

Parish Newsletter

OUR LADY OF RANSOM

12th May 2024 - Easter 7B

Psalter Week 3



Who will you, or did you, vote for? Personal question? Maybe, but never private. Voting and politics have been going on for millennia. Today we hear Matthias being voted in as an Apostle replacing Judas. Politics! Politics in the early Church. It's always been that way.

Politics comes from the old Greek word *polis*, (where we also get 'police' from) which means public forum, people coming together. By the way, I am not addressing *partisan politics* here, which would be about labour/conservative/lib-dem issues etc. but the real essence of politics with religion.

The wise French poet Charles Peguy brilliantly said "it all begins in mysticism and ends in politics" Wow! In other words, it all begins with deep movements of the soul and ends in how we act in the world. But - does the world go backwards? Do we start with politics and then try to fit any religion in, and then use religion to bolster our position? If that's true, could this be why political power is often corrupt? Shouldn't any engagement in politics be rooted in God's love? Would that stance improve things? I suspect so. And drastic improvements I strongly suspect.

Jesus' way did not fit into any conventional political system of his day. Yet he clearly had a political system which looked to radical social and economic transformations, rooted in the Father's love, for both in his time, and for all times. What if politics today was rooted in the Father's love?

How can we possibly be agents of transformation in our world without being somehow political, engaging in civic matters? Those who remain silent are actually saying something. Their silence actually either affirms or criticises the status quo. So, we cannot be non-political. Silence often supports hugely unjust systems, from human trafficking, to the unjust treatment of the poor. Lenin called these silent people *useful idiots*, and used them to get what he wanted, knowing they would say nothing. Many *useful-idiot-Christians* are not even aware they are being manipulated in this way, simply for the purposes of getting unjust issues (that give leaders even more despotic power), enshrined into law. We see it all over.

Are any of us church goers "useful idiots"? We must use the power of the Gospel to affirm and criticise both the left and the right in our political system, this is starting with the heart where we experience God's love, moving forward into political civic engagement. What if our political leaders everywhere operated this way? Then, and only then, would we witness a fairer, more just political system

1st Reading: Acts 1: 15-17, 20-26

Psalms: 102: 1-2, 11-12, 19-20

2nd Reading: 1 John 4: 11-16

Gospel: 17: 11-19



MASS INTENTIONS	
Saturday 11th May	
5.30pm Mass	Pauline Burgess RIP – Angela and Family
Sunday 12th May Seventh Sunday of Easter	
8.00am Mass	Parish Community
10.00am Mass	Jean Pye RIP and 1 st Holy Communion Children (Ints)
Monday 13th May St. Eronwald (Secondary Co-Patron of the Diocese)	
9.30am Mass	Emma Louise Lucibello RIP – Susan and Damian
Tuesday 14th May St. Matthias (Bishop)	
9.30am Mass	Fr. John McCullough RIP – Peter and Jean Wood
Wednesday 15th May	
<u>8.30am Mass</u>	Jim O' Farrell RIP – Kay O' Connor
Thursday 16th May	
9.30am Mass	Roy Grantham RIP – Karen Grantham
Friday 17th May	
<u>8.30am Mass</u>	Betty, Jim and Susie Fallaize RIP – Annie Fallaize
Saturday 18th May	
5.30pm Mass	Bill Williams RIP – Jean Williams
Sunday 19th May Pentecost	
8.00am Mass	Patrick Reidy (Ints) - Marie Venneear
10.00am Mass	Parish Community including Confirmation Candidates (Ints)

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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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 all those whose anniversaries are at this time. Especially Brian Glolledge, Ray Venneear, Liz Richards, Elena Hutchings, Ken Heard, Mary Cross, Margaret Hand, Joyce McCarthy and Sheila Robertson. **May they 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. Thank you.

† Bill Slattery RIP. Please keep Bill in your prayers along with all the family. His funeral (not Mass) will be on Wednesday May 15th at 11.15am. Reception of the body will be the day before at 4pm. May Bill rest in peace. †

First Holy Communions: Sundays 12th and 26th May. A number of our children will be making their First Holy Communion at the 10am Masses on those days. Please keep them in your prayers.

Sacrament of Confirmation – Saturday May 11th at the 5.30pm Mass; and Sunday May 19th at the 10am Mass. A number of our young people will be receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation at those Masses. Please keep them in your prayers.

It has been requested that a copy of the newsletter be placed on the notice-board for quick reference. Please leave it attached to the notice-board for others to see. Thank you.

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 note: Masses on Wednesday and Friday mornings this week are at 8.30am.

Christian Aid Week 12th - 18th May

Push back against poverty this Christian Aid Week. Christian Aid is a UK and Ireland based charity that funds projects in some of the world's poorest countries, helping people regardless of religion or race. It was set up in 1945, responding to the needs of refugees and Churches in Europe in the aftermath of the Second World War. It helps people to improve their lives and to tackle the causes of poverty and injustice. Climate chaos is one of the greatest injustices we face. Every gift can change lives. Envelopes are available at the back of the Church and can be returned to the Church or Presbytery or you can donate online at www.christianaid.org.uk

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

No coffee morning this Wednesday 15th

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



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

Children's Liturgy - there will be children's liturgy on 28/4 and 5/5, and then there will be a break while 10am mass is devoted to First Holy Communion and Confirmation services. Thanks.



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.

From The SVP, Rayleigh

The Members of the SVP would like to thank everyone who came along supported the Coffee Morning after the 10o'clock Mass last Sunday morning

The donations given were £80.50p which will be used to support those on our Care List.

Thank you also to those people who made or donated cakes.

It proved to be a very successful morning.

I would ask you to keep the SVP in your Prayers so we can continue to carry on our work of supporting those in need

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

Housekeeper – Our Lady of Ransom - Rayleigh

Our Lady of Ransom are looking for a part time Housekeeper for the Presbytery.

The role will include cleaning and maintaining the Presbytery to provide a comfortable living space for the Parish Priest and, at times, also involves preparing meals.

The post will be part-time (working around 5 hours per week over two days). This can be negotiated.

Applicants can send their CV's to the parish email rayleigh@brcdt.org or application forms can be obtained by contacting the parish.

Full Job description can be viewed via our website: Housekeeper Our Lady of Ransom – Rayleigh www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/diocese/working-for-u

Parish Pilgrimage to Fatima: *next year, possibly around early May. Interested? No details yet. If interested please contact Fr. Paul or Nicky (07710 126563) or nicky.prideaux@outlook.com This is just to see the level of interest. Thank you.*

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 :

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 07757 138345

CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHING IN AN ELECTION YEAR

On Saturday 15th June Raymond Friel OBE, CEO of Caritas Social Action Network, will lead a Study Day, reflecting on Catholic Social Teaching and what the Church says about democracy and voting. Talks will be at the Catholic Church of Christ the Eternal High Priest, Gidea Park (RM2 6DH). Coffee will be available from 10.30 am and the talks begin at 11 am, and conclude by 2 pm. This is an in-person event, also available online at

www.whatgoodnews.org If you intend to be present please email

gideapark@brcdt.org Please bring a packed lunch. No booking necessary for online

participation. Simply go to the website. Talks will be available on the website after the event.

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

Thy Kingdom Come - Pentecost Prayer Novena. The original novena (nine days) was prayed by the apostles in the upper room on the days in between the Ascension of the Lord and the Descent of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. We are all invited to pray this novena, for an outpouring of the Holy Spirit upon our Church, but also on those we hold in our hearts who don't know the Lord. Why not join with the Sion Community in Brentwood, to pray this novena in a special way this year.

There will be a launch event for the Pentecost Novena at 8pm on the evening of Ascension Thursday, 9th May, with Praise & Worship and a short talk. There will then be a 24/7 interactive prayer room running from 2pm on Sunday 12th May to 10pm on Saturday 18th May. People can book an hour slot in the prayer room at a convenient time for them by visiting this link: <https://signup.24-7prayer.com/signup/75e411> or you can join us for Praise & Worship at 8pm each evening.

For more information, please contact admin@sioncommunity.org.uk
Sion Community, Sawyers Hall Lane, Brentwood, Essex, CM15 9BX

The Divine Mercy Apostolate, London is holding a First Saturday Divine Mercy Recollection Day at the Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham, on Saturday 1st June 2024 from 11 am to 4:30 pm. The Recollection Day will include teachings on the Message of Mercy, Holy Mass, Stations of the Cross, Hour of Mercy with Adoration and Benediction and Veneration of the Image of Merciful Jesus. All welcome. Please call Millie on **07957594646** for more information. Coaches from Ealing Broadway and Victoria.

Retreat Manager for Walsingham House at Abbotswick: Walsingham House are seeking to appoint a Retreat Manager for Walsingham House. The Retreat Manager will work to ensure the smooth and efficient running of retreats and leading the volunteer team. This is a live in position and ideal for someone with previous experience in youth ministry. Full details, including background information and how to apply, can found at www.bcys.net/news/vacancies/ The closing date is Friday 24th May.

Programme Leader for Walsingham House at Abbotswick: Walsingham House are seeking to appoint a Programme Leader. The successful applicant will work alongside the Retreat Manager helping to lead retreats for the schools and parishes of our diocese. Full details, including background information and how to apply, can be found at www.bcys.net/news/vacancies/ The closing date is Friday 24th May.

Youth Mass, Thursday 6th June 2024, Brentwood Cathedral

This may be a busy and stressful time for many of you, particularly those taking exams.

The Cathedral and Parish Hall will be open for you to socialise, pray and celebrate Mass with us, or pop in for a break from revision, change of scenery or quiet personal prayer.

Pizza from 6pm in the Parish Hall, Mass at 7:30pm in the Cathedral.

"Revive. Discover. Empower." Retreat for Young Adults, 22nd – 23rd June at Walsingham House at Abbotswick

This young adult retreat is an opportunity for spiritual growth and reflection, to revive, discover and empower you in your faith. This retreat is aimed at those aged 18+, having left school, to roughly 30.

All details can be found at www.bcys.net/events

Walsingham House Anniversary Mass, 31st August at Walsingham House at Abbotswick

Celebrate 40 years of team at Walsingham House with us, beginning with Mass celebrated by Bishop Alan at 12pm followed by celebrations at our beautiful retreat house just outside Brentwood.

Children's Liturgy Appeal – please read

We are appealing for people to consider coming forward as leaders, so that we are able to continue providing two age group sessions on a weekly basis.

Our aim each week is to help the children to engage with the Gospel in a way that is meaningful in their lives.

We read the Gospel in age appropriate language, and spend time exploring its message through talking, sometimes music, and a variety of activities.

We have 2 groups:

- 1) Younger group – age 3 years up to school year 2. We ask that children come independently, after a settling in session or two, as this enables the group to focus.
- 2) Older group – school years 3 to 6.

Each group has 2 adults in the room - a leader and an assistant -so that requires 4 adults per week for the rota. This is why we need to expand our team, to share the load.

To be a leader, you don't need to be a teacher, or be a parent or an expert on the Bible.....you just need an enthusiasm to share Jesus' message.

We especially need leaders, but assistants are also welcome. Committing to one Sunday per month in term time would make a huge difference to our team.

We would love to diversify our team – it's good for our children to see both male and female leaders. For example, young adults would be such a good role model for our children.

We have a wealth of our own resources to give ideas, and we can direct you to trusted online resources too. You would not be alone, you would be well supported and eased in. You would be able to choose the age group you feel comfortable working with. Perhaps you might even consider doing this in a pair, with a friend.

We know that the children and young people are the future of the church.....but you can't be the future unless you are fully part of the present.

We should be so grateful if you would think about this....pray about this.....and if you have any thoughts or questions, please come and talk to any of the team, without any pressure. (or call/text 07801 888787)

Personal reflection from a longstanding previous leader, Sandra:

It has been both my and Linda's absolute pleasure to have had the opportunity to share our faith with the children of our parish, many of whom bring their own children now. We are not teachers. We are members of the parish who believe that leading the children in prayer and explaining the Sunday Gospel in a way that captures their attention and speaks directly to them, and most importantly allows them to express their thoughts, questions and prayer requests, is essential. We have found joy in sharing our faith with the children of our parish.

Please consider leading the children. You gain as much from them as they do from you and there are many occasions to smile with some of their innocent comments and accounts.

Quote:

I asked the children who they would like to pray for and one child said,
"I want to pray for my nanny."
I asked if she was ill.
"No she's dead."
I said, "Oh let's pray for her soul."
"No she is out of her wheelchair and better now!"
You see, miracles do happen in our parish!

Thank you to all the big and little ones for making our Sunday groups so special!

When we hear the word of God and respond, as the early disciples did, our souls will find joy. Joy is also to be found in helping the children of the parish better understand the word of God, at a level that encourages conversation, questions and prayer

Health and Safety Co-ordinator A vacancy has arisen for a Health and Safety Co-ordinator to work full time from Monday to Friday. They will be based at Cathedral House and will be required to travel around the Diocese.

Candidates must have H&S experience and H&S qualifications including NEBOSH.

Please send your CV and cover letter by email to hr@brcdt.org

Full job description is available on the Diocese website.

Closing date for applications: 14th May 2024

Assistant Secretary – Cathedral House (Bishop’s Office)

The Diocese of Brentwood are looking for an Assistant Secretary to work for the Bishop’s Office at Cathedral House – Brentwood.

The primary purpose of the role is to assist the Bishop’s Secretary with providing office management and secretarial support to the Bishop.

The post will be full time working Monday to Friday.

Full job description: Assistant Secretary – Bishops Office – Job Description

If you have any queries regarding the role or if you wish to apply, please email your CV and cover letter to hr@brcdt.org.

Closing date for applications is 22nd May 2024

Choral Director – Diocese of Brentwood Schools Singing Programme

The Diocese of Brentwood seeks to appoint an outstanding Choral Director to assist the Director of Music in the establishment and delivery of the Diocese of Brentwood Schools Singing Programme, and to continue the development of Sacred Music in the parishes of the Diocese, including the Cathedral. To deliver choral provision primarily in schools.

How to apply

To apply for this post, applicants are asked to download and complete the Application Form [Recruitment Application Form](#) and send a supporting statement of no more than two A4 pages (font size 11 minimum) which outlines:

- Why you are a suitable candidate for the post.
- Which aspects of the job description particularly attract you to the post.

These documents should be returned by email to hr@brcdt.org

For more information please read: [Application Pack Brentwood SSP Apr 2024](#)- Which can be found on the Diocese website under Vacancies. For an informal discussion about the post, please [contact Andrew Wright](#) Director of Music: music@brcdt.org. Closing date 16 May 2024.

Brentwood Catholic Children’s Society is pleased to host their first Charity Tribute Night featuring ABBA Chique at the Mill Hall Arts & Events Centre in Rayleigh on Friday 12th July from 7.30 to 11pm. Please spread the word among friends and family, join them at this special anniversary event and get ready to dance and sing along to your favourite

ABBA hits! Tickets cost £20 plus a small booking fee and can be purchased via Eventbrite <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/abba-tribute-night-tickets-849314000037> Please keep your e-ticket to show on entry to the venue. All details can be found on the BCCS website: www.bccs.org.uk/get-involved/events/ If you have any questions about the event, please email Julie jabbott@bccs.org.uk.

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

CAFOD
Catholic Agency for
Overseas Development





flame CYMFED 2025

UNSTOPPABLE

F A N T H E F L A M E O F H O P E

SATURDAY 15TH MARCH 2025
OVO ARENA, WEMBLEY



Request your tickets NOW with BCYS!

Visit www.bcys.net/flame2025 or email gabriellaskinner@brcdt.org

The following 3 posters are in aid of St. Vincent's Centre in Southend supporting people who are vulnerable and those in need, many of whom are homeless, All proceeds go directly to help in the community.



FAMILY FUN DAY

Saturday 22nd June 2024

12PM – 4PM

St Thomas More, Kenilworth
Gardens, Westcliff, SS0 0BW

Get ready for a day filled with an abundance of activities
and endless fun for everyone!

🎵 Live Band Music & Major Acts 🧢 Fancy Dress for Under
12s 🏰 Bouncy Castles, Slides, and Rides 🎲 Games and
Balloon Modelling 🎨 Arts and Crafts 🍭 Candyfloss, Sweets
and Cake 🎪 Various Stalls with Exciting Finds 🍔 BBQ
Delights 🚓 Police & Fire Engine Display and More!



Police & Fire
Engine



BBQ



'Dog with the
waggiest tail'
competition




Charity Number: 1053992



Aussie Night

Join us for an unforgettable evening under the Southern Cross!

 Date: 17th May 2024

 Time: 6:30 PM

 Venue: Terrace Bar, 1 Richmond Ave, Southend, SS1 1JE

Come and enjoy a BBQ Bonanza, Live Music
Fun-packed afternoon with Sheilas and Blokes galore
Dress Code: Show your Aussie spirit - wear a hint of green and gold!

£39 for BBQ grill and salad with Aussie dessert and wine.

All proceeds will support vulnerable people struggling in the city.

Let's celebrate the true blue Aussie way. Grab your mates and come along for a ripper of a time!

RSVP - 15/05/2024 (Nesperm@svp.org.uk)

