***Parish Newsletter***

**OUR LADY OF RANSOM**

**27th November 2022 Advent 1A Psalter Week 1**

Do you remember “time, ladies and gentlemen please” – a cry from the bar? A moment before, a bell might ring indicating last orders. A sudden scramble to the bar, argy-bargy, each holding up high their £10 or £20 notes very visibly to catch the bar person’s eye in the hope getting served quicker.

So often a rush to get as many in before the bar closes. Is that our lives too? Madly rushing around, feeling we must get everything in. We end up doing things mindlessly, brain-dead, “un”conscious, sleep-walking – rushing around can leave us locked into rigid, inflexible patterns of behaviour.

From his numerous psychiatric analyses of people, C.G. Jung says that 95% of people spend 95% of their time sleep-walking. Routines, set-in-their-ways, creatures of habit. People doing things so mechanically, with no life, vitality or aliveness. Mindlessly repeating the same old thing day after day. Same-old, same-old. We are easily led into this horrifying world –often not even realising it. Scary!

Jesus also appreciated this. Hence his cry to “stay awake”. Be *alert, alive, conscious, be aware* of everything around us. Awake – *stay awake.* We can miss so much if we are largely unconscious. And of course, we miss the Christ. The cry of the Buddha was similar – Buddha means to be awake –awake to reality around us. Why miss so much good, beauty and truth?

All this rushing and mindless routines never feed the soul. Advent is a time to stop, reflect, think clearly, pray, touch base, prepare, and ask ourselves ‘where is my life really going? What is it all about’? Is my soul being fed? Am I “alive” or largely “un”-conscious?

“Time, ladies and gentlemen please”, is God’s call, not to close the bar, but to open and awaken our hearts to him and finally start to really “see” and experience life, enjoy what is to enjoy, lament what is to be sad about, experience life to the full. And of course, in that, we really experience the Christ.

Possibly, many won’t listen and will sleep-walk through Advent and Christmas, and suffer hang-overs and headaches wondering what it’s all about. For them, it’s just another Christmas, devoid of any depth and meaning – more mindless routine. They will sleep-walk through Advent, Christmas, and life generally. Are we listening to Our Lord to “stay awake”? How will Advent and Christmas be for us?

*God Bless, Fr. Paul*

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First Reading: Isaiah 2:1-5

Psalm: Psalm 121(122):1-2,4-5,6-9

Second Reading:Romans 13:11-14

Gospel: Matthew 24:37-44

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|  | **MASS INTENTIONS** |
| **Saturday 26th November** |  |
| **5.30pm Mass** | Holy Souls RIP |
| **Sunday 27th November** | **First Sunday of Advent** |
| **8.00am Mass**  **10.00am Mass** | Parish Community  Brian & Ann McCann RIP (Coleen Begg) |
| **Monday 28th November** |  |
| **10.00am** | Deceased members of Barry & Fischer Families (Hilary Barry) |
| **Tuesday 29th November** |  |
|  | Holy Souls RIP |
| **Wednesday 30th November** | **St Andrew** |
| **10.00am** | Christine Sugrue RIP (John Sugrue) |
| **Thursday 1st December** |  |
| **11.00am** | Requiem Mass for John Donaghy RIP |
| **Friday 2nd December** |  |
| **10.00am** | Eileen Synan RIP (Mark Brosnan) |
| **Saturday 3rd December** | **St Francis Xavier** |
| **5.30pm Mass** | Parish Community |
| **Sunday 4th December** | **Second Sunday of Advent** |
| **8.00am Mass**  **10.00am Mass** | Jim Hollington RIP (Carole Hollington)  Prayer Board Ints. (**First Holy Communion Mass**) |

All Masses and Church Services are now Live Streamed.

To take part please go to [***https://stream.seccomgroup.com/channel/olor***](https://stream.seccomgroup.com/channel/olor)

Masses can be watched “live” or later as a recording.

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| **PARISH PRIEST**  Father Paul Fox  50 London Hill, Rayleigh  Essex SS6 7HP  ***01268 38.24.99***  **www.olorchurch.org**  email: [***rayleigh@dioceseofbrentwood.org***](mailto:rayleigh@dioceseofbrentwood.org) | **Public Mass times:**  **Saturdays 5.30pm**  **Sundays 8am & 10.00am**  **Mondays 7.15pm**  **Wednesdays 10.00am**  **Fridays 10.00am**  *Please be aware - Times and days of weekday Masses are subject to change.* |

**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

Catherine Davis, Chris O’Callaghan, Lorna Best, Derek Timothy, Patricia (Pat) Taffurelli and Grace Lawless, whose anniversaries occur about this time. May they rest in peace.

**✟ November Dead List: The Remembrance Book for those who have died is in the church porch. The names will be remembered at Masses during November. ✟**

**✟** **John Donaghy RIP** – The Requiem Mass for John Donaghy will be **this** Thursday 1st December at 11am. May he 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.

C:\Users\Parish Office\Desktop\Instant Art 2\A0568.TIF**Kids” Bulletin**

A children’s version of the gospel is available weekly. This can be accessed on the following website: [**www.thekidsbulletin.com**](file:///C:\Users\Parish%20Office\Documents\NEWSLETTERS\C%202021-2022\www.thekidsbulletin.com) and is aimed at primary school children. It can be downloaded and printed out.

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**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.

**Christmas Eve Family Mass- Come and Join in the Nativity Tableau!**

We are so pleased to be able to create our nativity tableau again this year, for the Gospel at the family mass, on Christmas Eve at 6pm. We have plenty of costumes, in all shapes and sizes, and there is room for everyone! No one is too little, and we hope some of our older children will be able to guide the younger ones, having been part of this before. If your child would like to join in, please make a note of the dates below:

**Sunday 4th December-2pm**- come along, get a part and a costume.

**Sunday 18th December- 2pm -3.15pm** - practice

(Contingency- possible extra short practice just for Mary, Joseph, Angel Gabriel, kings, and star, for half hour, 23rd December). Thank you!

**Children’s Liturgy Dates**

Please note, there will be children’s liturgy on Sunday 27th November and Sunday 18th December, but not on 4th and 11th December.

**Sunday 4th December – 10am Mass**

At this mass we welcome and celebrate our young parishioners who will be making their First Holy Communion.

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**Winter 2022 - First Holy Communion**

Reminder that **ALL** children **MUST** be at the rehearsal on Monday evening 6.30 to 8pm at church.

**First Holy Communion - 2023**

If your child is in Year 3 or above and is baptised Catholic, please register your interest by contacting the parish office on [rayleigh@dioceseofbrentwood.org](mailto:rayleigh@dioceseofbrentwood.org) by 10th December 2022.

**Repository**

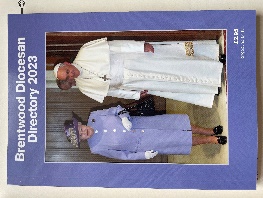
Our wonderful repository has lovely items, gifts and cards for sale for **First Holy Communion** and **Christmas** at very reasonable prices. Please do take the time after weekend masses to browse, purchase or place an order.

The repository is located at the back of church, in the porch area.

**Mass Intentions**

Thank you for all the Mass intentions, just to inform you that Mass intentions are currently booked until the end of the year.

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**Brentwood Diocesan Directory 2023**

New 2023 directories are available to purchase in the porch at the back of church.

**BCYS Summer Lourdes 2023**

Applications are now open for the Brentwood Catholic Youth Service pilgrimage to Lourdes, from 23rd – 30th July 2023!

The week is spent travelling alongside the main Diocesan pilgrimage to assist the elderly and infirm, and for those travelling with the BCYS, the week will also include a retreat, reconciliation service, the chance to visit the baths, a trip to a UNESCO World Heritage site, social nights and party as well as experiencing the Lourdes Torchlight Procession and Blessed Sacrament Procession. Open to anyone in school year 10 and above, all information and details on how to apply can be found at [www.bcys.net/events/sl23](http://www.bcys.net/events/sl23)

**Tree of Angels**

This November, Brentwood Catholic Children’s Society is pleased to launch their virtual **Tree of Angels** which will allow you to light up an angel on a virtual Christmas tree in memory of a loved one who has died while making a donation to the work of BCCS.  Please visit <https://visufund.com/tree-of-angels-2022> to go directly to our Tree of Angels portal to make your dedication and secure donation.  If you have any questions about lighting an angel, please contact Julie [jabbott@bccs.org.uk](mailto:jabbott@bccs.org.uk)

**Society of Friends of Westminster Cathedral**

The Friends of Westminster Cathedral are raising funds towards the cost of replacing the sanctuary floodlighting in Westminster Cathedral. The present floodlighting is very old and replacement parts are not available, also it uses a great deal of power generating a huge output of heat. A new system would be easily maintained and save electricity.

There is a unique opportunity to do this through The Big Give where donations made online after 12:00 noon, Tuesday 29 November 2022 to 12:00 noon, Tuesday 6 December 2022 are matched by generous matched funders. A donation of £100 would contribute £200 or £225 for taxpayers agreeing to gift aid their donation. Please use the link below to give online.

<https://tinyurl.com/FriendsBG22>

**Advent Service** at Brentwood Cathedral on Sunday 27th November at 4.00 p.m. With music from the Cathedral choir, readings and lighting of the Advent wreath led by Bishop Alan Williams, this is a perfect way to begin our spiritual preparation for Christmas. All welcome. You can also watch this service on the *Thresholds of Hope* page on youtube: <https://youtu.be/c2KQhRXzOFU>

**Free Jesse Tree Booklet for Families**

The Jesse Tree is a wonderful resource for families to prepare for Christmas during Advent, telling the story of God's unfolding plan of salvation through the ancestors of Jesus Christ. A free, printable Jesse Tree booklet containing daily short scripture passages, simple reflections and prayers, as well as tree ornaments are available for all families in the Diocese of Brentwood by following this link: [www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/departments/marriage-family-life/family-life/](http://www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/departments/marriage-family-life/family-life/)

**Message for Missio Red Box Holders:**

If you have a Red Missio Box and needs emptying, please contact your local Missio Promoter **Or** bring your Box to church and hand it in at the Sacristy and its contents will be banked into the Missio account in good time.

The boxes will need to be submitted by Sunday 27th November as we approach the year end.

On behalf of Missio, **thank you** for your generosity and support for the Pope’s charity through the year.

“We have all had a very difficult couple of years and now we face perhaps even tougher times ahead. We can only do what we can in our circumstances, no less and no more. despite all our challenges here, you have remained faithful in supporting our sisters and brothers around the world facing their own obstacles.

Thank you so much for your faithful support of Missio and the Mill Hill Missionaries through your time, your gifts and prayers”.

**Father Tony, Missio National Director**

**Why the Nativity?**

A new feature film from Turning Point

To order your FREE tickets, visit: WHYTHENATIVITY.CO.UK Or call 0800 058 2856

10am – 12pm Saturday December 3rd at Cineworld Cinemas across the UK

**Calais Light is calling YOU to join us on our refugee convoys to Calais.**

Age 18+. Dec 9-11 Experienced Continental drivers are extra welcome. A promised weekend of fun and fulfilment is guaranteed. Volunteer & really help refugees. Full details and bookings at [www.calaislight.com](http://www.calaislight.com). Can’t make the trip? Please donate at: <https://www.gofundme.com/f/6n9sg-calais-light>

Spaces are now open for the next car convoy to volunteer at @Care4Calais, which is an amazing grass-roots charity delivering essential aid and support to refugees living in the worst conditions across Northern France and Belgium. Volunteers will work in their warehouse sorting clothes and preparing its vital services for distribution.  (*Currently in need of DARK ADULT WINTER COATS - please text Clare Mason 07757138345 if you have any!)* Calais Light volunteers also get the unique and humbling opportunity to go out and meet refugees to offer solidarity and kindness as well as aiding Care4Calais with its distribution process. For more information go to: <https://www.caritasbrentwood.org/charity/calais-light/>

**Southend Bach Choir - Carol Concert in aid of HARP**

Saturday 17th December 2022 at 7pm.

St Andrew’s Church, Southview Drive, Westcliff-on-Sea, SS0 9PW

Admission is free but donations, which will go exclusively to HARP Southend’s Homeless Charity, would be greatly appreciated.

Further information: 01268 772842 or [secretary@southendbachchoir.org.uk](mailto:secretary@southendbachchoir.org.uk)

Registered Charity No. 274370

**The Big Sing - Live in Concert This Christmas**

Wednesday 21st December 2022

Brentwood Centre, Essex

Tickets now on sale @ BIG-SING.COM

Come & Celebrate Christmas with us!

**Knock Pilgrimages**

Escorted Pilgrimage to Knock Shrine, Ireland, 29th May 2023, led by Bishop Alan Williams.  £699.00 per person sharing.  Price includes flight, all transfers, 4 nights’ in Knock House Hotel with full board.  All entertainment and excursions included.  Day trips to Westport, Ballintubber Abbey, Croagh Patrick, Fr. Peyton Centre & National Museum.

Single supplement £150.00.  Contact Patricia on 01268 762 278 or 07740 175557 or email [**knockpilgrimages@gmail.com**](mailto:patricia@gotrouvaille.com).

**Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes 2023**

The annual diocesan pilgrimage, led by Bishop Alan, will take place from Monday 24 – Saturday 29 July.  All are welcome, including those of us who need assistance.  Details regarding booking and costs will follow soon.

**Vacancies**

**Housekeeper/Cleaner**

Required for Our Lady of Ransom Presbytery.

Minimum 4 hours per week, maximum 8 hours.

Salary to be discussed at interview.

To be responsible for managing effectively the routine cleaning of the presbytery.

To apply, please send CV and covering letter to [rayleigh@dioceseofbrentwood.org](mailto:rayleigh@dioceseofbrentwood.org)

Deadline for applications: Wednesday 30th November 2022.

**Our Lady of Ransom Catholic Primary School**

Cleaning  
**Cleaning Vacancy**

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 some limited hours in the school holidays.   
Please select this link for an application form:

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1shQOwjOfh61zMappRJ3wmzFseYO9TyzY/edit

which should be returned to [office@olorcps.net](mailto: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.

**Kitchen Staff Vacancy**

Kitchen staff required with an immediate start. 12.5 hours per week 11.30am-2pm.

For more information, please contact sharon@tcsinfo.co.uk

**Brentwood Cathedral Parish Hall Manager – St Mary & St Helen and Holy Cross**

The successful applicant will ideally have administration experience and be able to demonstrate good numeracy skills.  Excellent communication skills is also a requirement and Microsoft office skills, including Word and Excel and financial experience.

Hours: 3 hours per week.

Apply by sending a CV and covering letter (no longer than A4) to [cathedralbrentwood@gmail.com](mailto:cathedralbrentwood@gmail.com).   Closing date for applications is 16 December 2022.

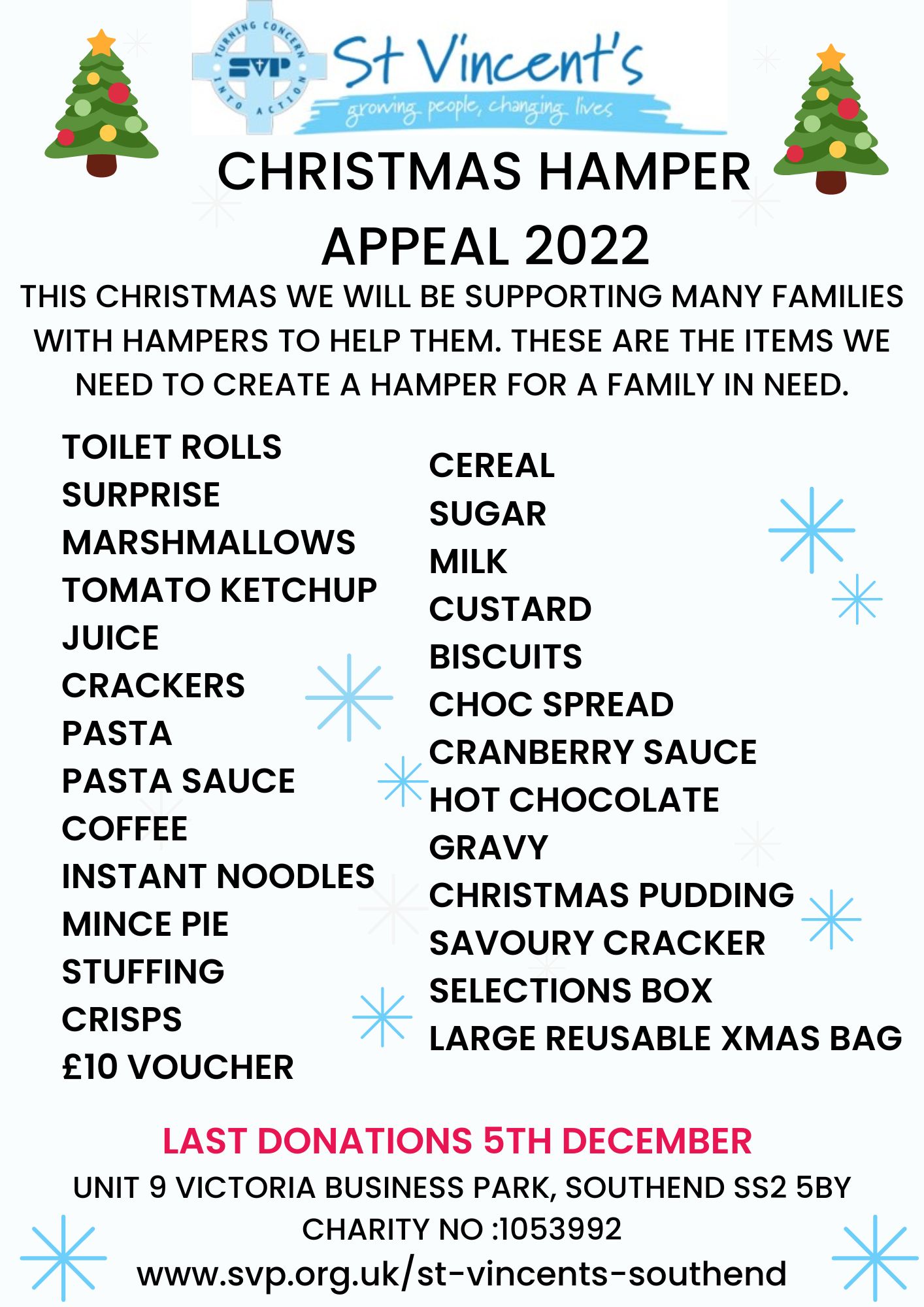
Job description: [Cathedral Parish Halls Manager – Brentwood JD](https://www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/wp-content/uploads/2022/11/Cathedral-Parish-Halls-Manager-Brentwood-JD.pdf) (full job description is contained on [www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/diocese/working-for-us](http://www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/diocese/working-for-us)).

**Receptionist/Administration Assistant**

<http://www.essexschoolsjobs.co.uk/Vacancies/Details.aspx?VacancyId=82349>

Job description download printable version. The Christs Catholic Trust are seeking to appoint a Receptionist / Administration Assistant. Permanent contract: [www.essexschoolsjobs.co.uk](http://www.essexschoolsjobs.co.uk). Closing date is Midday 2nd December 2022

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