

Parish Newsletter

OUR LADY OF RANSOM



26th November 2023 Christ the King A - Psalter Week 2

Sam was not a very nice person. He died and went to hell. He was missed by old friends. His work's manager went to hell's gates to see if he could bring him back. He pleaded profusely, no luck. So his football captain went to hell's gates, he begged that he may play football for one more season. No joy. His parish priest went and declared that he wasn't that bad, so please give him another chance! Nothing. Many others did the same at hell's gates, begging Satan to *let him out*. Still no joy. Then his mother went. She spoke no word of his release. Quietly, and with a sense of inner authority, she said to Satan, *let me in*. The gates opened, and immediately she found herself redeeming her son. Only love can penetrate the gates of hell and redeem the lost.

Perhaps this image may help us understand Jesus' own descent into hell, enticing us away from any choice of personal destruction. Our God is so loving that he will wait for however much time it takes, he will suffer painfully with us, (compassion) until we make a choice for Him.

Our Jesus, as Christ the King, during his earthly ministry, walked among the poorest, most sick, most underprivileged and brought so many out of the hell they were experiencing.

If an alien were to come to earth and ask where our Jesus is, would you point this creature to a palace, or a cathedral or basilica? No; you would point him to rather odd sanctuaries such as slums, refugee camps, back alleys, prisons, hospitals. And you would add, those who are the blessed of God are also found there, following Our Lord, feeding, welcoming, clothing, visiting and being attentive to so many needs. Judged on our treatment on human needs, not on religious piety. *How we are to the least of our sisters and brothers* – Jesus totally and unequivocally identifying Himself with the most underprivileged. Ground breaking for His time when people thought otherwise. This is a key comment Our Lord makes on Last Judgement. And we see the criteria for entry to Heaven. How do we respond?

In other words, to go to Heaven, we may well need a letter of reference from the Poorest of the Poor.

To experience God's overwhelming love creates our own Heaven, where, like the mother above, there is the desire to enter other people's hell, following Our Lord in enticing them away from it. Not just a call at the gates or from a distance. Yes, rolling up our sleeves and going in.

Our loving Christ is redeeming "everything - everyone" and infinitely waits patiently for everyone to true desire for Redemption. Surely that is why he is Christ the Eternal King, the Servant King of the Universe.

First Reading: Ezekiel 34:11-12, 15-17

Psalms: 22:1-3a, 5-6

Second Reading 1Corinthians 15:20-26, 28

Gospel: 25:31-46



MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday 25th November	
5.30pm Mass	Parish Community
Sunday 26^h November	
Christ the King – (Youth Day)	
8.00am Mass	Holy Souls RIP
10.00am Mass	Walenty Krolikowski RIP – The Krolikowski Family
Monday 27th November	
<u>10.00am</u>	Requiem Mass – Jean Pye RIP
Tuesday 28th November	
9.30am Mass	Fr. Andrew Dorricott RIP
Wednesday 29th November	
10.00am Mass	Hilary Barry RIP – Marie and Colin Griffin
Thursday 30th November	
St. Andrew, Patron of Scotland	
9.30am Mass	Holy Souls RIP
Friday 1st December	
9.30am Mass	Hilary Barry RIP – Angela and Jovito Fernandes
Saturday 2nd December	
5.30pm Mass	The Packer Family (Ints) – Mary and Barrie Mason
Sunday 3rd December	
1st Sunday of Advent B	
8.00am Mass	Parish Community
10.00am Mass	Hilary Barry RIP – SVP Conference

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</p> <p><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 Chris O' Callaghan, Lorna best, Derek Timothy and Pat Taffurelli whose anniversaries are at this time. **May they rest in Peace.**

† Please pray for Mrs. Jean Pye of our Parish whose Requiem Mass will be this Monday (tomorrow) 27th November at 10am. May Jean 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.

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 by November 19th 2023. Thank you.

Mass Intentions. For information, all Mass intentions will be for February onwards, as all Masses between now and February have intentions allocated to them Thank you for your ongoing generosity.

The second collection this weekend is for the Youth Ministry.

Wednesday Coffee Mornings – the next one will be on the 29th November after the 10am morning Mass.

Sunday Coffee Morning

This morning (26th) is run by the Knights of St. Columba to support the work of Sr. Joachim in remote Ethiopia. (Sr's mother lives in our parish). If you cannot come to the 10am Mass or the coffee morning and would like to make a donation instead, please either give it to one of the Knights at the back of the church or hand it in to the presbytery.



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.



OLOR Lourdes Pilgrimage 2024 – Monday 10th to Friday 14th June 2024

Bookings are now being accepted for next year's Lourdes pilgrimage. Flights will be from Stansted Airport using Ryanair scheduled services. Accommodation will be provided by Hotel Stella on a full-board basis for 4 nights. The cost is £560 per person, based on 2 or more sharing a room. A single room supplement of £120 applies. Due to Ryanair's flight booking policy the cost shown is subject to change. Recommended optional insurance cover can be arranged through the operators, Tangney Tours, at a cost of £41 per person.

Those still considering joining the pilgrimage or would like to know more, please contact Colin Griffin, Tel. 01268 772322, Mob. 07841 013606 or email colingriffin@outlook.com.

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.

HARP Coffee Morning for their daycentre for the homeless raised £65. Huge thanks to all, and especially those who made donations. Many thanks also for the toiletries left in the box in the church porch. Toiletry donations will continue until the end of November.

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 itthank you.

Children's Liturgy Dates to Christmas

3rd December and 10th December

Christmas Eve Family Mass- come and join in our nativity tableau for the Gospel at the family mass, on Christmas Eve at 6pm!

We have plenty of costumes, all shapes and sizes and there is room for everyone. No one is too little, and we hope some of our older children will be able to guide the younger ones, having been part of this before. If your child would like to join in, please make a note of the dates below:

Sunday 3rd December – after 10 am mass - come along and sign up to get a part/costume

Sunday 17th December – after 10 am mass – practice for Christmas Eve

Any adults who may be able to assist, and see what is involved, to help to continue this tradition for years to come, would be welcome!

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.



In Aid of Missio

APF/Missio Red Box

All the contributions to Missio via the Red Box have to be accounted for in readiness for the Year End report due next month. If you have a Red Box and you think it needs emptying and the monies banked, please get in touch with your local Missio Promoter **OR** feel free to bring your box to church and hand it in to one of the Ushers and it will be dealt with in good time.

The deadline is **30th November** for the boxes to be handed in.

Thank you for your continuing support for Missio.

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'.

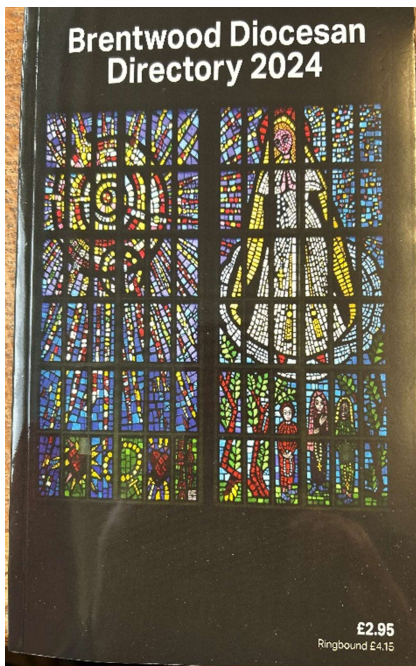
That is as true today as it was 10 years ago and it will still be true tomorrow. The Missio family helps Churches too poor or too young to support themselves, and you play a major part in that.

On behalf of Missio,

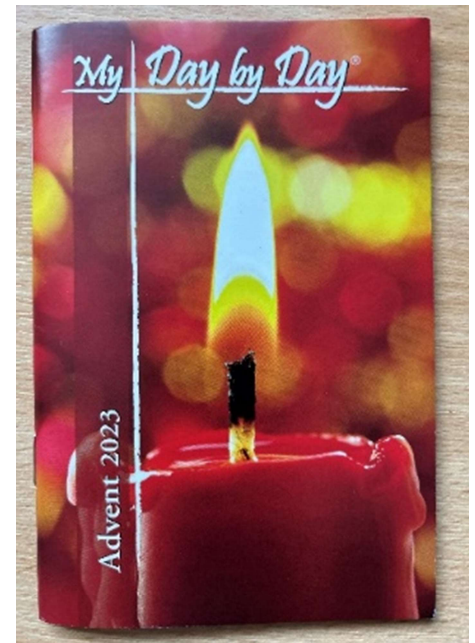
Thank you for your prayers and your generous contributions during World Mission Sunday and throughout the year.

Thank you for being part of the Missio family.

Local Missio Secretary - Our Lady of Ransom Parish



On sale Now.



The Prophet Isaiah

Words of the prophet Isaiah dominate

the Liturgy during Advent. This is an opportunity to explore the book attributed to this prophet, and especially to consider the words which have been seen as fulfilled in the coming of Jesus. **Fr Adrian Graffy** is parish priest of Gidea Park, a Scripture scholar, and since 2014 a member of Pope Francis' Pontifical Biblical Commission. All are warmly invited to engage in this preparation for the Season of Advent. **Wednesday 29th November 7 pm (1900 GMT)**

This is an in-person event. Tea and coffee will be available from 6.30 pm. Easy access on Elizabeth Line, three minute walk to church. The event is also available on live stream free of charge at www.whatgoodnews.org No prior booking necessary. A recording of the talk will be available subsequently on the same website.

Catholic Church of Christ the Eternal High Priest

Brentwood Road Gidea Park RM2 6DH

Bishop's Certificate in Catechesis and Youth Ministry is an online course is designed to be an entry level qualification to help in the ongoing formation of adults involved in sacramental preparation (First Holy Communion and/or Confirmation) or youth ministry in the Diocese of Brentwood. It includes both the development of practical skills & the deepening of theological knowledge. For more information or to register your interest please email clairebailey@brcdt.org or see the website <https://bcys.net/bishops-cert/>

Office Clerk- Cathedral House

To provide effective and efficient support in relation to administration requirements at Cathedral House.

Hours: 21 hours per week 09.00 until 17.00 (Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays). Start Date: December /January 2024

Salary- £13 per hour

Apply by sending a CV and covering letter (no longer than A4) hr@brcdt.org. Closing date for applications is 5th December 2023

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**

also ...

Exam Invigilators required - as soon as possible

Current Hourly Rate: £10.50

Invigilators should be reliable, responsible, and able to follow instructions in a calm and sensible manner.

A flexible approach to working hours is essential and full training will be provided.

We welcome applications from all denominations or none.

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

Note: CVs will not be accepted.

St. Peter's Catholic Primary School, Billericay

A part-time Learning Support Assistant vacancy has become available at our school. Please could we kindly ask you to advertise this in your next Parish newsletter?

<https://www.essexschoolsjobs.co.uk/Vacancies/Details.aspx?VacancyId=94919>

The closing date is midday on 27th November 2023.

Many thanks and regards,

Mrs M Chapman

Administration Assistant

Coxes Farm Road

Billericay

Essex

CM11 2UB

T: 01277 653770

www.stpeterscatholicprimaryschool.co.uk



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 issyording@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
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- **BCYS SUMMER LOURDES YOUTH PILGRIMAGE – July 2024 (exact dates TBC)**
 - **Bookings are now open online for the Brentwood Catholic Youth Service pilgrimage to Lourdes in July.**

The week is spent serving the main Diocesan pilgrimage, assisting the elderly and infirm, alongside times of retreat, reconciliation, visiting the baths, taking part in the beautiful Processions, an afternoon in the mountains, party and social nights - all with other young Catholics from around our Diocese.

The pilgrimage is open to all those in school year 10 – 13, with all those of school leaver age (18+) invited to join us as young leaders (subject to attending a training weekend). All details and applications can be found on the website www.bcys.net/events/sl24

WORLD YOUTH SUNDAY – 26th November 2023 (Feast of Christ the King)

- **World Youth Day is a unique opportunity to celebrate the role and significance of young people in the Catholic Church**, along with the global Church, and is celebrated each year on the feast of Christ the King. There will be a second collection for the Brentwood Catholic Youth Service, and any money raised on will go towards supporting those in need of financial support to go on pilgrimages and to events, as well as allowing the BCYS to continue running events, such as the monthly Youth Masses, provide support and training to those working with young people and so much more. You will also see posters around the church with details on how you can get involved or donate online, and please pray for all our young people and those who work with them.
- To find out more about the work of the BCYS, please visit www.bcys.net

Interim Co-ordinator for the Parish Centre

The role of Interim Parish Centre Co-ordinator is essential to help the smooth beginning and running of the new facilities, for the first year of operation.

Hours: 7 hours per week. (Including some unsociable hours)

(Note: There is potential for the number of hours to grow during the year).

Start Date: January 2024

Salary- £11.95 per hour

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

Closing date for applications is noon on 8th December 2023

Silent Weekend Retreat 'Be Still My Soul'. Fri 8th - Sun 10th December 2023.

Organised by Allegra Mutanda. Venue: Sion Community, Brentwood. Our theme focuses on the need to learn the 'art' of being still and at rest in the midst of a busy and noisy society.

Guest speaker: Grace Nowakowska, full-time lay missionary member of Sion

Community. This silent weekend retreat during Advent offers us the opportunity to spend time with the Lord in quiet prayer and reflection. 40-HOURS of CONTINUOUS Adoration, spiritual guidance & prayer ministry included. For more information or to book, visit

<https://sioncommunity.org.uk/adults/> or email allegra.mutanda@gmail.com

Friends of the Holy Land are hosting a Christmas concert at Our Lady of Victories Church, Kensington on Thursday 14th December to raise funds for Christians in the Holy Land. Featuring the London Welsh Male Voice Choir with renowned soloists Margaret Keys and Anthony Stuart Lloyd and compere Mal Pope.

Join us for a Holy Land-themed buffet from 6pm (£50) or concert-only ticket to start at 7:30pm (£30).

Buy tickets through [Eventbrite](https://www.eventbrite.com) or for more

details: friendsoftheholylan.org.uk/christmas-concert-2023. Show your support for those caught in the horror of hostilities this Christmas.