

OUR LADY OF RANSOM

22nd January 2023 3rd Sunday of the Year. Psalter Week 3



“Claim 3 hours overtime....well.. go on..”, my friend urged me. It meant an extra £20, (a few years ago now!). Yes, the thought of an extra £20 was quite appealing. But then I wondered, was it worth the aggravation filling in the overtime forms? It sounded good. But, more importantly, which weighed more on me, why was I doing what I was doing? Was the arguably petty-mindedness of claiming an extra £20 justified? Yes, legally, I was entitled. That was his argument. Morally and spiritually, maybe not. Because I was working with adults with severe disabilities. And my Christian conscience kicked in.

This may highlight the difference between “vocation” and “career”. A vocation, coming from “vocare”, to call or to voice, is always about letting go of self-interests in favour of others. To build others up, sometimes at a cost to ourselves. It is the call of Our Lord. A career is more often motivated by self-interest, self-advancements and so on. Those without authentic Christian consciences will always fall back on legalisms and entitlements – self-sacrifice is always at stake and our morals are often compromised. Then we can play games with our consciences in an effort to justify ourselves.

To have a vocation is to want to do our work almost free of charge, and any salary is almost a bonus. Generally, only people with a true vocation appreciate this. The rewards always come in seeing how other people are built up. A passionate fire burns within motivating us onwards. When Jesus calls his first disciples and makes them “fishers of men”, he is lighting the fire, calling them away from self-interest to build others up in so many different ways which is of course, building God’s Kingdom.

With all the voices around competing for our commitment and attention, how do we know which is Our Lord’s? Largely it is the voice that resonates at our deeper levels making sense of our lives, of who we are, and the desire to build others up in some form. Once we get that, like the disciples in today’s Gospel, we want to act on it straight away – or as quickly as we can. The fire within begins to burn. Our Lord’s call is often challenging, not always easy, but when followed, we find it deeply satisfying, rewarding and fulfilling. The fire never goes out.

However old or young, we all have a vocation. Are we following ours? How?

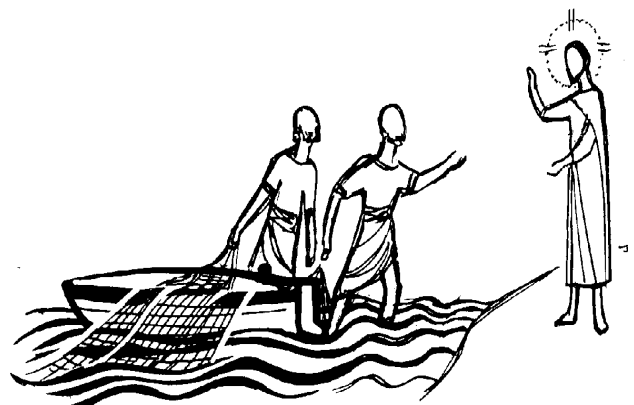
God Bless, Fr. Paul

First Reading: Isaiah 8:23-9:3

Psalm: Psalm 26(27):1,4,13-14

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:10-13,17

Gospel: Matthew 4:12-2



MASS INTENTIONS	
Saturday 21st January	St Agnes
5.30pm Mass	Penny Stiles RIP (Tori McGhee)
Sunday 22nd January	Third Sunday in Ordinary Time
8.00am Mass	Parish Community
10.00am Mass	Frank Vaughn RIP (Frances Wiley)
Monday 23rd January	
7.15 pm	Ellen & Robert King RIP
Tuesday 24th January	St Francis de Sales
<u>8.30am</u>	Hemming Family RIP
Wednesday 25th January	The Conversion of St Paul
2.15pm	Requiem Mass: Elspeth O' Sullivan RIP
Thursday 26th January	
9.30am	Frank Vaughn RIP (Stevens Family)
Friday 27th January	
9.30am	Des Houchin RIP (Anniversary)
Saturday 28th January	St Thomas Aquinas
5.30pm	Parish Community
Sunday 29th January	Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time
8.00am Mass	Fr Peter Edwards RIP
10.00am Mass	Emma Louise Lucibello RIP (Susan & Damian 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 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 Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays 9.30am Wednesdays 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 Aurora Bonham, Luciano Menegatti, George Isaacs and Hannah Moore whose anniversaries occur about this time. May they rest in peace.

RIP – please pray for the following people who have died recently.
(All Requiem Masses/Services will be here at Our Lady of Ransom unless otherwise stated):

† **Mrs. Gloria Ray.** Gloria's Requiem Mass will be on Monday February 6th at 11am. May Gloria rest in peace. †

† **Mrs. Elspeth O' Sullivan.** Elspeth's Requiem Mass will be this Wednesday January 25th at 2.15pm. May Elspeth rest in peace †

† **Mrs. Marie Murphy.** Marie's Requiem Mass will be on Tuesday January 31st at 11.15am. Marie's body will be received into the church on Monday 30th at 4.15pm. May Marie 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.

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.



Sunday Coffee Morning – Sunday 22nd January

Please join us for coffee morning after mass on Sunday 22nd January – any donations of cakes welcome. All monies raised will be donated to the SVP.

No Wednesday Coffee Morning this week (January 25th)

BCYS Summer Lourdes Pilgrimage, 23rd July - 30th July

Travel alongside the main Diocesan pilgrimage to assist the elderly and infirm, as well as joining them for social time, retreat, reconciliation, the baths, a trip to the stunning mountain town of Gavarnie, social nights and party as well as experiencing the Lourdes Torchlight Procession and Blessed Sacrament Procession. Open to all those in school year 10 and above. For all information and to apply, visit our website www.bcys.net/events/sl23 - Applications open until the end of January!

BCYS Youth Mass with Caritas Diocese of Brentwood, Thursday 2nd February

Join us in the Brentwood Cathedral Parish Hall from 6pm for pizza, refreshments and a chance to hear from guest speakers from Caritas and the SVP, helping us to think about charitable giving as we begin to prepare for the season of Lent.

Youth Mass is in the Cathedral at 7:30pm, and will be celebrated by Fr Dan Kelly. Everyone is welcome! See www.bcys.net or email gabriellafusi@dioceseofbrentwood.org for more information.

CYMFed Flame, Saturday 4th March at OVO Arena, Wembley

With incredible speakers Cardinal Tagle, Salesian Archbishop of Melbourne, Tim Costelloe, SDB, Robert Billot, an American lawyer who is the main character in the film Dark Waters; Jenny Garzón Saavedra a young advocate from the Amazon rainforest and David Wells, musicians including MOBO and Urban Music Award winner Guvna B, rising star Faith Child, Catholic band One Hope Project and soloist Adenike – a Finalist on The Voice, as well as Brenden Thompson and Georgia Clarke from Catholic Voices introducing Adoration, led by Cardinal Vincent Nichols this promises to be an incredible and inspiring day for young people! Passes cost just £24/person if you book before 31st January, and the BCYS has a limited number left so please email gabriellafusi@dioceseofbrentwood.org to reserve yours! All information at www.bcys.net/events

Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes 2023

Join Bishop Alan in Lourdes from Monday 24 to Saturday 29 July. We can support those with medical needs. For further information, please 'phone Tangey Tours on 01732 886 666 or book online: [Brentwood Lourdes - Lourdes - Tangney Tours \(tangney-tours.com\)](http://tangney-tours.com)

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.

Wishing all our Music Friends a very HAPPY NEW YEAR.....

Cost of Living – Caritas Brentwood

If you are affected by the Cost of Living crisis, or if you are part of a group that is offering help and support locally, please look at <https://www.caritasbrentwood.org/cost-of-living/>.

You can add to this webpage by contacting the Director of Caritas Diocese of Brentwood, Siân Thomas-Cullinan on caritas@dioceseofbrentwood.org

SPUC Annual Youth Conference 2023.

Date: 24 to 26 February

Venue: Yarnfield Park Training & Conference Centre. Stone, Staffordshire ST15 0NL

See more details, please click on the link below

<https://www.spuc.org.uk/2023youthconference>

<https://www.spuc.org.uk/Get-Involved/Youth/Youth-Conference>



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 Face to Face weekend in Welwyn Garden City on 24 - 26 February 2023, or a Virtual weekend on 6 - 9 July 2023, call or text 07887 296983 or 07973 380443 or email retrouvailleukinfo@gmail.com - or visit www.retrouvaille.org.uk

Vocations Weekend for Women - Theme: Discerning God's Call in your life

Dates: 3-5 Feb 2023 Location: London

The weekend is organised by the Sisters, Faithful Companions of Jesus (FCJ).

Jesus invites each of us to 'Come and See' - this weekend will give the opportunity to explore the vocation to religious life and to reflect on God's call to you.

If you are wondering if God is calling you to religious life and would like to find out more why not come along? You are welcome to stay for the weekend or just come along on Saturday for the day. There will be opportunity for prayer, reflection and input, chance to ask questions and to meet others who are also wondering where God is calling them.

For more information contact Sr Lynne fcJ at fcjvocationeurope@gmail.com or visit our website www.fcjsisters.org

Lunchtime MUSIC Recital Wednesday 25th January at 1pm

Next Wednesday 25th January at 1pm – 1.45pm we have a rather special Lunchtime MUSIC Recital featuring Jonathan Venner Pianist accompanying William Wayne Countertenor. Their Programme is as follows:-

Antonio Vivaldi (1678 – 1741)

Solo Cantata: 'Nisi Dominus'

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685 – 1750)

Piano Solo 'Bist du bei mir' (arr. William Harris 1883 – 1973)

Henry Purcell (1659 – 95)

'Vouchsafe, O Lord' from the Te Deum in D

Georg Friedric Handel 1685 – 1759)

Virgam virtutis from Three Vesper Psalms, No. 1

Frank Bridge (1879 – 1941)

Piano Solo: 'Rosemary'

Arvo Pärt (b 1935)

'Vater Unser' The Lord's Prayer

Leonard Bernstein (1918 – 90)

'Adonai roi' from the Chichester Psalms

Herbert Howells (1892 – 1983)

'King David'

Their biographies to follow.

Do hope you can join us @ Brentwood Cathedral.

CAFOD volunteer recruitment

Could your New Year's resolution be to help build a better world through volunteering?

CAFOD, the Catholic Agency for Overseas Development, are looking for people to give some



time and join them in their mission. Could you help develop our work in parishes or Catholic schools? Or raise a voice and campaign for justice throughout the diocese? Training and support are provided. See

cafod.org.uk/Volunteer for more information or get in touch with cdriscoll@cafod.org.uk