Fr David Clemens, parish priest at Our Lady of Compassion, Saffron Walden, today, **Sunday 6th March**, and next Sunday 13th March 4.00 - 5.00 p.m. via Zoom. To join this meeting simply forward a contact email to adultformationvicariate@dioceseofbrentwood.org. For more information go to www.thresholdsofhope.co.uk

there is also a short video www.youtube.com/watch?v=97Q7DNCEXMA Trevor Lopez is currently studying medicine at Imperial College, London. He has also wanted to deepen his understanding of his Catholic Faith and has begun a theology degree at Maryvale. The Vicariate of Adult Formation is following his journey with a view to it inspiring other lay men and women to consider deepening their theological understanding in some fashion. .



EXTRA MASS DURING LENT – Monday Evenings at 7.15pm

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

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/lent or by emailing sianthomas@dioceseofbrentwood.org



Copies of the calendar are also available in the porch.

Rosary for Peace. You are invited to join us in saying the Rosary after the

7.15 pm Monday evening Mass this Lent to pray for peace in these troubled times. Let us all call on Our Lady for peace in Ukraine, in our families, and in our hearts. Any questions, call Katherine on 07906 844284 or Gisele on 07860 816263.

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@dioceseofbretunwood.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.

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.



THE ACIES CEREMONY, the annual consecration of Legionaries to Our Lady, will take place at **3pm on Sunday 20th March at St Helen's Church Westcliff**. Everyone is invited to attend, especially members of the Legion of Mary, active and auxiliary. This is a short ceremony comprising both an individual and a collective consecration. It will be followed by Benediction.

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.



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.***

Beginning Experience Weekend

If you are single again following divorce, separation or the death of your partner, a residential weekend to help you to heal will be held from 8th to 10th April 2022 at the Sion Community, Brentwood, Essex. If you would like more details, please ring Freda 01322-838415 or Maura 07795-498445 or email besouthofengland@gmail.com

UNIVERSE CATHOLIC WEEKLY

The Universe Catholic Weekly is thrilled to announce that we have launched our new online newspaper with the full support of our first subscriber, Cardinal Vincent Nichols.

Order **your Digital** 4 weeks **FREE** trial supply by calling Michelle on 0743 661 7650 or email:

michelle.jones@universecatholicweekly.co.uk

Website: www.universecatholicweekly.co.uk

PUBLIC MASSES

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 Welcomers.

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.



PA/Executive Assistant to the Director of Education

35 Hours a week. 42 weeks a year, which is term time plus 4 weeks

Pay range: £24,785 - £26,148

Brentwood Diocesan Education Service is committed to supporting all Catholic Schools to help their pupils achieve the very best they can in professional, supportive and friendly environments. This post offers the opportunity to contribute to the future success of the Diocesan Education Service in a role that will be very rewarding for the successful candidate. A job description and further details are available on the Diocesan Website or can be requested by calling 01277 265284.

The Diocese of Brentwood is an Equal Opportunities and a Safer Recruitment Employer and we are committed to safeguarding the welfare of all who work for us.

If you are interested in joining our friendly and supportive staff please send a CV and a covering letter, highlighting how your skills and experience match the job description and person specification, to recruitment@dioceseofbrentwood.org **by 1:00pm on Wednesday 16th March 2022, with interviews and tasks to take place on Wednesday 23rd March 2022.**

25th February 2022

Rogue Traders

With the recent named storms (Dudley, Eunice & Franklin) battering Britain during the past fortnight, many of us suffered fallen trees, damage to chimneys, roof tiles, fence panels and sheds, now we need to get the damage fixed and find suitable builders/tradespersons.

Trouble is rogue traders will use occasions like bad storms to prey upon unsuspecting victims. They will often go to an area and look for signs of elderly residents, such as key-safes, door ramps and decor. They will then call on those vulnerable residents and offer to carry out either unnecessary work or heavily overpriced and substandard work.

Often the rogue traders will use aggressive or pressure selling tactics in order to obtain agreement to have work done from their vulnerable customers. So be wary of any tradespersons who cold call and knock at your door, however also be cautious of leaflets put through your letterbox and websites recommending trades people. This is another way some rogue traders may try to reel you in, making misleading or false claims and posting fake references.

How to stay safe from Rogue Traders? Remember to Take Five mins before acting:

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. Get other quotes to compare prices.

PROTECT - Contact your bank immediately if you think you've fallen for a scam and report it to Action Fraud.



TO STOP FRAUD

STOP. CHALLENGE. PROTECT.

If you have any information about possible organised crime, victims of such crime or vulnerable people subject of exploitation, please inform Essex Police or CrimeStoppers on 0800 555111

Keep up to date and
do **even more** Online  essex.police.uk 



Rogue Traders and Burglary Offences

There have been links between some rogue traders and burglary offences being committed a couple of weeks later at the address where they have done work. It is believed they use the time doing the work to establish what valuables the victims have.

So how do I find a trust worthy tradesperson?

You may have friends and families who have used excellent builders and tradespersons before, so the risk of them being a rogue trader is greatly reduced through this recommendations. However if you have no such recommendations, what should you do?

In response to concerns about 'rogue traders' a partnership of Local Authority Trading Standards Services took the ground-breaking step of putting together the **Buy With Confidence Scheme**. The scheme provides consumers with a list of local businesses which have given their commitment to trading fairly. Every business listed has undergone a series of detailed checks before being approved as a member of the scheme.

In order to become a Buy With Confidence member, a business must first apply or be recommended to join the scheme and must then pass a set of tailored background checks. Membership of the scheme is not given lightly – amongst other checks, each applicant will have their complaints history reviewed and will be audited by a Trading Standards qualified person. Good references are required from previous customers and applicants must agree to abide by the scheme's code of conduct, which requires them to follow the letter and spirit of the law. Criminal records basic disclosure may also be required in some circumstances.

Only if all the scheme requirements are met, will a business be granted membership, and their conduct will continue to be monitored thereafter. We cannot promise that Buy With Confidence members' work will be perfect every time, but you can expect any problems to be dealt with fairly by the business, and you can turn to Trading Standards for advice in the event of an unresolved issue.

www.buywithconfidence.gov.uk

How to report possible offences, concerns or to give information?

If you are a victim of, or have any information about any of the above offences, please report this via one of the below methods.

Essex Police via 999 for offences being committed at that time or via 101 or online at www.essex.police.uk

CrimeStoppers in order to give information anonymously — 0800 555 111

Citizens Advice Consumer Helpline on 0808 223 1133



If you have any information about possible organised crime, victims of such crime or vulnerable people subject of exploitation, please inform **Essex Police** or **CrimeStoppers** on 0800 555111

Keep up to date and
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