

OUR LADY OF RANSOM

25th June 2023

12th Sunday A

Psalter Week 4



Leo was a nice enough man. For thirty plus years he had been doing much the same thing. Work- home- pub -home. Routine, predictable, in control. But is he happy? Maybe though doubtful. There is certainly no excitement, no zip or zest in his life. One might say almost boring. Mindlessly repetitive would be an understatement. Is that really being happy? Really?

Many like him will say they have found their niche in life. So their lives are predictably routine and unexciting. They have been this way for 20, 30, 40, 50 years or more, why should they change? People in certain roles will take great pride in having done their thing for 30, 40, 50 years. And we say, well done. But do they have these many years' experience, or, maybe, *one year's experience repeated 30 or 40 times*. Hold on to that last point. In other words, is there this many years of accumulated wisdom and learning, developing and maturing, having tried new things, taken risks, learned from mistakes and so on?

Real faith is what allows us to go forward, take risks, sometimes let go of control, make mistakes and learn and grow. Fear paralyses these abilities, forcing us to always be able to predict, always be in control, be certain, and so no new wisdom and learning can happen. We are closed-minded. We become too set in our ways. We see so much fear around today. Like nothing else, fear paralyses us



The opposite of fear is faith. Jesus often urges us not to be afraid, in other words, have faith. The great give-away on the strength of people's faith is to see if they try new things, take risks, learn, be uncertain, let go of control, be prepared to be wrong. Or are people always needing to know, be right, be certain, repeat things, predict everything – be creatures of habit - all suggesting a deeper sense of fear.

Approximately 365 times in the Bible we hear “do not be afraid”. To have faith is to know that God is in everything, bad things and, of course, good alike. Our Lord doesn't necessarily stop the problems we face, but promises to be in them and totally with us and bring us through. This allows for a deepening of our relationship with Him. Jeremiah absolutely gets this as he faces his enemies who were one-time friends. Like Jeremiah, we must experience God holding us, so we can go forward, unafraid, heads held high.

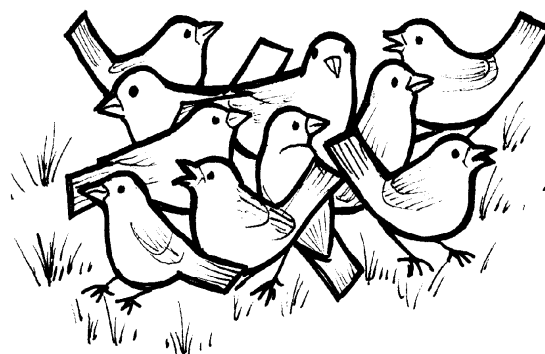
Much fear is generated in our world. What is needed is people of a real **gutsy** faith. Not religion, but faith. People who can go deep into their hearts to experience Heaven within through bad and good times. Can we count ourselves among those who have faith? How might that faith be witnessed by others?

First Reading: Jeremiah 20:10-13

Psalms: 68: 8-10, 14, 17, 33-35

Second Reading: Romans 5: 12-15

Gospel: Matthew 10:26-33



MASS INTENTIONS	
Saturday 24th June	
5.30pm	John Shaw Lincoln RIP - Maria Woolcott
Sunday 25^h June	
12th Sunday of the Year	
8.00am	Parish Community
10.00am	Penny Stiles RIP - Marie Venneear
Monday 26th June	
9.30am	Michael & Shirley McLaughlin (Ints) M. Butterworth
Tuesday 27th June	
8.00am	Fr. Paul Hardy RIP
Wednesday 28th June	
10.00am	Dennis Cocklin RIP (Anniv) – Pat Rickard
Thursday 29th June	
SS. Peter and Paul (Holy Day of Obligation)	
7.30am	Parish Community
9.30am	Molly Walmsley RIP
8.00pm	Catherine Button RIP
Friday 30th June	
9.30am	Joan Rooke RIP (Anniv) - Barry Rooke
Saturday 1st July	
5.30pm	Parish Community
Sunday 2nd July	
13th Sunday of the Year	
8.00am Mass	Derek Timothy RIP
10.00am Mass	Nicholas Ladapo RIP (Anniv) - Cecilia & Tunde

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 & Tuesdays 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 Kathleen Scott, Peter Negus and Joan Rooke whose anniversaries occur about this time. May they rest in peace.

Change of Email Address:

The parish email address has been changed to **rayleigh@brcdt.org**. Please use the new email address on all correspondence from now on. Many thanks.



THINKING ABOUT THE CATHOLIC FAITH? ...

Is something in you telling you to go deeper? Or find out? Perhaps you are, or maybe you know someone who is doing just that. Or maybe stopped coming to Church, and is wondering about returning. We are looking for depth. Or, you yourself might wish to informally ask questions, so deepen your understanding and faith. Whatever your circumstances, you are welcome to come along to our Parish RCIA programme and learn more about what it means to be a Catholic Christian.



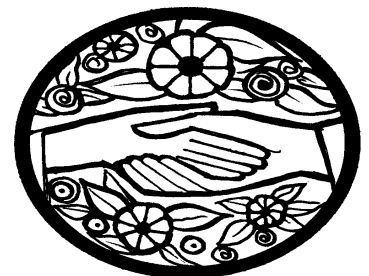
Our next programme will be starting on Monday 11th September at 8pm in the Bethany Room.

If you are not part of the Catholic Tradition, and you decide during the programme you would like to commit yourself to the Catholic Faith, you may be received into the Church at Easter next year. Of course, practising Catholics who want to ask questions are more than welcome.

If you are interested in joining the programme, please contact Fr. Paul for more details.

(01268 382499 or rayleigh@brcdt.org)

Congratulations – to Sophie Corr and Stephen Papagavriel who were married in our parish 2 weeks ago. May their future be filled with many blessings, much joy and huge success. God Bless you both and your families too.



Coffee Morning in the Bethany Room after the 10am Mass on Sunday 2nd July.

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.



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.

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.



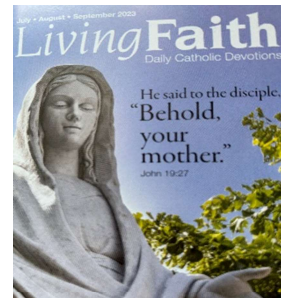
Our Lady of Ransom Toddler Group

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.

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.

Living Faith Booklets covering July, August and September now available.



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

LEGION OF MARY PEREGRINATIO PER CHRISTO PROJECT 15TH – 22ND JULY 2023

Thanks to the generous response to our request for parishioners to provide accommodation for the team visiting our parish we now have enough host families. Members of the parish have also offered to help in other ways during this week with lifts, catering etc and both the host families and other helpers will be meeting very soon so that we can explain what needs to be done. If you are free that week and would like to help, please phone or text Isobel on 07795 821705 with your email address. Please continue to pray for the success of the project. Thank you again.

Please note: There is to be a meeting in the Bethany Room on MONDAY 26TH JUNE at 7pm for all those who have offered to help during the week of this project. There is much to prepare and arrange, so we legionaries in the parish would be grateful for help in organising things. If you have not yet contacted me offering help but would like to do so, just come along that evening and see if there is anything you might be able to help with.

St. Vincent's Centre, Southend. Over the next few months, we have some amazing events and opportunities taking place to help fundraise for St Vincent's centre. This is a great way to support the work we are doing in the community. If you are interested in any of these events or would like further information, please email sabrinab@svp.org.uk or call 01702 592980

TALK ON THE OUR FATHER

On Wednesday 12th July at 7 pm in the parish hall at the Catholic Church of Christ the Eternal High Priest, Gidea Park (RM2 6DH), Fr Adrian Graffy will give a short talk entitled 'The Prayer of Prayers: An exploration of the Our Father'. The talk is free of charge, and tea and coffee will be available from 6.30 pm. Ample free parking, and easy access on the Elizabeth Line. The talk is available also by live stream on www.whatgoodnews.org No booking necessary.

Stella Maris. *Seafarers and fishers play a vital role in all of our lives, but they often work in difficult, hazardous conditions. In the last year, more crews have been abandoned by their employers than ever before. Many are still being denied the right to leave their ships for even a short break away from the relentless noise and pressure onboard. Many are reporting more stress and poorer mental health. Sea Sunday is **Sunday 9th July**. It is when the Church prays for all those who live and work at sea. Your support will make a big difference to seafarers and fishers in need. You can donate in church, by visiting www.stellamaris.org.uk/donate, or by texting 'SEA' to 70460 to donate £5. This collection is vital to enable Stella Maris (formerly called Apostleship of the Sea) to continue its important work - so please give generously. Thank you.*

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to get in touch with me (Annie) in the Stella Maris office.

Maryvale Institute, Birmingham- Study part-time, by distance learning for a Bachelor of Divinity (BDiv) or a Licence in Divinity

The Maryvale Higher Institute of Religious Sciences (HIRS) is the only ecclesial institute of this kind in the English-speaking world.

The Ecclesiastical BDiv is a five-year part-time, collaborative-learning degree programme in Catholic theology providing a comprehensive exposition and analysis of Christian doctrine based on the study of the sacred Scriptures, the works of the Fathers and Doctors of the Church, and the documents of the Magisterium.

The Licence in Divinity: Pathway in Catechetical Sciences is another qualification of the Holy See, distinct from an STL, it is a three-year, part-time, programme aimed at those in leadership positions in catechetics and in other positions of responsibility.

Contact: Admissions tutor, Deacon Dr Harry Schnitker
at: researchcentre@maryvale.ac.uk

Vacancy.

Property Assistant – Cathedral House The successful applicant will provide comprehensive, effective, and efficient administration support. Full Job description is attached. Hours: 35 hours per week- Office Based. Apply by sending a CV and covering letter (no longer than A4) to recruitment@brcdt.org Closing date for applications is 15th July 2023.

St Bernard's High School

A Catholic Academy for Arts and Science



Open Evening for Year 5 Students

(Starting Year 7 in September 2024)

Wednesday 5 July 2023

5.30pm to 8.30pm

We would be delighted to welcome Year 5 girls and their parents/carers to our Open Evening. This is an evening for girls wishing to join Year 7 in September 2024.

We are also offering an opportunity for parents/carers to visit the school during a normal teaching day, between 9.30am and 11.00am on set days in October, dates will be published on our website. Appointments for these guided tours will be available in September.

St Bernard's High School offers selective places based on success in the CSSE selective tests and non-selective places according to faith-based admissions criteria. (Please see school website for full details.)

'St Bernard's High School is a welcoming, inclusive school'. Ofsted 2023

'Leaders have high expectations of pupils in terms of learning and behaviour. Pupils live up to these expectations.' Ofsted 2023

'St Bernard's High School is an outstanding Catholic school... Attainment and progress of students is outstanding' (Diocesan Inspection, 2017