

Parish Newsletter

OUR LADY OF RANSOM



2nd June 2024 The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ (B) Psalter Week 1

“Could my son make his First Holy Communion please?, asked the mother of a twelve year-old who had severe physical and learning challenges. “But he won’t understand a thing” replied the Parish Priest. “How can we communicate?” “I suppose so” the mother sighed. Then, watching her son one day at Mass when the priest was saying “this is my body”, she noticed the boy’s eyes staring at the Host, then flick quickly up to stare at the cross, then back to the raised host. Back and forth between Host and cross. Same with the Chalice. Noticing this often, mum told the priest, the priest himself noticed when another priest was celebrating – now there was no question. Yes, of course the boy was more than ready, and made his First Holy Communion shortly afterwards.

Like much of our faith, to appreciate the “Real Presence” of Christ in Holy Communion is the language of the soul. The boy got it. So many others don’t as they try to over-rationalise it in their heads and be smart. And we can’t. Theologians have tried over the centuries and made little progress. We only sense something special is happening at Holy Communion. Surveys on lapsed Catholics show that what they miss most about practising the faith is....Holy Communion.

Interestingly, Jesus never said, take this, debate and argue and fall out over it. He simply said “take and eat, take and drink”. For centuries we haven’t taken and eaten, but taken and argued and fallen out over it. Because we have got over-heady and too smart over it all. Why don’t we just listen to Jesus more carefully!

The head will never get it. The soul will - like the boy. Real Presence. Receiving this Real Presence” is saying, “I’m in Communion” I am doing all I can to serve and build up the community/communion of God, this people, the Body of Christ. I am receiving what I am – because I am a part of the Body of Christ and am being transformed through it. We need this truth so much – that we belong to Christ and his love. Maybe we have to receive thousands of times for this wonderful truth to eventually sink in. Hence, in part, our need for weekly Mass. If it has sunk in, we enjoy and are strengthened in living it out. What does Holy Communion really mean for me?

1st Reading: Exodus 24: 3-8

Psalms 115: 12-13, 15-18

2nd Reading: Hebrews 9: 11-15

Gospel: Mark 14: 12-16, 22-26



MASS INTENTIONS	
Saturday 1st June	St. Justin
5.30pm Mass	Parish Community
Sunday 2nd June	The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ(Corpus Christi)
8.00am Mass	Peter Feather RIP
10.00am Mass	Gloria Jean Ray RIP - Ken Ray
Monday 3rd June	St. Charles Lwanga and Comps.
9.30am Mass	Patrick Murray RIP (Anniv) – Kathleen Murray
Tuesday 4th June	
9.30am Mass	Williams Family RIP and Betty Curran RIP
Wednesday 5th June	St. Boniface
10.00am Mass	Keith Miller RIP – Catherine Miller
Thursday 6th June	
9.30am Mass	David and Veronica Micklewright 60 th Wedding Anniv.
Friday 7th June	The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus
9.30am Mass	Bill Slattery RIP – Sally McNamara
Saturday 8th June	The Immaculate heart of Mary
5.30pm Mass	Costello Family (Ints) – Rae Healy
Sunday 9th June	Tenth Sunday of the Year
8.00am Mass	Prayer Board Intentions
10.00am Mass	Parish Community

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 Pamela Denton, Betty Holland, Mary Agnes Manton, Pat Murray and Stephen Persue.

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.

Congratulations: Brooke, Taig, Harry, Thea, Conan, Ellie, Isabel, Daisy, Lois, Thomas, Sienna, Leo and Olivia on receiving Our Lord's Body for the First time. May you always experience Our Lord's joy, success and blessings in your future.

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.*

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

Coffee morning this Wednesday 5th after the 10am Mass.

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.....



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.

Legion of Mary *The Family Rosary. We in the Legion of Mary are looking for families to accept a statue of Our Lady of Fatima in their homes for a week during the month of*

May/June and to pray the Rosary for peace in the world and also for their own families and perhaps for a special intention etc... If you are interested, please contact Isobel Kennedy on 07795 821705 or 01702 230578

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 :

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

HUMAN LIBRARY – Thursday 4th July, 16.00-19.00

Essex Police, with Essex Faith Covenant, Essex Mind and Spirit and Healthwatch Essex, invite you to their Human Library event at St John Payne Catholic School, Chelmsford, CM1 4BS. Pop in any time between 16.00-19.00 to hear people's real-life stories including topics of, "Why I became a Catholic Priest", "Spirituality at the End of Life", "Women in Islam", Addiction, struggles with ADHD and much more. See link to register interest and receive more information or contact Hannah Kelly on Hannah.kelly@essex.police.uk.

<https://forms.office.com/e/9FtyzbhVfH>

"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

Available



Now

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.

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.

The **St John Bosco Children's Camp** is now open for bookings! Children age 9 – 12 can enjoy an amazing week, packed with fun activities, including many sports, from 27th July – 3rd August. The Camp is a special work of Caritas Diocese of Brentwood and this year there is space for just 100 children – book early! All details are www.boscocamp.co.uk, including booking information and an FAQ section for parents.

This week is the celebration of Laudato Si' Week. We are invited to gather in community to contemplate and nurture seeds of hope for our "suffering planet" (LD 2). Laudate Deum reminds us of the urgency of the Laudato Si message and the need for personal and cultural transformation amidst our ecological and climate crises.

This year's Laudato Si' Week theme is inspired by the Season of Creation 2024 symbol, "first fruits." Let us be seeds of hope in our lives and our world, rooted in faith and love.

<https://laudatosiweek.org/>

Here, you will find access to the Celebration guide, which includes a prayer book and a suggestion for a Laudato Si' inspired Mass. Please share with your environment/Caritas representatives or perhaps a social justice group within the parish.

Prayer for the care of our planet: *O Earth, source of life and beauty, we ask your forgiveness for the damage we have caused and we promise to care for you with love and respect. Give us the strength and wisdom to take concrete actions that will protect your fragility and promote harmony among all living beings. May our hands be instruments of healing and restoration, and may our decisions reflect a deep commitment to your well-being and that of generations to come. Amen.*

The General Election. This week the Catholic Bishops of England and Wales have launched a set of informative resources to help us think about our election choices. It covers pro-Life issues as well as the criminal justice system, education, poverty, the environment, refugees and migrants. The Bishops remind us: *"We are not merely the passive recipients of politics but active citizens. An election is the best time for us as Christians to speak out, to get involved, and to lead."* The resources include suggested questions for candidates, links if you want to go deeper, and actions we can take to make a difference. You will find everything at: <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/election24/>

St. Thomas More High School - open evening, Thursday, 11th July 4.00p.m. to 7.00p.m. - for families who have a son due to transfer to secondary school in September 2025 - come and see the school, meet the staff and pupils.

The Headteacher's talk will begin at 6.00pm

Parents of boys who wish to apply to St. Thomas More School for a place in September 2025 should complete the local education authority single application form (saf) and fill in the supplementary information form (sif) that can be collected at the open evening.

If you are unable to come to the open evening, please contact the school in order to get the supplementary information form. The form can also be downloaded from the school web site:-

WWW.ST-THOMASMORE.SOUTHEND.SCH.UK

Our Lady of Lourdes Primary School has a friendly, dedicated team where everyone belongs. Our children are well behaved and enjoy coming to school.

We currently have a vacancy for the following position:

Learning Support Assistant - required September 2024

We are looking for a learning support assistant and we hope to find someone who has experience of working, understanding and supporting children and who knows that teaching and learning is really important.

Please see full information on our website.

Contact the school office via email at finance@ourladyoflourdes.southend.sch.uk or call on 01702 475689 for an application pack.

Closing Date: 10th June 2024

Interview Date: 12th June 2024

HARP24 We have our **HARP24** event in July at Cherry Orchard Park and we are in desperate need of volunteers to help with this event. Can you help?

If interested please do make contact.

Charlotte Stein

Fundraising and Communications Team

Mob: 07719073237

HARP (Head Office)

104-106 High Street

Southend-on-Sea

Essex

SS1 1JN

The next “**Enquirers’ Evening**” for those considering or interested in a vocation to the priesthood is on Tuesday 4 June at Brentwood Cathedral. The speaker will be Fr Dan Mason

For further information please contact Fr Mark Swires: vocprom@brcdt.org

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 Thomas More
Alumni Memorial
Mass - 22nd June**

The annual St Thomas More Alumni Memorial Mass will take place this year in the chapel at St Thomas More High School on Saturday 22nd June at 11.00am to coincide with the SVP Fun Day being held at the school on the same day. ----->

All former pupils and members of staff are welcome, together with their families and current members of the school, to pray for and remember those from the school community who have died.



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

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