***Parish Newsletter***

**OUR LADY OF RANSOM**

**9th April 2023 The Resurrection of Our Lord A Psalter Week 1**

Resurrection is truth, - ideas and intellect can never be adequate - it needs experiencing, not explaining, we need to experience Resurrection, new transformed life for ourselves. Only then can we know for ourselves. Poetry can move us at times. Consider the following poem – even you’ve read it before – I dare you not to be moved:

**Her hair tied up in a ponytail, her favourite dress tied with a bow, today was Daddy’s Day at school and she couldn’t wait to go. But her mummy tried to tell her, that she ought to stay at home, why the kids might not understand if she went to school alone. But she was not afraid; she knew just what to say. What to tell her classmates of why he wasn’t there today. But still her mother worried; for her to face this day alone, and so once again she tried, to keep her daughter home. But our little friend ran off to school, eager to tell them all, about a dad she never sees, a dad who never calls. There were daddies lining the back wall, for everyone to meet; children fidgeting impatiently, anxious in their seat. One by one, the teacher called a student, a student from the class, to introduce their daddy, as seconds slowly passed.**

**At last the teacher called her name, every child turned to stare. Each of them was searching for a man who wasn’t there. “Where is her daddy at?” she heard a boy call out. “She probably doesn’t have one” another dared to shout. And from somewhere near the back, she heard a daddy say, “looks like another low-life dad too busy to waste his day”. The words did not offend her as she smiled up at her mum. She looked back at the teacher, who told her to go on. And with hands behind her back, she slowly began to speak, and out from the mouth of a little child, came words incredibly unique.**

**C:\Users\Parish Office\Desktop\SIGNS, SYMBOLS & SAINTS\LIT_L_E\01\EA_VG.TIF“My Daddy couldn’t be here, as he lives so far away. But I know he wishes he could be, for this special day. And though you cannot meet him, I want you all to know, all about my daddy, and how much he loves me so. He loved to tell me stories, he taught me to ride my bike, he surprised me with pink roses, and taught me to fly a kite. We used to share fudge sundaes, and ice creams in a cone, and though you cannot see him, I’m not standing here alone. ‘Cos my daddy’s always with me, even though we’re far apart, I know because he told me, he’ll be forever in my heart”. With that, her little hand reached up, and lay across her chest. Feeling her own heartbeat, beneath her favourite dress.**

**And from somewhere in the crowd of dads, her mother stood in tears. Proudly watching her little daughter, wise beyond her years.**

**C:\Users\Parish Office\Desktop\SIGNS, SYMBOLS & SAINTS\LITCOMB\01\EA_ES_1.TIFShe stood up for the love, of a man not in her life, doing what was best for her, and doing what was right. And when she dropped her hand back down, she stared into the crowd, and finished with a voice so soft, with a message clear and loud. “I love my daddy very much, he is my shining star, and if he could, he’d be here, but heaven’s just too far. You see, he is a soldier who died in this past year, when a roadside bomb hit him, and taught us all to fear. But sometimes when I close my eyes, it’s like he never went away. Then she closed her eyes, and saw him there that day. And to her mum’s amazement, she witnessed with surprise, a room full of daddies and children, beginning to close their eyes. Who knows what they saw before them or what they felt inside, perhaps for just a second they saw him at her side. “I know you’re with me daddy, to the silence she called out”, and then what happened next, made believers of those who doubt. No-one could explain it, for all eyes had been closed, but on the desk beside her, was a fragrant pink stemmed rose. A child was blessed just for a moment, by the love of a shining star, and given the gift of faith, that heaven’s never too far.** (Unknown)

**Wishing you all every blessing, peace and joy for Easter. Stay safe, stay well.** **Fr. Paul**

**First Reading: Acts 10:34,37-43**

**Psalm: Psalm 117(118):1-2,16-17,22-23**

**Second Reading: Colossians 3:1-4**

**Gospel: John 20:1-9**

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|  | **MASS INTENTIONS** |
| **Saturday 8th April** | **Holy Saturday** |
| **8.00pm Mass** | RCIA Candidates (Ints) and Parish Community |
| **Sunday 9th April** | **Easter Sunday, The Resurrection of The Lord** |
| **8.00am Mass**  **10.00am Mass** | Marie McGovern RIP  Emma Louise Lucibello RIP (Damian & Susan) |
| **Monday 10th April** | **Monday within the Octave of Easter** |
| **9.30am** | Meera Mervyn RIP (Anniv) (Priya Joachim) |
| **Tuesday 11th April** | **Tuesday within the Octave of Easter** |
| **9.30am** | Jack & Margaret Nelson RIP (Anniv)  (Joan Gardiner) |
| **Wednesday 12th April** | **Wednesday within the Octave of Easter** |
| **10.00am** | **Requiem Mass - Breda Clark RIP** |
| **Thursday 13th April** | **Thursday within the Octave of Easter** |
| **9.30am** | Graeme Hoare RIP (Kathy Hoare) |
| **Friday 14th April** | **Friday within the Octave of Easter** |
| **9.30am** | Betty Curran & Williams Family RIP |
| **Saturday 15th April** | **Saturday within the Octave of Easter** |
| **5.30pm** | Michael Gumley RIP (Anniv)  (Gumley and Smith Families) |
| **Sunday 16th April** | **Second Sunday of Easter** |
| **8.00am Mass**  **10.00am Mass** | Parish Community  Mary Kenefick RIP (Anniv) (John Kenefick) |

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 9.30am**  **Wednesdays 10.00am**  **Thursdays & Fridays 9.30am**  *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 Margaret Lockhart, Marcelle Mark, Mary Fox, and Patricia Marshall whose anniversaries occur about this time. May they rest in peace.

**NB. Please remember the collection at all the weekend Easter Masses is a personal gift to the Parish Priest (not the Good Friday Liturgy, where the collection goes to support the Shrines in the Holy Land.) Thank you**.

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**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.

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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.



**Easter Flowers**

Easter Flowers are in memory of Walenty Krowlikowski and Tom and Pat Herlihy.

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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.

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**Wednesday 12th April**

No coffee morning this Wednesday, resuming the following week, 19th April after 10am Mass.

**Mass Intentions**

**Please contact the parish office to book a Mass intention and please be clear when writing names down, please also be clear about whether persons concerned are RIP or an intention. If there are no Mass intention forms in the church porch, by all means write them down on a piece of paper with an offering attached. But please be clear. Thank you**.

**Legion of Mary - Accommodation needed - Basically Bed and Breakfast.**

**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? Are you able to offer? Otherwise the accommodation could prove very expensive on the team. Some financial assistance can be offered. The individual members are happy to sort out their own lunches and suppers. Please let Fr. Paul, or Isobel Kennedy (01702 230578) know if you can help. Thank you.

**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. This week we have 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.  
It is Lent, a time of almsgiving, a time when Catholics are asked not just to fast and abstain, but to use the money saved to help those in need. I would ask you therefore at this time to please 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](https://click.contact.justgiving.com/?qs=79ae4a192658b301968bd8dd919c6da754924d1faec75dd557a62588ddabea05c695f23aeebde115de4ed5dc246810cafdd2464dc51dbe3a) and we are now able to take donations over the telephone 020 7723 1740.

**Parish Children's meet-up**

Come and join us on **Tuesday 11 April** in Hullbridge.

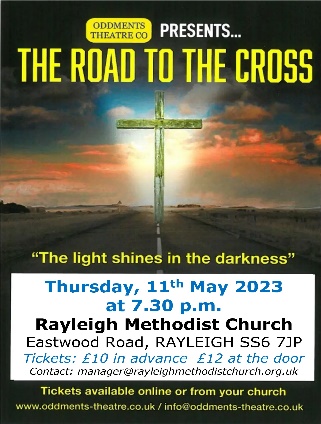
Meet at 10am at the slipway at the end of Ferry Road (near the Anchor)

We will walk along the river to Hullbridge Recreation Ground on Pooles Lane. Bring duck food! Alternatively, you can join us at the play area.

Please text Antonia Cevizli on**07817686272**if you are planning on coming so we know who to expect and can let you know of any changes in plan.

**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 The 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.

**Clare Priory Pilgrimage, Sunday 14th May.**

11.30am Rosary and procession to the Shrine; 12.15 Service of Reconciliation and Adoration; 2.15 Mass of the Day.

Further information contact: 01787 277326.

Email: [clarepriory@clarepriory.net](mailto:clarepriory@clarepriory.net)

Clare Priory, Clare, Suffolk CO10 8NX website: www.clarepriory.org.uk

**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.

** Missio Contributions from Our Lady of Ransom 2022**

**Missio** is the Pope’s charity for World Mission. We unite God’s love by helping local missionaries to work alongside global communities who are poor or in need, regardless of their background or belief.

The total contributions to **Missio** from **Our Lady of Ransom Parish** for **2022** is

**£2,718.23** - donations via the **Red Box** and includes £467.94 individuals **Direct Giving** -(online).

While it continues to be a challenging time for us all, on behalf of Fr Anthony Chantry (Missio National Director) **thank you** to all our **parishioners** for your donations and you as **Promoters** too - **thank you** for all that you do to continue the legacy of **Blessed Pauline Jaricot**.

Her Feast Day, 9th January, is a date we will always keep in our diary now as she inspires us to keep on giving to the **Red Box** and spreading the word with faith and hope. ‘She lit the match that lit the fire’.

God Bless you all.

If any parishioners would like a Red Box, please speak to any one of the Ushers at the back of the church.

**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.

**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](http://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.

**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.

**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](mailto: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.

**St Bernard’s High School Careers Fair**

St Bernard’s High School is holding a careers fair on Wednesday 19th April, 8:00am – 3:30pm and we are looking for delegates to support our school community. We are keen to introduce role models to our students to raise aspirations and hope the event will give them the opportunity to speak with delegates about their industries and careers. Please contact [hli@stbernards.southend.sch.uk](mailto:hli@stbernards.southend.sch.uk) if this is something you would like to be a part of.

**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

**OFFERTORY CONTRIBUTIONS**

***Thanks to all who continue to support our parish financially.***

**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*](mailto:olorgiftaid@hotmail.com) ***/ 01268 772998) if you have any questions.*** Thank you.

**Donate with Gift Aid**

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 without Gift Aid**

If you are unable to donate with Gift Aid then please use the codes below

**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