

OUR LADY OF RANSOM

Palm Sunday of Our Lord's Passion - Year C

Psalter Week 2 – 9th /10th April 2022



“Religion causes violence and wars”, many say. Really? Much history of violence is “sacred violence”. This is violence legitimised for “holy and noble” causes – violence for Jesus, violence for religion, for truth, morality and/or country. Violence so often with little or no guilt feelings. It can even make people feel moral. But this legitimised violence can be a great disguise for evil, or as St. Paul says, “Satan disguising himself as an angel of light”. The Nazi holocaust happened in a culture that thought itself Christian for centuries. Why? Sacred violence – and it goes on. Does it need any further proof today?

As I mentioned last week, this is the stuff of “scapegoating”, accusing, criticising and gossiping about others, it helps avoid the pain and sin within ourselves. To gang-up, to collectively criticise, or accuse another can hold us together – but it can often be disguised evil. It can feel good, collectively accusing someone else, pointing the finger – most especially if it is legitimated. See the collective evil and accusations (‘the hour of darkness’) of the mob in Our Lord’s passion - sacred violence.

To transform this evil, we need forgiveness, wisdom and discernment – to let God transform the pain and sin within each one of us. It needs a brutal honesty about what is really going on within. A prayerful help here is to gaze at the cross. Gaze at the one who becomes the cosmic, eternal ‘scapegoat’. Jesus, the victim, seen as unworthy by church and state officials, Rome and Jerusalem, Jesus the ‘problem’, is condemned, judged and executed. Removed. Then we arrive and say he is the most perfect being ever, the Lord of history (that’s our faith). If these officials are that wrong once, shouldn’t that create a healthy suspicion in ourselves about who “we” judge, accuse and hate? And a healthy suspicion of all dominative power?

Jesus is the ‘cosmic’ victim without sin so he can take the whole world’s sins on himself, without any being his own. He becomes our ‘scapegoat’ so we stop ‘scapegoating’ others. That is our faith. Jesus’ self-sacrifice on the cross makes it absolutely impossible for any **authentic** follower to scapegoat anyone else.

Does religion cause wars? No; but evil interpretations disguised as good certainly do, as history shows. We need to forgive, discern and be wise, through the crucified-one, to put a stop to this evil, and make sure we’re never part of it. Make sure the truth of our Faith carries on.

God Bless, Fr. Paul

Today's Readings

First Reading: Isaiah 50:4-7

Psalms : 21(22):8-9, 17-20, 23-24

Second Reading: Philippians 2:6-11

Gospel: Luke 22:14-23:56



Sacrament of Reconciliation (Not in Confessional Box).

Available Monday 11th April from 5.15pm- 6.45pm.

Tuesday 12th April from 9am – 10.30am

Holy Saturday 16th April 4.30pm – 5.30pm

MASS INTENTIONS	
Saturday 9th April	
5.30pm Mass	Marie McGovern (Joanne McGovern)
Sunday 10th April Palm Sunday of The Passion of The Lord	
8am Mass	Parish Community
9.30am Mass	Paddy Lynch (Eileen Price)
Monday 11th April Monday in Holy Week	
7.15pm Mass	Jack & Margaret Nelson RIP (Anniversary) (Joan Gardner)
Tuesday 12th April Tuesday in Holy Week	
	SVP Members, families & beneficiaries (SVP Conference)
Wednesday 13th April Wednesday in Holy Week	
10am Mass	Graeme Hoare RIP (Kathy Hoare)
Thursday 14th April Maundy Thursday	
8pm Mass	People of Ukraine
Friday 15th April Good Friday	
10am Ecumenical Service	
3pm Liturgy	(Please bring your own crucifix if possible).
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)

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

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

"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.

✝ Please pray for **Elizabeth Fallaize** and **Joseph McWilliams** of our parish who died during the week. Please keep them and their families in your prayers. May they rest in peace. ✝

✝ ANNIVERSARIES ✝

Kindly pray for Gabrielle Wisken, Margaret Lockhart, Marcelle Mark, Mary Fox, and Patricia Marshall, whose anniversaries occur about this time. May they rest in peace.

Good Friday United Town Service here at Our Lady's.

This will be here in our church at 10am on Good Friday (April 15th) much like five years ago when we previously hosted it - then considered a great success. Please come and support this wonderful Ecumenical event. We will offer a reflection on the Stations of the Cross. Refreshments, including hot cross buns, will be available after the service.

For the 3pm Liturgy, please bring your own small crucifix if possible.

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.

Confirmation

The next confirmation session will be at 7pm on Tuesday 12th April at The Presbytery.

“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.



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.

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@dioceseofbretnwood.org)

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.

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.

Thanks to Tom from Rayleigh Fruit and Veg for the donations of daffodils for Mother’s Day.

Knights Easter Raffle

Please return all tickets sold, along with the money, to the Presbytery by (this) Sunday 10th April (Palm Sunday). The draw will take place after the 9.30 am Mass on Easter Sunday.

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.

Be part of the Walsingham House Team 2022/23:

If you will be 18+ in September, and are looking for an exciting gap year opportunity, deepening team working and practical skills in a context of youth leadership, and developing your faith, then a year on the Walsingham House Team could be perfect for you. For more information please contact Joseph Beattie, by emailing josephbeattie@dioceseofbrentwood.org or calling 01277 373959. There is an open afternoon from 2-4pm on Sunday 10th April; for more information and to register, go to www.bcys.net/events/whopenday/

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>

BCYS Youth Mass

Come along from 6pm for pizza, followed by praying the Stations of the Cross in the Cathedral for Lent, before we begin Youth Mass at 7:30pm.

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!)



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.

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.

Brentwood Catholic Children's Society

Please find link for the electronic version of the BCCS Easter Newsletter:

https://www.bccs.org.uk/application/files/2616/4734/6129/bccs_Easter_2022_Newsletter_single_page.pdf

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

Job Vacancies....

Assistant Manager, Walsingham House at Abbotswick

Walsingham House are seeking to appoint an Assistant Manager at Walsingham House at Abbotswick to begin in late summer. This is a residential role and involves working alongside the existing staff team help to form the volunteer team and lead retreats for schools and parishes across the diocese. All information can be found on the website <https://bcys.net/news/vacancies/> The closing date for applications is midday on Friday 22nd April 2022.

Class Teacher Vacancy – St Helen’s Catholic Primary School

St. Helen’s Catholic Primary School are seeking to appoint a class teacher with energy and vision to join our dedicated and skilled teaching team. ECT’s are welcome to apply. Closing date: Midday, 25.4.22.

Please see our website for details <https://st-helens.southend.sch.uk/about-us/our-school/staff-vacancies> or contact Mrs Sears on 01702 343823.

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 29th April 2022. We warmly welcome and encourage applicants to visit our school. Please contact the school office on 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

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. 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.

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

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

Catholic Schools Leadership Positions:

Headteacher St Alban's Primary, Elm Park

Headteacher St Joseph's Primary, Upminster

Headteacher Holy Family Secondary School, Walthamstow

Deputy Headteacher St Mary's, Tilbury

Deputy Headteacher St Alban's, Elm Park.

Deputy Headteacher, St Joseph's Primary School, Harwich

Details of all positions can be found at the following link

<https://www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/departments/education/vacancies/school-vacancies/>

Our Lady of Ransom School - Cleaning Vacancies

We currently have two cleaning positions available

Position 1 - to work 12.5 hours per week (2.5 hours every evening)

Position 2 - to work 7.5 hours per week (2.5 hours on Mon, Tues & Weds)

Both positions to be paid on Band 1 Point 1-3 (approx £9.50 per hour),

term time only (plus additional hours in the school holiday).

Please complete an application form which can be found below and return to

Mrs Pink, School Office Manager office@olorcps.net

Closing date for applications: Friday 15th April, 2022

The Governing Body is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

Our Lady of Ransom School - Midday Assistant Vacancies

We currently have two Midday Assistant positions available

Both positions are to work 1.75 hours per day (11:30am - 1:15pm)

To be paid on Scale 2 Point 2 (appr006Fx £9.60 per hour), term time only.

Please complete an application form which can be found on the school website and return to Mrs Pink, School Office Manager office@olorcps.net

Closing date for applications: Friday 15th April, 2022

The Governing Body is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

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.

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

FACE COVERINGS:

Although the legal requirement to wear a face covering no longer applies, the government suggests you continue to wear a face covering in crowded and enclosed spaces. ***We strongly encourage parishioners to continue wearing a face covering/mask while moving around the Church. While you are in your place in Church, please feel free to remove your face covering if you so wish.***

PUBLIC MASSES

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.



NEWSLETTER ITEMS:

Please ensure all items for the parish newsletter are submitted to the office by midday on Thursdays.

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.

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 in. 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 are below.

https://cuk.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJluc-CtqzojGNygZpMb-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>