

OUR LADY OF RANSOM

8th January 2023 Baptism of the Lord Psalter Week 1



“Lulu, Lulu...” cried the man rocking back and forth in a chair in the psychiatric ward of the hospital. A priest visiting asked the doctor the reason he was doing this. The doctor explained that Lulu was the woman that had jilted this poor man years previous. Moving on, they came to a padded cell, the man inside was banging his head repeatedly and shouting “Lulu, Lulu...”. “Is Lulu this man’s problem too?”, asked the priest. “Yes”, the doctor said, “he’s the one that married Lulu...”

Men attached to Lulu and seemingly paying a price,. Two problems of life are, 1), getting what we are attached to, and 2) not getting what we are attached to! We cannot win! So *voluntary detachment* must be the answer. Today Jesus’ voluntary detachment begins his mission as God and man in total solidarity with our human condition. He enters the murky waters of the Jordan as a sign he is entering into the murky world of humanity. His mission is a downward journey that eventually plummets the very depths of the cross. The sinless one is identifying with the sin of humanity; “Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the World” so, to the world, he looks like someone desperately needing baptism - like us. God heals our problems – by being one just like us. Healing happens from within. It demands faith, not looking to some impersonal God in the skies waving a magic wand!

If God is just this impersonal spirit in the sky, he has virtually nothing to say to our human condition - but by being human himself, he does, completely. Our God in Jesus is a God whose power is expressed in a love that takes full part in our human condition, the struggles, the joys, the hopes, loves, and of course, the sufferings.

To anyone who faces the harsh reality of suffering, arguing intellectually about God and suffering can be very hurtful, possibly offensive. We read of thousands who die in disasters. Do we relate to that? Maybe a little. But the human, individual, personal stories of love and loss, we definitely do. The unbearable pain of losing a single child probably challenges us far more than that of thousands of strangers. So God becomes a single man to relate to us, and us to him – now we know for ourselves, he as God feels what we feel at first hand.

Jesus’ baptism begins God’s full, voluntary mission downwards into our human condition, and down further into unthinkable suffering, all this to experience all the qualities of being human. Now we have a God who suffers with us – as his sufferings are transformed (Resurrection), so are ours. That’s the basis of our faith.

God Bless, Fr. Paul

First Reading: Isaiah 42:1-4,6-7

Psalm: Psalm 28(29):1-4,9-10

Second Reading: Acts 10:34-38

Gospel: Matthew 3:13-17



MASS INTENTIONS	
Saturday 7th January	
5.30pm Mass	Ivy Garcia RIP (Maria Amey)
Sunday 8th January The Baptism of The Lord	
8.00am Mass	Parish Community
10.00am Mass	Walenty Krolikowski RIP (Janusz Krolikowski)
Monday 9th January	
11.15am	Requiem Mass – Annie Reidy RIP
Tuesday 10th January	
9.30am	Carmelite Sisters of Maryton Grange, Ints (Marie Griffin)
Wednesday 11th January	
10.00am	Annie Gray RIP (Anniversary) (Chris Gray)
Thursday 12th January	
8.30am Mass	Penny Stiles RIP
11am	Requiem Service (not Mass) Bernie Hunter RIP
Friday 13th January	
9.30am	Tom & Isobel Kennedy Ints (Pat & Mary Rickard)
Saturday 14th January	
5.30pm	Gloria Ray RIP (Maria Amey)
Sunday 15th January Second Sunday in Ordinary Time (Peace Day)	
8.00am Mass	Luciano Menegatti RIP (Anniversary) (Candi & Tania)
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 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 Anthony (Tony) Rimmer, Cassie Thompson, Patrick Flaherty, Michael John Mitchell, Shelagh Duroure, Mafalda Golledge, Annie Gray and Aurora Bonham 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. Maria Bernadette ‘Bernie’ Hunter. Bernie’s Requiem Service (not a Mass) will be at 11am on Thursday 12th January 2023. Please remember Carol, Tim, Lucy and Becky Markham in your prayers. May she rest in peace. †**

† **Mrs. Annie Reidy. Annie’s Requiem Mass will be this Monday January 9th at 11.15am in our parish. May Annie rest in peace. †**

† **Mrs. Alice ‘Betty’ Nicholls. Betty’s Requiem Mass will be on Tuesday 17th January 2023 at 12.30pm. May Betty rest in peace. †**

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

† **Please keep in your prayers Mrs. Gloria Ray who died recently. We also remember Ken and all the family. Funeral details to be announced. May Gloria rest in peace. †**

† **Please also keep in your prayers Mrs. Marie Murphy who died last Saturday. We also remember Peter and all the family. Funeral details to follow. May Marie rest in peace. †**

† **Mrs. Mary Else. Mary’s funeral (not a Requiem Mass) will be at Southend Crematorium (not at Our Lady of Ransom) on Thursday January 19th at 1.20pm. May Mary rest in peace. †**

† **And of course Pope Benedict XV1. Bishop Alan will celebrate a Requiem Mass in the Cathedral for Pope Benedict at 11.30am this Sunday 8th January. All welcome. May Pope Benedict rest in peace. †**

A big thank you to all who in different ways were so generous to me over Christmas. I really am so grateful. Wishing you all every blessing and all good for the New Year. Thanks again.

Fr. Paul

NEWSLETTER ITEMS:

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

Christmas Flowers. Thank you to everyone who donated towards the Christmas Flowers.
The Flower Team.



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.



Christmas Readings from the Lectionary.

The season of Christmas begins on Christmas Day and ends on the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord on 8th January.

Text and commentary by Fr Adrian Graffy on all the readings for Mass is now available free of charge on www.whatgoodnews.org
Go to 'Scripture Readings'.

Healing Mass of the Resurrection (family tree)

There will be a healing Mass of the Resurrection at Our Lady of Canvey and the English Martyrs on Thursday the 19th of January, at 7.00pm, beginning with rosary at 6.30pm. After Mass there will be Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and healing prayers. All welcome

STUDY DAY ON THE APOSTLE PAUL

The next Gidea Park Study Day will be on Saturday 21st January 2023 from 11 am until 1.30 pm at the Catholic Church of Christ the Eternal High Priest, Gidea Park. The speaker is Dr Sean Michael Ryan, chair of the Catholic Biblical Association of Great Britain, and research associate at the Margaret Beaufort Institute in Cambridge. Dr Ryan will speak about 'The Gospel according to St Paul'. The event is either in-person or live-stream. Coffee will be available for those attending in-person from 10.30 am. Please bring a packed lunch. Gidea Park Station (Elizabeth Line) is five minutes from the church. For those attending via live-stream simply go to www.whatgoodnews.org on the day. Recording of the talks will be made available after the event on the same website.

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

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.....

NEW YEAR'S CONCERT

Sunday 15th January at 4pm - 5.30pm at BRENTWOOD CATHEDRAL

We are delighted to invite you to a New Year's Concert here in Brentwood Cathedral on Sunday 15th January at 4pm to 5.30pm. Once again we are delighted to welcome eight year Violinist Hermione Duan who will be accompanied by members of the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra. Many of you will remember Hermione's wonderful performance for us in August of last year and we are very excited to have her and the RPO back here again.

The Programme will consist of the following pieces:-

Handel	La Réjouissance
Bach	Violin Concerto in A minor
	Soloist – Hermione Duan
Mascagni	Intermezzo from Cavellaria Rusticana
Vivaldi	Double Violin Concerto in A minor
	Soloists – Hermione Duan & Jennifer Christie
Vivaldi	The Four Seasons
	Spring Hermione Duan
	Summer Joana Valentinaviciute
	Autumn Jennifer Christie
	Winter Tamás András

Admission is FREE.

Should you be interested in attending, if you have the chance, do email us at music@dioceseofbrentwood.org to let us know!

Limited parking is available – alternatively there is a large multi storey around the corner at Sainsbury's.

Look forward to welcoming as many of you as possible.

Vacancies

Job opportunity: Walsingham House at Abbotswick Site Manager

Walsingham House are looking for someone who has a passion for caring for and supporting others to care for their beautiful site in the heart of the Brentwood countryside. The role involves helping to maintain the House and grounds throughout the year. Hours are 9 per week, 4 of which being worked on a Tuesday. For more information and how to apply, please see <https://bcys.net/job-vacancy-site-manager-for-walsingham-house-at-abbotswick/> Closing date is 12th January 2023.

DEPUTY HEADTEACHER VACANCY

Our Lady and St George's Primary School, Walthamstow

Salary: L11-L15 (£57,436 - £62,926) Outer London

Contract: Permanent/Open to job share

Starting: April 2023

Our Lady and St George's Primary is a highly respected and successful Catholic school. The Governors invite applications from experienced, enthusiastic and suitably qualified practising Catholic leaders to play a key role in building on the success of our friendly school.

Prospective candidates are warmly encouraged to visit the school. For more information or to arrange a visit, please contact the school office on 02085208500 Or email

office@olsgschool.org

Closing Date: 12 noon 16th January 2023

Shortlisting: 23rd January 2023

Formal Interviews: 3rd February 2023