

Parish Newsletter

OUR LADY OF RANSOM



22nd October 2023 29th Sunday A (World Mission Day) Psalter Week 1

Louis XIV never wore gloves, even in the coldest weather. Watching him ride past; two French peasants expressed surprise. "His hands must be freezing", said one. "No", the other replied, "because he's always got his hands in our pockets".

Does Caesar have his hands in Jewish pockets? The people try to trap Jesus with an answer. Whichever way Jesus answers, it appears he will be condemned by one of the opposing groups. We sometimes use the expression "damned if you do, damned if you don't". We surely have experienced those sentiments before. In this way, the people try to trap Jesus. But they fail. Why?

Because Jesus does not present Caesar and God as two independent or opposing authorities. Caesar does not possess anything independently of God. Jesus does not need to specify what belongs to God, since everything does. These are not two independent, opposing or parallel spheres of power and duty. God has dominion over all creation, and yes, Caesar has power, but only relative power, it will only go so far.

When we go to see professionals - doctors, lawyers, police, teachers etc., assuming they are working with integrity and truth, and as good as they are, we know their remit still only goes so far. Like Caesar's. They are not in opposition to God, but their expertise and authority is still only finite. It is relative to God's infinite power. We may see this as touching the area of politics.

At its most basic level, politics may be defined as what we do and decide publicly, with all the public ramifications of what we do. And spiritually, we ask the question *why* we do what we do, what our true motivations, energies, incentives may be. Religion and politics must be one, they feed each other. Separate them, as we see in our world today, and they are both seriously corrupted. Naturally.

Politics becomes the external expression of what is already happening in our hearts. We see why politics and faith must be one if truth and integrity are to flourish outwards. They feed each other.

Human power exists only in subservience to God's supreme power. Not independently of, even if the powerful think so. And that power must be expressed through a healthy spiritual disposition. Or we pay a terrible price - spiritually and politically. But before we criticise, we ask the question of ourselves: do our decisions and external behaviours reflect what is truly going on in our hearts?

First Reading: Isaiah 45: 1, 4-6

Psalm: 95: 1, 3-5, 7-10

Second Reading 1Thessalonians 1:1-5

Gospel: Matthew 22:15-21



MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday 21st October	
5.30pm Mass	Jean Williams (Ints) – Marie and Colin Griffin
Sunday 22nd October 29th Sunday of the Year (World Mission Day)	
8.00am Mass	Andy Smyth RIP – Maureen Ashkuri
10.00am Mass	Parish Community
Monday 23rd October	
9.30am Mass	Mrs. D. Warrington RIP
Tuesday 24th October	
9.30am Mass	Mike Healy RIP – Lorna Warren
Wednesday 25th October	
10.00am Mass	Billy McSweeney RIP – Jean Wood
Thursday 26th October St. Cedd - Secondary Co-Patron of the Diocese	
9.30am Mass	Tom Penney RIP – Frank and Jean Lowry
Friday 27th October	
9.30am Mass	Paddy Corr RIP – Lorna Warren
Saturday 28th October Ss. Simon and Jude	
5.30pm Mass	Parish Community
Sunday 29th October 30th Sunday of the Year	
8.00am Mass	Fr. Patrick Egan RIP
10.00am Mass	Mrs. Emma Lucibello RIP – Damian and Susan Lucibello

All 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 2340



ANNIVERSARIES Kindly pray for Josephine O' Connor, Peter Taffurelli, James Marshall, Molly Walmsley and Margaret Heath whose anniversaries are at this time.
May they rest in Peace.

† Please kindly pray for Mrs. Bridie O' Sullivan who died recently. Please also keep her family in your prayers. Bridie's Funeral Service (not Mass) will be on Thursday November 9th at 10.30am here in our parish.

May Bridie rest in Peace. †

.....**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.



Mondays 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.

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.

Congratulations to Adèle Hawkins and Tom Bailey who were married in our parish last weekend. Also to their families. May Tom and Adèle's future together be blessed with joy and success.

Wednesday Coffee Mornings...the next Wednesday Coffee morning will be this Wednesday October 25th after the 10am Mass.

Sunday Coffee Morning

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.

"Lourdes Pilgrimage 2024 – Come And Join Us!

A group of parishioners, led by Father Paul, intend visiting Lourdes next year. The provisional dates are Monday, 10th June to Friday, 14th June, being 4 nights. We hope to return to the popular Hotel Stella, which is only a short distance from the Domain. Flights would be from Stansted Airport using Ryanair scheduled services. The pilgrimage is being arranged through Tangney Tours who are specialists in this field. At present, the price has not been determined. If you are interested in joining us, please contact Colin Griffin, Tel. 01268 772322, Mob. 07841 013606 or email colingriffin@outlook.com **before 17th November.**"

On sale now.



Accommodation Required.

48 year old Male Rayleigh Parishioner is seeking a 1 Bedroom Flat in the Rayleigh, Eastwood or surrounding areas from the beginning of December. He would also consider Flat share if that was available.

References can be provided. Contact details regarding availability etc are to:

Pat Rickard, President, SVP Conference Rayleigh

01702 206842 or Mobile 07831 558242..

November – month of the Holy Souls. As usual, there will be our Remembrance Book in the Church porch during November in order to place names of those who have died. A prayer will be offered for them at Masses during November.

HARP Day Centre (Amended) continues to be in need of male and female toiletries. Thank you to all who have already donated so generously. Wonderful. The box will remain in the church porch for ongoing donations until the end of **November.** **Blankets and sleeping bags** are also in short supply. Any unused ones in your lofts or garages? Contact Jane on 07984923639.

There will be a coffee morning after the 10am Mass on **November 12th for HARP.**

Children's Liturgy.

Younger group: Children from age 3 years up to school year 2.

Older group : school years 3-6

Children do not need to bring anything with them as all resources for activities will be provided.

We look forward to seeing you!

PLEASE NOTE THERE IS NO CHILDREN'S LITURGY 29TH OCT- HALF TERM HOLIDAY


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....and..



REPOSITORY.



Christmas stock is on display. If you have any particular requests please let us know in good time for an order to be placed. There is a catalogue from which you are welcome to choose - however supply will depend on remaining stock availability the closer we get to Christmas. As always we shall do our best to help. 

Old Glasses Collection. Do you have any old glasses?

I return to Ghana for the fourth time at the end of this month to work with some teachers as part of a small project called "Let's Read Ghana".

Children and adults in the Upper East Region, where I will be working, have very little access to eye care so we are going to be taking some spectacles with us. I would be very grateful if anyone has any old pairs of glasses (children's or adults') that they could bring to Mass

before 23rd October. There will be a box at the back of the church. Many thanks for all your help.

Karen Mackenzie.

URSULINE SISTERS OF THE ROMAN UNION (ST ANGELA'S URSULINE SCHOOL, FOREST GATE & URSULINE SCHOOL, ILFORD): To mark the centenary (1923-2023) of the establishment of the English Province of the Ursuline Sisters (Roman Union) a new book *ROOTS AND SHOOTS* has been published: 172 pages with colour illustrations. To order a copy please send a donation of £12.50 (includes p&p) to Natasha Zammit, Ursuline Convent, 38 Grosvenor Road, Forest Gate, London E7 8JA (cheque payable to Ursuline Sisters) or email ursulinebook.ursuline@gmail.com to use BACS: Ursuline Provincialate a/c no.23135852 sort code 16-00-15

St Bernard's High School

A Catholic Academy for Arts and Science

Open Evening for Prospective Year 12

Thursday 30 November 2023

7.00pm to 9.00pm

We would be delighted to welcome to our Sixth Form Open Evening prospective students who are interested in joining St Bernard's High School's Sixth Form in September 2024.

www.stbernardswestcliff.org.uk

We welcome applications to our mixed Sixth Form from students of all faiths and none, who meet our entrance requirements and are seeking a school with a Christian ethos.

'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)

www.stbernardswestcliff.org.uk, Milton Road, Westcliff-on-Sea, Essex SS0 7JS

Housekeeper – Our Lady & All Saints, Basildon

Our Lady & All Saints in Basildon are looking for a part time Housekeeper for Holy Trinity Presbytery and Hall, St Therese Hall and occasionally in St Basil's Presbytery in Basildon Parish.

The post will be part-time (approximately 15 hours per week – Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday).

Application forms can be obtained by contacting Father Sabu via the Parish email address: basildon@brcdt.org

Job description can be viewed via our website Job description: Housekeeper Our Lady & All Saints -Basildon (full job description is contained on www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/diocese/working-for-us

Closing date for applications is 31st October 2023.

Brentwood Youth: Walsingham House

Walsingham House volunteer team: applications for the Walsingham House at Abbotswick volunteer retreat team are now open. If you are aged between 18-23 and are considering a gap year then please consider the Walsingham House Team. The volunteer team work with around 5000 young people from across the diocese running retreats for Yr5-Yr13 students. For more information please see our website:

<https://bcys.net/whabbotswick/be-on-team/> or email clairebailey@brcdt.org

Walsingham House available for day groups: Walsingham House at Abbotswick is a beautiful setting for days of reflection, retreats or meetings. They are open to accept bookings for day groups on Wednesdays – Saturdays. For more information or to make a booking please email the Hospitality Manager, Issy, at issycordova@brcdt.org

Youth Events

BCYS YOUTH MASS

- YOUTH MASS takes place on the first Thursday of **every** month at Brentwood Cathedral, beginning with pizza & refreshments in the Parish Hall from 6pm, an hour of input, workshops, youth led prayer and formation from different organisations each month, and Youth Mass celebrated in the Cathedral at 7:30pm. Absolutely everyone is welcome, please bring instruments, and sing, serve or read if you wish! No need to book!

CATECHIST TRAINING AND RESOURCES DAY – Saturday 4th November at Sacred Heart of Mary Girls School in Upminster

- This training and resources day is open to all First Holy Communion and Confirmation Catechists, as well as those who look after the children's liturgy in the Diocese of Brentwood. It will be an opportunity to hear about fresh resources, as well as receiving input to assist you in your First Holy Communion and Confirmation programmes. **A particular welcome is extended to any young catechists or young people (16+) who may be interested in working as or with catechists, and wish to develop their faith further post-confirmation.**

Reserve your place **now** at www.bcys.net/events/catechistday23/

Retrouvaille.

We are very pleased to be starting our next Retrouvaille programme with a face to face weekend at Welwyn Garden City from Friday 13 to Sunday 15 October **and continuing** with twelve virtual evening sessions on Wednesdays from 18 October 2023 to 3 January 2024.

Prayer is central to our Weekend, the Post Sessions and everything that we do to help the couples who participate in the Retrouvaille programme. We have 25 couples booked on the weekend. We believe that the tools we can provide can help the couples to rediscover the married love that they had when they got married.

If you are able to pray, please do. We will have a prayer scroll giving the names (first name and location if you wish to include it) of those who have said they will pray. Please let us know if you are happy to be included on the prayer scroll.

Thank you all for your support for our last programme which comes to an end this Wednesday - we know the couples and the Team are very grateful for your prayers which we have all felt supporting us during the ups and downs of marriage which we all experience.

Thank you for your support.

[Caroline & Michael L'Estrange](#)
[Retrouvaille England & Wales](#)

Co-ordinator

candmretrouvaille@icloud.com

www.retrouvaille.org.uk

CATHOLIC TEACHING ON MIGRANTS AND REFUGEES: Earlier this year the Bishops of England and Wales issued a document on Migrants and Refugees. A talk on this document, *Love the Stranger*, was given by Liam Allmark of the Jesuit Refugee Service on 7th October at Gidea Park parish. Please visit www.whatgoodnews.org to see the edited recording.

2024 Christian Leadership Formation

Are you currently in Lower Sixth/Year 12/S5? Are you considering a public-facing career? Do you want to help build a Christian society?

The programme offers a Catholic and holistic formation to young people who are motivated to take their faith into the public forum through their future careers. It is a unique programme in the UK, offering students intellectual, spiritual and personal tools to become effective Christian leaders. Bursaries are available for students who cannot fund themselves: only an application is required!

The Christian Leadership Formation programme uniquely offers a combination of stimulating and high-quality intellectual content, spiritual nourishment, personal development, inter-personal skills, team-building and socials in a tightly-knit community experience, with expert academics and professionals. Open to any student who is motivated by their faith and their studies, with bursaries available as needed.

More information and applications via our new website www.christianleadershipformation.com, and please encourage your parishioners and contacts to follow us on Instagram ([@christianleadershipformation](https://www.instagram.com/christianleadershipformation)) for all the latest updates!

Today - World Mission Sunday – 22nd October, 2023

On World Mission Sunday, every Catholic community in every country sends a powerful message of faith, hope and love. We come together in prayer and solidarity as a parish community, and also with the worldwide Catholic community to bear witness to God's love.

Parish collections for World Mission Sunday are taken up across the world and your donations support churches, hospitals, schools and vocations in countries where the Church is new, young or poor. The collection coordinated by Missio – the **Pope's charity** for world mission – brings the Church together in compassion and communion. It provides mission dioceses with the support they need to become self-sufficient: local church directly helping local church.

This year, Pope Francis chose the theme '**Hearts on fire, feet on the move**', based on the story of The Road to Emmaus. Let me illustrate the theme through a powerful witness of faith and friendship in Africa's largest urban 'slum': **Kibera in Kenya**'.

Kibera is home to scores of people living without basic necessities. It is overcrowded, with no fresh water, and little sanitation, electricity or employment.

Inspired by her friendship with Jesus, **Sister Mary** has chosen to live in Kibera where she befriends people, listens to their sorrows and joys, and helps them to live out and strengthen their faith.

She explains: 'People come to our house, or our church and we sit down and talk. When I can't help them, because sometimes they are so damaged, I contact doctors or Sisters in the hospitals.'

So, its friendship, but a friendship that means you can't sit and watch; that something has to be done ... If I am tired or down-hearted I find strength in the heart of Jesus'.

Sister Mary has been a great support to Linet, another woman with great missionary spirit. Linet courageously expresses her faith by rescuing and fostering children who have been abandoned, orphaned or trafficked: a mission which often places her in real danger.

Linet is determined to help as many children as possible. But with her own three children and another 12 foster children, Linet struggles. She shares: 'We have so many challenges. I have people looking to me not only for food, but for all the basic things. It's a challenge to find all of it. I need clothes. I need to pay for school. It's difficult.' But she says; 'Sister Mary has done so much. Sister is always there for me with support – mental, physical, everything. She has always been there for me'.

Sister Mary and devoted missionaries like her throughout the world depend on our support and the World Mission Sunday collection to continue their mission.

We are all facing challenges this year. Anything we can give will be so gratefully received.

This **World Mission Sunday (22nd October, 2023)**, please pray for the people of Kibera – especially the children – and for all missionaries throughout the world who are setting hearts ablaze with God's love.

On behalf of Missio,

Thank you for your continued support!

Local Secretary – Our Lady of Ransom Parish

Bar 'n' Bus Volunteering



2 specific opportunities highlighted for you. Please see over the page too.

Rayleigh Outreach – we have started using our amazing bus at the skatepark in King Georges Park from 3-5pm every Monday evening as a drop-in space. This is gaining momentum with good engagement each week and offers a great opportunity to connect with young people from the town.

Sweyne Park School Lunchtime Wellbeing – we set up our bus within Sweyne Park school every Tuesday lunchtime as a wellbeing space. Due to the staggered lunchbreak, this sessions sees between 75 and 100 young people attending each week (in groups of 25-30). This is an incredible opportunity to provide both a supportive space as well as a regular connection with local young people.

If anyone is interested in partnering with us for these programme please do get in touch, so feel free to pass my details on to people as necessary.

In addition – if you would like a direct update regarding our work for your church, please let me know as I would love to come and visit you to share about what is being done locally.

Every blessing

Jamie Sawtell

Chief Executive Officer (He/Him)

Bar 'n' Bus Trust

Tel: 07935 222 113

Email: ceo@barnbus.org.uk

Web : www.barnbus.org.uk



Bar 'n' Bus Volunteering (continued)

Opportunities Autumn 2023



Bar 'n' Bus is a Christian charity working with young people throughout Essex. We provide professional, community based youth and community work providing support programmes and services for young people aged 10-19.

We have a number of volunteering opportunities currently available across Basildon, Castle Point and Rochford.

Basildon

Youth Support Volunteer – assisting with outreach and group work programmes

- Bus Outreach Team in Laindon, Wednesdays 3-5pm
- Bus Outreach Team in Pitsea, Fridays 3-5pm
- Woodlands School Lunchtime Wellbeing Space, Thursdays 12-2pm
- NEW VANGE Outreach coming soon
- Cooking Group Assistant, Tuesdays 4-6:30pm
- Being Me, Young Women's Programme, Wednesdays 6-8pm

In-School Mentors – providing 1-2-1 support to young people during the school day

- Flexible times available across all 5 Basildon secondary schools

Castle Point & Rochford

Youth Support Volunteer – assisting with outreach and group work programmes

- Bus Outreach Team in Rayleigh, Mondays 3-5pm
- Bus Outreach Team in Hullbridge, Tuesdays 7:30-9:30pm
- Sweyne Park Lunchtime Wellbeing Space, Tuesdays 12-2:30pm
- Being Me, Young Women's Programme, Mondays 6-8pm

In-School Mentors – providing 1-2-1 support to young people during the school day

- Flexible times available within 5 local secondary schools

To explore how you could get involved with support local young people please drop a message to hello@barnbus.org.uk or call us on 07935 222 113.

For more information about our work please visit our website www.barnbus.org.uk



33 Brook Rd Rayleigh Essex SS6 7XJ

Registered Charity No 1151572

Company No 07979812

Hopeworx Re-use Centre Manager

01268 743232

07436 271949

www.hopeworx.org.uk

Hopeworx Food Hub. Christmas Hamper Collections

If you are able to help in collecting food for the hampers, the list of food is below. We thank you for your support.

The deadline for letting us know your figures is **Friday 24th November**.

These hampers will be available for collection on **Friday 8th December from 10.00am to 12 noon** at the Todman Centre, Castle Road, Rayleigh SS6 7QF. If you cannot make this collection date and time please let us know as we do not have the room to store many hampers.

If you would like to help with putting Christmas Hampers together on **Thursday 7th December at 7.30pm** at the Todman Centre, Castle Road, Rayleigh SS6 7QF then please let me know.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Janet Fox Hopeworx Re-use Centre Manager. 01268 74323 or 07436 271949

www.hopeworx.org.uk

List of food.

Christmas Cake, sponge fruit of log; Christmas Pudding (can be chocolate); Mince pies, tinned fruit, custard; large tin of ham; salmon; Christmas sweets; savouries such as cheese twists, twiglets, cheeselets; a box of biscuits or shortbread; 1 litre carton of juice.