

OUR LADY OF RANSOM

Easter- The Resurrection of Our Lord. 17th April 2022



Psalter Week 1

Defiance. Resurrection is defiance. A defiant answer from God that says violence will not win, peace will. Hatred will not win, love will. Lies will not win, truth will. Death will not win, life will. Love will conquer death. Can we accept this? But these transformations need to be patiently waited for, needed, desired – we need to create a space within for them to happen. Or it is cheap and shallow nonsense.

The whole of Christianity pivots on Resurrection. Easter. Jesus, blazes a trail, consciously walks through the mystery of hatred, violence, lies and death and asks us to follow. He does it first. He transforms it all. Tomorrow *will* be different to today. It really will. Jesus asks us to *follow*, not just worship. That way, we too are transformed, renewed. We have to have walked through this Mystery ourselves – at least in some form – or else it remains simply “pretty rituals, pious pathetic platitudes and rarefied beliefs” – nothing to do with the nitty-gritty of living real life – walking the walk.

Death and Resurrection. It is the pattern of the universe. Jesus personifies this pattern in himself as a Human. Everything dies, everything is renewed, transformed. Christianity calls it the “Paschal Mystery”, (St. Augustine). We only know this truth for ourselves as a lived experience. We have to walk it ourselves. Not just a thought - about agreement. This what it means to *follow the Lord*.

When we walk it for ourselves, following Jesus, not simply agreeing with it, or just believing it, or only talking the talk, our lives make sense, our futures are filled with hope, and we go forward with heads held high. It must be worth it.

Wishing you all every blessing for a joyful and peaceful Easter. Please have a lovely break, and return safe and refreshed. Stay well and safe.

Fr. Paul

God Bless, Fr. Paul

Today's Readings

First Reading: Acts 10:34,37-43

Psalms : 117(118):1-2,16-17,22-23

Second Reading: Colossians 3:1-4

Gospel: John 20:1-9



MASS INTENTIONS	
Saturday 16th April	Holy Saturday
<u>8pm Mass</u>	Parish Community
Sunday 17th April	The Resurrection of The Lord
8am Mass	Jean Flight RIP (Sally McNamara)
9.30am Mass	Emma-Louise Lucibello RIP (Susan & Damien Lucibello)
Monday 18th April	Monday Within The Octave of Easter
7.15pm Mass	Peoples of Ukraine and Afghanistan
Tuesday 19th April	Tuesday Within The Octave of Easter
	Eileen Rochford RIP (Geraldine Paul)
Wednesday 20th April	Wednesday Within The Octave of Easter
10am Mass	Bill Williams RIP (Jean Williams)
Thursday 21st April	Thursday Within The Octave of Easter
	All Victims of Trafficking
Friday 22nd April	Friday Within The Octave of Easter
10am Mass	Kate Clinch RIP (Anniversary) (Jean & Peter Wood)
Saturday 23rd April	Saturday Within The Octave of Easter
5.30pm Mass	Michael Gumley RIP (Gumley & Smith Families)
Sunday 24th April	Second Sunday of Easter (Divine Mercy Sunday)
8am Mass	Noreen O'Farrell RIP (Anniversary) (James O'Farrell)
9.30am Mass	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>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 Mondays 7.15pm 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

Update: Helping those in the Ukraine, and Ukrainian Refugees.

Please see the end of this week's newsletter for updated guidance and information regarding hosting refugees.

Camino de Santiago fundraising

Freya, a teacher from OLOR School, and her father, have now completed the amazing pilgrimage to Santiago de Compostela – an epic walk of almost 122km! The pilgrimage was 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.

Undoubtedly, a cause close to many hearts. The Just Giving page is still available, you are able to, and would like to donate, however small or big. 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 Gumley, Denis Holland, Gabrielle Wisken, Valerie Quill, Anna Mazen, Norman Hamilton, Kate Clinch and Robert Scott, 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



Easter Sunday

Children aged 3-8 are invited to children's liturgy at 9.30 mass today.



"Kids" Bulletin

A children's version of the gospel is available weekly. This can be accessed on the following website: 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

Visit to Clare Priory

Tuesday 26th 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.

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.

THE THRESHOLDS OF HOPE EASTER VIDEOS

Please have a look at the new videos reflecting on Holy Thursday, Good Friday and the Easter Vigil at www.thresholdsofhope.co.uk

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank those priests who provided input during the online series of *Thresholds of Hope Questions*. Thank you also to those of you who publicised these Zoom talks. A gentleman who attended these meetings, wrote from Romania:

"...please would you pass on my thanks to the priests who presented and willingly entered into dialogue. It was good to have newer priests willing to take a leading role as well as longer serving. The challenges ahead will place greater demands on the Diocese's priests and it is vital they know how valued and appreciated they are."

I learnt a huge amount from these Sunday afternoon meetings but for me the real value of this "experiment" was to see the wealth of talent and spiritual insight that there is in the presbyterate of our diocese and the desire of adult lay Catholics to deepen their understanding of their Faith and to witness to it.

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 NEXT 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)

Homelessness. The Passage, is a Catholic charity working with homeless people is raising funds through the Big Give a matched giving scheme. Every £1 donated online by 12.00 noon on Tuesday 19 April makes £2 and £2.25 if you are a taxpayer through Gift Aid. Please visit: <https://bit.ly/BigGiveMarch22> to support the campaign. The campaign 'It takes more than a house to make a home' focuses on the services we provide to people who have been homeless in their journey to being happily settled in a new home. The Passage would be very grateful for your support. For questions about the campaign or assistance making a donation please ring 020 7592 1856.

Votes in Parliament: Health and Care Bill: Government Amendment (a) in lieu of Lords Amendment 92 Another dark day in this nation's democracy, after today's vote. Apart from the souls of the babies lives killed; the unregulated trauma the unfortunate woman and girls, go through, with the over the phone consultation, DIY Abortion Pills. Below is the link to the voting record of all our MPs.

<https://votes.parliament.uk/Votes/Commons/Division/1273?byMember=False#ayes>

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 / 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 14TH MAY 2022.**

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

A coach has been booked as we have enough people wishing to come. The cost (payable on the coach) will be around £15, not £12 as previously thought. After picking up from Westcliff and Eastwood, the coach will stop at the bus stop in Eastwood Road Rayleigh (outside M&S) then after picking up in Laindon it will take us on to the shrine in Aylesford.

As previously stated, the format is usually as follows (but to be confirmed): Mass at 12 noon, 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 contact Isobel Kennedy to reserve a place on the coach. 01702 230578.



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.

PRAYING THE HOURS

Three short videos are now available on www.whatgoodnews.org introducing The Liturgy of the Hours or Divine Office. Fr Adrian Graffy is in conversation with Sr Anne Spilberg and Fr Gerard Bradley. The different hours are explored and at the end of part 3 links are provided for text and livestream of the Office in various languages. Simply go to the website, scroll down on the home page and click on 'Praying the Hours'.

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

Housekeeper – Our Lady & All Saints, Basildon

A vacancy has arisen for a part time Housekeeper in Holy Trinity Presbytery and Hall, St Therese Hall and occasionally in St Basils Presbytery in Basildon Parish.

The post will be part-time (approximately 15 hours per week – Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday).

Application forms can be obtained by contacting Father Sabu via the Parish email address: basildon@dioceseofbrentwood.org

Closing Date for Applications: 22nd April 2022.

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 midday on Thursdays.

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.

EASTER OFFERTORY

Please remember that the Easter offertory collection is a personal gift to our parish priest.

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, chaired by Fr Dominic Howarth, 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 for more information.

Update: Hosting a Refugee

Safeguarding: It is the expectation of the Diocese that any adult parishioner welcoming a child or vulnerable adult into their home, as part of a family or otherwise, must complete a DBS check. We hope that this will also be the expectation of the Government. A DBS check can be completed via your parish Safeguarding representative. If you have any questions about this please email the Diocesan Safeguarding Office, simon@dioceseofbrentwood.org

Liaise with the diocesan safeguarding office about any safeguarding implications, particularly if housing children or any refugees in properties which will also be occupied by others. We

would always recommend participating in a recognised scheme such as the Government's Homes for Ukraine scheme (<https://homesforukraine.campaign.gov.uk/>).

Secondly a few people have been in touch about **hosting refugees on Diocesan Property** – in presbyteries, or other property owned by the Diocese. We have received an extremely helpful note from the Diocesan Insurers (CIS), which makes it clear that this falls within existing property cover.

The CIS (Catholic Insurance Service) note is below. Please read it carefully, as there is a lot of good information contained within it. Please be mindful that it is a minimum six month commitment, and could be for up to three years; you would especially need to consider the position at times when you are away from the presbytery, and also the implications for staff if you have a parish office within the presbytery. **Please note the additional guidance in relation to Safeguarding and Health and Safety** which CIS also provide. If you have any questions about this please do not hesitate to get in touch; if it is a general question, that may be of help to others, please contact one of us. If it is a specific question about your property please contact Amanda Balicki in the Diocesan Property Office. *If you do host a family or individuals within your presbytery, or other Diocesan property, please do let us know.*

(<https://www.caritasbrentwood.org/ukraine/>) and they have very wisely invited all parishioners – those hosting, and those with skills that they could offer – to attend the meeting together. This is part of forming a network of support for refugees and for host families, that will be absolutely invaluable for everyone involved. **Please do look at the website guidance and consider arranging a similar meeting in your parish.**

Please do also let the parish know if you are hosting refugees; so good practice can be shared, and helping people avoid pitfalls.

Insurance. Homes for Ukraine

www.catholicinsuranceservice.co.uk

We can confirm that there is no insurance reason why you should not offer accommodation to refugees, either in properties where others are already living, for example, a presbytery with a resident priest, or in unoccupied properties. Should there be a need for temporary emergency accommodation for Ukrainian refugees upon arrival in the UK, for example, in parish halls, we can confirm that this is also acceptable to insurers. Insurers do not need to be notified if you are housing refugees in any of these ways, but we are always happy to discuss specific situations with you if it would assist. We are also aware that some of you may be looking to help refugees secure accommodation which you do not own, (e.g. helping parishioners with spare rooms and refugees needing accommodation to find each other), insurers have confirmed you will also be covered for this.

Property insurance • Where the property being used is already insured under the CIS insurance scheme, that cover will remain in place. • Remember to notify insurers if the property is currently unoccupied and will now become occupied by refugees. • You may choose to house refugees directly or to lease your unoccupied properties to charities who will use them to house refugees. Where leasing the property, it is important to undertake all your usual due diligence on the tenant charity. • Personal possessions cover will also remain in place for existing residents of the property who are eligible for cover. We anticipate that refugees will have been able to bring few belongings with them, but insurers have offered limited cover in respect of cash or valuables belonging to refugees resident in parish premises which are kept securely in the parish's safe. A policy limit of £2,000 per refugee aged 18 years or over including a cash limit of £500 will apply. Please count any cash and ask for an approximate value for other items so that you ensure the total contents of the safe remain within the policy limit for safe contents of £5,000. If the limit will be exceeded, please contact us or insurers directly to arrange additional cover. We are all shocked and appalled by the events in Ukraine and are seeking to assist the Ukrainian people how best we can. We have started to receive enquiries

regarding the insurance implications of housing Ukrainian refugees and of receiving and transporting items which have been donated for refugees.

Liability insurance If you are a member of the CIS insurance scheme, we can confirm that housing Ukrainian refugees will not affect your Liability insurance cover. All insurance policies do require due diligence, so accommodation (including temporary emergency accommodation) should not be offered before it has been adequately assessed to ensure it is habitable and suitable for the number and type of refugees whom you wish to house (e.g. adults, family groups). Appropriate risk assessments should be undertaken including consideration of the risks to the refugees and any other residents of the property. Although not exhaustive, you should give consideration to: Health & Safety

- Is the property habitable and safe?
- How many people can the property accommodate and are there any limitations (e.g. is it accessible to the elderly, disabled or mothers with small children)?

If the property has been unoccupied for a period of time, you will need to inspect, air and clean it.

- Prepare and record an up-to-date risk assessment.
- Ensure the gas and electrical installations and equipment have been inspected and are functioning properly.
- We recommend that a Fire Risk Assessment is undertaken for all premises housing refugees. If a Fire Risk Assessment is already in place for the premises, it should be reviewed and updated (e.g. the FRA for a hall you are planning to use for temporary accommodation may not have considered the specific risk of alerting sleeping people to a fire and evacuating them safely).

Ukrainian refugees will require more than just accommodation and will certainly benefit from the support of the wider parish community, but there are also charities which specialise in this field, who will be able to provide advice about such things as access to benefits, registering with a GP and school placements. Your Local Authority should also be able to assist. www.catholicinsuranceservice.co.uk Catholic Insurance Service Ltd. is registered as a company in England (no. 04493403) and is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority (no. 771050) Donations for Ukraine If you are collecting items which have been donated for Ukrainian refugees, insurers have confirmed that they will provide cover for all new items donated under the existing sums insured of the property where they are stored. It is therefore important to keep inventories of such items which can be produced for insurers in the event of a loss. There is no cover for used or second-hand items. If you are storing donations in previously unoccupied properties, please notify insurers, otherwise there is no need to notify us or insurers if you are involved in the collection of donations and are satisfied with the cover being provided.

Once again, we recommend you undertake or update your risk assessments if you are not used to receiving high volumes of donated items. In particular, volunteers should be adequately trained, e.g. to tip items out of bags rather than reaching into them and/or in manual handling; appropriate PPE should be provided (e.g. gloves for sorting through donations); and traffic routes should be regularly inspected and kept clear from obstructions. We anticipate most of you will partner with charities who are experienced in responding to disasters and who will arrange to collect these items from you and transport them to where they are needed (e.g. Poland). If you wish to transport these items yourselves, as this is not something insurers would reasonably expect you to do, we must notify them of any planned trips. Please therefore contact us as early as possible if you are considering transporting items internationally using your own clergy, staff, or volunteers. The situation is rapidly evolving. We will issue further guidance as necessary but should you have any further queries, please contact us and we will be happy to assist.

Beyond Ukraine

While Garnett's family is in the process of arranging to host a Ukrainian mother and child, she makes the point that there are many refugees here from other countries who still need a home, even if they're not new arrivals. It's not simply that hosting is a kind thing to do, she

adds: "It's interesting and broadens your horizons. We like having people in our house — it makes us all behave better."

Links:

https://cuk.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJluc-CtqzoiGNygZpMb_LytJZk3nYA3MGfe?link_id=0&can_id=216314e46591144378a3f50cdbb09403&source=email-welcoming-ukrainians-join-our-webinar-on-monday&email_referrer=email_1477979&email_subject=welcoming-ukrainians-join-our-webinar-on-monday

<https://www.caritasbrentwood.org/ukraine/>

[Homes for Ukraine – a British welcome for refugees from Ukraine](#)

<https://www.thetablet.co.uk/blogs/1/2024/homes-for-ukraine-a-british-welcome-for-refugees-from-ukraine>