

# OUR LADY OF RANSOM

21<sup>st</sup> August 2022

Psalter Week 1

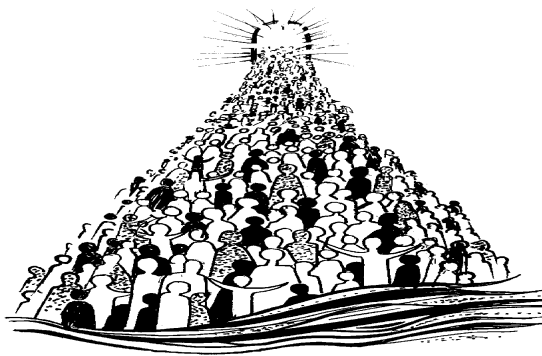


When the wise person points to the moon, the fool sees only the finger. (An ancient Eastern proverb). We are called to see the moon, the bigger reality. Do we see the moon, or just the finger?

For Jesus, going to heaven is about having a different kind of wisdom than any popular idea of wisdom. He talks of the broad and narrow door, and we should try to enter through the narrow one. This needs clarification.

The broad door (or gate) is NOT just about the way of wickedness, murder, stealing, abuse, corruption etc. Of course, these are despicable and depraved acts, but this is not the broad door. Nor is it just about other sinful stuff, like disobedience, adultery, greed etc.

The broad door is much more about the way most people appear to live their very conventional lives. Business as usual, everything taken for granted. We are so driven by our usual conventions, no questions are asked. No wonder it is called 'conventional wisdom'.



Jesus wants us to be delivered from this common, agreed-upon way of life. St. Paul says similar when he writes about "principalities, the things of the air". All this is just seeing the finger. Rather, we are to stand out against this conventional wisdom, and be part of Jesus' own 'subversive wisdom' that turns conventional wisdom upside down. Not the usual conventions of achieving, attaining, succeeding, but of 'letting go' of these drives. Think of Our Lady "letting

go" of her wedding plans and her own agendas. That is the narrow door, it's the way to truly follow Our Lord. Not conventional ways that society dictates. Society dictates upward mobility, Jesus dictates a downward journey; "follow me", which ultimately becomes the way of the cross. Isn't that far harder and demanding? Who really wants to go there? But it is finally the way of life, love, forgiveness, sacrifice and peace, the stuff of the soul, not the stuff of conventional norms (prestige, power, money and possessions). Are we looking at the finger, or the, bigger reality - the moon?

Jesus points to, and leads us to His bigger reality. His Kingdom. "Follow me". So it's not about how often I have been to Mass, how many prayers I've prayed, or even just doing nice things, often such people do not know Our Lord, "I do not know where you come from", but being prepared to enter through this narrow door. Letting go of at least some social norms to follow this downward journey, thus making space for Our Lord. Authentic Christianity is never easy. Can we enter this way?

*God Bless, Fr. Paul*

First Reading: Isaiah 66:18-21

Psalms: Psalm 116(117)

Second Reading: Hebrews 12:5-7, 11-13

Gospel: Luke 13:22-30

<b>MASS INTENTIONS</b>	
<b>Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> August</b>	<b>St Bernard</b>
<b>5.30pm Mass</b>	Graham Blakeley RIP (Kathy Hoare)
<b>Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> August</b>	<b>Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>
<b>8.00am Mass</b>	Parish Community
<b>10.00am Mass</b>	Sheila Murphy RIP (Frances Wiley)
<b>Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> August</b>	<b>The Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary</b>
<b>1pm</b>	<b>Requiem Mass: Maura Couzens RIP</b>
<b>Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> August</b>	
	People of Ukraine Ints & RIP
<b>Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> August</b>	<b>Feast of St Bartholomew</b>
<b>10.00 am</b>	Sean O'Byrne and Family Ints
<b>Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> August</b>	
	People of Afghanistan Ints & RIP
<b>Friday 26<sup>th</sup> August</b>	
<b>10.00am</b>	Pat Holohan RIP (Patricia Holohan)
<b>Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> August</b>	<b>St Monica</b>
<b>5.30pm Mass</b>	Terry Askem RIP (Frances Wiley)
<b>Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> August</b>	<b>Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>
<b>8.00am Mass</b>	Parish Community
<b>10.00am Mass</b>	Kath & Mike Geeson RIP (The Renshaw Family)

***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 38.24.99</b>  <b>www.olorchurch.org</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; 10.00am</b>  <b>Mondays 7.15pm</b>  <b>Wednesdays 10.00am</b>  <b>Fridays 10.00am</b>  <i>Please be aware - Times and days of            weekday Masses are subject to change.</i></p>
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**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 Cathy Hoare, Michael O'Shea, Mildred Lyden, William Eyre, and Christine Sugrue, 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.

**Please note: the Bethany Room lock has changed in order to make it easier to open the door. Please see Fr. Paul for a new key. A new key will only be given if considered needed. This new lock will be put on a new door when it is installed. (Apologies in advance if any inconvenience to any groups has been caused by this change).**

**Please see the note about 1) Parish Pilgrimage to Lourdes and 2) A Mental Health First Aid 2 Day Course, both at the end of this newsletter.**

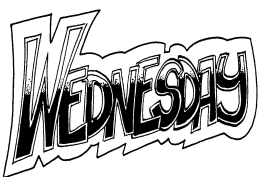


## Kids' Bulletin

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.

## Children's Liturgy

Children's liturgy will be taking a break during August. Enjoy the summer holidays!



## Wednesday Coffee Mornings

Please note that there will be no coffee mornings after masses on Wednesdays throughout August. More volunteers are needed to help with the running of these lovely coffee mornings. If you are able to help, please either speak to the ladies at the coffee morning, or contact Tori in the parish office.

## 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 – 14<sup>th</sup> August

Last Sunday's coffee morning raised £18.00 for the Marie Curie Charity and the ushers World Disaster Fund. This money is used to donate immediately to any disaster that occurs around the world. The ushers will continue to collect for both this fund and Marie Curie at the next three weekends coffee mornings. Many thanks for your support and donations.



**St. Bernadette's Relics are coming to Britain.** Have a look at this video. [Be part of the St Bernadette Relic Tour this autumn - Brentwood Diocese \(dioceseofbrentwood.net\)](https://stbernadette.org.uk)

The relics will be visiting Brentwood Cathedral on 16/17 October and Our Lady of Lourdes, Wanstead on 18 October. Those wishing to attend should register through the tour website in order to manage numbers safely: (<https://stbernadette.org.uk>) [Registration - St Bernadette](https://stbernadette.org.uk)

### Join the Walsingham House Team

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. You'll find information at <https://bcys.net/applications-for-the-walsingham-house-team-2022-23-now-open/> or contact Joseph Beattie – [josephbeattie@dioceseofbrentwood.org](mailto:josephbeattie@dioceseofbrentwood.org)

**The Knights of St Columba** will walk one leg of Relay 100, to raise funds for BCCS. The walk will be from Our Lady of Ransom Church to St Teresa's Church Rochford and will take place on **Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> September at 3pm**. Any parishioner wishing to take part please contact Tom Kennedy on 10702 230578. One of the Knights will be outside Church after each weekend Mass to receive sponsorship money. Any amount, however small, will be gratefully received. Thanks.



### Thinking about Priesthood?

The next "Enquirers' Evening" for those considering or interested in a vocation to the priesthood is on Tuesday 6 September at St Edmund of Canterbury Church in Loughton. The speaker will be Bishop Alan.

For further information please contact Fr Mark Swires [vocprom@dioceseofbrentwood.org](mailto:vocprom@dioceseofbrentwood.org)

### Adventure in Faith – journey towards World Youth Day, Porto and Lisbon, July 26<sup>th</sup> – August 9<sup>th</sup> 2023.

This amazing opportunity is for anyone who will be aged 17 – 27 in August 2023. Only 15 places remaining. Find out more at <https://bcys.net/events/wyd23/>. Express your interest with an email to [WYD@dioceseofbrentwood.org](mailto:WYD@dioceseofbrentwood.org). Only 40 places available.

### The Parish Choir will start up again after the summer break. We intend to sing at



the 10am Sunday Mass twice a month (normally 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays of the month) and have a **choir practice at 7.30pm** on the Thursday prior to the Sunday we are singing. Sopranos, Altos, Tenors and Basses all needed. No previous experience needed but it would be helpful. Why not come along and give it a try? The practice will be only an hour long and will be in the

organ loft. Please consider joining us, as we are greatly depleted in number since the pandemic. Just contact Isobel Kennedy 01702 230578.

**Our first choir practice will be Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> September at 7.30pm**

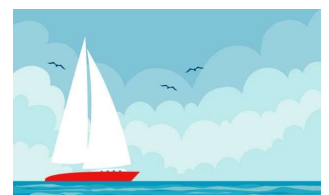
### Next parish children's picnic - This Tuesday 23 August

Meet from 10.45 onwards in the play area on Pooles Lane, Hullbridge followed by a picnic and games in the field.

Please bring a picnic, picnic mat, one item of food to share and any outdoor games if you have them.

Please text Antonia Cevizli on 07817686272 if you are planning on coming.

**Thursday 1 September** - Hockley Woods. Details to follow.



## Retrouvaille: A Programme for Couples Struggling in their Marriages

Help Your Marriage – Do you feel alone? Are you frustrated or angry with each other? Do you argue ... or have you just stopped talking to each other? Does talking about it only make it worse? Retrouvaille is a programme to support couples who have difficulties in their marriage. It brings a positive focus, new hope and helps nourish and grow your marriage. Tens of thousands of couples headed for divorce have successfully saved their marriages by attending and using the tools provided. The programme helps spouses uncover or re-awaken the love, trust and commitment that originally brought them together. It helps them through difficult times whether they are disillusioned or in deep misery. There is no group therapy or group work. For confidential information about 'Retrouvaille' or to register for the next programme commencing with a Virtual weekend on 13 - 16 October 2022 or a Face to Face weekend in Welwyn Garden City on 24 - 26 February 2023, call or text 07887 296983 or 07973 380443 or email [retrouvailleukinfo@gmail.com](mailto:retrouvailleukinfo@gmail.com) - or visit [www.retrouvaille.org.uk](http://www.retrouvaille.org.uk)

## 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](mailto:michelle.jones@universecatholicweekly.co.uk)

## THINKING ABOUT THE CATHOLIC FAITH? ...

The next RCIA meeting will be on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> September at 8pm in the Bethany Room (no meetings in August).

**If you are interested in joining the programme, please contact Fr. Paul for more details.** (01268 382499 / [rayleigh@dioceseofbretnwood.org](mailto:rayleigh@dioceseofbretnwood.org))



**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 17<sup>th</sup> September in London, to find out more about this important conference and to book go to [www.sharingthechurchsstory.com](http://www.sharingthechurchsstory.com)

**Adventure in Faith – journey towards World Youth Day, Porto and Lisbon, July 26<sup>th</sup> – August 9<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:WYD@dioceseofbrentwood.org). Only 40 places available.

## 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 we 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 it 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](mailto:olorgiftaid@hotmail.com) / 01268 772998) if you have any questions.* Thank you.



## Beginning Experience Weekend:

If you have suffered a divorce, separation or the death of your partner, a residential weekend to help you to heal will be held from 14<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> October 2022 at the Sion Community, Brentwood, Essex. If you would like more details, please ring Freda 01322-838415 or Maura 07795-498445 or email [besouthofengland@gmail.com](mailto:besouthofengland@gmail.com).

## Vacancies

### Cleaner Vacancy – The Holy Family and All Saints - Witham

A cleaner is required to effectively manage the routine cleaning of the Parish Hall and Church Foyer/Areas.

Hours– 2 hours fortnightly

The salary for this post is: £9.90 per hour

Closing date: Friday 2 September 2022

Please send a CV and covering letter (around 500 words) to the Parish Office via email: [witham@dioceseofbrentwood.org](mailto:witham@dioceseofbrentwood.org) Job description: Cleaner – Witham

## Mental Health First Aid Course

Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> November 8.30am – 4.30pm **and continued on**

Friday 18<sup>th</sup> November 10am – 5pm

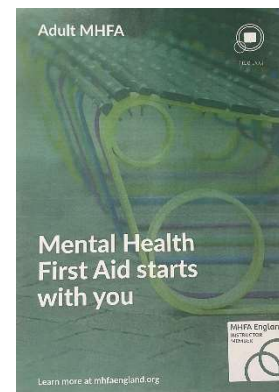
In the Bethany Room.

To learn more book onto an Adult MHFA Two Day course, please contact Fr Paul at the parish office on 01268 38 24 99 or

[rayleigh@dioceseofbrentwood.org](mailto:rayleigh@dioceseofbrentwood.org)

Cost £60.00 for the two day course (elsewhere this course would cost significantly more). Please book no later than Friday 28<sup>th</sup> October 2022.

Thank you.



### What is Mental Health First Aid?

Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) is an internationally recognised training course which teaches people how to spot the signs and symptoms of mental ill health and provide help on a first aid basis.

MHFA England training won't teach you to be a therapist, but just like physical first aid, it will teach you to listen, reassure and respond, even in a crisis.

Adult MHFA England courses are for everyone aged 16 upwards. Every MHFA England course is delivered by a quality assured Instructor Member who has attended our Instructor Training programme accredited by the Royal Society for Public Health, and is trained to keep people safe and supported while they learn.

### What will I learn?

Learning takes place through a mix of group activities, presentations and discussions. What you learn will depend on the length of course you attend:

#### Two Day - Mental Health First Aiders

A practical skills and awareness course designed to give you:

- A deeper understanding of mental health and the factors that can affect people's wellbeing, including your own
- Practical skills to spot the triggers and signs of mental health issues
- Confidence to step in, reassure and support a person in distress
- Enhanced interpersonal skills such as non-judgemental listening
- Knowledge to help someone recover their health by guiding them to appropriate support

### How will attending an MHFA England course help?

Research and evaluation shows that taking part in an MHFA England course:

- Raises awareness and mental health literacy
- Reduces stigma around mental ill health
- Boosts knowledge and confidence in dealing with mental health issues
- Promotes early intervention which enables recovery

### To learn more or book onto an Adult MHFA Two Day course:

Mike Thakoordin  
e: [mikethakoordin@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:mikethakoordin@yahoo.co.uk)  
m: 07745 026539

### Other Adult MHFA England courses

In addition to the Adult MHFA Two Day course, we also offer shorter training options including a one day MHFA Champions course and a half day Mental Health Aware course. To learn more about training options, visit [mhfaengland.org](http://mhfaengland.org).



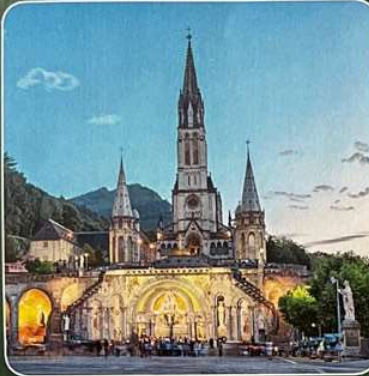
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Our Lady of Ransom - Pilgrimage to Lourdes  
Monday 22nd May - Friday 26th May 2023



To express an interest in joining this 4 night pilgrimage, please contact:

**Mrs Shelagh Mesher**

Email: [shelaghmesher@hotmail.com](mailto:shelaghmesher@hotmail.com)

or contact Father Paul

**[www.tangney-tours.com](http://www.tangney-tours.com) - 01732 886666**

Full spiritual itinerary for all  
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caring team



## **BIKE FOR LEPROSY IN SUPPORT OF THE PEOPLE LIVING AT MUTEMWA LEPROSY CARE CENTRE IN ZIMBABWE**

A charity bicycle ride will take place this August in support of the people living with leprosy at Mutemwa Leprosy Care Centre where John Bradburne (the next potential English Saint) cared for them.

Alex Macpherson and John Paynter, teachers based in Surrey and Bristol who are supporters of the John Bradburne Memorial Society, are embarking on a sponsored 600 mile bike ride from Bristol to Liverpool along the Welsh Coast in August. They will be raising awareness about leprosy and support of the people living at Mutemwa.

The John Bradburne Memorial Society was founded as a charity in 1995 in honour of its late warden, John Bradburne who spent the last 10 years of his life caring for those living with leprosy in Zimbabwe.

The society continues to support the Mutemwa Care Centre, whilst also spreading information about Bradburne's Saintry life and prolific poetry writing. The donations JBMS receives goes towards the centre's running expenses, salaries of workers, food, water and medicine.

John Bradburne was born at Skirwith in Cumbria on June 14, 1921 and was the son of an Anglican vicar. He served with the Gurkhas and Chindits in the Second World War and after a conversion experience in Malaya, he became a Catholic in 1947.

After many years wandering England, Italy and the Middle East, he finally found his calling as a lay Franciscan missionary in Zimbabwe and he devoted the latter part of his life to helping forgotten leprosy patients at the Mutemwa Leprosy Care Centre.

He refused to leave the settlement during the Zimbabwean civil war and was abducted and shot dead on September 5, 1979.

Since Bradburne's death, the settlement has become a major pilgrimage centre, with thousands gathering for Mass each year on the anniversary of his death.

In 2019, the Congregation for the Causes of Saints in Rome formally began the cause of John Bradburne's beatification.

Bradburne is also in *the Guinness Book of Records* as the most prolific poet ever, having written in verse throughout his life.

*"John has been nominated for sainthood because of his amazing selfless work at Mutemwa with leprosy patients"* Kate Macpherson, secretary of the John Bradburne Memorial Society. *"John was the pilgrim who eventually found the meaning of his life not in the solitude he had long searched for, but in living alongside, and trying his best to achieve justice so that people living with leprosy – amongst the world's most marginalised people of his day, like the migrants and asylum seekers of our world today – could, like us, live enriching and meaningful lives. And praising God as he did."*

The Ride for Leprosy will start in Bristol on the 12th August, cycling along the Welsh Coast and finally finishing in Liverpool on the 19th August.

For more details about Bradburne's remarkable life, visit [www.johnbradburne.com](http://www.johnbradburne.com)

Professor David Crystal has compiled an online database of Bradburne's poetry at [johnbradburnepoems.com](http://johnbradburnepoems.com)

To donate to Alex and John's ride for leprosy please

visit: <https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/rideforleprosy>

For more information please contact Kate Macpherson by emailing [info@johnbradburne.com](mailto:info@johnbradburne.com)