

## Parish Newsletter

# OUR LADY OF RANSOM



1<sup>st</sup> September 2024 Twenty-Second Sunday of the Year

Psalter Week 2

Lil and her husband Alf were content about using their wheelchairs. Paralysed yet peaceful. A dearly lovely couple I met in Lourdes. They celebrated 51 years of marriage with us on our pilgrimage. But Lil wasn't receiving Holy Communion. I asked why, (long before I was ever a priest). She replied "51 years ago, the Canon said 'no' because Alf is not Catholic". It was her only gripe. Stunned, yet having some idea of how things were then, I begged her to receive on their actual anniversary day. She did. We were all thrilled. I had reasoned with her, using my then, limited understanding about how laws, rules, customs and disciplines can be both good, and suffocating. She got it. I'm so pleased. Even managed to get a photo. Sadly, she died a little later. So it was a joy knowing she was back receiving the Sacraments – after 51 years.

So many get trapped by laws, rules, regulations, disciplines and structures that in the end, they can stifle the very life-force within us. Deeply ingrained. Yes, they are important and need adhering to, but at the cost of love, freedom, compassion, peace and life itself? Surely not. It seems that Jesus so often goes out of his way to flaunt the laws and customs of his own day, disrupting the status-quo, as we see today, for these very reasons. With almost everything he does, his own people are the bad guys, and the hero is always the outsider. St. Paul is also so critical of his own Judaism and its rules. As Paul says, keeping the law will not get us salvation. We cannot be saved by keeping human made laws and rules, is both their point. As if by doing it right and obeying the law, we'll get to heaven. No! Is there a commandment that says 'thou shalt be right'!!

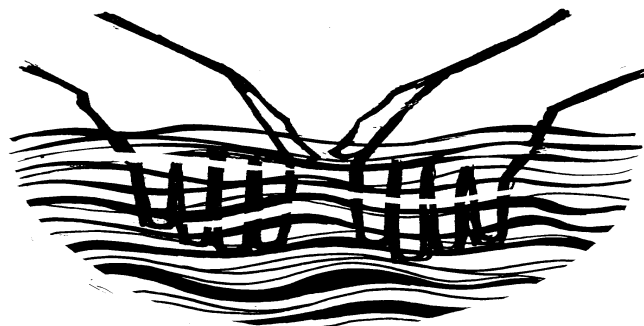
We can always do things right with, maybe, very questionable motivations. This is why faith is always about purifying our motivations. Doing it 'right' is simply not the Gospel. We are already children of the Lord, we have nothing to prove. God loves us anyway. Why do we so feel we need to be worthy, and prove it by getting it right, obeying the law? Such nonsense. God has already made us worthy, once we get that, and it can take a long time, then goodness will naturally flow. We will do good, because God loves us, nothing to prove and no hidden agendas, in other words, no questionable motivations. No laws or rules to trap us. We honour and respect the rules, live by them, but they don't strangle us anymore, because, like Jesus and Paul, when necessary, we know how to peacefully and prayerfully go beyond them.

**1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-8**

**Psalms: 14: 2-5**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: James 1: 17-18, 21-22, 27**

**Gospel: Mark 7: 1-8, 14-15, 21-23**



## MASS INTENTIONS

<b>Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> August</b>	
<b>5.30pm Mass</b>	Gerardo Schiavi RIP - The Schiavi Family
<b>Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> September</b> <b>22<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the Year (B) (Day of Prayer for Creation)</b>	
<b>8.00am Mass</b>	Freda Miller RIP – The Bunker family
<b>10.00am Mass</b>	Parish Community
<b>Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> September</b>	
<b>9.30am Mass</b>	Billy McSweeney RIP (Anniv) – Eileen McSweeney
<b>Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> September</b> <b>St. Gregory the Great</b>	
<b><u>7.30am Mass</u></b>	Private Intention
<b>Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> September</b>	
<b>10.00am Mass</b>	Freda Miller RIP – Cathy Miller
<b>Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> September</b>	
<b>9.30am Mass</b>	Michael and John Healy RIP – Rae Healy
<b>Friday 6<sup>th</sup> September</b>	
<b>9.30am Mass</b>	Freda Miller RIP – Tom and Isobel Kennedy
<b>Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> September</b>	
<b>5.30pm Mass</b>	Our Lady of Ransom School Community (Ints)
<b>Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> September</b> <b>23<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the Year (Education Sunday)</b>	
<b>8.00am Mass</b>	Fr. Martin Boland (Ints)
<b>10.00am Mass</b>	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><b>PARISH PRIEST</b> Father Paul Fox 50 London Hill, Rayleigh Essex SS6 7HP <b>01268 38.24.99</b> <a href="http://www.olorchurch.org">www.olorchurch.org</a> email: <a href="mailto:rayleigh@brcdt.org">rayleigh@brcdt.org</a></p>	<p><b><u>Public Mass times:</u></b> <b>Saturdays 5.30pm</b> <b>Sundays 8am &amp; 10.00am</b> <b>Mondays &amp; Tuesdays 9.30am</b> <b>Wednesdays 10.00am</b> <b>Thursdays &amp; Fridays 9.30am</b></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 Mike Barry, Stella Ray, Brian Newby, Brian Gilbert, Kathleen Brown and Margaret Walsh. **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.

**† Please pray for Mrs. Freda Miller who died recently. Please also keep Gerald and the family in your prayer too. The Requiem Mass will be on September 19<sup>th</sup> at 11am. The body will be received into the church the day before (18<sup>th</sup>) at 4pm. May Freda rest in peace. †**

**A copy of the newsletter is placed on the notice-board for quick reference. Please leave it attached to the notice-board for others to see. Thank you.**

### **Lost Property**

Please be aware that we have a box of lost property in the church porch. Some of these items have been there for quite some time, including what looks like to be prescription sun glasses.

Please check to see if any of the items there belong to you.

Lost property items will be kept for about a month and thereafter will be disposed of.

Thank you for your cooperation.

**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: Mass on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> will be at 7.30am. Thank you.**

### **Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults Programme (RCIA)**

All are welcome to come along to our Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults programme and learn more about what it means to be a Catholic Christian. **Our Programme will be starting on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2024 at 8pm in the Bethany Room.**

Perhaps you are completely new to Christianity, or maybe you left the Church as a teenager and now want to return to the Catholic faith. Alternatively, you may just want to informally ask questions to deepen your understanding. Whatever your

circumstances, you are welcome to come along and learn more about what it means to be a Catholic Christian.

**Please come along to find out more. You do not have to make any commitments at this point.**

However, if you are not part of the Catholic tradition, and you decide during the programme you would like to commit yourself to the Catholic faith, you may be received into the Catholic Church at Easter in April 2025.

**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**

Wednesday coffee mornings will recommence this week on **4th September**.

If anyone is willing and able to volunteer to help once each month, please come along and make yourself known. We'd love to see you.



Good Morning!



**ALSO...** If you are interested in running a coffee morning after the Sunday 10am Mass, for a Charity of your choice, please inform the staff in the presbytery office. 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](http://www.thekidsbulletin.com) and is aimed at primary school children. It can be downloaded and printed out.

**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](mailto:nicky.prideaux@outlook.com) This is just to see the level of interest. Thank you.

### **Do you have the need of a Wheelchair/ Mobility Aid?**

**Over a period of time, a collection of Wheelchairs, Strollers, Walkers and other mobility aids have gathered in the Presbytery garage.**

***If you or a family member have the need for any of the above items, please contact Fr. Paul for more information.***

***Tel: 01268 382499***

***These can be very expensive items and there is no cost involved whatsoever.***

***They will be fully sanitised and delivered to wherever they are required in the area. Thank you.***

### **Homeless Shelter**

At this moment the details are a little sketchy, but we have been asked if we would be able to put a team of volunteers together to run a homeless shelter this coming winter. The shelter is likely to run from December through to the end of March 2025. The shelter will be central and not at the Sacred Heart Church. If you would like to volunteer, please contact the Parish office by email in the first instance to record your interest. [southend@brcdt.org](mailto:southend@brcdt.org)

As more information becomes available, we will of course share. Thank you.

Thank you for your help. God bless, Liam Rand

**Catholic Parish of The Sacred Heart, Southend-on-Sea and St John Fisher, Prittlewell** The Presbytery, 418 Southchurch Road, Southend-on-Sea, Essex SS1 2QB Telephone (44) 01702 465720

### **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 :

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](mailto:clare_simon@hotmail.co.uk) or message 07757 138345

Please take a look at my most recent theatre trips. No coaches are included but if anyone is travelling alone / unable to drive and would like to be part of a car share I am sure it can be arranged.

**Hairspray The Musical** Sat 14th Sept 2:30pm - £49.50

**Only Fools And Horses The Musical**

Thurs 3rd Oct 2:30pm - Cliffs Pavilion £49.50**Come From Away**

Sat 10th Oct 2:30pm. New Wimbledon Theatre London - £44.50 (travel by train.)

7000 Stranded Passengers. One Small Town. A Remarkable True Story.

Winner of four Olivier Awards (including Best New Musical in London)

**Please contact Clare Mason 07757138345** for more details and for information on other shows later in the year and next year. All shows can be paid for in instalments.

Many thanks for your help and time.

## Headteacher

**Our Lady Immaculate Catholic Primary School, Chelmsford**

Required from 1st September 2025. Group 2: L8 – L21 (starting salary based on experience).  
NOR: 218 (one form entry).

Governors are seeking to appoint a dedicated and inspirational Headteacher who is a committed, practising Catholic. Someone who shares our vision and passion and has the leadership and ambition to build on the successes of our school. Our Lady Immaculate Catholic School is a caring, friendly school and community where our Catholic ethos is central to all that we do. Our new Headteacher will work with governors to shape the strategic direction of the school and will be responsible for the day-to-day leadership and management of Our Lady Immaculate School. Our new Headteacher will lead a team that strives together in the best interest of all our children, following the school's mission statement; *"At Our Lady Immaculate School, we will inspire our children to achieve personal excellence for themselves and for the glory of God."*

Deadline for applications: **12:00 noon on Monday 30<sup>th</sup> September 2024**. We warmly welcome and encourage applicants to visit our school, please speak with the **Admin & Finance Officer**,

Lindsey Murgatroyd for more information. For an Application Pack please email: [lindseymurgatroyd@ourladyimmaculate.essex.sch.uk](mailto:lindseymurgatroyd@ourladyimmaculate.essex.sch.uk)

**Inspire, nurture and accompany young people on the edge of East London.** The parishes in the Romford Parish Partnership are recruiting a **Parish Partnership Youth Coordinator**. Salary £30,000/year, closing date September 10<sup>th</sup> 2024, start date no later than January 2025. This is a new role, with amazing potential to bring young people into leadership in the Church, and provide a wide range of opportunities for them to live and deepen their faith within a diverse and vibrant part of London. Full details:

<https://www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/diocese/working-for-us/>

**Open House Billericay: Saturday, 12<sup>th</sup> October 2024** On Saturday, 12<sup>th</sup> October the Most Holy Redeemer Church, Billericay will be hosting a day focusing on parish renewal with talks and workshops designed to help parishes transition from maintenance to mission. Bishop Alan will also be presiding at the Midday Mass.

Get inspired by priests and parishioners as they share stories of transformation. Hear what they are learning and dream about the change that could be possible in your own parish.

The day will last from 9.30am to 5pm and the cost is £20 per person. In order to attend you need to register in advance by following this link: <https://divinerenovation.org/events/>

#### **Called and Gifted Teaching Day at the Most Holy Redeemer, Billericay: Saturday, 14<sup>th</sup> September**

On Saturday, 14<sup>th</sup> September from 9am to 4.15pm at the Most Holy Redeemer Church in Billericay we will be running a "Called and Gifted" teaching day.

"Called and Gifted" is a discernment process developed by the Catherine of Siena Institute which enables everyone to understand the gifts and the charisms that God has given to them so that they are able to share these gifts with others. Those who have taken part in the Called and Gifted process have found that their faith has deepened and that they have been able to discover new ways of serving God in their parish and the wider community.

As well as the teaching day, participants are invited to complete an online "Gifts Inventory" prior to the day, as well as having a 1-1 Zoom session with a member of the Called and Gifted team.

The total cost of the process including the Teaching Day is £120 which includes online access to the Gifts Inventory as well as a Resource book which will be given out during the Teaching Day.

In order to secure your booking please register your interest before Friday, 23<sup>rd</sup> August by emailing the Billericay Parish Office at [billericay@brcdt.org](mailto:billericay@brcdt.org).

If you would like more information about Called & Gifted please visit their website: <https://www.calledandgifted.org.uk/>

#### **Youth Gather, Essex Outdoors, East Mersea, 26<sup>th</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> October**

For anyone in year 9 and above, join us for a weekend of speakers, workshops, prayer and more, alongside the opportunity to try high ropes, archery or climbing at the amazing Essex



Outdoors in East Mersea. **Applications are now open** and you can apply and find all information at [www.bcys.net/events/youth-gather-2024/](http://www.bcys.net/events/youth-gather-2024/)

**BBQ and Mass for young adults, Our Lady Immaculate, Chelmsford, Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> September**

If you are 18+, having left school, from 1<sup>st</sup> September then you are very welcome to join a group of young adults for a BBQ from 3pm with Mass at 7pm, at Our Lady Immaculate Church in Chelmsford. No need to book, simply come along to meet other young adult Catholics and find out more about upcoming events just for you!

**Available Now.**





# WALK AND TALK

Meet other people in recovery local to you



TURN ME OVER TO FIND A WALK NEAR YOU

Are you in recovery and want to meet others local to you? Do you work for a drug and alcohol service and want to help build a bigger recovery community?

Join one of Essex Recovery Foundation's walks which happen every two weeks across Essex. Walks will be around an hour long and will finish with a coffee.

**CONTACT US ON:**

- 07356102692
- [essexrecoveryfoundation.org](http://essexrecoveryfoundation.org)



DISTRICT	DATE/TIME	LOCATION & MEETING POINT
CHELMSFORD	24th April 2024 10:30am	Central Park. Meet at the cafe (CM1 1LQ)
HARLOW	8th May 2024 10:30am	Town Park. Meet outside Spurrers House (CM20 2QQ)
BRAINTREE	22nd May 2024 10:30am	Braintree and Bocking Public Gardens (CM7 9AE)
BASILDON	5th June 2024 10:30am	Wat Tyler Park. Meet at visitors' centre (SS16 4UH)
TENDRING	19th June 2024 10:30am	Furze Hill. Meet at Mistley village hall (CO11 1HS)
MALDON	3rd July 2024 10:30am	Burnham Seafront. Meet at war memorial (CM0 8AG)
UTTLESFORD	17th July 2024 10:30am	Saffron Walden Common. Meet in car park (CB10 1FH)
SOUTHEND	31st July 2024 10:30am	Shoeburyness. Meet at the station (SS3 9AW)
BRENTWOOD	14th August 2024 10:30am	King George Playing Field. Meet at the pavilion (CM14 5AE)
THURROCK	28th August 2024 10:30am	Thameside Nature Park. Meet in car park (SS17 0RN)
CASTLE POINT	11th September 2024 10:30am	Canvey Island. Meet outside The Bay Café (SS8 0AY)
EPPING FOREST	25th September 2024 10:30am	Theydon Bois. Meet at the station. (CM16 7EU)
ROCHFORD	9th October 2024 10:30am	Hockley Woods. Meet in the car park (SS5 4RN)
COLCHESTER	23rd October 2024 10:30am	Castle Park. Meet in Leisureworld car park (CO1 1YH)

IF YOU HAVE ANY ACCESSIBILITY NEEDS TO PARTICIPATE IN OUR WALKS, PLEASE GET IN TOUCH WITH SALLY ON 07356102692.