

OUR LADY OF RANSOM

9th October 2022 28th Sunday Year C Psalter Week 4



She hated the faith. Brought up wealthy, she saw how religion seemed to create stuffy, rigid socialites. She hated her background, wanting to be free from this stifling atmosphere. So it was in the early twentieth century. She decided to totally defy her family values and stuffy wealthy ways – she got herself pregnant out of wedlock. All to shock family and contemporaries – she would give birth and then offer the baby up for adoption. After the birth, the authorities came to remove the child as previously agreed. But a sudden change of heart gripped her. The baby had such a profound spiritual effect on her, as she gazed into the baby's eyes, she could not help but want to keep the baby. When asked about her sudden change of heart, and new found faith, she commented on how she needed someone to thank for this exquisite little miracle. She could only thank... God.

Dorothy Day went on to found the Catholic Workers Movement in the USA, for poor workers. She experienced God's powerful transformation at first hand. Why?

Because she needed someone to thank. So, her powerful transformation of heart.

About fifty years ago, our social conscience seemed to shift; instead of being thankful, the social conscience moved to rights and entitlements, what 'I' have a right to, what 'I' have earned and deserve – all which needs defending. Now 'I' became the centre of the universe, people become so self-absorbed, little wonder our society seems to be breaking up with many becoming so individualistic.

Only one of the ten lepers (the Samaritan) stopped to thank Our Lord after being healed. So his was a double-whammy! Such humility. Did the other nine feel it was their 'right' to be healed? What stopped them expressing gratitude?

Do we want to be 'right' or 'joyful'? Many today, it appears, would rather be right, so joy and thankfulness are lost. To retrieve this joy, we need a radical change in consciousness, back to gratitude, where we re-appreciate everything is gift, where the glass is half full - an attitude of gratitude. All healthy, life-giving, good religion will enable this. It's all about humility. Humility equals honesty. Does 'entitlement' rule our lives? Or can we; do we, thank 'someone', even for the smallest gifts?

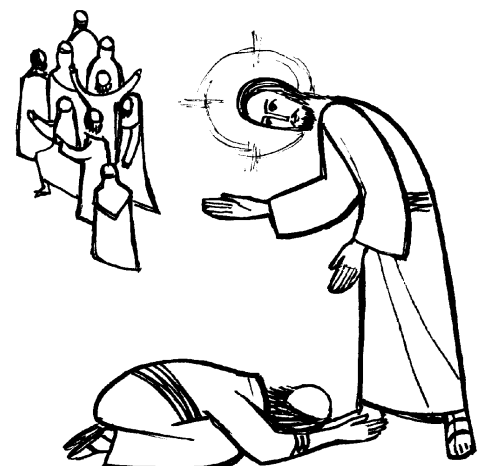
God Bless, Fr. Paul

First Reading: 2 Kings 5:14-17

Psalm: Psalm 97 (98):1-4

Second Reading: 2 Timothy 2:8-13

Gospel: Luke 17:11-19



MASS INTENTIONS	
Saturday 8th October	St Osyth
5.30pm Mass	Deceased Members of the Hemming Family RIP
Sunday 9th October	Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time
8.00am Mass	Alice Allso RIP
10.00am Mass	Parish Community
Monday 10th October	
10.00am	Eucharistic Service
Tuesday 11th October	
No Mass	
Wednesday 12th October	Ethelburga, Hildelithe & Cuthberga
10.00am	Eucharistic Service
Thursday 13th October	
Friday 14th October	
10.00am	Eucharistic Service
Saturday 15th October	St Teresa of Jesus
5.30pm Mass	Parish Community
Sunday 16th October	Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time
8.00am Mass	Maura Houchan RIP
10.00am Mass	Terry McManas RIP (Ana McManus)

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 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 Luke Molloy, Patricia Hall, and Mary Anne (Maura) Houchin, Betty Popplewell, Eileen Rochford, and Sharon Hillman whose anniversaries occur about this time.
May they rest in peace.

Please see the Bishops' address regarding the Cost of Living Crisis at the end of this newsletter.

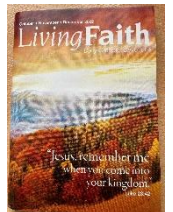
We welcome Fr Basil to our parish this weekend.

NEWSLETTER ITEMS:

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

Living Faith

New Living Faith Books for October/November/December, are available to purchase at the back of church.



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

We welcome our children, aged 3-8, to Children's Liturgy at the 10am Sunday mass. The team look forward to sharing the Gospel, thoughts and prayers with you all!



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.

Last Sunday's Coffee Morning

The First Holy Communion Group collected £96.20p for the coffee morning last Sunday. This money will be donated to Needy Children in Bethlehem. Thanks to all who contributed and donated.



First Holy Communion – Winter 2022

Next children's session is Thursday 13th October 2022 at 5pm in the Bethany Room.

Baked with Love 2 will be taking place on **Sunday 9 October** after 10am Mass to raise money for CAFOD's World Food Crisis Appeal. If you don't have cash on you, come along and get some cakes and you can donate online here <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/antonia-cevizli1>



Save the Date

The next children's social meet-up will be in half term in the morning of Wednesday 26th October in Hockley Woods. Details to follow nearer the time.



The Parish Choir has started up again after the summer break. We intend to sing at the 10am Sunday Mass twice a month (normally 1st and 3rd 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.

The LEGION OF MARY in our parish cordially invite all auxiliary members to the Bethany Room at 3pm on Sunday 9th October to celebrate the birthday of Our Lady (feast day 8th Sept). You are welcome to bring along family and friends. Any parishioners interested in finding out more about the Legion most welcome. This social event will include Legion prayers & rosary, afternoon tea, plenty of time for chat and maybe some entertainment or food for thought. RSVP would be helpful but not essential. (I Kennedy 07795 821705)

New Evangelisation Course

Would you be interested in studying evangelisation - the theory and practice of how to share the Catholic faith with people who are not yet followers of Jesus? 10 hours of teaching is being offered by Sion Catholic Community for Evangelism, leading practitioners in this field since 1985. You can access the module by attending two in-person days at Brentwood, Essex, on Saturday 10 September and Saturday 12 November. Or you can access the same teaching through five Zoom sessions on Thursday evenings 3 November to 1 December inclusive. For more information go to www.sioncommunity.org.uk/ccrs/

BCYS Youth Mass in the Presence of the Relics of St Bernadette

Sunday 16th October, 6:30pm, Brentwood Cathedral

Please join the Brentwood Catholic Youth Service, with Bishop Alan presiding and Fr Dominic Howarth preaching. Open to anyone, no need to book!

BCYS Youth Gather

22nd - 23rd October, Mersea Island

Guest speakers Barry and Margaret Mizen will be sharing the incredible story of how they chose to forgive the man who killed their son Jimmy the day after his 16th Birthday.

The SVP will also be leading a workshop, and there will be the chance to try a brilliant range of activities from climbing, high ropes, archery and so much more!

The cost is just £55 for the weekend, with coach travel and all meals included.

This event is for anyone in years 9-13, and you can book NOW at www.bcys.net/events

Catechist Training and Resources Day

5th November, 10am – 3pm at Sacred Heart of Mary School, Upminster

Open to any First Holy Communion and Confirmation Catechists, as well as those leading Youth Groups, Children's Liturgy or similar! A range of fantastic workshops and keynote speech from David Wells.

There will also be a session for any young catechists looking to develop their faith post-confirmation (16+). For all information and to book, please visit

www.bcys.net/events/catechistday2022

OLOR Theatre Club Pantomime

The Our Lady of Ransom Theatre Club have been organising groups outings for the Nationally Acclaimed Christmas Pantomimes at the Towngate Theatre Basildon for over ten years. Every year a very large group from our school and church attend and you are warmly invited to join us this year for 'The Panto Adventures of Peter Pan' on Saturday 26th November 1pm. Over 200 stall and stall circle seats are reserved! Tickets are £20 pp and suitable for ages 3 upwards. Payment can be made in part/full for your ease. Please email olortheatreclub@hotmail.co.uk / text 07757138345 to book. Thank you so much, Clare Mason, Lorna Warren and Katherine



The Relics of St Bernadette will come to our diocese in October. This is a wonderful opportunity to pray with the woman to whom Our Lady chose to appear in Lourdes. Here are the timetable details:

BRENTWOOD CATHEDRAL

Sunday 16 October

11 am: Relics of St Bernadette arrive.
11.30 am: Holy Mass, celebrated by Bishop Alan.
6.30 pm: Holy Mass, led by the Youth Service.
9 pm: Cathedral closes.

Monday 17 October

6 am: Cathedral opens.
9.15 am: Holy Mass
12 noon: Relics of St Bernadette leave.

OUR LADY OF LOURDES, WANSTEAD

Tuesday 18 October

10 am: Relics of St Bernadette arrive.
11 am - 3 pm: Time reserved for pre-booked school groups.
7.30 pm: Holy Mass, celebrated by Bishop Alan
12 midnight: Church closes.

Wednesday 19 October

6 am: Church opens.
9 am: Relics of St Bernadette depart.

You are welcome to come to pray before the relics outside reserved times for schools. If possible, book your visit through the national website: stbernadette.org.uk
Whether you book or not, you may have to queue.

Brentwood Catholic Children's Society – BCCS – autumn newsletter:

https://www.bccs.org.uk/application/files/7116/6332/0664/bccs_Newsletter_Autumn_2022_Final.pdf

New Hall School Sixth Form Open Evening: Tuesday 11 October, 6.30-8.30pm

For both events, please book online at newhallschool.co.uk

New Hall is a Catholic independent School in Boreham, near Chelmsford, offering a distinctive education to girls and boys aged 1-18. Day, flexible boarding and full boarding options are available.

Brentwood Ursuline Open Evenings –Sixth Form Students

Open Evening will be on Thursday 3rd November 2022 from 6.30pm – 8.30pm. There will be a Headteacher talk at 6.30pm.

Please note that there are no on-site parking facilities available.

St Bernard's High School - A Catholic Academy for Arts and Science Open Evening for Prospective Year 12

Wednesday 9 November 2022

7.00pm to 9.00pm

We would be delighted to welcome to our Open Evening prospective students who are interested in joining St Bernard's High School's Sixth Form in September 2023.

www.stbernardswestcliff.org.uk

We welcome applications to our mixed Sixth Form

from students of all faiths and none,

who meet our entrance requirements and are seeking a school with a Christian ethos.

'The school is welcoming and inclusive. In 2015, many pupils made significantly better progress than other pupils nationally' Ofsted 2016

'The gifted, able and talented programme provides challenging enrichment across all year groups and is acknowledged by the NACE Award' Ofsted 2016

'St Bernard's High School is an outstanding Catholic school...Attainment and progress of students is outstanding' (Diocesan Inspection, 2017)

www.stbernardswestcliff.org.uk Milton Road, Westcliff-on-Sea, Essex SS0 7JS

Stallholders needed for Christmas Craft & Gift Fair

The Brentwood Catholic Children's Society are seeking stallholders for their Christmas Craft and Gift Fair being held at The Mill Hall Arts & Events Centre, Bellingham Lane, Rayleigh SS6 7ED on Sunday 6th November from 10.30-4pm. Pitches are **£30**. For further information please contact Damian: ddillon@bccs.org.uk /07912 308000

Open Day St. Mary's Hare Park Independent Catholic School & Nursery

We would be delighted to welcome you and your family to our Open Morning on Saturday 15th October 2022 from 9am to 12pm. Staff and pupils will be on hand to speak with you directly and show you first-hand why our school is such a special place, where pupils grow in confidence and independence, and learn skills which prepare them for a future life and love of learning. To truly understand why children and their parents love our school, we warmly invite you to come and pay us a visit and see how we nurture, engage and inspire every child. Please visit our website: <https://www.stmarysharepark.co.uk/> to register your interest, or alternatively just turn up on the day. We look forward to meeting you.

Cleaning Vacancy at Our Lady of Ransom Catholic Primary School

The Local Governing Committee of Our Lady of Ransom Catholic Primary School is looking to appoint a cleaner to join our Site Team.

You will be required to work for 5 hours per week (two x 2.5 hours each afternoon) to be paid on Point 1 (approx £9.50 per hour) during term time, plus two weeks additional cleaning duties in the school holidays.

Please select this link for an application form:

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1shQOwiOfh61zMappRJ3wmzFseYO9TyY/edit>
which should be returned to office@olorcps.net

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

The Bishops address the Cost of Living Crisis.

The Catholic Bishops of England and Wales are acutely aware of the impact of the cost of living crisis up and down the country. It is having a devastating effect on families, pushing many deeper into poverty and leading many others to struggle with day-to-day living costs. We know from news reports and from our pastoral experience, as well as from the experience of Catholic charities, that it is not an exaggeration to say that some families are having to choose between “heating and eating”. This situation will not improve soon, and it will almost certainly worsen as winter approaches.

The Lord hears the cry of the poor! (Psalm 34) And the Church must respond, as best she can, to that cry at every level.

The political and economic context and response

The roots of the situation we face are complex and there are no easy solutions. There are both long-term and short-term causes of the current crisis including:

The extraordinary rise in the cost of energy.

The very high cost of housing in this country and its effects on rents.

Rising food prices.

The longer-term effects of the pandemic.

An ageing population leading to higher taxes whilst public services appear to deteriorate.

The weakening of the institution of the family which leads to greater financial needs and financial fragility in many households.

There are also secondary effects of the crisis. Stress and increased poverty will lead to a worsening of mental health. Shortages of labour in health and social care are severely affecting the delivery of these services. And there has been an increase in industrial unrest. In addition, family members are having to increase their working hours and, therefore, may not be able to care for their children or for elderly parents themselves. This puts still further pressure on social services. At the very least, increased working hours leads to greater strain on family life.

It is not within the competence of the bishops to comment on the technical detail of how to resolve or ease these problems, and we accept that many of them involve difficult trade-offs. Peace and the security of the country must be a priority, and the situation in Ukraine has inevitably had an impact on many elements of the cost of living. In addition, challenges such as climate change have to be faced, and there are legitimate debates about how to balance the need for more housing with environmental concerns. We are pleased that there are many Catholics in public life who are engaging with other people of goodwill in trying to produce long-term solutions to these political and economic challenges.

However, Catholic Social Teaching tells us that, when there is urgent and dire need, justice requires that this is addressed as a priority. In this regard, we urge government to:

Ensure the timely uprating of welfare benefits, especially those for the elderly and for families with children.

Remove the two-child cap on universal credit payments or, at the very least, suspend it pending a review of its impact.

Consider reform of the tax system so that it better recognises family, child-rearing and other caring responsibilities.

Ensure that priority is given, in tax and welfare policy, to protecting the most vulnerable.

As the new government assesses its future priorities, we ask that it:

Considers how the principle of subsidiarity can be applied to our centralised system of welfare and public services to make delivery more effective and more efficient. This principle has long been part of Catholic social teaching and was raised by Pope Benedict in his encyclical letter, *Caritas in Veritate*: “[By applying the principle of subsidiarity] with the active participation of private individuals and civil society...it is actually possible to improve social services and welfare programmes, and at the same time to save resources”. (60)

Recognises the work that faith and other civil society groups were able to do during the pandemic to ameliorate suffering and ensure that their role is fully recognised in government policy initiatives to relieve the cost-of-living crisis.

Recognises the long-term nature of many of the problems that are causing the cost-of-living crisis and devote itself to the promotion of the common good and inter-generational solidarity above factionalism and party interest. As the Church Council, Vatican II, taught: “Political parties, for their part, must promote those things which in their judgement are required for the common good; it is never allowable to give their interests priority over the common good.” (*Gaudium et Spes*, 75).

We also recognise the responsibilities of employers at this time. Businesses, especially the owners of small businesses and the self-employed, may themselves be struggling with increased costs. Nevertheless, Catholic social teaching demands that, if an enterprise can afford it, it should pay a living wage to its staff. We also ask employers and managers to be aware of the stress that their staff may be under and respond with compassion and understanding.

Love, charity and social action

Promoting justice, relieving poverty and building the kingdom of God on earth is the responsibility of all individuals and institutions in society. Therefore, we must all do what we can to respond to the current crisis.

Pope Francis, quoting St. Thomas Aquinas, has said that “the poor person, when loved, is esteemed as of great value”. There is an unbreakable bond between love of God and love of neighbour. Pope Benedict XVI, in an encyclical letter, *Deus Caritas Est* (God is Love) commented that “the Church’s deepest nature is expressed in her three-fold responsibility: of proclaiming the word of God, celebrating the sacraments and exercising the ministry of charity. These duties presuppose each other and are inseparable” (25). He also wrote about how the pagans were struck by the loving concern of the early Christians for those in greatest need. He specifically described how Justin Martyr († c. 155), in speaking of the Christians’ celebration of Sunday, mentions their charitable activity. The Christians of the early Church made offerings in accordance with their means and those offerings were used to support orphans, widows, the sick and those who for other reasons found themselves in need. (*Deus Caritas Est*, 22).

The work of local parishes, the agencies of the Church in England and Wales, and Catholic charities continue this tradition. Throughout the current crisis, the Bishops of England and Wales will ensure that Catholic charities do all they can to address the urgent needs they face. We acknowledge the excellent work within parishes that supports those in need in their local communities. We ask parishes to continue to do everything possible at this time and to consider innovative ways of providing further material help and pastoral support. We also urge all Catholics to give whatever time and financial resources they can to charitable endeavours that support those who are affected by the current crisis. We applaud the work of Catholic schools that have long been supportive of, and responsive to, children in families who might be struggling financially or in other ways and encourage them in this work.

We should never forget the spiritual needs of the poor and their special gifts. As Pope Francis wrote in *Evangelii Gaudium* (The Joy of the Gospel): “The great majority of the poor have a special openness to the faith; they need God and we must not fail to offer them his friendship, his blessing, his word, the celebration of the sacraments and a journey of growth and maturity in the faith.” (200) Our parish communities must always be open to those suffering from hardship who will be in particular need of companionship and spiritual support at this time.

Finally, we offer our prayers for all those who are suffering from the cost of living crisis. We also offer our prayers for Her Majesty’s government that it will govern with wisdom, justice and humility and find ways, both long term and short term, to alleviate this crisis which is having a devastating effect on so many people.

St. Thomas More, pray for our servants in public life
St. Francis of Assisi, pray for the poor
St. Elizabeth of Hungary, pray for the homeless

First Anniversary Mass



The Late Sir David Amess RIP

Mass will be offered

7pm on Friday 14th October 2022



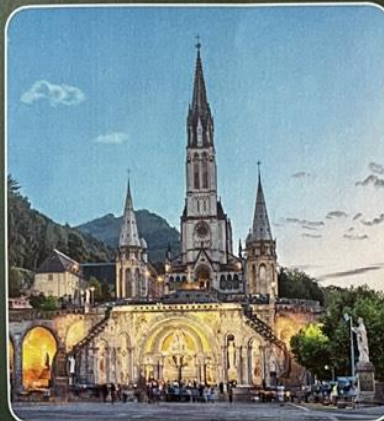
St. Peter's Catholic Church,

Eastwood Road North, Leigh on Sea. SS9

4BX

All Welcome

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

or contact Father Paul

www.tangney-tours.com - 01732 886666

Full spiritual itinerary for all
destinations

Over 40 years of pilgrimage
experience

Pilgrimages with 100% financial
protection

A dedicated, knowledgeable &
caring team

Mental Health First Aid Course

Thursday 17th November 8.30am – 4.30pm and continued on

Friday 18th November 10am – 5pm

In the Bethany Room.

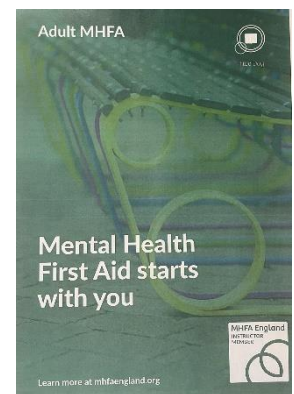
To learn more book onto an Adult MHFA Two Day course, please contact Fr

Paul at the parish office on 01268 38 24 99 or

rayleigh@dioceseofbrentwood.org

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

