

# OUR LADY OF RANSOM

Easter 2C- 24<sup>th</sup> April 2022 Divine Mercy Sunday



## Psalter Week 2

Pregnant. The mother's womb. In her tiny world, the baby girl is content. The baby cannot see her mother, neither can she imagine her mother's existence. But she is content. Content with the tininess of her little life. But...What if this baby could speak? And had some self-awareness? Might she be sceptical of life beyond the womb? Might it be difficult to convince her she will be born in to an immense and very different world and existence? Would she lack the tools to imagine a world beyond the womb? Would the baby struggle with all this? Would the baby have doubts?

Might this be part of our own struggles to let go of the umbilical cords of security, routine, and the familiar? Our own tiny contentedness. Faith here comes into its own. The baby would need faith to believe in life after birth, we also need faith to believe in the immense and different world of a life beyond final death.

Maybe our world is a womb, small and constricting in terms of potential, yet pushing us to eternal life. There is something bigger than our tiny selves. Like the baby, we find it difficult to imagine life beyond our own experiences. Similar to St. Thomas, we doubt. Doubts that can drive us crazy. Poor 'doubting' Thomas, gets saddled with doubts we all struggle with. Again, like Thomas, we clutch to what we know, to our umbilical cords of predictability and security. We doubt anything that urges us to lose grip, to let go.

We gestate in this great womb until we are elderly, or sadly for some, not so elderly. However long we gestate, one day, a 'new thrust' occurs, a second birth, we are pushed into a beauty, a magnitude, a love beyond all imaginings. It leaves us awestruck and open-mouthed. The agonies a mother can go through when giving birth may parallel any agonies gone through as we are re-born into this new existence. Birth and death both need acts of faith, a letting-go. Faith.

Resurrection is telling us there is a fuller life for us beyond this womb. Jesus goes there, yet returns to this womb (this existence) to tell us it's OK, it's real, He gives us the tools, ie. faith, life, love, forgiveness and compassion, and so urges us not to be afraid. But are we afraid?

We all identify with Thomas and his doubts. His doubts, like our own, can paralyse us. Faith and love drive doubts out. So we must hold on. Through eventual faith, Thomas lets go, but 2000 years on, can we?

**God Bless, Fr. Paul**



## Today's Readings

First Reading: Acts 5:12-16

Psalms : 117 (118):2-4, 22-27

Second Reading: Apocalypse 1:9-13, 17-19

Gospel: John 20:19-31

MASS INTENTIONS	
<b>Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> April</b>	<b>Saturday Within The Octave of Easter</b>
<b>5.30pm Mass</b>	Michael Gumley RIP (Gumley & Smith Families)
<b>Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> April</b>	<b>Second Sunday of Easter (Divine Mercy Sunday)</b>
<b>8am Mass</b>	Noreen O'Farrell RIP (Anniversary) (James O'Farrell)
<b>9.30am Mass</b>	Parish Community
<b>Monday 25<sup>th</sup> April</b>	<b>Feast of Saint Mark</b>
<b>7.15pm Mass</b>	David Samuels RIP (Lorna Warren)
<b>Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> April</b>	<b>St George</b>
	William Packwood RIP (Heather Packwood)
<b>Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> April</b>	
<b>10am Mass</b>	Lucy Moran RIP (James O'Donnell)
<b>Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> April</b>	
	Noreen Sedman RIP (Heather Packwood)
<b>Friday 29<sup>th</sup> April</b>	<b>European Feast of St Catherine of Siena</b>
<b>10am Mass</b>	Anne Reilly RIP – SVP Conference
<b>Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> April</b>	
<b>5.30pm Mass</b>	Frank & Ann O'Farrell RIP (Jim O'Farrell)
<b>Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> May</b>	<b>Third Sunday of Easter (St Joseph the Worker)</b>
<b>8am Mass</b>	Madge Woolnough RIP (Kathy Hoare)
<b>9.30am Mass</b>	Parish Community

***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>Mondays 7.15pm</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**



PLEASE PRAY

† For Mr. Terry Askem who died last weekend. May he rest in peace. † Please also keep Brenda and the family in your prayers.

† The Requiem Mass for Mrs. Elizabeth Fallaize will be on Tuesday May 17<sup>th</sup> at 10.30am.

The Requiem Mass for Mr. Joseph McWilliams will be on Thursday May 5<sup>th</sup> at 12.00 midday.

The funeral for Mrs. Anne Reilly will take place at Southend Crematorium on Tuesday May 3<sup>rd</sup> at 11.40am.

May Anne, Terry, Elizabeth and Joseph all rest in peace. †

**Thank You** – to everyone who contributed in some way to making our Easter Services so beautiful. However small, however large, your contribution is so much appreciated. Thank you.

#### ANNIVERSARIES †

Kindly pray for Kate Clinch, Robert Scott, and Hugh Kirkland whose anniversaries occur about this time. May they rest in peace.

#### Easter Flowers

Donations for flowers at Easter would be most welcome. Envelopes are on the Repository Counter and can be left at the Presbytery or money put in the box on the wall at the back of church. Many thanks from The Flower Team.



**This year's Easter Flowers –  
in memory of Emma Louise Lucibello and Pat and Tom Herlihy. RIP**



#### “Kids” Bulletin

A children's version of the gospel is available weekly. This can be accessed on the following website: [www.thekidsbulletin.com](http://www.thekidsbulletin.com) and is aimed at primary school children. It can be downloaded and printed out.

#### St Thomas More Alumni Annual Dinner - Saturday 30 April

The annual dinner for all past pupils and staff of St Thomas More High school will take place on Saturday 30th April at the school. Full details can be found on the alumni website: [www.stmalumni.co.uk](http://www.stmalumni.co.uk)

#### Visit to Clare Priory

Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> April – Departs from Our Lady of Ransom Church at 8.30am. Hoping to arrive for 10.00am mass. Any problems, please phone Jean on 01268 778986.

## Knight's of St Columba



A huge thank you to the parish for the great support given to our Easter Raffle. The proceeds will be donated to Brentwood Catholic Children's Society, Brentwood Ecclesiastical Education Fund and St. Vincent De Paul Society here in Rayleigh. A list of prize winners is displayed in the Church Porch.

## 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 would like to come please contact the parish office.

## 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 this 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))

**The Brentwood Catholic Children's Society** is inviting parishioners across the Diocese to join in with their now-annual 'Relay 100' community event this May and June. This initiative is an opportunity to remind our community about the work we do, to reach families who may need our support and to raise some funds through sponsored walks, runs or cycles. We are looking for 100 individuals or groups to complete a 'leg' of our relay around the diocese; we have routes of varying distances so there is something to suit all abilities. Can you help us? To find out more, please contact Damian Dillon: [ddillon@bccs.org.uk](mailto:ddillon@bccs.org.uk) / 07912 308000 or visit <https://www.bccs.org.uk/fundraising-and-events/all-events/relay-100> to read more about this event.

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

Important message for those travelling to Aylesford on this pilgrimage:  
**The coach will be picking us up from the bus stop in Eastwood Road Rayleigh (outside M&S) at 9.15am.** Any queries please contact I Kennedy 01702 230578.



## Confirmation

The next confirmation class will be taking place at 19.00 on Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> April at The Presbytery.

## First Holy Communion

A reminder for our current First Holy Communion group – parents first session is Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> April, 5 till 6pm in Our Lady of Ransom Church.

## Coffee Mornings



There will be a coffee morning in the Bethany Room this Sunday after the 9.30am Mass to raise funds for Ukraine. Please join us for drinks and biscuits. There will not be a raffle this weekend.

If you are interested in hosting a Coffee Morning after 9.30am Sunday Masses to raise money for a charity of your choice, please contact the parish office.



## Fundraiser – In memory of Patricia Harris

On Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> June 2022, there is a event to raise money for the Brain Cancer Charity, DKMS in memory of Patricia Harris, a former member of staff at Our Lady of Ransom School. The event will be held at Pontlands Park, Chelmsford, CM2 8HR on Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> June 2022, Tickets cost £60 per person which includes a 3-course-meal. For further details or tickets, please contact Sean Harris on 07545 942785.

## Good Counsel Network – 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Holy Mass in Thanksgiving

Holy Mass in Thanksgiving for 25 Years of the Pro-Life Work of the Good Counsel Network. Main Celebrant Fr Richard Whinder. Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> April at 12.00 (New Rite Mass) St James' Church (Spanish Place), 22 George St, London W1U 3QY. Followed by Refreshments in the Hall. All Welcome. [www.GoodCounselNetwork.com](http://www.GoodCounselNetwork.com)

## THE ACTS OF THE APOSTLES:

Throughout the fifty days of Easter we read from the Acts of the Apostles, the New Testament book which narrates the early years of the Church. Fr Adrian Graffy, parish priest of Gidea Park and member of the Pontifical Biblical Commission, has prepared faith talks on '[The Acts of the Apostles](#)' and '[Paul in Acts](#)', for your use through the Easter season. To access these free audio recordings please go to the home page of [www.whatgoodnews.org](http://www.whatgoodnews.org) and scroll down to 'Acts in Easter'. Thank you.

## Online Auction for Afghan Refugees

Caritas Diocese of Brentwood are inviting people from April 22<sup>nd</sup> to May 2<sup>nd</sup>, to take part in an online auction organised by The Kelvedon Parish of St Mary Immaculate and the Holy Archangels. This is to raise awareness and money to help to settle an Afghan refugee family. If you would be interested in considering such a project, then please contact [caritas@dioceseofbrentwood.org](mailto:caritas@dioceseofbrentwood.org).

To access the online auction, go to: <https://auction.kelvedoncatholicparish.org.uk/>

## 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.

## **Poverty Challenge**

Following the pandemic, many households now also face new hardships as prices rise. Caritas Social Action Network (CSAN), the Catholic agency addressing poverty and injustice in England and Wales, has released a free new booklet to increase awareness of Catholic Social Teaching on poverty, and to inform local responses. Please take a moment to read and encourage groups and individuals to engage with it. Download from [www.csan.org.uk](http://www.csan.org.uk)

## **Red Box Contributions 2021: Thank You!**

**Our Lady of Ransom RC Church, Rayleigh** raised **£2,670.17** in 2021 through our Red Boxes, both donations in the boxes and by parishioners giving by direct debits, cheques and online to Missio and the Mill Hill Missionaries. On behalf of Fr Anthony Chantry, Missio National Director, **thank you to all our Parishioners and Promoters.**

Our missionary community here at Our Lady of Ransom is part of a worldwide network of people supporting missionaries through prayer and financial assistance.

The founder of this network (APF/Missio), Pauline Jaricot, will be beatified on 22 May this year. This remarkable lay woman's life was marked by intense suffering and great trust in God. Pauline's life helps us to see how every prayer, however short, and every contribution, however small, is valued by God and can transform the world for the better. Thank you for being a part of Pauline's legacy. Visit [missio.org.uk](http://missio.org.uk) to find out more about Pauline, and how your support of Missio changes lives for the better.

## **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.***

## **NEWSLETTER ITEMS:**

Please ensure all items for the parish newsletter are submitted to the office by 11am on Thursdays at the latest.

## **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.



## GIFT AID ENVELOPES FOR NEW TAX YEAR

We want to encourage everyone to pay online, so envelopes will need to be requested. There will be no Special Collection envelopes for those paying by Standing Order. Please use either the charity's own Special Collection envelope, or pay online using your Surname, Gift Aid No. and Charity Name or use a blank/yellow envelope with your details printed on the front.

## MASS AND SYMPATHY CARDS...

These 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.

## REFUGEE COMMUNITY SUPPORT GROUP

A volunteer group is being set up at St John Payne, in conjunction with the Diocese of Brentwood and Caritas Brentwood, to raise funds and provide practical support for a refugee family, to be housed in Colchester. Anyone interested in becoming involved or finding out more is warmly invited to attend a meeting on Saturday 7th May 2022 at 1.30pm, at St John Payne Catholic Church Hall, Blackthorn Avenue, Colchester CO4 3QD. Please email [SJPRefugeeProject@gmail.com](mailto:SJPRefugeeProject@gmail.com) for more information.

## Open Day for Ukraine Visitors and Hosts:

The Megacentre are having an open day for Ukraine visitors and their hosts - the date proposed is Friday 13<sup>th</sup> May to be held at The Megacentre and The Hub partners will host three sessions on this day – to allow for more people to attend in case they cannot make the morning. The timings will be - 10am – 11.30am. 1pm – 2.30pm. 6pm – 7.30pm

This is a wonderful opportunity for them to meet other hosts, meet other families, find out information and together we can provide support for all. All updates and information can be found on the following link: <https://www.facebook.com/TheHub-at-TheMegacentre>

## **Vacancies...**

### **Headteacher - St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Upminster**

Required from 1st September 2022. Group 3: L18-24a (Outer London). NOR: 420 (2 form entry).

The governors of St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Upminster, are seeking to appoint an inspirational and dedicated Head Teacher due to the retirement of the current Head Teacher. St Joseph's is a nurturing and welcoming community with Christ at the centre. Our new Head Teacher will work with supportive governors to shape the strategic direction of the school, and will be responsible for the day-to-day leadership and management of St Joseph's.

Deadline for applications: 5:00 pm on Friday 29<sup>th</sup> April 2022. We warmly welcome and encourage applicants to visit our school. Please contact the school office on [office@st-josephs.havering.sch.uk](mailto:office@st-josephs.havering.sch.uk) to arrange. Further information and an application pack are available from the school website: [www.st-josephs-upminster.net](http://www.st-josephs-upminster.net)

### **St Benedict's Catholic College - Lay Chaplain**

The pay band for the role is Scale 7 (scp 19 to 24), which is £24,927 to £29,174.15 hours per week, Monday to Friday

Applications will only be accepted on the college application form (which can be downloaded from our Website) and should be emailed to Mrs Angela Jones HR Administrator at [a.jones@stbenedicts.essex.sch.uk](mailto:a.jones@stbenedicts.essex.sch.uk). CVs will not be accepted.

For further details about the role, please contact Mrs Jo Santinelli, Principal on 01206 549222 and for further details about the college, please go to our website [www.stbenedicts.essex.sch.uk](http://www.stbenedicts.essex.sch.uk).

The closing date for applications is midday on Friday 29<sup>th</sup> April and interviews will be held w/b 16<sup>th</sup> May 2022.



### **St Benedict's Catholic College - Chaplaincy Apprentice/"Gap Year" Lay Chaplain Fixed term for 2 years (linked to duration of study)**

37 hours per week, Monday to Friday and this will be required term time, plus five staff training days, plus 37 hours to be used flexibly during the year to support extra-curricular events and other key duties. The pay band for the role is Scale 3 (scp 4 to 5),

The actual salary for the role is £16,847.69 to £17,185.27 (under 5 years' service) or £17,069.37 to £17,411.39 (over 5 years' service).

Applications will only be accepted on the college application form (which can be downloaded from our Website) and should be emailed to Mrs Angela Jones HR Administrator at [a.jones@stbenedicts.essex.sch.uk](mailto:a.jones@stbenedicts.essex.sch.uk). CVs will not be accepted.

For further details about the role, please contact Mrs Jo Santinelli, Principal on 01206 549222 and for further details about the college, please go to our website

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