

OUR LADY OF RANSOM

Sixteenth Sunday 17th July 2022 Psalter Week 4



Sexual equality is critical in today's society. Could Jesus have already been promoting this 2000 years ago? Today's Gospel gives us a hint that this might just be true. And it's taken us that amount of time to enshrine it in law. Wow!

In Jesus' day, and, arguably, until quite recently, it was the "man's" role to listen and discuss theology, politics and putting the world to rights! Women's roles were to focus more on domestic issues. It seems that Jesus is saying that women can just as correctly listen to and discuss the bigger things as men can. Mary has broken into an "all-male" group by listening and maybe discussing with Jesus these bigger issues of life. For Jesus, Mary has chosen the better part. Equality.

Martha wants Jesus to reinforce her cultural understanding of women's roles – domestic help in the kitchen, (and getting agitated), which Jesus clearly refuses.

So is Jesus pushing sexual equality all those years ago? He may well be giving similar hints elsewhere. If so, why has it taken us about 2000 years to appreciate this and finally enshrine it in law? We begin to realise how far Jesus was ahead of his time – and ours. Undoubtedly there is a great deal more that Jesus taught, and we are only just beginning to really appreciate. Quite exciting.

Mary has chosen the cultural "male" role in listening and discussing. A brave break-through 2000 years ago. Listening is so important. Listening to God.

A woman was in an empty church alone. Head in her hands. The priest saw her and walked past. A little later she was still there, head in hands. Again he walked past. A little later, the priest became concerned, gently touched her shoulder and asked if she needed help. "I'm getting all the help I need" she answered.

We are human BEings, **not** human DOings. We get agitated about doing, we forget simply to 'be', so we lose a sense of who we are, we crack-up. To be, to give ourselves time to listen to the deeper resonances within us is crucial to finding a sense of balance, re-connecting with the real, well-being, focussing, seeking God and finding a sense of who we really are. It must be the better part. Otherwise everything we do will come from an *un-enlightened* heart. No wonder we can get so agitated and lose the plot. Do our actions come from an *enlightened* heart? Is Jesus pushing sexual equality all those years ago, and we missed it?

God Bless, Fr. Paul

First Reading: Genesis 18:1-10

Psalm: Psalm 14(15):2-5

Second Reading: Colossians 1:24-28

Gospel: Luke 10:38-42



MASS INTENTIONS	
Saturday 16th July	
5.30pm Mass	Brenda Lewis RIP (Pat & Mary Rickard)
Sunday 17th July	Sixteenth Sunday of the Year
8.00am Mass	Parish Community
10.00am Mass	Michael Lydon RIP (Kathy Hoare)
Monday 18th July	
7.15pm	Terry Askem RIP (Jean Williams)
Tuesday 19th July	
	Fr Kevin Eastall RIP
Wednesday 20th July	
8.30pm	Fr John McKeon Ints – Diamond Jubilee (Adrian & Jenny Short)
Thursday 21st July	
	Fr Philip Willenbrock RIP
Friday 22nd July	St Mary Magdalene
10.00am	Mary Beatty RIP (Eithne & Una)
Saturday 23rd July	St Bridget of Sweden
5.30pm Mass	Jack & Margaret Nelson RIP (Anniversary) (Joan Gardiner)
Sunday 24th July	Seventeenth Sunday of the Year
8.00am Mass	Joyce McCarthy RIP (Mary & Barry Mason)
10.00am 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 38.24.99 www.olorchurch.org email: rayleigh@dioceseofbrentwood.org</p>	<p><u>Public Mass times:</u> Saturdays 5.30pm Sundays 8am & 10.00am Mondays 7.15pm Wednesdays 10.00am Fridays 10.00am <i>Please be aware - Times and days of Masses are subject to change.</i></p>
--	---

Sacrament of Reconciliation: 4.30pm – 5pm Saturday evenings (not in the confessional box).

Our Parish is part of The Brentwood Diocesan Trust, Registered Charity Number 234092



ANNIVERSARIES †

Kindly pray for Ivy Keegan, Susan Barrows, and Paul Usher whose anniversaries occur about this time. May they rest in peace.

NEWSLETTER ITEMS:

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



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.

Children's Liturgy

Children's liturgy will continue on 17th, 24th and 31st July at the 10am mass, for age group 3-8. (Any further adjustments will be included in the newsletter). We are looking forward to seeing you again!

Sunday Coffee Mornings

If you are interested in hosting a Coffee Morning after 10am Sunday Masses to raise money for a charity of your choice, please contact the parish office by 11am on Thursdays.



Coffee Morning – 17th July

Please join us for refreshments and cake after 10am mass on Sunday 17th July. Coffee morning is being run by the Ushers with all donations going to the aid of Ukraine.

Last weekend's coffee morning raised £10.00 for Cafod, with an additional £10.00 from an anonymous donor.

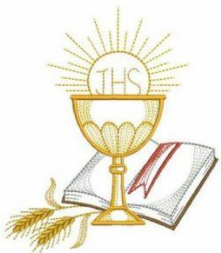
Many thanks for your donations.



CAFOD
Just one world

First Holy Communion Winter 2022

If your child will be in Year 4 or above in September 2022, and would you like to apply for them to participate in our next First Holy Communion program, please pick up a form from the presbytery during office hours (Monday 14.00 – 17.30, Tuesday 09.00 – 13.30, Thursday 09.00 – 13.00). Completed forms to be returned to the presbytery by 24th July 2022.



Parish Children's Picnics

Come along and get to know some other families

Monday 25 July King George V Playing Field, Rayleigh: Picnic and Play in the Park

Meet from 11am in the play area, followed by a picnic and games under the trees nearby

Please bring a picnic and one item of food to share. If you have any outdoor games like skittles, boules, football etc please bring them along.

If you are planning on coming, please text Antonia Cevizli on 07817686272 so we have an idea of who to expect.



Tuesday 9 August Hockley Woods: Nature walk and Picnic. Details to follow.

Walsingham House – Gap Year Opportunity:

Just finished A-levels or Uni? Aged 18-22? Interested in working with young people? Join the Walsingham House Team 2022/23 for an amazing Gap Year opportunity starting September 2022. Details on <https://bcys.net/applications-for-the-walsingham-house-team-2022-23-now-open/> or contact Joseph Beattie – phone 01277 373959 or email josephbeattie@dioceseofbrentwood.org

Transylvania: Religion, History & Culture

Fr Eduard Fartan from Holy Family in Benfleet is organising a Pilgrimage to Transylvania from 18th - 25th October 2022. The tour will include many beautiful churches and monasteries often set amongst the stunning Romanian countryside and focus on the melting pot of ancient cultures that have been present in the area. The cost will start be £850 for one place in a double room, with an additional charge of £165 for single occupancy. Flights, half board at 3 and 4 star hotels, travel in Romania and tour guides are included in the price. For more information or to register your interest please send an email to benfleet@dioceseofbrentwood.org

Roe v Wade decision

As you have probably seen in the media, on Friday 24 June, the US Supreme Court struck down the Roe v Wade decision, returning the matter of abortion legislation to individual states.

There has been much misinformation spread online about the implications of this decision.

Lord Alton has published an excellent piece that sets out the key facts on the decision:

<https://thecritic.co.uk/reversing-a-tragic-half-century-of-lost-lives/>

THINKING ABOUT THE CATHOLIC FAITH? ...

The next RCIA meeting will be on Monday 18th July at 8pm in the Bethany Room.

If you are interested in joining the programme, please contact Fr. Paul for more details. (01268 382499 / rayleigh@dioceseofbrentwood.org)



The Universe – Catholic Paper:

The Universe Catholic Weekly is thrilled to announce that we have launched our new online newspaper with the full support of our first subscriber none other than His Eminence Cardinal Vincent Nichols. Order your Digital 4 weeks FREE trial supply by calling Michelle on 0743 661 7650 or email: michelle.jones@universecatholicweekly.co.uk

SHARING THE CHURCH'S STORY CONFERENCE aims to bring people together for an experience of profound personal renewal and to be equipped for mission. With world-class speakers, including Bishop Robert Barron, panels, and moments of powerful prayer and worship, we are excited for what God will do through this event. The Conference takes place on Saturday 17th September in London, to find out more about this important conference and to book go to www.sharingthechurchsstory.com

OLOR Pre School

It is with great sadness that we have to announce the departure from Our Lady of Ransom Pre-School of Mrs Ann Mitchener, after an amazing 30 years. We are very sorry to lose her but hope that she will continue to support us. If anyone has funny stories about her, or wishes to contribute to a collection or send a card, her last day is 20 July, so please contact, Ruth Fitzgerald 07519635544.

Knights of St. Columba Young Peoples Seminar 2022

Theme: "Being Your Brother's Keeper"

Date Tuesday July 26th to Friday 29th

Venue: Hinsley Hall Leeds.

An invitation to all young people aged between 16 and 23, 25 **free** places.

Visiting the "Mercy Bus tour" in Leeds, with speakers and organizers

Please see poster with a QR Code for more details.

Why not Join the Knights and, among other things, help support our young people?

Brother Martin Doyle Action and Youth Officer.



The Society of Friends of Westminster Cathedral is seeking a part-time Co-ordinator to assume responsibility for the day-to-day running of the charity. If you have strong interpersonal and organisational skills, coupled with the ability to work on your own initiative to implement the plans and actions determined by the charity's governing Council and its subcommittees, this role may be of interest. You will be a good communicator, able to sustain engagement with our members through personal contact, written and digital channels. In addition to being able to plan and execute a range of fundraising events, you will have a keen eye for detail, enabling you to deliver the exacting level of administrative support needed for a successful membership organisation. Full details at <https://westminstercathedral.org.uk/the-friends-look-for-an-organising-secretary/>

Adventure in Faith – journey towards World Youth Day, Porto and Lisbon, July 26th – August 9th 2023

This amazing opportunity is for anyone who will be aged 17 – 27 in August 2023. Find out more at <https://bcys.net/events/wyd23/>. Express your interest with an email to WYD@dioceseofbrentwood.org. Only 40 places available.

Lunchtime Piano Recital 20th July @ 1pm

We are delighted to invite back to Brentwood Cathedral Danilo Mascetti who will be giving a Lunchtime PIANO Recital on Wednesday 20 July at the usual time of 1pm.

His Programme is called CONTEMPLATIONS and is a comparison of the two Composers Oliver Messiaen and Franz Liszt who wrote the most religiously inspired pieces for piano, as well as an exploration of the spirituality of their works.

"The Concert Programme begins from silence, almost muted, with scenes inspired by nature and birds for the first two pieces, in a sweet and delicate manner; the two musical paintings of the kneeling Virgin and of St. Francesco da Paola (from a work by Steinle) follow for an impetuous and stormy atmosphere, which leads from the initial intimacy to a strong grandiloquence....." (Danilo's words)

Do hope you can join us for this outstanding religious programme.

Refreshments available afterwards in our Song School.

MASS AND SYMPATHY CARDS...

These can be obtained at the repository shop and the presbytery.

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.

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.



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.*

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.



Vacancies:

Parish Secretary Required

@ St Francis of Assisi, 90 Colchester Road, Halstead, Essex, CO9 2EW

Hours: 3 hours per week.

Hourly Rate: £10 per hour.

Apply by sending a CV and covering letter to halstead@dioceseofbrentwood.org.

Closing date for applications is 29th July 2022.

For a full job description, visit <https://www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/diocese/working-for-us/>