

## Parish Newsletter

# OUR LADY OF RANSOM

5<sup>th</sup> November 2023

31<sup>st</sup> Sunday A

Psalter Week 3



His dangly earrings, torn jeans, and long hair made a statement. 'This is me, take me as I am'. Chris also admitted to being a proud atheist. We were both working with people with disabilities at the time. In moments of more serious conversation, Chris confessed to me that much of this was an act of rebellion against his parent's heavy-handed religious attitudes. His parents' brainwashing and conditioning didn't sit well with him. And so it shouldn't in anyone. This was a few decades ago.

(Today, it seems that young people are pushing the boat much further. Possibly to make their own statements). Returning to see the people having left a few months earlier, I was shocked. There was Chris, clean-shaven, no holes, no earrings – he told me he had found God – in the people we had been working with. Wow! How we can let go of nonsenses when we truly find God.

We cannot look for importance in outer things. Roles, titles, pretences, clothing, illusions we create about ourselves, what and who we think we are, attention-seeking, honour-seeking – for once we do, we need to keep on. It can become addictive. We need more and more of what, truthfully, doesn't work. So we need to let go. This is the explanation of why great saints need less and less.

If we haven't experienced the power of God's love in our lives, which lets us know we are already important, (and many in their arrogance will not accept this truth), then we have to do something to self-signify, self-validate and self-legitimate. *I'm important, I'm here, I matter, look at me, I'm great, admire me.* Today we see it, arguably, in wild body arts, body piercings, strange clothing, and so it goes on. We see this desperation everywhere.

Prisoners would indicate to me that *if I cannot show how good I am, then I'll show you how bad I am;* people would rather be bad than be nothing and never noticed. They choose the negative path.

The religious people, in today's gospel, who should be getting this, who should be knowing God are the very ones doing the opposite. Clinging to their roles and titles and so on. All outer things. Something else we see today in many so-called religious people. We see why Jesus scolds them – and us – when we cling.

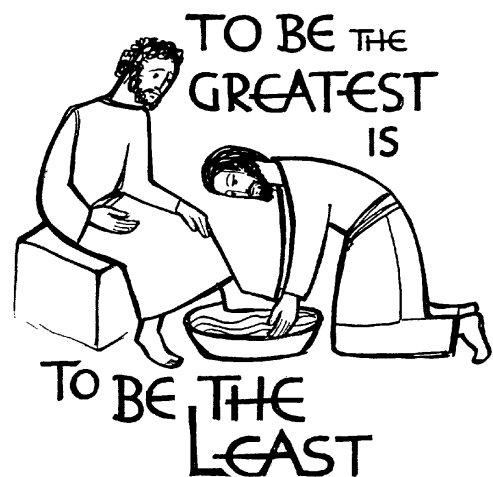
Good healthy spiritual life is about letting go of what is not really needed; what is not really important; a letting-go of simply everything we are not. Chris got it. Can, and do we?

**First Reading: Malachi 1:14-2:2, 8-10**

**Psalms: 130**

**Second Reading 1Thessalonians 2:7-9, 13**

**Gospel: Matthew 23:1-12**



## MASS INTENTIONS

<b>Saturday 4th November</b>	<b>St. Charles Borromeo</b>
<b>5.30pm Mass</b>	Holy Souls RIP
<b>Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> November</b>	<b>31<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the Year</b>
<b>8.00am Mass</b>	Dec'd members of the Rayner and Griffin families RIP
<b>10.00am Mass</b>	Parish Community
<b>Monday 6<sup>th</sup> November</b>	
<b>9.30am Mass</b>	Paul Gurney RIP – Rita Gurney
<b>Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> November</b>	
<b>9.30am Mass</b>	Andy Smyth RIP – Mary and Barry Mason
<b>Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> November</b>	
<b>10.00 am Mass</b>	Holy Souls RIP
<b>Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> November</b>	<b>Dedication of the Lateran Basilica</b>
<b><u>8.30am Mass</u></b>	Mike Healy RIP – Frances Wiley
<b>Friday 10<sup>th</sup> November</b>	<b>St. Leo the Great</b>
<b>9.30am Mass</b>	Joe Rodgers RIP – Brenda Askem
<b>Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> November</b>	<b>St. Martin of Tours</b>
<b>5.30pm Mass</b>	Parish Community
<b>Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> November</b>	<b>32<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the Year - Remembrance Sunday</b>
<b>8.00am Mass</b>	Holy Souls RIP
<b>10.00am Mass</b>	The Dead of ALL Wars RIP

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><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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**The 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 Alan Scarsbrook and Kathleen Kirkland whose anniversaries are at this time. **May they rest in Peace.**

† The Requiem Mass for Mrs. Hilary Barry will be on Monday November 20<sup>th</sup> at 11.30am here at Our Lady's. Reception of the Body will be at 4pm the day before (Sunday 19<sup>th</sup>). Please continue to keep Deidre, Martin and all the family in your prayers. May Hilary rest in Peace. †

† The Funeral Service for Mrs. Bridie O' Sullivan (not Mass) will be on Thursday November 9<sup>th</sup> at 10.30am here at Our Lady's. May Bridie rest in Peace. †

† Please pray for Mrs. Jean Pye of our Parish who died recently. Jean's Requiem Mass will be on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> November at 10am. May Jean rest in Peace. †

This weekend we welcome Fr. Berhane from Eritrea to our Parish. Fr. Berhane has visited to our parish previously and has been receiving ongoing support over the years. There will be a Coffee Morning this Sunday (5<sup>th</sup>) to assist with support. Welcome Fr. Berhane.

**.....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](mailto: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.

**First Holy Communion – Summer 2024**

If your child is in Year 3 or above, is a Baptised Christian, please register your interest by contacting the Parish at [rayleigh@brcdt.org](mailto:rayleigh@brcdt.org) by November 19<sup>th</sup> 2023. Thank you.

**Wednesday Coffee Mornings** – the next one will be on the 8<sup>th</sup> November after the 10am morning Mass.

**Sunday Coffee Morning**

Please join us for coffee and cake after the 10am Mass this Sunday (5<sup>th</sup>) to welcome Fr Berhane who is visiting from Eritrea. The proceeds will be to support Fr. Berhane in his work.



Next week's Coffee Morning (12<sup>th</sup>) after the 10am Mass will be in aid of HARP, the Southend Homelessness Charity.

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](http://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, 10<sup>th</sup> June to Friday, 14<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:colingriffin@outlook.com) **before 17<sup>th</sup> November.**"

### **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** 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 12<sup>th</sup> for HARP.**

### **Children's Liturgy.**

#### **Children's Liturgy**

We would like to invite any adults who may have thought of getting involved in Children's Liturgy – either as assistant or leader – to have a chat with any of the team. You may like to come along and see what we do. To continue running 2 groups weekly, which is so beneficial for our lovely parish children and families, we do need a few more people to fill some slots on our rota. Perhaps you may be able to help us out one session a month?

Please think about it .....thank you.

### **Children's Liturgy Dates to Christmas**

5<sup>th</sup> November; 12<sup>th</sup> November; 19<sup>th</sup> November; 3<sup>rd</sup> December; and 10<sup>th</sup> December

## **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.



## **Parish Secretary- Our Lady of Ransom, Rayleigh**

To provide administrative support services to the Parish Office by implementing and maintaining office systems, processes and procedures and delivering a welcoming, appropriate service to those attending the parish office.

**Hours: 10 hours per week (to be negotiated)**

**Start Date: February 2024**

**Apply by sending a CV and covering letter (no longer than A4) to [rayleigh@brcdt.org](mailto:rayleigh@brcdt.org)**

**Closing date for applications is 1<sup>st</sup> December 2023. Click on Job Description below.**



Parish Secretary  
Rayleigh Oct 2023.d

## **Coffee morning in Aid of Missio**

### **Coffee morning in Aid of Missio**

“Thank you to the ‘Coffee Morning Team’ for organising the coffee morning on Wednesday 18th October and on Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> October’

It was well attended and we all enjoyed delicious cakes, biscuits, tea, coffee and there was much good-natured banter too.

The money raised was **£62.66** on 18<sup>th</sup> October & **£41.00** on 25<sup>th</sup> October. - Significant contributions in aid of Missio. The monies have been banked into the Missio account at our local Nat West Bank on Rayleigh High Street.

Also thank you to the Trustees of the Jeanne Marie Gunn Trust for the cheque of **£1,000** made payable to Missio – another significant contribution.

### **Sharing God's Love:**

We all have a part to play in mission!

Ten years ago, **Pope Benedict XVI** told the crowds in Hyde Park:  
**'Each of us has a mission. Each of us is called to change the world'.**

That is as true today as it was 10 years ago and it will still be true tomorrow. The Missio family helps Churches too poor or too young to support themselves, and you play a major part in that.

On behalf of Missio,

Thank you for your prayers and your generous contributions during World Mission Sunday and throughout the year.

Thank you for being part of the Missio family.

Local Missio Secretary - Our Lady of Ransom Parish

## **Our Lady of Ransom Catholic Primary School - Posts -**

Class Teacher - We are looking to appoint a **Class Teacher in KS2** for September 2024.

Please visit Essex Jobscene for further details:

<https://www.essexschoolsjobs.co.uk/Vacancies/Details.aspx?VacancyId=94018>

Closing date: **Thursday 23rd November 2023 (4pm)**

Interview date: tbc

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### **Learning Mentor - Our Lady of Ransom Catholic Primary School**

We are looking to appoint a **Learning Mentor**

Permanent contract.

Salary - Point 5 £21,575 FTE (actual salary £11,686)

23 hours, 45 mins a week (8.30am-1.15pm) Term Time only

Please visit Essex Jobscene for further details:

<https://www.essexschoolsjobs.co.uk/Vacancies/Details.aspx?VacancyId=94015>

Closing date: **Thursday 23rd November 2023 (4pm)**

Interview date: tbc

## **Supply Teachers - Our Lady of Ransom Catholic Primary School**

We are also looking to build a team of Supply Teachers

Please Contact Mr Parascandolo via [info@olorcps.net](mailto:info@olorcps.net) for further details.

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The Governing Body is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. These appointments are subject to satisfactory references, medical and enhanced DBS checks.

## **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](http://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](http://www.stbernardswestcliff.org.uk), Milton Road, Westcliff-on-Sea,  
Essex SS0 7JS

## **also...**

**Reprographics and Display Technician Urgently Required for St. Bernard's School, Part-time 25 hours per week 8.00am-1.30pm Monday-Friday (hours negotiable) Term time + 1 week**



### **Scale 7-12 (pro rata)**

The school is urgently looking to recruit a Reprographics and Display Technician ideally from 17 November 2023. We are looking for someone organised and adaptable to ensure the smooth running of our Reprographics Department.

*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 this position, please fill in the support staff application form found on our website under <https://www.stbernardswestcliff.org.uk/about-us/vacancies/> and email it to [recruitment@stbernards.southend.sch.uk](mailto:recruitment@stbernards.southend.sch.uk)

### **St. Thomas More High School**

**SIXTH FORM OPEN EVENING,**

**THURSDAY 23<sup>rd</sup> NOVEMBER, 6.00-9.00 P.M.**

***For families who have students – boys and girls - in year 11 of secondary school who are intending to begin sixth form studies in September 2024. Come and visit the school and meet the staff and current sixth form students. There will be tours of the sixth form building and the rest of the school.***

### **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](mailto: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](mailto:issycordova@brcdt.org)

### **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

**Memorial Mass at Walsingham House at Abbotswick:** the Friends of Abbotswick Memorial Mass for those with loved ones remembered within the grounds at Abbotswick will be held at 3pm on Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> November. If you wish to attend please email Claire at [clairebailey@brcdt.org](mailto:clairebailey@brcdt.org) or phone 01277 373959.

## **The Universe Catholic Weekly Online and PRINT**

### **EDITION Newspaper**

Is true to its mission of being “a light to guide the world, and a mirror to reflect it” Keeping Catholics informed about their faith and bringing them ever closer to God. In order to keep our high standard going and maintain a strong weekly Catholic voice at a time when it is much needed in the world, please consider taking out a subscription.

We have an excellent website full of trustworthy articles and an online shop with all subscribers receiving a 10% discount.

**If you are interested in our Digital Subscription Offer or the PRINT EDITION, call on Michelle on 0743 661 7650 or email: [michelle.jones@universecatholicweekly.co.uk](mailto:michelle.jones@universecatholicweekly.co.uk)**

**Prices for Digital are as follows:- 3months Digital Subscription:- £20.00/6 months Digital Subscription:- £40.00- or 12-months Digital Subscription:- £80.00**

**Prices for PRINT EDITION:- 3 months PRINT Subscription:- £42.00- or 12-months PRINT Subscriptions:- £140.00**

**We invite you to submit articles/news and celebrations about your local parish activities.**

Below is the link to the latest edition of the Universe Catholic Weekly:

<https://universecatholicweekly.co.uk/universe-weekly-newsletters/september-2023/UNIVERSE-22-SEPTEMBER%20v3.pdf>

***“There is always a need for us Catholics to be able to know what is going on, especially in that key relationship between our faith and our world.”***

*Archbishop Vincent Nichols*

**Email:- [michelle.jones@universecatholicweekly.co.uk](mailto:michelle.jones@universecatholicweekly.co.uk)**

**Mobile:- 0743 661 7650**

**Website: [www.universecatholicweekly.co.uk](http://www.universecatholicweekly.co.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](http://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 bellow We thank you for your support.

The deadline for letting us know your figures is **Friday 24<sup>th</sup> November**.

These hampers will be available for collection on **Friday 8<sup>th</sup> 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 7<sup>th</sup> 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](http://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.**