

OUR LADY OF RANSOM

14th May 2023

Easter 6A

Psalter Week 2



The Sat-Nav was working fine. Or so I thought! I typed in the destination, drove the hundred miles, and ended up in a field! Oops! After all this great technology, I still needed to ask directions. Maybe it needed updating. Sat-Navs. Do you have one?

A form of *divine Sat-Nav* is planted within every person. We call it the Holy Spirit. It longs, yearns and hearkens back to its source – God himself. And unless this Sat-Nav is continually updated through prayer, we will always feel lost, maybe tortured with dissatisfaction. Only God can ultimately satisfy. As Jesus says, the world of mind and logic will never understand. It is only known by those who are prepared to reach beyond this world, and try and connect to this internal divine Sat-Nav – the Holy Spirit. They are the ones who understand. They make contact with this inner guide, this inner knower, ie, the presence of God’s Holy Spirit living within in us all. They are the ones who are truly satisfied.

Good healthy religion teaches how to make such contact. It helps us discover this Inner Guide. Jesus is asking that we awaken to this truth. Different religions have different words for it. Today we hear Jesus using the word ‘advocate’.

Using this word “advocate”, Jesus is saying the Holy Spirit is like a defence-lawyer. Why? Because our spirits can be so beaten down, filled with self-doubt, maybe self-hatred and self-criticism that this Inner Knower will fight on our behalf, defending us against these voices of negativity and oppression that can so easily demean and humiliate. Making contact reassures us we are truly children of God. It’s restorative. Yes, we can still go through terrible things in life, but they don’t have the power to defeat, humiliate, demean or destroy us any longer.

So we must contact and update this internal Sat-Nav. Silent prayer (silence is God’s first language); contact with nature – God’s created world; have one or two wise, spiritually grounded friends; and an honest periodic checking of ourselves are just some ways. Like a good updated homing device, allow this internal divine Sat-Nav to home in on its real destination. Don’t be misdirected to the wrong place, or a field - a spiritual nowhere, because we ‘think’ we know, or because it is not working properly or needs updating. Connect; update, then we can be always happy, even when we’re sad.

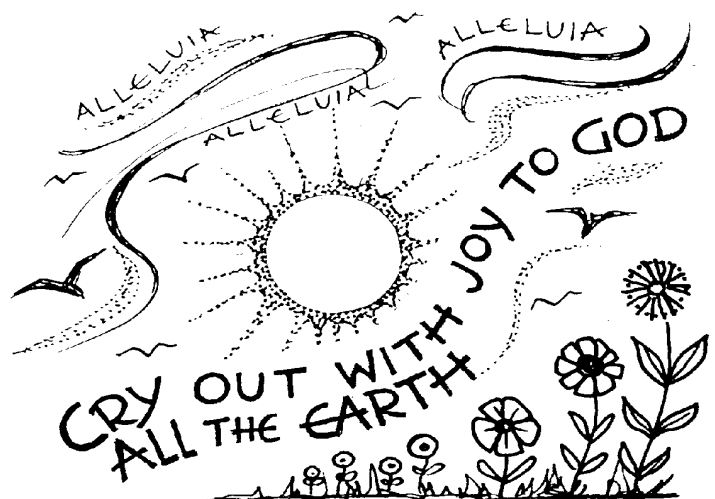
The world and all its illusions simply cannot do it. Are we in touch?

First Reading: Acts 8:5-8,14-17

Psalms: Psalm 65(66):1-7,16,20

Second Reading: 1 Peter 3:15-18

Gospel: John 14:15-21



MASS INTENTIONS	
Saturday 13th May	St Erconwald
5.30pm	Colin White RIP (Esther Thomas)
Sunday 14th May	Sixth Sunday of Easter
8.00am	Terry Askem RIP (Jane, Paul & Charlie Renshaw)
10.00am	Parish Community & First Holy Communion Children
Monday 15th May	
9.30am	Alice Allso RIP
Tuesday 16th May	
No Mass	-----
Wednesday 17th May	
10.00am	Joyce McCarthy RIP (Anniv) (Maria Amey)
Thursday 18th May	The Ascension of the Lord
7.30am	Parish Community
9.30am	Ronald Mitchell RIP (Steve & Caroline Bunker)
8.00pm	Paul Roseman (THG) (SVP)
Friday 19th May	
10.15am	Lourdes Pilgrims' Ints
Saturday 20th May	
5.30pm	Margaret Sullivan RIP (Jenny & Adrian Short)
Sunday 21st May	Seventh Sunday of Easter
8.00am Mass	Parish Community
10.00am Mass	Kathleen Geeson RIP (Geeson Family)

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@brcdt.org</p>	<p><u>Public Mass times:</u> Saturdays 5.30pm Sundays 8am & 10.00am Mondays 9.30am Wednesdays 10.00am Thursdays & Fridays 9.30am <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 Ken Heard, Mary Cross, Margaret Hand, Joyce McCarthy, Sheila Robertson, Faye Semple, William Packwood, whose anniversaries occur about this time. May they rest in peace.



First Holy Communion Masses

Please note that this is happening at the 10am Mass this Sunday, May 21st when 12 of our children will receive Our Lord's Body for the first time. Please keep our First Holy Communion children and their families in your prayers.

Ascension Thursday is this week, the 18th. It is a Holy Day of obligation. Masses as listed.

Change of Email Address:

From last Monday 8th May, the parish email address has changed to **rayleigh@brcdt.org**. Please use the new email address on all correspondence from now on. Many thanks.



NEWSLETTER ITEMS:

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

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.



Wednesday 24th May

Please note, there will be no coffee morning on Wednesday 24th May only.



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.

Children's Liturgy- Dates and news

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

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

Exciting news - on the 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.



Our Lady of Ransom Toddler Group

Every Thursday, term time only @ Pope John Paul Hall, London Road. 9.30am – 11.30am

£3.00 per child, includes unlimited tea, coffee, squash, fruit and biscuits.



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

Christian Aid Week - 14th - 20th May

Christian Aid is a UK and Ireland based charity that funds projects in some of the world's poorest countries. It works in 29 countries helping people, regardless of religion or race. It was set up in 1945, responding to the needs of refugees and Churches in Europe in the aftermath of the Second World War. It helps people to improve their lives and to tackle the causes of poverty and injustice. Climate chaos is one of the greatest injustices we face. Every gift can change lives. Envelopes are available at the back of the Church and can be returned to the Church or Presbytery or you can donate online at www.christianaid.org.uk

PEREGRINATIO PER CHRISTO PROJECT 15th – 22nd July 2023

We in the Legion of Mary have asked for a team of legionaries to come and carry out parish visitation in Rayleigh. This work is very much needed at this time as many people have not yet managed to get back to normal after the pandemic. Many are searching for a deeper meaning in their lives and could do with the support and guidance that the Catholic faith brings.

We are hoping to have a team of about twelve, coming from all over the country and maybe abroad. They are volunteers, giving a week of their holiday to make contact with as many people and families as possible, working morning, afternoon and evening. Now, we need to help them by providing accommodation (B & B), some meals and lifts to far corners of the parish. They will pay their way through the week for all food and accommodation so as not to be a financial burden on the parish.

Please do offer your help, even if only in a small way. I hope to have a meeting in the Bethany Room quite soon, to explain more fully what is required. So do contact me: Isobel Kennedy 01702 230578 or mobile 07795 821705.

And above all, please pray for the success of the project.

SION COMMUNITY CHARISMATIC TEACHING WEEKEND

From 6pm Friday 19th May to 2pm Sunday 21st May 2023. Theme: 'Living the Prophetic Lifestyle' (part of the 'Moving in the Anointing' series). This weekend is a great follow-up to 'Life in the Spirit' seminars and an opportunity to grow in the Gifts and Charisms of the Holy Spirit. Guest Speaker: Dominic McDermott. Cost: £120 residential, £80 non-residential.

Book early as we have limited spaces. To book a place or for more info, visit:

<https://sioncommunity.churchsuite.com/events/f8v3emks>

“A Great Mystery” Marriage Enrichment Retreat

Running from Friday 19th to Sunday 21st May, the retreat offers married couples the chance to reflect on the beautiful vision of marriage as an icon of Christ and the Church. With talks, discussion and prayer, this is a lovely weekend away for any couple to rediscover and reflect on the Church’s vision for the marital union.

Visit <https://christianheritagecentre.com/events/a-great-mystery-marriage-enrichment/> to book and find out more information.

THE THRESHOLDS OF HOPE EASTER TALKS will explore what it means to have an intimate friendship with Jesus Christ. The next talk, "A Third Spring," will be given by Mgr John Armitage on Wednesday 17th May St Francis of Assisi, Stratford, E15 1NS from 7.30 - 9.00 p.m. All very welcome.

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. Hear national speaker Raymond Friel OBE, Chief Executive of the Catholic Social Action network (CSAN). 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.

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JESUIT PROVINCIAL TO SPEAK AT GIDEA PARK

Fr Damian Howard SJ, provincial of the Jesuits in Britain, will be speaking at a Study Day entitled ‘Serving Christ in a Hostile Environment’ on Saturday 10th June. Fr Damian speaks frequently on contemporary issues such as social justice, inter-religious dialogue and the Church’s mission today. The event, from 11.00 to 13.30 BST, will be held at the Catholic Church of Christ the Eternal High Priest at Gidea Park (RM2 6DH) and will be both in-person and on-line. If you are attending in person please book by letting us know at gideapark@brcdt.org. Coffee will be available in the hall from 10.30 am. Please bring a packed lunch. For live-stream just go to www.whatgoodnews.org on the day.

Permanent Diaconate Event with the Bishop, 20th May 2023

Saturday 20th May 2023, 11.00 (Mass) to 14.30 at St Anne Line Catholic Church, 7 Grove Crescent, South Woodford, London, E18 2JR 'Come and See' event on the Permanent Diaconate with Bishop Alan, for all those wishing to learn more about the ministry of deacons in the Church and in the Diocese. Of particular interest to men considering a call to serve as deacons, and to parish priests seeking to promote vocations within their parishes. For further information please contact kencarleton@dioceseofbrentwood.org

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.

Praying for the unborn and women facing crisis pregnancies

The Burnley Knights of St Columba and Catenian Circle 154 have organised a 10km sponsored walk for Right To Life UK on Monday 29 May. For further details on how you can join the walk visit: www.righttolife.org.uk/sponsoredwalks.



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 Virtual weekend on 6 - 9 July 2023 or a Face to Face weekend in Welwyn Garden City on 13-15 October 2023, call or text 07887 296983 or 07973 380443 or email retrouvailleukinfo@gmail.com - or visit www.retrouvaille.org.uk

GIDEA PARK STUDY DAY ON POPE BENEDICT AND THE LITURGY

Next Saturday 20th May, from 11.00 to 13.00 BST, Fr Vincent Twomey SVD, student and friend of Pope Benedict XVI, will speak on 'The Liturgical Vision of Pope Benedict'. The event will not be in person but live streamed from Ireland on www.whatgoodnews.org. Fr Twomey has recently produced 'The Dynamics of Liturgy: Joseph Ratzinger's Theology of Liturgy', published by Ignatius Press. Further details of the event are to be found on the attached flyer and on the website www.whatgoodnews.org A recording of the study day will be made available subsequently on the website.

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Vocations Weekend for Women (20s & 30s)

Theme: Discerning God's Call in your life Dates: 26-28 May 2023 Location: Liverpool

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

On Sunday 21st May at 3pm in Brentwood Cathedral, we are delighted to welcome the Wiener Mozart Trio from Vienna. Since its foundation in 1991, the Trio has performed in renowned concert halls all over Europe and Asia. Irina, Daniel and Diethard Auner are not bound by any contracts with orchestras which means their artistic independence enables them to achieve a musically free and unconventional interpretation of utmost intensity. The musicians consider it as their vocation to convey music as a spontaneous and original experience. As a result, they have made a wide audience familiar with all epochs and styles and all the possibilities of musical expression, ranging from the great Viennese classics – with W.A. Mozart as one of the earliest composers of the musical genre of the piano trio – to the present day. Their Programme will consist of the following pieces:-

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart Piano Trio No. 2 in G major, K496, comp. 1786

 Piano Trio No. 6 in C major, K548, comp. 1788

Felix Mendelssohn Piano Trio No. 2 in C minor, op. 66

There will be a short interval and the Concert will finish at 5pm.

Tickets will be £10 - for adults, children and under 18s Free. These need to be booked in advance by emailing music@dioceseofbrentwood.org or

ninahow@dioceseofbrentwood.org and will then be available for payment and collection on the day, from 2pm onwards. Any remaining tickets will also be available on the day.

Special Collection Gift Aid Envelopes:

For those making their regular donation online/by bank transfer, and would like the Gift Aid envelopes for special collections only, they will be available to collect from the church porch.

Thank you. I would like to gratefully thank the ladies of your parish who assisted in knitting the forget me nots & their donations for decorating our Rayleigh Town during Dementia Action Week 15-21st May:

We shall be having a stand on market day 17th May 9- 2 pm approx. with relevant information, free forget-me not key rings and assistance leaflets etc. I would like to invite parishioners to come along and introduce themselves.

Cllr.Elizabeth Brewer RTC & RDC

March for Life UK

Save The Date; The Annual London March for Life will take place on Saturday 2nd September.

ST BERNARD'S HIGH SCHOOL - LEARNING SUPPORT ASSISTANT

Full-time, Term Time, Fixed Term (37 hours per week)

Scale 4 – 6 (£21,189 - £21,968 – pro rata is £18,165 - £18,833)

September 2023 Start

Applications are welcomed from both experienced LSAs and those new to support.

Please complete the final teaching application form found on our website

www.stbernardswestcliff.org.uk under School Information/Vacancies – please note we do

not accept CVs. Closing Date: 28 May 2023, 9.00am Interviews: tbc

We do reserve the right to close this advertisement early if we receive a high volume of suitable applications.

Please contact the HR department for further information on

recruitment@stbernards.southend.sch.uk

International Day of Prayer for Eastern Christians

In their spring plenary meeting, the Bishops of England and Wales expressed their support to celebrate this event this year on Sunday, 14 May.

The charity that promotes the day of prayer in this country, Fellowship and Aid to the Churches of the East (FACE), has produced resources for parishes and a poster - available as PDF downloads.

The downloads provide more information, prayers (including a suggested bidding prayer), sample social media posts, and more.

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Direct links

[Parish Resources](#)

[Poster](#)

You can find this information, and the above downloads, in the section of the Bishops' Conference site dedicated to this important international day of prayer.

cbcew.org.uk/international-day-of-prayer-for-eastern-christians

Please do use these resources on your diocesan sites and if you have any questions, let us know by emailing: communications@cbcew.org.uk

Links

[Fellowship and Aid to the Churches of the East \(FACE\)](#)

You can contact the charity FACE by emailing: communications@facecharity.org

Do you know someone who no longer comes to Mass?



*Maybe it's a friend or family, neighbour or colleague,
or maybe its you?*



+ Bishop Alan from Brentwood would love to hear from you +

- Many Catholics have for one reason or another lost interest in the Church
- Others may still be interested and attracted to the Church, but don't have time for Sunday Mass
 - Many others may not have returned to the Church since the Covid pandemic.
- Others may feel alienated from the Church because it's harmed or rejected them in some way.

This survey provides a space for the story and experience of you, your family and friends to be shared and heard, and seriously listened to by me as your Bishop and our wider diocesan Church.

Click on the link, or snap the QR code – it should take no more than 10-15 mins to complete



https://cambridge.eu.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_9Gno8WXvvKfwJts



PLEASE ASK your friends or family, your neighbours and colleagues who no longer come to Church to complete the survey so that we might hear from as many people as possible.

*“Thank you for taking the time to share your story and experience,
and allowing me the chance to listen once more.”* **Bishop Alan**

https://cambridge.eu.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_9Gno8WXvvKfwJts