

Parish Newsletter

OUR LADY OF RANSOM



16th July 2023 15th Sunday A Psalter Week 3

Admiring the native's necklace, the tourist asked, "What's it made of? "Alligator teeth" came the reply. "I suppose alligator teeth have the same value for you that pearls have for us". "Not quite", said the native, "pearls come from oysters, and anyone can open an oyster...but alligator teeth??....

Truly healthy, spiritual, enlightened, aware people with depth realise that the diamond is only a stone until endowed with value concocted by the human mind. And that things are as big or small, loving or hateful, rubbish or great, inspiring or useless as our human minds choose to make them.

If there is love in our hearts, then we will see love even in the most unexpected of places. If our hearts are filled with suspicion, cynicism, and fear – we will see exactly that. These people doubt even the most beautiful of scenarios. What you see is what you get. And what you have will determine what you see. If you can't see or hear, because of shallowness or fear, then you won't see or hear. Simple.

Two people can go and watch a film, lecture, sermon– the one who has a dead heart and closed mind will probably immediately rubbish it, the one filled with faith, trust, hope and love will see (at least in part) how wonderful it was. Good people can draw blood out of a stone! They just see goodness everywhere and in everyone – irrespective of how evil that person may be. That's true enlightenment.

What we see is what we get. And what we expect is so often what we draw forth and recognise. But these things have to be in us first before we recognise it over there in another person or situation.

Pope Paul had the wonderful insight when he said that "spiritual gifts increase with use", material gifts decrease with use" (try selling your car just after you've bought it!) But the more faith, hope and love we have, so they keep growing, and deepening. That's the rich humanity Jesus is calling for.

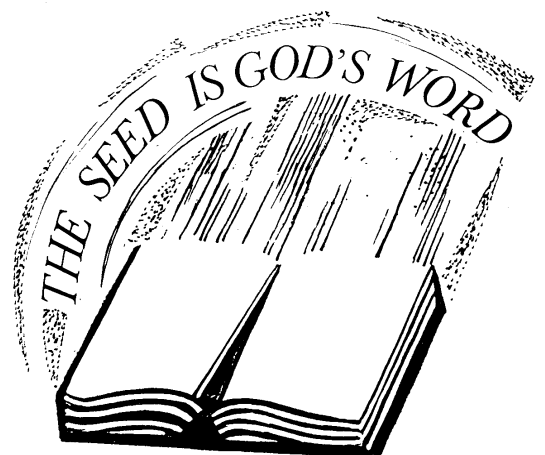
So Jesus asks us to be a people who have this rich fertile soil, a rich humanity, a rich heart. Thorny, twisted or rocky soil is not much good, and will only wither things away. How open, rich and fertile is the soil of our hearts?

First Reading: Isaiah 5 :10-11

Psalm: 64: 10-14

Second Reading: Romans 8:18-23

Gospel: Matthew 13: 1-23



MASS INTENTIONS	
Saturday 15th July	St. Bonaventure
5.30pm	Parish Community
Sunday 16th July	15th Sunday of the Year
8.00am	Tom Penney RIP
10.00am	Neil Charteris RIP - Kay and Jim
Monday 17th July	
9.30am	The work of the Legion of Mary (Ints)
Tuesday 18th July	
9.30am	Mary-Rose Dullaghan (Ints) Caroline, Steve and Family
Wednesday 19th July	
10.00am	Terry Askem RIP
Thursday 20th July	
9.30am	Matthew Barnetson RIP
Friday 21st July	<i>Welcome Mass 7pm</i>
<u>7.00pm</u>	<i>Resting Catholics, non-Catholics, and people of no faith.</i>
Saturday 22nd July	St. Mary Magdalene
5.30pm	Parish Community
Sunday 23rd July	16th Sunday of the Year
8.00am Mass	Jack and Margaret Nelson RIP (A) - Joan Gardiner
10.00am Mass	Maria and Jim O'Farrell RIP

All 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 Andrew Lowe, Roger Heath, Ivy Keegan and Susan Barrows. **May they rest in peace.**

† The funeral for Mr. Tom Penney will be at Our Lady of Ransom on Wednesday 2nd August at 2.30pm. May Tom rest in peace. †

† The (joint) Requiem Mass for Mr. Jim O'Farrell and his daughter Ms. Maria O'Farrell will be on July 27th at 10.30am at Our Lady of Ransom. Please keep Maria and Jim and all the family in your prayers at this highly distressing time. May they rest in peace. †

Please note: Friday 21st, Mass will be at 7pm (ie. in the evening). All are welcome. It is a welcome Mass. Refreshments following the Mass. There is no morning Mass that day.

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)

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

Wednesday Coffee Mornings. There will be no Wednesday coffee mornings during the month of August to enable our wonderful helpers to take a well-earned break. We shall resume on Wednesday 6th September.

As always, more volunteers would be welcomed so, if you could spare three hours once every 4-5 weeks it would be much appreciated. Please contact Fr. Paul. Thank you.

Sunday Coffee Morning

This Sunday (16th) it will be hosted by the Legion of Mary, following the 10am Mass.



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.

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.



Baby & Toddler GROUP



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.

Catholic School Application Forms. If your child was baptised at Our Lady of Ransom, when bringing in the Certificate of Practice to be signed, there is no need to accompany it with a Baptism Certificate. Baptism Certificates **must** accompany the form if the child was **NOT** baptised at Our Lady of Ransom. Failure to bring a Baptism certificate in this instance will result in an unfortunate delay. Thank you.

St. Thomas of Canterbury Catholic Church, Grays is 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 14 July 2023. If you are interested please complete an application form available on our website or by email from: grays@brcdt.org or call Fr. Stephen on 01375 372306 .

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

This week we welcome members of the Legion of Mary who are coming from different parts of England and Ireland to carry out visitation of all the homes in our parish. The Legionaries will be listening to those visited and hear *their* story. **There will be a special Mass on the last day of the project Friday 21st July, at 7pm to which all those visited are especially invited. Of course, all are welcome.**

OLOR Theatre Club Christmas Outings

Our Lady of Ransom Theatre Club - (looking ahead dates for diary) - is a voluntary run group that arranges affordable trips to local shows with group rates and flexible payment options. Families and friends connected to the school and church either past or present are all very welcome and it's become a great way to socialise and meet up. In the darker winter months we can bring you cheer as we have secured excellent seats at for three local shows. Details below for your planning purposes!

Wednesday 15th November 7:30pm - 'Nativity The Musical!' (a Southend Operatic and Dramatic Society Production) at The Palace Theatre, Westcliff featuring Miss Hannah (yr 4) and also one of our current year 6 pupils! Tickets £15:50pp

Saturday 25th November 1pm - 'Cinderella' - our annual en masse pantomime outing ! (250 stall seats reserved) at The Towngate Theatre Basildon. Tickets £20.50 pp

Friday 19th January 2024 6pm I have also reserved best value rear stall seats for '**Six The Musical'** at the Cliffs Pavillion - £33 pp.

If you are interested in reserving seats at any of the above (all are 'meet at venue ' trips so no coach), please contact Clare Mason 07757138345. Payment for Nativity kindly due by 10th August; Cinderella - beginning of October; Six - mid October. **Instalment Payments** can of course be made for your ease. We look forward to seeing you!

World Youth Day (WYD) is the gathering of young people from all over the world with Pope Francis, taking place in Lisbon this summer. If you can't attend the main event, why not join **WYD in London** - a day celebration on **Saturday 5th August 2023** from 11am-5pm in the church by **Leicester Square**. Programme: music • prayer • talks • activities • Mass, bringing together a young community of different nationalities in one faith! Venue: Notre Dame de France, 5 Leicester Place, London WC2H 7BX. Donations only. **To register** a group or individually, fill in the form: [//bit.ly/wydlondon](https://bit.ly/wydlondon)

HARP for Homeless People. We are in desperate need of clothes and toiletries at our day centre in York Road, Southend.

Our day centre is a place where people who are experiencing homelessness can come for something to eat, have a shower and get a clean change of clothes.

If you are having a clear out of clothes or having any spare toiletries that you wouldn't mind gifting to us, we would greatly appreciate this.

You can take this to our day centre in York road- 103-107 York Road, Southend-On-Sea

Or if you would rather I collect from you I can do this also, just send me an email if you have anything you would like me to collect and I can arrange a day where I can come and collect this contd....

Your help is greatly appreciated and thank you all for your ongoing support.

Giving a regular gift is a great way to show your continued support for local people experiencing homelessness. Just knowing that there are people out there who care can be enough to help someone get through the day. [Please click here to donate](#)

HARP is a registered charity no: 1098126

Website: www.harpsouthend.org.uk

Head Office: 4th Floor, Dencora Court, Tylers Avenue, Southend-on-Sea, Essex SS1 2BB

***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 59298*

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 (contd...)

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

Young Adults Formation

The Community of Our Lady of Walsingham (COLW) is offering an opportunity to Catholic men and women aged 18 - 35 to live alongside their community in Norfolk for a week this summer.

As well as joining community prayers, meals and activities, young adults will receive formation on topics such *Prayer, Scripture, Discernment and the Spirituality of Walsingham*.

There are two choices of dates: 14th - 21st August or 30th August - 6th September.

To find out more, please enquire by 31st July by emailing the COLW Sisters at freetobe@walsinghamcommunity.org

Community of Our Lady of Walsingham, House of the Divine Will, Neatherd Moor, Dereham, Norfolk, NR20 4AZ.

Tel. 01362 421442. www.walsinghamcommunity.org

London Marathon 2024

Brentwood Catholic Children's Society has a number of Gold Bond Charity places for runners in the LONDON MARATHON taking place on SUNDAY 21st April 2024. If you are an experienced runner or someone who would value the opportunity to participate in this renowned event please contact Damian Dillon for further details on 07912 308000 / ddillon@bccs.org.uk. The closing date for completed applications is **Friday 28th July** and please note that there is a minimum sponsorship requirement of £1800 (excluding Gift Aid). If you have been lucky enough to secure your own running place through the ballot, we would invite you to join us and run for Brentwood Catholic Children's Society. The London Marathon is a unique opportunity to raise much needed funds for the Diocesan Children's Society and perhaps achieve a lifetime ambition at the same time.

The 13th Annual GK Chesterton Pilgrimage will take place on Saturday 29th July. Bishop David Oakley of Northampton will preach at the Mass at 2.30pm at The Bridgettine Convent, Fulmer Common Road, Iver, SL0 0NR. Please send any prayer requests to; CatholicGKCSociety@yahoo.co.uk or text them to 07795205114. Details of the many different ways in which you can be involved on the day, as well as printable GKC prayercards can be found on our website, www.CatholicGKChestertonSociety.co.uk”

The Pilgrimage is always on the nearest Saturday to the 30th July, the anniversary of Chesterton's reception into the Catholic Church. Over the years we have raised over £20,000 for Good Counsel with sponsorship from the Pilgrimage.

Property Assistant – Cathedral House

The successful applicant will provide comprehensive, effective, and efficient administration support.

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 30th July 2023

OVERALL PURPOSE OF JOB -

To provide a comprehensive, effective and efficient administrative support service to the Diocesan Director of Property and the Property Office team.

Working full time based in the office - ***MAIN RESPONSIBILITIES -***

1. To be the first point of contact for Diocesan property occupiers, priests, parish staff, volunteers, service contractors, insurers and other professionals. Handling queries and requests where possible or routing to other team members.
2. Assist in the co-ordination of information to support the set up and on-going management of various Diocese wide property management contracts.
3. Liaise with parishes on a regular basis, by phone and email, to gather supporting information as required for matters including health & safety updates, building works progress and insurance claim progress.
4. Assist with the preparation of reports, budget information, upkeep of databases/trackers and extraction of relevant data as required.
5. Management of meeting arrangements (including virtual meetings) and take meeting notes as required.
6. Assist the Property team with various project work liaising with key stakeholders, collating and processing information as necessary to track and monitor progress. c ontd....

7. Assist with arrangements for the Sub-Committee meetings including managing meeting dates, invites, preparation of supporting documentation and welcoming visitors. Confidence in the use of Microsoft Office tools to prepare presentations, dashboard reports, tables, charts etc.
8. Monitor, track, process and file invoices liaising with the Finance team, suppliers and other team members to ensure timely payment.
9. To be responsible for maintaining all Property Office files (both paper and electronic) including sorting information ready to be archived to either the Diocesan Archives and/or off-site archive facility etc
- 10.** To carry out other general administrative duties within the Property Team including correspondence, filing, copying and scanning as appropriate.

Site Manager- Cathedral House

The successful applicant will identify and carry out effectively, routine and reactive maintenance tasks, regular health and safety checks and other general duties associated with the management of buildings and grounds comprising the Cathedral House and the Brentwood Parish.

Hours: 35 hours per week

Salary: £23,000 - £27,000 p/a depending on experience

Start Date: ASAP

Apply by sending a CV and covering letter (no longer than A4) recruitment@brcdt.org

Closing date for applications is 14th August 2023

ST BERNARD'S HIGH SCHOOL

Exam Invigilators

The school is looking to recruit further Exam Invigilators to join its bank of staff who oversee examinations in the school. Training will be given.

Hourly rate: £10.50

The Governing Body is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff to share in this commitment.

If you are interested in becoming part of the team, please fill in a non-teaching application form found on our website under <https://www.stbernardswestcliff.org.uk/about-us/vacancies/> and email it to recruitment@stbernards.southend.sch.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

On sale now.

