

# OUR LADY OF RANSOM

2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Lent - Year C

Psalter Week 2 – 12<sup>th</sup> /13<sup>th</sup> March 2022



Young Petra was dying of terminal illness. I gave her the Last Rites. She was so jaundiced. I had known her, her mum and dad over a number of years. Her father had died some years previously. Her mother would keep vigil night and day. She told me that, moments before Petra died, she had said she saw daddy with angels all around him. Petra had Downs Syndrome.

I have never doubted her experiences. Yes, we are well aware of near-death experiences. Bio-chemical, neuro-physiological reactions? Or something transcendent? The veil between this life and the bigger life beyond grows thinner. My repeated experiences of giving people the Last Rites, calling the Holy Spirit upon them in their dying moments. simply reaffirms that something transcendent is happening.

But these transcendent experiences can happen in everyday life. Often in moments when we are tired and the mind is relaxed. Notice the disciples were very tired in today's Gospel. When the mind is relaxed, it is not racing away with all its selfish thoughts and agendas. Now we are open to moments of the life beyond. This is the great work of contemplation, helping us to deliberately relax, stopping the mind racing away, now we are far more open to the transcendent, our Lord communicating.

In the disciples' moment of tiredness, they are given a brief moment of a reality beyond human experience. Transfiguration. Now they are set up for the rest of their ministry. Like them, this is one way we can know an experience is real, not just imaginations running wild. Does it affect our whole being? Does it last? Does such an experience empower us to help others? Very much so with the disciples. And so it can be for us.

Peter wants to preserve the moment, by building three tents. But no. That becomes selfish. Any kind of divine revelation happens in order to strengthen other people, not just some self-satisfaction.

In their dying moments, a glimpse of life beyond can happen, and so, in turn, strengthen others. Why wait until we're dying...? Why not discover it earlier through contemplative silent prayer?

**God Bless, Fr. Paul**

## **TODAY'S READINGS:**

Genesis 15: 5-12,17-18

Psalms 26

Philippians 3: 17-4:1

Gospel: Lk 9:28-36:



MASS INTENTIONS	
<b>Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> March</b>	
<b>5.30pm Mass</b>	Parish Community
<b>Sunday 13<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Lent</b>
<b>8am Mass</b>	John McNamara RIP (Sally McNamara)
<b>9.30am Mass</b>	Malvine LiVigni RIP
<b>Monday 14<sup>th</sup></b>	
<b>7.15pm Mass</b>	Kathleen Garrett RIP (John & Ann Butler)
<b>Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup></b>	
	Doris Warrington RIP
<b>Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup></b>	
<b>10am Mass</b>	John and Michael Healy RIP (Rita Gurney)
<b>Thursday 17<sup>th</sup></b>	
	<b>St. Patrick</b>
<b>10am Mass</b>	Mick O' Malley RIP (The Curnock Family)
<b>Friday 18<sup>th</sup></b>	
<b>10am Mass</b>	Greta Cullinane RIP (Gwyn Derrick)
<b>Saturday 19<sup>th</sup></b>	
	<b>St. Joseph</b>
<b>5.30pm Mass</b>	Jean Flight RIP (Mary Butterworth)
<b>Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> March</b>	
	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Lent</b>
<b>8am Mass</b>	Parish Community
<b>9.30am Mass</b>	Sir David Amess RIP (Jenny and Adrian Short)

***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><a href="http://www.olorchurch.org">www.olorchurch.org</a></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**

## **Ukraine Appeal**

We want to thank you all sincerely for the volunteer support and donations appeal for Ukraine. All the donations that have been collected either at Rayleigh Megacentre, Our Lady of Ransom or Leigh Community Centre will be making their way to Moldova in the safe hands of the charity UK AID <https://www.uk-aid.org/> via Megacentre Rayleigh who forged this link.

At this time we have ceased collecting donations. Thank you ALL. The response from this local area has been staggering.

If anyone would like to know how to offer further practical support, there are many charities who need help. UK AID Is one ( details below) Another is on a personal note . It is aiding my contact in Poland who is looking to equip an immigration centre that will largely be used by women and children fleeing from the Ukraine. Here are the details and thank you if you can help. - Clare Mason and the team.

### **Appeal for an Immigration Centre in Poland ( mainly Ukrainian Women and Children):**

Dominika Marcinkowska, the director of UK Butterflies NGO EUSS Immigration & Mediation Bradford UK, head of EUSS immigration together with Stowarzyszenie Rozwoju Społecznego i Profilaktyki Dialog gm. Lewin Brzeski from Poland are seeking urgent financial donations that will vitally help equip a refugee centre in Lewin Brzeski MDC. This will allow them to create a safe space for Ukrainian refugees, mainly mothers with children.

Your kind donations will pay for the following items:

2x washer-dryer

2x washing machine

2x Fridges

2xMicrowave

5x hair dryer

3x Set of cooking pots

2x TV

2xradio

2xLaptops

4xtoasters,

30x shower slippers

30x bath towels,

30x hand towels

We are working closely with the locals in Lewin Brzeski, Lewin Brzeski Fire Station and Fire Fighters KSRG OSP LEWIN Brzeski Grey Zebra NGO Stowarzyszenie "Szara Zebra" Fundacja Rozwoju Społecznego i Profilaktyki D I A L O G

Our coordinator on the Polish side is Fundacja rozwoju społecznego i profilaktyki Dialog DIALOG CHARITY. Thank you. Dziękuję.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me on [EUSS@ukb-oisc.com](mailto:EUSS@ukb-oisc.com)

Link to donate:

[https://www.gofundme.com/f/friends-for-ukraine?utm\\_campaign=p\\_lico+share-sheet&utm\\_medium=copy\\_link&utm\\_source=customer&fbclid=IwAR1dX-JG0tth1nLLcOr4g3UQxfktXrRX-N3oM4LsZzml701HXD-LvSVNxDM](https://www.gofundme.com/f/friends-for-ukraine?utm_campaign=p_lico+share-sheet&utm_medium=copy_link&utm_source=customer&fbclid=IwAR1dX-JG0tth1nLLcOr4g3UQxfktXrRX-N3oM4LsZzml701HXD-LvSVNxDM)

## **URGENT APPEAL – UKRAINE CRISIS – THIS WEEKEND ONLY**

This is an urgent appeal from Poland for new underwear (or used, very good condition bras) for the Ukrainian woman, teenagers and children refugees. A lovely volunteer is willing to drive his van over to Poland next week to deliver these items. Items can be left at the back of the church this weekend, or dropped off to the convent at Our Lady of Ransom School on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> March –morning only. Thank you for your generosity.

## **Camino de Santiago fundraising**

“The week before Holy Week, Freya, a teacher from OLOR school and her father are planning to walk over 100km over 5 days, on the famous Camino de Santiago pilgrimage, starting from Ferrol in northern Spain.

She is using the pilgrimage as an opportunity to raise money for CAFOD’s Ukrainian Appeal. This is in order to set up shelters in Ukraine that provide beds, food, washing facilities, transport, psychosocial support and safe spaces for children to play.

A target of £500 has been set. Undoubtedly, a cause close to many hearts. .Can you donate, however small or big? If so, please consider donating here on Freya’s justgiving page below Thank you,

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/our-lady-of-ransom-catholic-primary-school>



## **PLEASE PRAY**

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

## **† ANNIVERSARIES †**

Kindly pray for Michael Merrick, John McNamara, Theresa Bird, Malvine LiVigni , Sheila Burton , Maureen McArthur, Edith Joan Grant, and Josephine (Jo) Nix whose anniversary occurs about this time. May they rest in peace.



**SVP**

SVP Rayleigh Conference would like to offer grateful thanks to Ian, Louise, their families and friends for the generous donations collected in memory of their father, Mick.

Mick O' Malley - may he rest in peace - was a staunch supporter of our work in Rayleigh. The donations will be used to provide support for local families in need and aid to Ukrainian refugees at this distressing time.

### **Children's Liturgy team-**

We are currently working behind the scenes to organise and update DBS paperwork so that we will soon be able to offer some children's liturgy sessions at Sunday mass. We are so looking forward to sharing sessions with our parish children again as soon as we can and will update you shortly.

**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, this Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> March 4.00 - 5.00 p.m. via Zoom. To join this 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)

there is also a short

video [www.youtube.com/watch?v=97Q7DNCEXMA](https://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- if this proves popular then we can make it a more permanent fixture. This is immediately followed by -

**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.

## 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](http://www.caritasbrentwood.org/lent) or by emailing [sianthomas@dioceseofbrentwood.org](mailto:sianthomas@dioceseofbrentwood.org)



*Copies of the calendar are also available in the porch.*

## 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 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](mailto: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 29<sup>th</sup> 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.

**Extra Mass on Thursday March 17<sup>th</sup> at 10am in honour of St. Patrick.**

## BCYS EVENTS

*(YOUTH MASSES take 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 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)

## **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.



## **VACANCY – ST THOMAS MORE**

St Thomas More High school are looking to recruit a part time receptionist, Wednesday – Friday, 8am – 4pm. If this is of interest, please contact [recruitment@st-thomasnore.southend.sch.uk](mailto:recruitment@st-thomasnore.southend.sch.uk) or telephone the school on 01702 344933'



## **KNIGHTS EASTER RAFFLE**

Tickets for this year's Easter Raffle will be available for collection as you leave the Church after weekend Masses. Please take the envelope containing the tickets and return those sold, along with the money, to the Presbytery by Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> April (Palm Sunday). The draw will take place after the 9.30 Mass on Easter Sunday.

## **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.

## **Fully escorted PILGRIMAGE TO KNOCK SHRINE, IRELAND, 23<sup>rd</sup> 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](mailto: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](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.



## **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](mailto:besouthofengland@gmail.com)

## **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.



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](https://essex.police.uk) 

CALL  
ESSEX  
POLICE **101**IN AN EMERGENCY  
ALWAYS CALL 999



## 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](http://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](http://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  
do **even more** Online at [essex.police.uk](http://essex.police.uk)

