

# OUR LADY OF RANSOM

2nd July 2023

13<sup>th</sup> Sunday A

Psalter Week 1



A bright, sunny, calm day, Jan was walking by the lakeside. She stopped to gaze into the lake. Seeing her reflection she wondered: *Is this who I am?* The next day, she returned. But overnight a strong winds had ruffled the water and her reflection now seemed distracted and disturbed. *Or Is this who I really am?*, she pondered.

Again she returned the next day, but it was raining. Her image was blurred and indistinct. A confused distorted version of herself stared back at her from the water. Yet again, a few days later, a huge storm blew up and she was eager to see her reflection now. She saw an image full of anger, raging at the dark skies overhead. *Or could this be the real me? Hmmm...!*

Watching her all the while, the sly fox laughed. *You foolish woman*, he said. *Your reflection changes with every passing mood of the weather. How can you believe this is the real you?* Asking the fox where the *real her* was, he told her to return in the depth of winter, then, Jan may find the 'real her'.

Winter came, the lake froze over, snow fell. Jan returned and gazed at the pristine whiteness of the silent lake. *There is no me*, she exclaimed to the fox. *Exactly*, said the fox. And the fox taught how she could no longer settle for the passing images or projections of herself. He taught that the lake is an empty canvas inviting us to become the person we truly are. To look deep into our own hearts, beyond our passing moods and words, it is there we discover who we really are. (A traditional fable).

*Who am I really?* Jesus' tough words of wisdom today are encouraging us to know who we really are. A more modern way of understanding Jesus' message is about not becoming dependent, overly-attached or co-dependent on anyone or anything. Except God himself as he is constant and eternal. Everything and everyone else eventually passes away or changes. Like the continual changes in the reflection because of the passing moods of the weather.

For healthy friendships, relationships and marriages to flourish, we must have a sense of who we really are. Then we have a sense of what we are giving away of ourselves to others. Or we can create unhealthy attachments. Maybe co-dependencies. Jesus strongly advises against all this by his tough words today. Away from family, people, things – anything or anyone - do I have a sense of who I really am?

**First Reading: 2 Kings 4:8-11, 3-16**

**Psalms: 88: 2-3, 16-19**

**Second Reading: Romans 6 :3-4,8-11**

**Gospel: Matthew 10: 37-42**



<b>MASS INTENTIONS</b>	
<b>Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> July</b>	
<b>5.30pm</b>	Parish Community
<b>Sunday 2nd July</b>	
<b>13<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the Year</b>	
<b>8.00am</b>	Derek Timothy RIP
<b>10.00am</b>	Nicholas Ladapo RIP (A) - Cecilia and Tunde Macauley
<b>Monday 3rd July</b>	
<b>St. Thomas (Apostle)</b>	
<b>9.30am</b>	Hemming family RIP
<b>Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> July</b>	
<b>9.30am</b>	Alice Allso RIP
<b>Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> July</b>	
<b>10.00am</b>	Stella Ray RIP – Elaine Sinclair
<b>Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> July</b>	
<b>9.30am</b>	Fr. James Hawes RIP
<b>Friday 7<sup>th</sup> July</b>	
<b>9.30am</b>	Bob and Kathleen Scott RIP
<b>Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> July</b>	
<b>5.30pm</b>	Mervyn & Teresa Ryder RIP (A) Marian & family
<b>Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> July</b>	
<b>14<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the Year</b>	
<b>8.00am Mass</b>	Parish Community
<b>10.00am Mass</b>	Linda Wallace (Ints) - Mick Hodgins

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><b>PARISH PRIEST</b>            Father Paul Fox            50 London Hill, Rayleigh            Essex SS6 7HP  <b>01268 38.24.99</b>  <a href="http://www.olorchurch.org">www.olorchurch.org</a>            email: <a href="mailto:rayleigh@brcdt.org">rayleigh@brcdt.org</a></p>	<p><b><u>Public Mass times:</u></b>  <b>Saturdays 5.30pm</b>  <b>Sundays 8am &amp; 10.00am</b>  <b>Mondays &amp; Tuesdays 9.30am</b>  <b>Wednesdays 10.00am</b>  <b>Thursdays &amp; Fridays 9.30am</b>  <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 Frank Kaye, Rosemary Hassell, John Richards and Niqui Denkmeyer whose anniversaries occur about this time. May they rest in peace.

† Please keep in your prayers Mr. Tom Penney of our parish who died during the week. Please also remember Celia his wife and all the family. May Tom rest in peace. †

**Change of Email Address:**

The parish email address has been changed to [rayleigh@brcdt.org](mailto: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 11<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:rayleigh@brcdt.org))

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



**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 in the Bethany Room after the 10am Mass this Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> July.**



## Kids" Bulletin

A children's version of the gospel is available weekly. This can be accessed on the following website: [www.thekidsbulletin.com](http://www.thekidsbulletin.com) and is aimed at primary school children. It can be downloaded and printed out.

**Children's Liturgy** - we are continuing to run 2 groups weekly-so do come and join in to explore the Gospel message with children of a similar age!

Younger group-for age 3 up to school year 2 Older group- for school years 3-6 We look forward to seeing you!

## 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.

## Calais Light

Calais Light the refugee charity, invites you to join their 7-9<sup>th</sup> July convoy & help refugees directly by volunteering with the NGOs that support them. It's their 23<sup>rd</sup> 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](http://www.calaislight.com)

## **LEGION OF MARY PEREGRINATIO PER CHRISTO PROJECT 15<sup>TH</sup> – 22<sup>ND</sup> 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. 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.***

**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](mailto:sabrinab@svp.org.uk) or call 01702 592980

### **TALK ON THE OUR FATHER**

On Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> 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](http://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 next **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](http://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](mailto:researchcentre@maryvale.ac.uk)

**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](mailto:recruitment@brcdt.org) Closing date for applications is 15<sup>th</sup> July 2023.

## **Parish Secretary– St Thomas of Canterbury - Grays**

St Thomas of Canterbury in Grays are looking for a Parish Secretary to provide complete and comprehensive administration for the church community. The successful applicant will need to have excellent communication and administration skills as well as be able to manage their own workload.

Hours: 30 hours per week paid at £10.90 per hour, working five days per week with a degree of flexibility.

Closing date for applications is Friday 7 July 2023. If you are interested please complete an application form available on our website or by email from: [grays@brcdt.org](mailto:grays@brcdt.org) or call Fr Stephen on 01375 372306

Job description: Parish Secretary -Grays (full job description is contained on [www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/diocese/working-for-us](http://www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/diocese/working-for-us))

**Brentwood Catholic Children’s Society (BCCS)** is looking for a part time Finance Assistant to join the team working from their head office in Billericay High Street. Initially the role is for 10 hours per week, with potential to increase hours as training continues. A job specification and application form are available on their website at <https://www.bccs.org.uk/who-we-are/work-us/>. If you are interested and would like further information, please contact Fiona Reading [freading@bccs.org.uk](mailto:freading@bccs.org.uk)

**Catholic Listeners** is a confidential telephone helpline service set up for those returning Catholics who want to return to the faith and need a safe space to be heard. A Diocese of Westminster initiative, the helpline is staffed by a team of volunteers who are welcoming, friendly, empathetic and non- judgemental. The helpline is based on the Landings ethos of compassionate listening. Operating three days a week from 4pm -7pm on Mondays, Tuesdays and Fridays calls are free to the helpline on 0800 448 0704 or by email at [Catholiclisteners@gmail.com](mailto:Catholiclisteners@gmail.com)

*Organ and Piano Recital.* Do hope you can join us for a rather special double Lunchtime MUSIC Recital on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> July at the usual time of 1pm. This exciting Recital will also feature some more contemporary music together with traditional Composers such as Franz Liszt and Cesar Franck. Matthew WEST from the Royal College of London will be playing the Organ followed by Stefan WEIDNER Pianist who is from Trinity Laban. Each performance will last approximately twenty minutes.

*Refreshments will be served afterwards in the Song School.*

***St. Thomas More High School - open evening, Thursday, 13th July 4.00p.m. to 7.00p.m. - for families who have a son due to transfer to secondary school in September 2024 - come and see the school, meet the staff and pupils.***

*The Headteacher's talk will begin at 6.00pm*

*Parents of boys who wish to apply to St. Thomas More School for a place in September 2024 should complete the local education authority single application form (saf) and fill in the supplementary information form (sif) that can be collected at the open evening.*

*If you are unable to come to the open evening, please contact the school in order to get the supplementary information form. The form can also be downloaded from the school web site:-*

[WWW.ST-THOMASMORE.SOUTHEND.SCH.UK](http://WWW.ST-THOMASMORE.SOUTHEND.SCH.UK)

.....*also –*

### ***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 (contd...)**

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 (contd....)

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