

OUR LADY OF RANSOM

23rd April 2023

Easter 3A

Psalter Week 3



Why did the girl keep a bike by her bed? She was “two tired” of walking in her sleep! *Groan.....!* ‘Get it’? Of course we ‘get it’...!

Isn't it a pain if we need to explain a joke? The moment is totally lost. When we ‘get’ a joke, there is an interpretive key working in us, which happens through intellect, experience or whatever. As we ‘get’ the joke, there is a spontaneous click, the interpretive key is working, and we laugh. Because our intellect or experience allows the needed connection and understanding.

There seems to be an interpretive key missing at the beginning of today's Gospel. The disciples didn't ‘get it’. No connection. Yes, they appreciated all the facts, that Jesus was the prophet, powerful, healer etc, but something was clearly missing. It didn't click. It didn't make sense. Hence their depressed state.

Yes, Jesus was all these, but these are basic facts. Facts can be interesting. But they can also be academic, sterile and clinical. And some might reply, ‘so what’?

The interpretive key missing for them was the key of ‘relationship’, their faith in Him. This relationship was rekindled as they saw him doing his familiar thing that they had experienced so often – breaking bread. Experience allowed them to realise it was Him, the one they loved - now, they ‘got it’. The connection happened. Recognition. Now suddenly, everything had meaning, depth and soul.

And for us. Once our faith has meaning, depth and soul, we too are set alight. Our souls burn within. Or our faith is simply not real; just a collection of heady facts about Jesus? Yes, he is love, yes he is forgiveness etc...so what! Just facts. Sterile religion! Until we develop an authentic relationship with Him, a real connection, our supposed faith may be interesting, but it lacks meaning, soul and depth.

Experiencing Our Lord for ourselves. Not just many facts. Whether through silent prayer, great love or even, sometimes, suffering, we need to do this for ourselves. Develop our relationship with Him. Then we will have that interpretative key so needed. Then, we ‘get it’. Like the disciples today en route to Emmaus, *our* souls will truly burn within. Do we want faith? Or just a collection of sterile beliefs?

First Reading: Acts 2:14,22-33

Psalm: Psalm 15(16):1-2,5,7-11

Second Reading: 1 Peter 1:17-21

Gospel: Luke 24:13-35



| MASS INTENTIONS | |
|-------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Saturday 22nd April | |
| 5.30pm | Parish Community |
| Sunday 23rd April | |
| Third Sunday of Easter | |
| 8.00am | Kate Clinch RIP (Anniv) (Jean & Peter Wood) & Vera Cooling RIP (Anniv) (Anthony Cooling) |
| 10.00am | Noreen O'Farrell RIP (Jim O'Farrell) |
| Monday 24th April | |
| St George, Patron Saint of England | |
| 9.30am | Doris Warrington RIP |
| Tuesday 25th April | |
| Saint Mark | |
| No Mass | ----- |
| Wednesday 26th April | |
| 10.00am | Shirley McCamley RIP (Jean Wood) |
| Thursday 27th April | |
| 9.30am | Betty Curran & Williams Family RIP |
| Friday 28th April | |
| 9.30am | Celine Kelly RIP (Caroline & Steve Bunker) |
| Saturday 29th April | |
| St Catherine of Siena | |
| 5.30pm | Irena Owczarek RIP (Anniv) (Krolikowski Family) |
| Sunday 30th April | |
| Fourth Sunday of Easter | |
| 8.00am Mass | John McMorroo RIP (Caroline & Steve Bunker) |
| 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.

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| <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>Public Mass times: Saturdays 5.30pm Sundays 8am & 10.00am Mondays 9.30am Wednesdays 10.00am Thursdays & Fridays 9.30am</p> <p><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 †

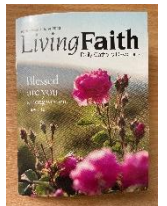
Kindly pray for Anna Mazen, Norman Hamilton, Kate Clinch, Robert Scott, Irena Owczarek, Vera Cooling and Hugh Kirkland, whose anniversaries occur about this time. May they rest in peace.

Receiving from the Chalice. *We have now re-introduced the Chalice. Please feel under NO obligation to receive from it. Please, let no-one push you in to either receiving or not receiving. It should be your own decision for the reasons mentioned at the end of the newsletter. It is on offer for those who wish to receive the precious Blood as well as the Sacred Host. We will attempt to offer the Chalice at all the weekend Masses.*



My Day by Day & Living Faith

Easter My Day by Day books and the latest edition of Living Faith are available to purchase in the church porch.



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.

Easter Flowers

Easter Flowers were in memory of Emma Louise Lucibello, Walenty Krowlikowski and Tom and Pat Herlihy. Many thanks for other donations received.

The Flower Team.



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.

SVP

£38.00 was raised at the coffee morning after 11am mass last Sunday. Many thanks to those that organised and donated.



Westminster Cathedral Choristers. Tuesday 2nd May at 6pm

The Westminster Cathedral Choristers are coming to Brentwood Cathedral to sing. This will take the form of a Mass and a brief Recital, together lasting no more than an hour and a half. Seating could be reasonably limited, therefore, please email ninahow@dioceseofbrentwood.org to advice if you will be attending.

Children's Liturgy- Dates and news

Please note dates for children's liturgy over the next few weeks:

23rd April - Children's Liturgy

30th April - Children's Liturgy (2 groups)

7th May- *NO* Children's Liturgy- First Holy Communion mass

14th May- *NO* Children's Liturgy- First Holy Communion mass

21st May- Children's Liturgy (2 groups)

Exciting news - on the 30th April and 21st May we are trialling running 2 groups, so that we are able to tailor our exploration of the Gospel message to 2 separate age groups. Children will come to the session in the usual way, and those in school years 3-6 will continue through the Bethany room to the sacristy, with a leader. The younger group will remain for children ages 3 to year 2.



Legion of Mary – *please read*

Help needed with Meals, Transport and Accommodation. Can you help?

The Peregrinatio Pro Christo (PPC) Committee (the HQ of the Legion of Mary) will be coming to our parish, from the 15th to the 22nd July 2023. It will be a team of 12 Legionaries. Can we offer accommodation for these 12 people in various homes? Meals and Transport?

Otherwise the accommodation could prove very expensive on the team. Some financial assistance can be offered. The individual members are happy to sort out some of their own food. Please let Fr. Paul, or Isobel Kennedy (01702 230578) know if you can help. Thank you. The Parish has assisted before, can we do so again?

Mass for Migrants

The Dioceses and Ethnic Chaplaincies of Brentwood, Southwark and Westminster invite you to the annual Mass for Migrants on Monday, 1st May 2023, at 12pm. The Mass will be hosted by the Diocese of Brentwood at St Antony of Padua Church, Forest Gate E7 9QB. You are kindly invited to attend in person to celebrate the significant contribution made by migrants to the life of our Dioceses.

Altar Linen

Volunteers are needed to wash and iron the Altar Linen weekly. This can be done at home on a rolling basis, collected one week, taken home, washed and ironed and brought back the following week. Huge thanks to Mrs. Linda Petchey who has done this for about 25 years and is now stepping down. Thank you Linda. Linda is happy to be contacted, if needed, about how to go about this. (01268 742031).

Urgent Appeal from The Good Counsel

At the moment our funds are as low as they have been for at least the last 5 years. There are more than 20 women that we are currently providing ongoing help and assistance to, as well as many others who we provide a range of support to. We have recently given out almost £500 worth of food vouchers to women who have *no recourse to public funds*. But we do not have the money to be able to do this or anything like it next week.

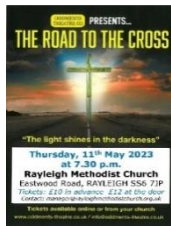
Would you, could you make a donation towards our work, so that we can continue to help these mothers and their babies, who don't qualify help elsewhere.

You can make a bank transfer to support our work [THE GUILD OF OUR LADY OF GOOD COUNSEL, CAF Bank Ltd, Sort code: 40 – 52 – 40 Account no: 00032165] or donate through our Just-Giving appeal www.justgiving.com/campaign/keepgoodcounselopen and we are now able to take donations over the telephone 020 7723 1740.

The Road to The Cross

On the evening of Thursday, 11th May, the Oddments Theatre Co. (a touring professional Christian drama group) are performing *The Road to OThe Cross* at Rayleigh Methodist Church. This contemporary stage show will make you laugh, cry and reflect as we follow the story of Jesus and his disciples from Palm Sunday to Pentecost.

Set in the 21st century, this play challenges the audience to think about the Christian message in a new way. 'The Road to the Cross' has an innovative set, with lighting and sound effects, to bring you a visually striking show. Because of the graphic nature of some of the presentation, it is suggested that this is suitable for children of 12 years old and above. Tickets can be purchased wither online, via this email; manager@rayleighmethodistchurch.org.uk or by ringing me on 07779 305 684.



Knitting and Dementia

Do you like knitting? Do you want to support Dementia? The council is currently working on Dementia Action Week for May 15-22nd in Rayleigh, and are asking if you would like to knit in order to assist with forget me nots to decorate Rayleigh High St. If you are interested, please call Elizabeth on 07803 139927. Thank you.

EDEL QUINN PILGRIMAGE TO AYLESFORD, KENT. SATURDAY 13th MAY 2023

All parishioners, their families and friends are invited to join us for our annual pilgrimage to the shrine at Aylesford. There will be Mass at noon, Rosary procession around the grounds in the afternoon and finishing with Benediction. Confessions are available, book shop etc. Bring your own picnic lunch or buy refreshments there. A coach has been booked – pickup point in Rayleigh is the bus stop outside M&S in Eastwood Rd. Pick up time 9.30am. Cost of coach place £15. To reserve a place please contact Isobel Kennedy 07795 821705 as soon as possible.



Publication and Statement by the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales:

The Bishops' Conference has released a statement on the Illegal Migration Bill. The statement calls on the Catholic community to write to their MP to oppose this "cruel and unworkable Bill". <https://www.csan.org.uk/news/csan-statement-on-the-illegal-migration-bill/>.

Caritas Networking Day

Interested in the Catholic response to homelessness, welcoming refugees and migrants, assisting with the Cost of Living Crisis, or tackling the causes and effects of climate change? Come to the first Caritas Brentwood networking day, **Saturday 10th June, 10am – 2.30pm, at Sacred Heart of Mary School, Upminster** (on C2C & District lines, close to M25 & A127). Hear **national speaker Raymond Friel, OBE**, Chief Executive of the Catholic Social Action network. This day is a chance to be sustained, share ideas and good practices with people from parishes across Essex and East London and hear about charities and resources available. Details and Registration (free!) at www.caritasbrentwood.org/network

Homes for Ukraine Matching Service

Caritas Social Action Network, in partnership with St John of God Hospitaller Services, an international Catholic charity with many services for the vulnerable in the UK and Ireland, is matching Ukrainian people displaced by war with people in the Catholic community, willing to host them in their homes for six months. If you have room in your home and heart to consider welcoming a stranger, then we'd love to hear from you. Please visit <https://sjog-homesforukraine.uk/> for more information.

The Brentwood Catholic Children's Society is inviting parishioners across the Diocese to join in with their annual 'Relay 100' community event this May and June. This initiative is an opportunity to remind our community about the work we do, to reach families who may need our support and to raise some funds through sponsored walks, runs or cycles. We are looking for 100 individuals or groups to complete a 'leg' of our relay around the diocese; we have routes of varying distances so there is something to suit all abilities. Can you help us? To find out more, please contact Damian Dillon: ddillon@bccs.org.uk / 07912 308000 or visit <https://www.bccs.org.uk/get-involved/events/> and click on 'Relay 100 Sponsored Walks' to read more about this event.



Knights of St. Columba Competitions 2023

EASTER YOUTH AND YOUNG PEOPLE

Submission Date is Friday, 19th May 2023

At present there are a number of competitions for young people such as: Painting, Photography, Essay, and Prayer Competitions for different age groups: If anyone would like details, they may contact me and I will forward all the details. Please email: marting.doyle@blueyonder.co.uk Bro Martin Doyle Action and Youth Officer Council 456 KSC

Clare Priory Pilgrimage, Sunday 14th May

11.30am Rosary and procession to the Shrine; 12.15pm Service of Reconciliation and Adoration; 2.15pm Mass of the Day. Further information contact: 01787 277326.

Email: clarepriory@clarepriory.net Clare Priory, Clare, Suffolk CO10 8NX

Website: www.clarepriory.org.uk

'The Priests' Charity Concert:

Brentwood Catholic Children's Society is delighted to announce that the Northern Irish classical singing trio '**The Priests**' will be performing a second charity concert on Friday 30th June 2023 at the Brentwood Cathedral at 7.30pm. All tickets can be purchased directly through Eventbrite and are £30 per person plus booking fee:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/528414691567> We expect this to be a sell-out event and would urge you to book early in order to avoid disappointment. Why not organise a minibus or a coach to bring a group from your parish to Brentwood Cathedral? It promises to be a great evening of entertainment. Full details are available on our website:

www.bccs.org.uk/get-involved/events/

Vacancies:

Primary School Link Adviser

The Diocese of Brentwood is seeking to appoint a Primary School Link Adviser who is a practising Catholic, to support the Diocesan Board of Education and its family of schools. This is likely to be a part-time post of either 3 or 4 days a week, however, consideration will also be given to applicants who are seeking a full-time or secondment opportunity. The Primary Link Adviser will report to the Diocesan Director of Education and Deputy Director.

Further details and an application form can be obtained here:

<https://www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/primary-link-adviser-vacancy/>

The closing date for applications is midday on Friday 28th April 2023

Interviews will be held on Tuesday 2nd May 2023

Parish Administrator – The Holy Family and All Saints – Witham.

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

Hours: 15 hours per week working three days (Tuesday, Thursday, Friday)

Apply by sending a CV and covering letter (no longer than A4) to

witham@dicosesofbrentwood.org . Closing date for applications is 26 April 2023.

Job description: Parish Administrator -Witham (full job description is contained on www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/diocese/working-for-us).

Loyola Preparatory, a Catholic boy's school in Buckhurst Hill, is looking to appoint a **Deputy Headteacher** to join their small and friendly school in September 2023. For further information regarding this opportunity please see the TES jobs website. The closing date for applications is by 10am on 10th May 2023. Interested candidates are invited to contact the School Secretary, Mrs Long on 020 8504 7372 or by email to office@loyola.essex.sch.uk to arrange a tour of the school.

OFFERTORY CONTRIBUTIONS

Thanks to all who continue to support our parish financially.

QR Codes

Please see on the bench in front of you in church, and at the end of this newsletter. The **QR codes** you can use with your Smart Phones. Giving electronically prevents too much cash lying around and can be of great help. If you can use this way of donating, please do so, it would be a great help. Alternatively, please see QR codes in the church porch. Thank you.

GIFT AID If you are a taxpayer and donate to the parish online or via bank transfer, 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 / 01268 772998) if you have any questions. Thank you.


Donate with Gift Aid

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If you wish to Gift Aid your donation please scan the codes in this section after reading the declaration.





Please treat as gift aid donation, all qualifying gifts of money made from the date of this declaration. I am a UK taxpayer and understand that, if I pay less Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax in the current year than the amount of

Gift Aid claimed on all my donations, it is my responsibility to pay any difference.

| Donate £3.00 | Donate £5.00 | Donate £10.00 | Donate £20.00 |
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Donate without Gift Aid

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Holy Communion from the Chalice

The Bishops of England and Wales have said that Communion from the Chalice—the Precious Blood—may be resumed from Easter. Our Bishop has stated that this is a permission and not obligatory. The Chalice was suspended at the start of the pandemic to prevent the spread of the virus. Many of us are understandably still being vigilant with regard to further contagion, especially if we are vulnerable. The teaching of the Church is that when we receive Holy Communion, Christ is present whole and entire—Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity—under either kind. By receiving under one species we do not receive less of Christ or less grace. Receiving from the Chalice obviously emphasises the sacramental sign—of eating and drinking the Body and Blood of The Lord. The counsel we are receiving is that we should reintroduce the Chalice prudently and cautiously once it is clear that the majority of parishioners are content that Covid, Influenza and other diseases are not communicable. It would seem unwise to reintroduce this practice and then have to withdraw it with the approach of winter. I have communicated this with our extra-ordinary ministers of Holy Communion to ensure that they feel satisfied that this is once again safe, since they will need to purify and consume what remains in the Chalice; I am not happy asking others to do something that I, for sure, would not be prepared to do myself, given the potential attendant health risks. I, too, am fairly vulnerable. The Southend Deanery has also discussed this and have jointly made this decision too for their Parishes.

The question of the possibility of Intinction (when the Host is dipped into the Precious Blood so that a communicant receives both together) has been raised. The Bishops' Conference has decided to affirm the practice found in *Celebrating the Mass* which states that this form of the reception of Holy Communion “is not recommended in England and Wales.” It restricts the possibility of the communicant to receive the host reverently in their hands. Likewise, communicants are not permitted to receive Holy Communion by “self-intinction” where having received the Sacred Host in the hand, they proceed to the Precious Blood and “dip” the host themselves into the chalice. Sacraments are never taken, but received, and the gesture of “self-intinction” denies this reality.

I hope this helps.

Thank you. Fr. Paul