

Parish Newsletter

OUR LADY OF RANSOM

24th March 2024 Palm Sunday of Our Lord's Passion



Psalter Week 2

Typhus gripped young Annie in the concentration camp. It didn't look good for her "No point in struggling" her friends advised, "death comes to us all". But her faith urged her to live. She felt urged to move onwards...

Delirium, she wandered around the camp, tripping over dead bodies. Her strength fast fading, she noticed a large mound in the misty distance. She felt a strange sensation. Something in that hill became a symbol for life. Some mysterious force urged her forward. If she could only reach it, she just might survive, her guts told her. She felt compelled. Crawling on her hands and knees, after what seemed long excruciating hours, and managing to stagger to the top, she had reached her destination. Tears rolled down her cheek. Warm, human, real tears. "Daddy" she called, "please help me, I just can't go on." Suddenly a warm and gentle hand caressed her just as she had known years before when going to bed. She recognised the warmth of her daddy's comforting hands. Sobbing more loudly for help, daddy simply caressed her head as she remembered. No blessings, but a simple quiet reply, "you will survive my darling, I will always be with you, and will always love you, your liberation is close".



Four days later the war was over. Annie recovered from the typhus and returned desperate to see the mound. She learned that the mound was a huge mass grave. Thousands of victims were buried there, among whom was her father, who had died months before that awful night she agonised there. Annie won her battle with death, and wept over her father's grave. *Yaffa Eliach, Tales of the Holocaust (adapted)*.

Annie's daddy was in total solidarity with her, so she was transformed. She knew, she just knew. No logic, no rationale, she just knew. So she found life. Our crucified God is in total solidarity with every aspect of our human and painful condition. He caresses and loves us even more when we scream for help - he knows. Jesus dies in solidarity, not so much for our sins, but *with* our sins, failures, mistakes, lies, weaknesses and absurdities – and transforms them all. God suffers in and with his creation – us. Are we open enough to allow this transformation in us?

That is our liberation. It is Jesus, the Lamb of God, "taking away the sin/failure/weakness/lies/absurdity of the world". In a focussed moment of history, in Jesus of Nazareth, we see what is happening in all human history, and how God is transforming it. How is the crucified one transforming our souls? Do we find life through our faith in the crucified one?

1st Reading: Isaiah: 50: 4-7

Psalms: 21: 8-9, 17-20, 23-24

2nd Reading: Philippians 2: 6-11

Gospel: The Passion, Mark 15: 1-39



MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday 23rd March	
5.30pm Mass	Pauline Burgess RIP – Yvonne Burfield
Sunday 24th March Palm Sunday of the Passion of Our Lord	
8.00am Mass	Parish Community
10.00am Mass	Johanna Packer RIP – Isobel and Tom Kennedy
Monday 25th March	
9.30am Mass	John, Norah and Nick Ryan RIP – Judy Hoskins
Tuesday 26th March	
<u>8.00am (morning) Mass</u>	Michael, John and Mike Healy RIP – Rae Healy
Wednesday 27th March Spy Wednesday	
10.00am Mass	Johanna Packer RIP – Rita Gurney
Thursday 28th March Maundy Thursday – Mass of Our Lord’s Supper	
<u>8.00pm (evening) Mass</u>	Parish Community – The Burgess and Snelling Families
Friday 29th March Good Friday	
12.00pm	Children’s Stations of the Cross
3.00pm	Liturgy of the Lord’s Passion (not a Mass)
Saturday 30th March Holy Saturday + Easter Vigil	
<u>Easter Vigil Mass 8.00pm</u>	RCIA Candidates and Parish Community
Sunday 31st March The Resurrection of Our Lord – Easter Sunday	
8.00am Mass	Margaret Mayor RIP
10.00am Mass	Emma Louise Lucibello RIP - Susan and 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><u>Public Mass times:</u> 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.

Our Parish is part of The Brentwood Diocesan Trust, Registered Charity Number 2340

Holy Week Celebrations at Our Lady of Ransom.

Palm Sunday: Masses normal times as in the newsletter.

Maundy Thursday: Mass of Our Lord's Supper 8.00pm (including washing of the feet)

Watching: following the Mass till 10.15pm

Good Friday: Children's Stations of the Cross, 12.00pm (midday)

Liturgy of the Passion 3.00pm

Holy Saturday: Easter Vigil 8.00pm (including Baptisms and Confirmations)

Easter Sunday: Masses at 8.00am and 10.00am.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confessions) will be available on:

Monday 25th March 10am - 11.30am

Tuesday 26th March 5.30pm – 7.00pm

Wednesday 27th March 3pm-4.30pm - all in the main body of church.



ANNIVERSARIES Kindly pray for Joanna McMahon, Annette Dommett, Gladys Amato, Laszio Balogh, Anne Reilly and David Lyons whose anniversaries are at this time. **May they rest in Peace.**

✠ Please keep in your prayers Mr. John Halloran of our parish who sadly died recently. Please also keep Margaret and all the family in prayer. John's funeral service (not Mass) will be on this Tuesday March 26th at 10.00am. May John rest in Peace. ✠

✠ Please pray for Mrs. Anna Carminati of our Parish who sadly died recently. Please also keep Gino and all the family in prayer. Anna's Requiem Mass will be on Monday April 8th at 12.00pm midday. May Anna rest in Peace. ✠

✠ Please pray also for Mr. John Harnetty (father of Michael Harnetty) who sadly died recently. We keep Michael and all the family in prayer too. John's

funeral service (not Mass) will be on April 24th at 12.00pm midday. May John rest in Peace. †

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

PLEASE: *when receiving Holy Communion, consume the Sacred Host IMMEDIATELY. The Sacred Host should be consumed before receiving the Sacred Blood from the Chalice, if you do not receive from the Chalice, then consume the Sacred Host straight away in front of the Altar. Thank you.*

Please continue to pray for Shantel, Charlie, Gina, Liam, Della and Kelly, who will be fully welcomed into the Catholic Church next week at the Easter Vigil. We wish them well.

Please note the times of the Celebrations over the Easter weekend. Please also note morning Mass on Tuesday this week will be at 8.00am.

Stations of the Cross: *this Sunday 24th March at 2pm.*

Easter Flowers. Donations would be appreciated towards the cost of flowers to decorate the Church at Easter. You may wish to offer flowers in memory of a loved one. Monies can be placed in the box in the porch, or alternatively placed in an envelope marked "Easter Flowers" and the name for whom the donation is intended and posted through the Presbytery door. Thank you.

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 13th March after the 10.00am Mass.
If anyone would like to join the small team of volunteers for Wednesday coffee mornings that would be very much appreciated.



Sunday Coffee Mornings

Today Sunday (Palm Sunday) 24th after the 10.00am Mass.
Also next Sunday, March 31st after the 10am Mass.



If you are interested in hosting a Coffee Morning after 10am Sunday Masses to raise money for a charity of your choice, please contact the parish office.



Kids' Bulletin A children's version of the gospel is available weekly. This can be accessed on the following website: **www.thekidsbulletin.com** and is aimed at primary school children. It can be downloaded and printed out.

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.

Children's Liturgy

There is children's liturgy this week Sunday 24th March. We look forward to seeing you!

A BIG THANK YOU! huge thanks to Sandra Kennedy and Linda Hunt, who started children's liturgy in our parish many years ago, and began leading groups together again in April 2022, to ensure that it was revived after the pandemic break. We are so grateful for your support, care and cheerful dedication to our wonderful parish children over all that time, and wish you well as you take a well deserved break from leading now!

Knights of St. Columba Easter Raffle.

The winning tickets will be drawn on Easter Sunday during the coffee morning after the 10.00am Mass. Please return your tickets before then, preferably by this weekend.

Knights' Forthcoming event : The Knights are organising a quiz night to take place on Saturday 20th April in Pope John Paul II hall, starting at 7.30pm. Teams of six and above. If you haven't a team and wish to participate just turn up and we'll find one for you. Full details will appear in next week's newsletter.

Our Lady of Ransom Theatre Club

There are a few trips arranged that may be of interest . Most are local (meet at theatre) with just two in London . Car share / travel companions can be arranged . £5 pp initial payment . All tickets can be paid in instalments.

The trips arranged are as follows :

April 20th from 7pm ' The Boatyard ' Leigh on Sea - Silent Disco (£20pp)

May 16th - 18th 7:30pm ' Who Framed Easter Bunny ' (Rayleigh Operatic and Dramatic Society Mill Hall) This is not a trip I am able to arrange due to a clash but if interested let me know and I can send more details of how to book !!

May - 31st 7:30 pm ' Fastlove ' George Michael Tribute £39.50 Cliffs Pavillion

June - 7th 7:30 pm Twelfth Night Regent's Park Open Air Theatre London (£37 pp)

Sunday 23rd June 3pm Anton and Giovanni - Together Tour (£58 pp)

August 1st 7pm Madagascar The Musical (£26.50 pp)

Tuesday 6th august 8pm (cliffs)- ' Pretty Woman '

(£38 pp)

29th august 7.30pm Taylormania (£30.50 pp)

September 14th 2:30pm Hairspray the Musical - £49.50

October- 10th Lord of the dance (£36 pp)

(all above are at Cliffs Pavillion)

Oct 12th - Come from Away Musical in London at New Wimbledon Theatre £44.50

November 5th Grease The Musical 8pm- (£35.50)

November 30th - Jack and The Beanstalk Panto Towngate Basildon- £21pp

31st December Jack and The Beanstalk pantomime Cliffs Pavillion £32.50 (all front stalls)

2025

'Paddy McGuinness - Nearly There..' - Feb 21st - 7:45 (£44.50)

'& Juliet' May 7th 8pm

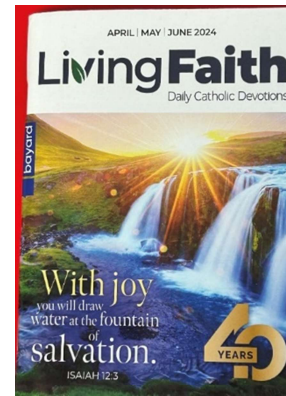
'Tina Turner Musical'

August 27th - 7.30pm (£33.50)

To book please contact clare_simon@hotmail.co.uk or message 0775713834



Available Now



Brentwood Youth: 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

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, Thursday 4th April 2024](#)

Celebrating the Easter week with a Praise and Worship Music Workshop.

Meet in the Parish Hall from 6pm for pizza and refreshments, before being lead in a music workshop with Art Wangcharoensab from the Cathedral music department.

Singing is a wonderful way of praying together, sharing our talents and celebrating our faith, particularly in the joyful week following Easter Sunday! You are welcome to sing, bring an instrument or just listen if you prefer!

At 7:30, Mass will then be celebrated in the Cathedral, where you are also welcome to sing, play, read or serve (just bring along an alb or instrument.) All information can be found at www.bcys.net

Absolutely everyone is very welcome!

Apprenticeships at Walsingham House

Walsingham House are offering a two year apprenticeship course in Youth Ministry and Chaplaincy (Yr13 school leavers). Participants will live and work at Walsingham House, running retreats for young people across the diocese whilst studying with St Mary's University, Twickenham. For more information please email clairebailey@brcdt.org or visit the website www.bcys.net/apprenticeship-opportunity-at-walsingham-house/

Diocesan Pilgrimage to Walsingham – 25th May 2024: Join Bishop Alan and other parishes around the Diocese of Brentwood in Walsingham. We will celebrate Mass at the Basilica before walking the Holy Mile to the grounds of Walsingham Abbey to celebrate Vespers and Benediction on the site of the Holy House.

Interested in the Catholic Response to homelessness, welcoming refugees and migrants, assisting with the Cost of Living Crisis, or tackling the causes and effects of climate change? You are invited to the 2024 Caritas Brentwood Networking Day, Saturday 27th April, 10am – 2.30pm, at the St Edward the Confessor Church Hall, Romford (10-minute walk from Romford Station on the Elizabeth line, Bus routes from London are regular, parking is available but limited and a bike rack is also on site). This day is a chance to be sustained, share ideas and good practices with people from parishes across Essex and East London and hear about charities and resources available. Details and Registration (for free!) at www.caritasbrentwood.org/network

Concert for St John Bosco Children's Camp: Come and enjoy an exciting variety show of music and entertainment, to raise money for the camp, which provides holidays for over 100 children. The camp is restarting in 2024, under the umbrella of Caritas Diocese of Brentwood. The fundraising concert is on **Saturday 13th April 2024 - New Windmill Hall, Upminster. 7:00 to 9:00 pm. Wine and refreshments included.** Adult tickets £10; children £5. Bookings by phone: 07957382592. Online bookings and more details:

www.boscocamp.co.uk/events

Volunteers at the St John Bosco Children's Camp; from 27th July – 3rd August help give 100 children a holiday. Helpers must be 18+, and the Camp will arrange for a DBS check, and appropriate training. To help at the Bosco Camp is a wonderful experience, and now is the time to apply. Details: www.boscocamp.co.uk

Brentwood Catholic Children's Society will be hosting a very special Anniversary Afternoon Tea at the Roslin Beach Hotel, Thorpe Bay, Southend-on-Sea on **Tuesday 23rd April 2024** at 1pm for service at 1.30pm. They are delighted that Bishop Alan, BCCS President, will be attending as guest of honour. Tickets for the event are £34.00 per person and should be purchased before Monday 8th April directly from their event webpage: <https://www.bccs.org.uk/get-involved/events/> or by clicking on their secure payment form here: <https://form.jotform.com/240354018762352> Once you have purchased your tickets, please advise Julie of any special dietary requirements or seating requests by contacting her

by email jabbott@bccs.org.uk or call her on 07912 277413. Guests will be seated at tables of 12.

Also...The Brentwood Catholic Children's Society (BCCS) are looking for thrill seekers with a passion for fundraising to take part in Harlow Tye Rotary's annual Harlow Water Tower Abseil on Saturday 18th May 2024. For all details, please visit our Harlow Water Tower Abseil webpage here: <https://www.bccs.org.uk/get-involved/events/>

To secure your spot, a £35 entry fee will be paid to the Harlow Tye Rotary Club, with all funds raised through your efforts being donated to BCCS. Please reach out to Charlotte: cwalker@bccs.org.uk / 07986841178 to sign up!

Foundation Governor Vacancies

Vacancies for Foundation Governors have arisen at a number of Catholic schools across the Diocese and expressions of interests are being sought from practising committed Catholics for the ministry.

The term of office is for four years from the date of appointment.

Foundation Governors are personally appointed by the Bishop to Diocesan schools to represent his interests and those of the Catholic community as a whole.

Our schools would benefit from people with a range of skills and experiences including Finance, Education, Special Needs, Legal and Administration.

Anyone interested in the role and mission of Foundation Governor should not be put off by a lack of experience. Appropriate training is available during the period of service.

If you are interested in becoming Foundation Governor please email your expression of interest to governanceappointments@brcdt.org or call: 01277 265216

ST BERNARD'S HIGH SCHOOL 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.***

For further information and an application to any of these positions, please go to **School Vacancies - Brentwood Diocese (dioceseofbrentwood.net)**

