



Parish Newsletter

OUR LADY OF RANSOM

25th August 2024 Twenty-First Sunday of the Year

Psalter Week 1

Fair-grounds. The Hall of Mirrors? Remember? Which mirror reflects the real me? Which reflects my real identity? So many different 'me' reflections - fat, thin, tall, short, just like so many different opinions...about 'me'. Opinions largely based on other peoples' personal influences, upbringings and education. All relative. Who is really right? Which is the real 'me'? So why take others' opinions too literally. How then, do we find our real identity?

Real identities are found once and for all in the Lord. He is the only solid, eternal, unmovable rock on which we can base who we are. Our true mirrored reflection. With him, we have continuity, consistency, nothing wavers – so it makes sense to base who we are in him. No fat or skinny reflections. Just real ones.

So many today base their identities on celebrity, sports stars etc. But these chop and change, fade away. So people look for someone else. Hence their identities are so changeable and fragile. Changing with every new fad, new pop star etc. Political correctness has evolved because people are so fundamentally fragile. They have no 'rock', no solid ground or true mirror on whom they can base an unmovable identity, their real reflection. Instead of being self-confident and assured in risking being correct (therefore risking being incorrect) through our true identity and self-confidence, people look for correctness politically and externally, people are too fragile to take any risks in case they are wrong! They look for answers outside themselves rather than relying on a strength within.

We have help – believing in the Real Presence. Christ, the real mirror, reflecting who we really are, behind all the pretence and relative identities we put on. The Incarnation that happened 2000 years ago, is repeated in microcosm at every Mass, to help us along the way. A real touchstone to find ourselves in God. Our real solid mirror. Maybe we need thousands of communions before we really appreciate this. Our Lord is the only mirror that reflects who we really are. And Christ is everywhere, eternal and unchanging. When our reality can make contact with THE reality, then our faith, our lives, everything we are takes a monumental turn for the better and we'll settle for nothing less.

As I mentioned last week, the cure for loneliness and meaninglessness is not about having more people to talk to, that can be just more halls of mirrors, much more about being in contact with reality. Our Lord's reality. Holy Communion...Real Presence. Real. Reality. Our authentic unchanging mirror. Our Lord keeps his side of the bargain, giving us His Real Self, can we offer our reality back? It may take a long time to learn, but can we at least try?

1st Reading: Joshua 24: 1-2, 15-18

Psalm: 33: 2-3, 16-23

2nd Reading: Ephesians 5: 21-32

Gospel: John: 6: 60-69



MASS INTENTIONS	
Saturday 24th August	21st Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)
5.30pm Mass	Freda Miller RIP – The Gleadall Family
Sunday 25th August	
8.00am Mass	Parish Community
10.00am Mass	Fr. Michael Hollings RIP
Monday 26th August	
9.30am Mass	Heather Francke RIP (Anniv) – The Francke Family
Tuesday 27th August	St. Monica
9.30am Mass	Special Intention – Joan Walker
Wednesday 28th August	St. Augustine
10.00am Mass	Private Intention
Thursday 29th August	The Passion of John the Baptist
9.30am Mass	Sr. Mary Mercy Guglielmoni RIP
Friday 30th August	
9.30am Mass	Andy Smyth RIP (Anniv)_ - The Smyth Family
Saturday 31st August	
5.30pm Mass	Gerardo Schiavi RIP - The Schiavi Family
Sunday 1st September	22nd Sunday of the Year (Day of Prayer for Creation)
8.00am Mass	Freda Miller RIP – The Bunker family
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 Mildred Lyden, William Eyre, Christine Sugrue, Andy Smyth, Margaret Parsad and Billy McSweeney. **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 19th at 11am. The body will be received into the church the day before (18th) 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.

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 23rd 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 be a Parishioner who just wants 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

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

NB. There is no Wednesday Coffee Morning during August.



ALSO... If you are interested in running a coffee morning after the **Sunday 10am Mass**, 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** 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 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

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

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

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 :

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

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.

Walsingham House Retreat Manager: Walsingham House at Abbotswick, the youth retreat centre for the Diocese of Brentwood, are seeking to appoint a Retreat Manager. The Retreat Manager will work to ensure the smooth and efficient running of retreats, leading and training the volunteer team, and developing the programmes on offer to schools and parishes. Walsingham House has an excellent reputation for the quality of the retreats offered and after a year to rebuild we are keen to develop this further. This is not necessarily a "live-in" role but accommodation can be provided if required. For more information please see: <https://bcys.net/news/vacancies/> Closing date is Friday 30th August.

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 30th 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

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 10th 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/>

Parish Secretary – Forest Gate

A vacancy has arisen for a part-time Parish Secretary to work at Forest Gate – St Anthonys.

The successful applicant will need to have excellent communication and administration skills.

The post will be part-time working 25 hours per week with hours planned to suit the requirements of the parish.

The salary is dependable on skills and experience..

Full job description please see Parish Secretary – Forest Gate at [Vacancies - Brentwood Diocese \(dioceseofbrentwood.net\)](https://www.dioceseofbrentwood.net)

If you have any queries or if you would like to apply, please send your CV and cover letter by email to hr@brcdt.org Closing date: 9th September 2024

Open House Billericay: Saturday, 12th October 2024 On Saturday, 12th 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, 14th September

On Saturday, 14th 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, 23rd August by emailing the Billericay Parish Office at billericay@brcdt.org.

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

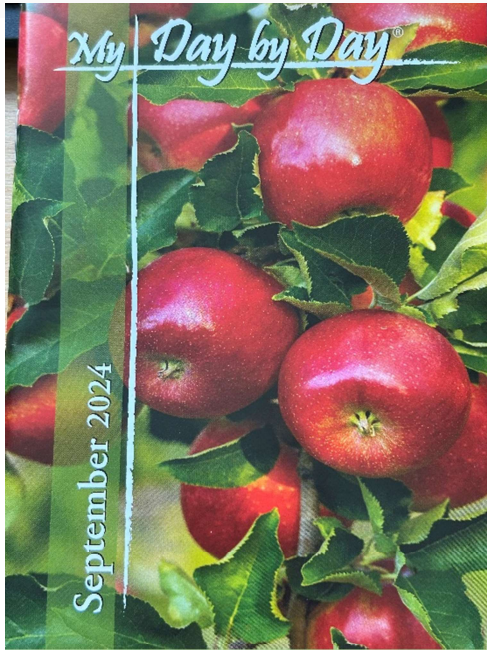
ADoRE spiritual mini-retreat 31st August 10.00-1.00 “BEAR THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT – our transformed lives will help other people.” Including Mass, Adoration, Praise, Prayer for the gifts of the Holy Spirit and inspiring guest speaker Maria Heath. Please register for the Zoom meeting in advance at [//bit.ly/ADOREAUG2024](https://bit.ly/ADOREAUG2024) More information at www.altonrenewal.com/this_month

Youth Gather, Essex Outdoors, East Mersea, 26th – 27th 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/

BBQ and Mass for young adults, Our Lady Immaculate, Chelmsford, Sunday 8th September

If you are 18+, having left school, from 1st 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



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.



ST VINCENT'S CENTRE
INVITES YOU TO

Afternoon Tea

AT

THE ROSLIN BEACH HOTEL

MONDAY 2ND DECEMBER 2024

12:30PM

£35.00 PER PERSON

(ADVISE DIETARY REQUIREMENTS WHEN BOOKING)

To Book Contact Phone: 07549128877

Email: nesperm@svp.org.uk

Charity No: 1053992

St Vincent's Centre, Southend

Black-Tie & Auction

Saturday 16th November 2024



Roslin Beach Hotel

Thorpe Esplanade, Thorpe Bay,

Southend-On-Sea SS1 3BG

Welcome Drinks - 5pm

Dinner - 5.30pm

Ticket Prices

£95 - Welcome Drink, 3 Course Dinner

Live Music and Charity Auction



RSVP - NesperM@svp.org.uk

07549128877

Charity No: 1053992

