



Parish Newsletter

OUR LADY OF RANSOM

7th April 2024 - Easter 2B

Divine Mercy Sunday

Psalter Week 2

He apparently hated Jesus, and his teachings. Why? Because Jesus taught the way of powerlessness, suffering, descent. The way of entering into, and not avoiding, suffering. And letting God transform it all. We call it Resurrection. So it was for Freidrich Neitsche, early twentieth century. He concluded, *European civilisation must be strong and powerful so it can triumph, we must be Supermen! So God is dead!* Whilst we do not agree with his conclusions, Neitsche clearly understood Jesus. Hitler came soon after, followed Neitsche's teachings, the rest we know. All so, so dangerous, as history has taught us over and over again. Do we learn?

Philosophers and politicians with their 'ideas' about humanity. Clever and intelligent. Does it get us anywhere? Jesus is so different. Undercutting it all. He is calling us to enter *into* the darkness of our sufferings, and other people's, so transformation can happen. Not avoid or go beyond, but *into*.

Maybe 'doubting Thomas' was trying to resolve everything in his head. Like a true philosopher or politician. Putting fingers *inside* our Lord's wounds, flesh to flesh, is Thomas' way of feeling something of Our Lord's suffering for himself, entering into it, without clever heady ideas – it's then he becomes a true Apostle. He gets inside the pain. Now he really knows Jesus as his Lord and God – a commitment that flies right in the face of Caesar and the establishment - for which the punishment is death, treason. Such is Thomas' transformation, because he has entered *into* Our Lord's wounds. That's the call for all of us. – to enter our own, and one anothers' wounds. Never easy.

Jesus teaches that the only real power we can trust is in those who have experienced powerlessness – entered *into* it, learned from it, and found God right there. Found meaning and depth. Hence the cross. Jesus' own powerlessness. In our powerlessness, God can really use us, but not so if it is all about social climbing, status, success etc. No-one likes failure, descent. But that is where we find God. We all need one or two kind and wise friends to nurse us through when descent happens.

Where in life do we feel rejected, betrayed, hurt? That's where God is found. But we have to enter into it and allow transformation - resurrection to happen.

Would you rather listen to someone who is "powerful", or someone whose power comes through experiencing powerlessness and failure and then won through?

1st Reading: Acts 4: 32-35

Psalm: 117 :2-4, 15-18, 22-24

2nd Reading: 1 John 5: 1-6

Gospel: John 20: 19-31



MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday 6th April

5.30pm Mass Andy Rickard RIP (Anniv) - Jean Wood

Sunday 7th April

Divine Mercy Sunday

8.00am Mass
10.00am Mass Maria O ' Farrell RIP – Kay O' Connor
Parish Community

Monday 8th April

The Annunciation of the Lord

8.00am Mass **Fr. John McCullough RIP**
12.00pm Midday **Requiem Mass – Anna Carminati RIP**

Tuesday 9th April

9.30am Mass Andy Rickard RIP – Pat and Mary Rickard

Wednesday 10th April

10.00am Mass Betty Curran and the Williams Family RIP

Thursday 11th April

St. Stanislaus

9.30am Mass Jack and Margaret Nelson RIP (Anniv) – Joan Gardiner

Friday 12th April

9.30am Mass Fr. Neville McClement RIP

Saturday 13th April

5.30pm Mass Graeme Mason Hoare RIP – Kathy Hoare

Sunday 14th April

8.00am Mass Parish Community
10.00am Mass Mary Kenefick RIP (Anniv) – Marian Kenefick

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

PARISH PRIEST

Father Paul Fox
50 London Hill, Rayleigh
Essex SS6 7HP
01268 38.24.99
www.olorchurch.org
email: rayleigh@brcdt.org

Public Mass times:

Saturdays 5.30pm
Sundays 8am & 10.00am
Mondays & Tuesdays 9.30am
Wednesdays 10.00am
Thursdays & Fridays 9.30am

The Sacrament of Reconciliation: 4.30pm – 5pm Saturday evenings (not in the confessional box)

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 234092



ANNIVERSARIES Kindly pray for.....whose anniversaries are at this time. **May they 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 THIS 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. ✚

✚ Please also pray for Fr. John McCullough who died early on Good Friday morning. Fr. John served at Our Lady of Ransom between 1997 and 2003. His Requiem Mass will be at Our Lady of Lourdes, Leigh on Thursday 11th April at 10.00am. His body will be received into the church the day before, Wednesday 10th April at 4.30pm. May Fr. 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.

Our huge congratulations to Gina, Kelly, Shantel, Della Charlie and Liam, who were fully received into the Catholic Church last Saturday at the Easter Vigil. And of course to Brook, Ava, Mila, Jessica and Oliver, children of Della, Kelly and Gina who were baptised. We wish them all every blessing with our continued support and prayer.

Thank You to all who helped make our Easter celebrations so beautiful and meaningful. I have received a number of comments saying exactly that. Thank you one and all.

Thank you to those of yourselves who were so kind to me over Easter with your gifts and kindness. I really am very grateful. Fr. Paul

An Extra Mass at 8am on Monday morning to celebrate the Solemnity of the Annunciation.

Easter Flowers. In honour and remembrance of Pat and Tom Herlihy, Emma Louise Lucibello, Gloria Jean Ray, Pauline Burgess, Walenty Krolokowski, and Barbara and Ken Dewar. Thanks also to those of yourselves who have donated anonymously.

Empowering Vulnerable Children (EVC) Uganda –

Appeal THIS weekend 6th /7th April

This Charity works to provide a future through education for some of the poorest children in the world. Judi Fawcett, Founder and Trustee, will talk briefly at all the Masses about their work. For more information about EVC please go to their website at <http://www.evcuganda.org>.

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 17th April 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 If you are interested in running a coffee morning after the Sunday 10am Mass, please let the presbytery know. Thank you.



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.

The Knights of St. Columba

..are very grateful to all who supported the EASTER RAFFLE. A total of £720 was raised and will be shared between the St Vincent de Paul Society, Brentwood Catholic Children's Society and Brentwood Ecclesiastical Education Fund. A list of prize winners is displayed in the Bethany Room.

QUIZ NIGHT: 20th April at 7.30pm in the Pope John Paul Hall. Teams of 6 and above recommended. Entrance fee £2 per person. Please support this event - the Knights are hoping to arrange other social events in order to bring our parish community together.

On Sunday 21st April, six Knights will be raised to Full Knighthood during the 10am Mass.

From The SVP Conference ,Rayleigh

This Easter, the SVP Conference Members would like to express our gratitude to all Parishioners for the continued support you have given to those in need.

Sadly there is a greater need, at present, to help families who are struggling in one way or another.

Loneliness is also a big factor in some of our older Parishioners lives. We can pay them a visit and hopefully brighten their week. Please contact an SVP Member if you know of anyone who may be in need of a visit.

You have enabled us to support so many individuals and single parent families with both financial and practical help which has made such a difference to their lives. I would ask you to keep the SVP in your Prayers so we can continue to carry on our work in supporting those in need.

We would finally like to wish you all a Blessed and Holy Easter.

Pat Rickard, President, SVP Conference Rayleigh, 01702 206842 or Mobile 07831 558242.

Running the London Marathon.

Kath Pearson, formerly of OLOR School and St. Bernard's is running in the London Marathon on April 23rd to raise money for The Havens Hospice. All donations welcome. Kath has a Facebook page, KP Kat; alternatively, any donations can be left at the

presbytery to be collected by Kath's mother, Mary. Kath previously ran for our primary school and St. Bernard's, so let's help her support once again those in need. Thank you.

"Foodbank Donations"

For many years, OLOR Parishioners have generously supported Rayleigh Foodbank through food donations in the box in the porch. In this way, we have developed a good working relationship with the team at Hopeworx which runs the foodbank. You are kindly asked to note that Hopeworx can only accept donations of food that are **within their 'Best before date' or 'Expiry date'**. Out-of-date items should be disposed of through your own local council refuse collections."

In your kindness, please think: would I want to eat/drink items that are a long time out-of-date? Would I eat previously opened items, previously opened by an unknown person? Thank you.

Legion of Mary - Edel Quinn Pilgrimage to Aylesford, Kent. Saturday 4th May 2024. *There will be a coach to take us to the shrine of Our Lady of Mount Carmel and St Simon Stock for our annual Legion of Mary pilgrimage held each year near the anniversary of the death (in 1944) of our great legionary envoy to East Africa, Edel Quinn. Active and Auxiliary Legionaries, Senior and Junior, welcome to attend. Other interested parishioners too. For more details and to book a place on the coach, contact Isobel Kennedy 07795 821705. The charge for the coach will be £15, children £10. The coach pick up point in Rayleigh is at The Eastwood Road Bus Stop, by M&S. The coach pick up time is 9.15am. The places are taken up very quickly and booking is on a first-come-first-served basis, so do contact Isobel ASAP*

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 077571383

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

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.iotform.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

ST BERNARD'S HIGH SCHOOL

Exam Invigilators

The school is looking to recruit further Exam Invigilators to join its bank of staff who oversee examinations in the school. Training will be given.

Hourly rate: £10.50

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 becoming part of the team, please fill in a non-teaching application form found on our website under <https://www.stbernardswestcliff.org.uk/about-us/vacancies/> and email it to recruitment@stbernards.southend.sch.uk

Pastoral Support Assistant at St. Bernard's

Five Days Per Week, Term Time Only, 8.00am – 4.00pm Scale 7 –12 (£24,294 – £26,421)
(Pro rata actual salary £20,827 – £22,650)

An opportunity has arisen for a Pastoral Assistant to join our Pastoral Team. We are looking for a positive, enthusiastic and approachable professional to support Heads of Year and work alongside Learning Mentors supporting identified students. You will be joining a successful, friendly and supportive department within a high-performing school, supporting students from Years 7 – Y13. You will need to be able to work flexibly and provide support, motivation and guidance to students. You will liaise with our Heads of Year and Learning Mentors with pastoral concerns and investigations of incidents.

St Bernard's High School is a vibrant Catholic girl's school from Years 7-11 with a co-educational mixed Sixth Form. Our school is ranked one of the top schools in Southend, and we are in the top 20% of schools across the country for our progress with students and our outcomes. It is a warm and welcoming school where our Catholic values underpin our day to day life.

And A Receptionist

Five Days Per Week, Term Time Only Plus Two Weeks,
8.30am – 4.30pm Scale 7-12 (£24,294 - £26,421) / pro rata actual salary £21,852 - £23,766)

We are seeking to appoint a full-time Receptionist to join our friendly admin team at St Bernard's High School. The Receptionist will be the face of the school, as the first point of contact either by phone or once on site. You will provide a professional receptionist service to the school as well as secretarial support to teaching staff. If you

have the ability to work under pressure and prioritise effectively, be committed to maintaining confidentiality at all times, and be able to deal with difficult situations effectively, come join our team.

WORK EXPERIENCE

CAFOD and SVP are working together to offer **residential work experience for 20 young adults**. Candidates must be over 20 years old and have a **passion for social justice**.



7th July-13th July



All accommodation costs, meals and travel to the Office throughout the week are covered.



**CAFOD and SVP National Office,
Romero House, Waterloo, SE1 7JB**



For more information, please contact

- SarahB@svp.org.uk
- Khutchinson@cafod.org.uk



St Vincent
de Paul Society
England and Wales
Turning Concern into Action



Catholic Agency for
Overseas Development



**Is God calling you
to be a Priest?**
Evening for Enquirers



The next
talk is by
Fr. Joseph
Rodrigues

Tuesday 9th April 2024

Contact: Vocations Promoter, Fr Mark Swires:
vocprom@dioceseofbrentwood.org

www.brentwoodvocations.co.uk