

Parish Newsletter

OUR LADY OF RANSOM

28th January 2024 4B

Psalter Week 4



A dangerous and armed madman enters a restaurant. Extreme panic.... Does he have power? Yes. But does he have authority? No.

Power without authority is dangerous and scary; that kind of empty and hollow power exercised by force and violence that increases negative energies, it can send us deeper into our own fears and anxieties. It creates victims. So evident in our world and politics today? Authority, without power, is void, comical, pathetic.

Consider Jack; extremely drunk, disturbing the peace. The police try to use their power by force to stop him. No good. But *sir* comes on the scene. *Sir* is a respected retired teacher admired by Jack and many of his ex-students, loved and respected because he so respected his students. All *sir* needs to do is to sternly tell Jack to sober up and go home. Jack does, he stops, apologises to everyone, and goes home. That is Jesus - power.

Some use forceful power; *sir*, on the other hand, had authority, an authority that came from within. Authority is the ability to “author” other people’s lives, to help people write direction, meaning and purpose to their own lives. Leadership, service, setting the example, all through respect, love and dignity. This is Jesus’ way. It was clearly *sir’s* way as well.

Watch Jesus carefully. He never appeals to any external powers –he never uses force. His power and truth come from within, that is, his love. A life, an authority, simply reflecting his passionate love for us all. It’s pure Sacrament. That is his power, real power, Holy Spirit power. Just like the respected teacher, unlike the armed madman or bully! It should be what Sacraments imply in all our lives.

Power without the Holy Spirit becomes force, domination and oppression.

Power inside and with the Holy Spirit becomes service, authority and leadership.

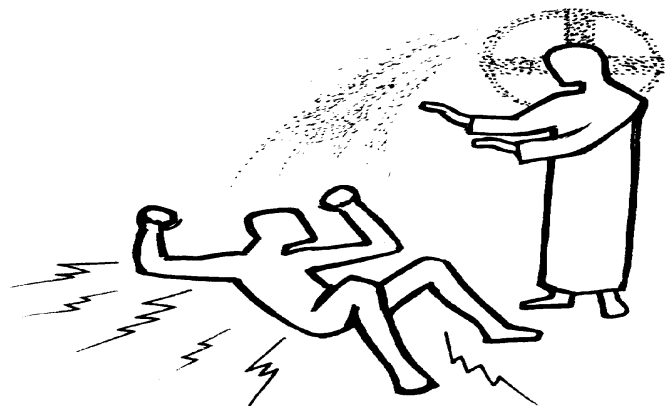
Jesus’ authority comes from his genuine love for us, living out that love, respect and dignity. His actions are his teachings. So must it be for us, or we get accused of hypocrisy. Such power and authority cast out demons as we see today, will calm abusive people down, do amazing things – we can even surprise ourselves!

1st Reading: Deuteronomy 18:15-20

Psalms: 94: 1-2, 6-9

2nd Reading 1Corinthians 7:32-35

Gospel: Mark 1:21-28



MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday 27th January	
5.30pm Mass	Des Houchin RIP (A)
Sunday 28th January 4th Sunday of the Year (Racial Justice Sunday)	
8.00am Mass	Parish Community Margaret Rohan (Ints) – Mary Rickards
10.00am Mass	
Monday 29th January	
9.30am	Eucharistic Service
Tuesday 30th January	
9.30am	Eucharistic Service
Wednesday 31st January St. John Bosco	
10.00am	Eucharistic Service
Thursday 1st February	
9.30am	Eucharistic Service
Friday 2nd February The Presentation of Our Lord	
9.30am	Eucharistic Service
Saturday 3rd February St. Anne Line	
5.30pm Mass	Annie Reidy RIP – Marie Venneear
Sunday 4th February 5th Sunday of the Year	
8.00am Mass	Parish Community
10.00am Mass	Emma Louise Lucibello (Susan & Damian 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>Public Mass times: Saturdays 5.30pm Sundays 8am & 10.00am Mondays & Tuesdays 9.30am Wednesdays 10.00am Thursdays & Fridays 9.30am</p>
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Please be aware - Times and days of weekday Masses are subject to change.

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 Tony Dinallo, May Allen, Irene Balogh, Cherry Etherington, Anthony Buckley, Maura Fallon, Mick O' Malley and Glenda Bunn whose anniversaries are at this time. **May they rest in Peace.**

✝ Please keep in your prayers Mrs. Pauline Burgess who sadly died recently. Pauline's Requiem Mass will be here at Our Lady's on February 8th at 1.15pm. May Pauline rest in Peace. ✝

✝ Please also keep in your prayers Mr. David Gooch who sadly died recently. David's funeral service (not Mass) will be on February 15th at 11.30am here at Our Lady's. Please also keep Catherine and all the family in your prayers. May David rest in Peace. ✝

Sacrament of Confirmation

If you are aged 14 years or above before Easter Sunday 31st March 2024 and would like to be confirmed at Pentecost Sunday 19 May 2024, you will need to attend the Confirmation programme which will commence on Wednesday February 7th. Also, please write a letter to Fr. Paul explaining why you wish to be confirmed and he will contact you nearer the time with further details of the programme. Thank you.

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.

Wednesday Coffee Morning

This Wednesday January 31st after the 10.00am Eucharistic Service. "THANK YOU" to everyone's generous donations; £150 each has recently been given to the Food Bank and to HARP.



If anyone would like to join the small team of volunteers for Wednesday coffee mornings that would be very much appreciated.



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.

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.



First Holy Communion – The Repository

Our lovely Repository has a wonderful selection of First Holy Communion gifts. There is also a catalogue available if you would like to view and order. However, please do this sooner rather than later to avoid disappointment.

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.

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.

The SVP are looking for volunteers willing to help children put their faith into action. Could this be you?

The St Vincent de Paul Society have primary school groups called Mini Vinnies, and volunteers would support teachers or youth leaders wishing to start a group in their school or parish. They will talk to children about how they can make a difference to those living in poverty and share resources to support the group. The role is flexible but does need people with some availability during school hours (at least 2 mornings or afternoons per month) who are willing to travel within the diocese (all costs are covered). If you are passionate about helping children discover how they can make a difference in their communities, please email Sarah for more information on youngvincentians@svp.org.uk. You do not have to have previous experience of working with children as all training will be given. Our next initial training day is on Tuesday 27th February 2024.

Interested in subscribing to the Catholic Universe Newspaper?

Contact - Michelle Jones, Subscriptions Manager
email: michelle.jones@universecatholicweekly.co.uk
Tel: 07436 617650

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/>

A FIRE IN MY HEART - A CONVERSATION WITH BIBLICAL FRIENDS

On Saturday 3rd February from 11 am until 2 pm (coffee at 10.30 am), at the church of Christ the Eternal High Priest in Gidea Park (RM2 6DH), Fr Adrian Graffy, parish priest and member of the Pontifical Biblical Commission, will be in conversation with professor Nuria Calduch-Benages, secretary of the Pontifical Biblical Commission, and Carlos Castillo Mattasoglio, archbishop of Lima, Peru. The event coordinator is Fr Javier Ruiz-Ortiz, vice-rector of Allen Hall. The speakers will be present in-person, but this free event is also live-streamed on www.whatgoodnews.org If attending in person please book your place at gideapark@brcdt.org The event is under the auspices of the Catholic Biblical Association of Great Britain.

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

40yrs of Walsingham House Teams: 2024 marks 40 years of retreat teams at Walsingham House. There will be a celebration Mass with Bishop Alan on Saturday 31st August 2024 at Walsingham House at Abbotswick. Please save the date as it would be wonderful to see Walsingham House and BCYS alumni and friends gather together to mark this milestone. More information to follow in the New Year.

Year 12 Retreat 'Life to the full':

Walsingham House are running a retreat for students in Yr12 on the weekend of the 16th-18th February. This will be a wonderful opportunity to meet other young people from across the diocese, to make new friends and to take time out from their busy lives to reflect and pray. The cost of the retreat is £35. For more information and to apply please see the website <https://bcys.net/events/yr12retreat/>

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/sl

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.

Sahara Desert Retreat in Morocco, 26 February – 11 March 2024

Including a day visiting Marrakesh and 9 full days in the Desert. With Fr Arnaud and Deacon Vladimir from St Antony's in Forest Gate. Designed for young adults, open to all adults able to hike 4 - 6 hours a day for 9 full days in the desert. £952 (plus flight). www.desert-retreat.com or phone Catherine at 07807 348223



Retrouvaille: A Programme for Couples Struggling in their Marriages

Help Your Marriage – Do you feel alone? Are you frustrated or angry with each other? Do you argue ... or have you just stopped talking to each other? Does talking about it only make it worse? Retrouvaille is a programme to support couples who have difficulties in their marriage. It brings a positive focus, new hope and helps nourish and grow your marriage. Tens of thousands of couples headed for divorce have successfully saved their marriages by attending and using the tools provided. The programme helps spouses uncover or re-awaken the love, trust and commitment that originally brought them together. It helps them through difficult times whether they are disillusioned or in deep misery. There is no group therapy or group work. For confidential information about 'Retrouvaille' or to register for the next programme commencing with a Virtual weekend on 8 - 11 February 2024 or a Face to Face weekend in Welwyn Garden City on 14-16 June 2024, call or text 07887 296983 or 07973 380443 or email retrouvailleukinfo@gmail.com - or visit www.retrouvaille.org.uk - or visit www.retrouvaille.org.uk

A FIRE IN MY HEART - A CONVERSATION WITH BIBLICAL FRIENDS: On Saturday 3rd February from 11 am until 2 pm (coffee at 10.30 am), at the church of Christ the Eternal High Priest in Gidea Park (RM2 6DH), Fr Adrian Graffy, parish priest and member of the Pontifical Biblical Commission, will be in conversation with professor Nuria Calduch-Benages, secretary of the Pontifical Biblical Commission, and Carlos Castillo Mattasoglio, archbishop of Lima, Peru. The event coordinator is Fr Javier Ruiz-Ortiz, vice-rector of Allen Hall. The speakers will be present in-person, but this free event is also live-streamed on www.whatgoodnews.org If attending in person please book your place at gideapark@brcdt.org The event is under the auspices of the Catholic Biblical Association of Great Britain.

Calling ex-St Edward's pupils from Upton Park

On 5th February 1973, Bobby Moore, Captain of England and West Ham United, had this photograph taken with 99 pupils of St Edward's Roman Catholic Primary School. The photograph was a memento of the incredible achievement by Bobby Moore in playing 100 games for England. This iconic image was taken in the playground of St Edward's, just yards from West Ham's stadium and shows Bobby Moore and the children, arms folded, each of them wearing an England cap.

If you were one of the children in the photograph on that historic day, 51 years ago, we would love to hear from you, as we would be delighted to find out about your memories from that wonderful day.

Please contact Paul Underwood, Head Teacher, St Edward's, at info@st-edwards.newham.sch.uk



HCPT Easter Lourdes Volunteers Wanted!

Are you, or do you know anyone who is 18 - 30 years old and would like the opportunity to travel with The Brentwood Group on Pilgrimage to Lourdes this Easter? HCPT Group 709 are an all-adult service group who are looking for enthusiastic, hard-working individuals to join us between 1st-6th April 2024 in Lourdes to help facilitate an unforgettable week for disabled and disadvantaged children from all over the world. If you would like more information or think this is something you may want to get involved in, please contact us at group709@hcpt.org.uk or via Instagram by searching HCPT Group 709. Sign up deadline for new group members is February 7th, 2024.

Is God calling you to be a Priest?

There is a monthly vocations group to help those who would like to find out more about a possible vocation to the priesthood.

There will be a talk, a time of prayer and some food.

The sessions take place at Brentwood Cathedral of St Mary & St Helen,
Ingrave Road, Brentwood, CM15 8AT



Tuesday 6th Feb

Tuesday 5th Mar

Tuesday 9th Apr

Tuesday 7th May

Tuesday 4th June

If you would like to join us or to find out more please get in touch with the Vocations Promoter, Fr Mark Swires:
vocprom@dioceseofbrentwood.org

www.brentwoodvocations.org

Vacancies

Deputy Headteacher – The Palmer Catholic Academy, Ilford

Deadline for applications: 12:00 (noon), Wednesday 31st January 2024

Headteacher – St Helen's Primary School, Westcliff-on-Sea

Deadline for applications: 9:00 am, Friday 2nd February 2024

Headteacher – St Joseph's Primary School, Canvey Island

Deadline for applications: 12:00 (noon), Wednesday 7th February 2024

Headteacher – St Patrick's Primary School, Collier Row

Deadline for applications: 12:00 (noon), Monday 12th February 2024

Headteacher – St Thomas More Primary School, Saffron Walden

Deadline for applications: 12:00 (noon), Monday 26th February 2024

Headteacher – St Joseph's Primary School, Harwich

Deadline for applications: 12:00 (noon), Wednesday 28th February 2024

Adhoc – KS2 Class Teacher – St Mary's Primary School, Chingford

Deadline for applications: Upon filling the post

For further information and an application to any of these positions, please go to:

[School Vacancies - Brentwood Diocese \(dioceseofbrentwood.net\)](http://School Vacancies - Brentwood Diocese (dioceseofbrentwood.net))

Parish Administrator – St Joseph the Worker, Hutton

St Joseph the Worker, Hutton is looking for a Parish Administrator to provide complete and comprehensive administration for the church community. The candidate must have excellent written and verbal communication skills and be able to manage their own workload. The post is for 12 hours a week, over two days (one must be a Friday).

Closing date is noon on 23rd February 2024.

Job description: attached to this email.

CV and Covering letter required for application. For further information, please contact Fr Leslie Knight on 01277 221917 or email hutton@brcdt.org

FLAME 2025 “Unstoppable” – Fan the Flame of Hope

Although it may feel like months away, we are excited to be preparing for Flame in March 2025, following on from the incredible experience that 1000 young people from the Brentwood Diocese had at the event earlier this year.

Once again, the BCYS will purchase a block of earlybird tickets on behalf of the Diocese, to enable us to allocate seats together, in a very desirable area as close to the front as possible.

These earlybird tickets are £29 each, a saving of £5 per ticket on the full price of £34, and will be purchased in January, which is why we are asking for your ticket requests now!

flame CYMFED 2025
UNSTOPPABLE
FAN THE FLAME OF HOPE
SATURDAY 15TH MARCH 2025
OVO ARENA, WEMBLEY
BOOKING OPENS 31ST JANUARY 2024
CYMFED.ORG.UK/FLAME

With thanks to our sponsors...
Minimum 10 people per group booking | £10pp deposit required | Super Early Bird Discount ends 31st September 2024 | Early Bird Discount Ends 31st December 2024 | Full Price Pass is £35pp | Programme Subject to Change | BSL interpretation available



"Jesus wishes to establish in the world devotion to my Immaculate Heart"



Pilgrimage to Fatima

Fri 7th – Fri 14th June 2024

Organised by: **A DAY WITH MARY** - REGISTERED CHARITY No. 1154888

6 Days Full Board
1 Day Half Board



PILGRIMAGE OUTLINE

Daily Mass (some in **Capelinha**) and Rosary • Tour of **Fatima Shrine**, **Aljustrel Village**, places of the apparitions of the **Angel of Fatima** • Free time • Exhibition in **Postulation Office** (causes of St. Francisco and St. Jacinta) • Guided tour of the Shrine's excellent '**Luz et Paz**' Exhibition • **Basilica** with tombs of St. Jacinta, St. Francisco and Sr Lucia • Shrine's **official celebrations** 12 & 13 June and international Mass • **Processions** of Our Lady and of the Blessed Sacrament in Shrine, **International Rosary** and procession • **Outdoor Stations of the Cross** and **Holy Hour** at **St. Stephen Chapel** (Hungarian Calvary) • **Day tour by coach** to **Batalha**, **Alcobaza** and **Sitio (Our Lady of Nazarè)**

A Catholic priest will accompany this pilgrimage as spiritual director

Some spiritual conferences, daily Mass and Rosary

COST £870.00/ per person, twin room (T). £950 Single room (S). All rooms are en suite.

DEPOSIT £300 to be sent with the booking application. Confirmation will be sent by post (or e-mail if preferred and indicated). Bank transfer also acceptable.

BALANCE £570(T) / £650(S) to be paid by 10 April 2024. *Sorry, no reductions for children.*

This pilgrimage cost includes:

- British Airways Return Flight: London Heathrow – Lisbon – London Heathrow
- Depart Heathrow 7.20am Friday 7 June 2024, return to Heathrow by 9.25pm on Friday 14 June 2024
- Chartered coach travel
- 6 Days Full board accommodation, 1 day Half board

"All the flight-inclusive holidays in this leaflet/on this website are financially protected by the ATOL scheme. When you pay you will be supplied with an ATOL Certificate. Please ask for it and check to ensure that everything you booked (flights, hotels and other services) is listed on it. Please see our booking conditions for further information or for more information about financial protection and the ATOL Certificate go to: www.caa.co.uk

Booking Form with full details available on request or at www.adaywithmary.org

Cheques must be payable to: "A DAY WITH MARY"

Please return this booking form together with a deposit of £300.00 to:
A Day With Mary, PO Box 432, Sutton SM1 9LF – England



E-mail contact: adwmary.uk@gmail.com **Web:** www.adaywithmary.org



For further information ring: +(0)20 - 8.641.641.8 (Answerphone)
All messages left on our answering machine will be returned. Sorry, no callers in person.

£899 pp
Sharing



Pilgrimage to Westport, Knock & Co. Mayo

Sunday 7th April 2024

Depart London Stansted 13:15 – Arrive Knock 14:45

Friday 12th April 2024

Depart Knock 17:40 – Arrive London Stansted 19:05

Sunday 7th April 2024

Depart UK. 45 Minutes transfer to Westport.
Hotel Check In. Dinner and welcome meeting.

Monday 8th April 2024

Mass in Galway Cathedral. Free time in Galway City.
Onwards to Kylemore Abbey. Return to Hotel.
Dinner followed by entertainment.

Tuesday 9th April 2024

Day in Knock. Tour of Museum and Grounds. Mass. Lunch.
Private Time. Return to Hotel.
Dinner followed by entertainment.

Wednesday 10th April 2024

Morning Mass.

Visit Glenkeen Farm and take part in some sheepherding.
Lunch. Visit the holy mountain Croagh Patrick.
Free Afternoon.
Return to hotel for Dinner and entertainment.

Thursday 11th April 2024

Morning Mass. Guided Tour of Quiet Man Museum Cong.
Afternoon Tea in Ashford Castle.
Private Time to Enjoy the Gardens.
Return to Hotel for Dinner and Entertainment.

Friday 12th April 2024

Morning Mass. Return flight to UK.

Package includes:

Flight with 10kg Check In Hold Luggage.
5 night's **Dinner Bed & Breakfast** basis in
4* Castlecourt Hotel, Westport. Lunch on 3 Days.
All entertainment, excursions and guided tours.

Single room supplement on Enquiry



Fill your heart with
Ireland

Contact: Patricia
Tel: 01268 762 278
Mob: 07740 175 557
knockpilgrimages@gmail.com



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