

OUR LADY OF RANSOM

21st May 2023

Easter 7A

Psalter Week 3



Do you like good comedy? It would appear that the better the comedy the better is the use of pauses, silent moments, timing, double takes, and so on. It can all take practice and skill.

When we write, we use full stops, commas, quotation marks, colons, semi-colons, hyphens, new paragraphs and more. In other words, punctuation. When we see a long string of words, punctuation gives that text meaning. Now we understand. However, in-correct (or no punctuation) can easily lead to total misunderstandings. Good written comedy also relies on appropriate punctuation.

In the same way, we also need to punctuate our lives. Full stops, commas, pauses, timing and of course, silence. Otherwise everything we do is like a long string of words, relentlessly grinding us down and becoming meaningless. Long strings of words and actions, where everything runs into everything else. So our lives lose meaning, we can so easily lose the plot.

Those pauses, commas, breaks, full stops and silences are those moments to reflect, touch base, get back to what's real. Praying, thinking and really experience our feelings so as we can work out what they may be teaching us. Yes, it can be hard at times, but we must find some time to do this. This cannot be over-emphasised. And like good comedy, this punctuation can take practice and skill.

Many are uncomfortable with these pauses and silence as they are not comfortable with what's going on inside themselves. They do not love themselves. If they do not love themselves, can they really love others? In their discomfort, they distract themselves with noise, loud TVs, loud music. When we are happy with who we are, happy inside our own skins, because we appreciate the need for silence - then our love for ourselves will be real, and so our love of others will also be genuine. We will be an authentically happy person.

When and how we pause and exercise silence is up to each of us. But it must be done, and fairly frequently. Punctuate our lives so our lives have meaning. Maybe do so according to certain rhythms and temperaments. Some, of course will prefer more fixed regimes, that's fine too.

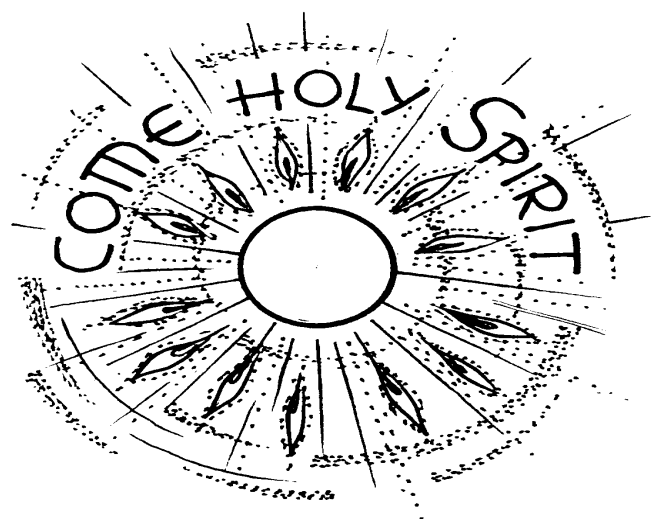
So we see the importance of punctuation, in reading, writing and how we live our lives. Today we see the Apostles doing so in their continuous praying, all so crucial. Wise and grounded people will always do this. We need to copy their example in our lives, so we too may find meaning, purpose, direction and depth.

First Reading: Acts 1:12-14

Psalm: Psalm 26(27):1,4,7-8

Second Reading: 1 Peter 4:13-16

Gospel: John 17:1-11



| MASS INTENTIONS | |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| Saturday 20th May | |
| 5.30pm | Margaret Sullivan RIP (Jenny & Adrian Short) |
| Sunday 21st May | |
| Seventh Sunday of Easter | |
| 8.00am | Parish Community |
| 10.00am | Kathleen Geeson RIP (Geeson Family) |
| Monday 22nd May | |
| 9.30am | Eucharistic Service |
| Tuesday 23rd May | |
| 9.30am | Eucharistic Service |
| Wednesday 24th May | |
| NO MASS | ----- |
| Thursday 25th May | |
| St Bede the Venerable | |
| 9.30am | Eileen Woodgate RIP (Rita Gurney) |
| Friday 26th May | |
| St Philip Neri | |
| 8.00am | Fr Maurice Roche RIP |
| Saturday 27th May | |
| St Augustine of Canterbury | |
| 5.30pm | Richard O'Malley RIP (Lydon Family) |
| Sunday 28th May | |
| Pentecost Sunday | |
| 8.00am Mass | Bill Williams RIP (Jean Williams) |
| 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@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 Faye Semple, William Packwood, Joan Iris Daubney, Rita Reale and Colm Conneely, whose anniversaries occur about this time. May they rest in peace.

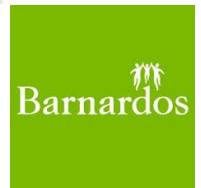
First Holy Communion

Congratulations to our 26 young children of the parish who made their First Holy Communion here at Our Lady of Ransom recently: Chiara-Rose, Lexi, James, William, Ivy, Martha, Elizabeth, Alice, Felix, Poppy, Benjamin P, Dylan S, Bridget, Patrick, Olivia, Benjamin S, Emily G, Mia, Henry, Emilia, George, Anna, Dylan L, Emily M, Flora and Alfie.



THANK YOU!

The First Holy Communion Catechists and Fr. Paul would like to thank the FHC parents for their very kind gifts and for their generous donation to the Barnados Charity.



Change of Email Address:

From 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.



Coffee Morning Sunday 21st May 2023

Young James and Daniel Cevizli are hosting the coffee morning and selling homemade cakes and bakes after the 10am Mass on Sunday 21 June to raise money for Havens Hospices. This is part of a challenge set by their scout group to show that they can make a positive impact on their community. If you don't have cash on you, please come and get some cakes and donate here <https://www.justgiving.com/page/antonia-cevizli-1684094479278>



Children's Liturgy

Children's liturgy- there will be children's liturgy Sunday 21/05/23

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.



Wednesday 24th May

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



REPOSITORY

If anyone would be willing to look after the repository before and after Mass on Saturday evenings it would be very much appreciated. Please contact Fr Paul or telephone Kath on mobile 07815 126574 or home 01702 200295.

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.



Parish Children's Meet-up

Come and join us for a walk and outdoor games at Rayleigh Mount on **Thursday 1st June** at 10am. Meet at the entrance to the Mount by The Mill.

Bring a snack and some duck food!

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

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



Service of Prayer and Healing

There will be a Service of Prayer, Teaching and Healing on Tuesday 23 May 2023 from 7 pm to 9 pm at St Teresa RC Church, Brook Road, Newbury Park, Ilford RG2 7JA. This Service will be led by International Lay Evangelist, Dr D Jayanand from Bangalore, India and will include Worship, Scripture teachings and healing. All Welcome. Please call Millie on 07957594646 for more information.



KNIGHTS OF ST COLUMBA

Six Knights have taken part in the Relay 100 walk from OLOR to St Teresa's Rochford, in aid of Brentwood Catholic Children's Society. Many thanks to all who made donations. If you have not done so already, please return your donations before 11th June.

THE THRESHOLDS OF HOPE EASTER TALKS explore what it means to have an intimate friendship with Jesus Christ. The next talk, "Holiness in our local Saints and Martyrs", will be given by Fr Stewart Foster on Wednesday 24th May at St Francis of Assisi, Stratford, E15 1NS from 7.30 - 9.00 p.m. All very welcome.

CAFOD Campaigns

Did you know that Church teaching says that we should not only support those in poverty but also tackle the root causes of poverty? Pope Benedict XVI said that “Love — caritas — is an extraordinary force which leads people to opt for courageous and generous engagement in the field of justice and peace.” For decades CAFOD has spoken out against injustice. To find out more and get involved in tackling the root causes of poverty, please go to cafod.org.uk/latestcampaigns.

Calais Light

Calais Light the refugee charity, invites you to join their 7-9th July convoy & help refugees directly by volunteering with the NGOs that support them. It's their 23rd trip and volunteers, experienced continental drivers (& cars) are urgently needed.

Everything is booked for you - £95 all in. You'll never regret helping refugees. Especially now. To register: www.calaislight.com

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

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.

BCYS Youth Mass, 1st June at Brentwood Cathedral

Beginning in the Brentwood Cathedral Parish Hall from 6pm, there will be pizza and refreshments available, with the Cathedral open for quiet prayer, music and reflection, particularly thinking of those in the middle of, or nearing the end of, exams who may need a quiet space to rest and revitalise. Join us for as long or short a time as you wish to enjoy the peace of the Cathedral before we celebrate Mass with Fr Michael at 7:30pm. Anyone who wishes is very welcome to bring instruments or sing with our Youth led music group, or if you would like to serve, read, or be involved in the Mass in any way you would be incredibly welcome!

BCYS Youth Gather, 21st – 22nd October, Essex Outdoors on Mersea Island

Youth Gather is back for 2023 and the BCYS are absolutely thrilled to be joined by the fantastic Adenike, semi-finalist on the voice, who many of you will have seen perform and heard from at Flame back in March.

Taking place at Essex Outdoors on Mersea Island, there is cabin accommodation and a brilliant range of outward bound activities, opportunities for climbing high ropes, archery, zip wires and much more to keep you challenged and entertained, plus performances, input and workshops from Adenike and the SVP! All meals are included, plus two Mersea activities, 2 BCYS workshops, accommodation and travel to and from Mersea Island – all of this for just £70!

The event is open to those in school year 9 and above, including opportunities for young leaders (age 18 and above) in the Brentwood Diocese.

Apply now at www.bcys.net/events/yg23/

Catechist Training and Resources Day, Saturday 4th November

The BCYS will host our Annual Catechist Training and Resources Day once again this November at Sacred Heart of Mary School in Upminster!

With a number of incredible workshops, input, networking and welcoming back the fantastic David Wells as keynote speaker, this is a day not to miss if you are a Confirmation Catechist, First Holy Communion Catechist, Children's Liturgy or Youth leader in the Diocese of Brentwood!

Visit www.bcys.net/events/catechistday23/ for details on how to book your place now!

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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at www.caritasbrentwood.org/network

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.

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

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



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. 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.

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.

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.

Vacancies

Parish Administrator – Our Lady of Good Counsel

Our Lady of Good Counsel, Wickford, is looking for a Parish Administrator to provide complete and comprehensive administration for the church community. The candidate must have excellent written and verbal communication skills and be able to manage their own workload. The post is for 12 hours a week, over 3 days (preferably Monday, Wednesday and Friday). Closing date is noon on Friday 2nd June 2023. CV and Covering letter required for application. For further information (as well as Job Description) please contact Fr Mark Reilly on 01268 733219 or email or wickford@brcdt.org.

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

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