



Parish Newsletter

OUR LADY OF RANSOM

29th September 2024 Twenty-Sixth Sunday of the Year Psalter Week 2

Religion causes violence and wars. Really?! How often do we hear this as an angry excuse for not believing or practising any religion or faith- tradition. Is there any truth in this?

From my maybe, limited experience as a priest, I sense the problem lies in where we find our true identity. We should all try to find our identity in God. But for many, instead of finding their real identity in God, they look for identity in a group, institution, or tribe, for a whole host of reasons. The group gives it to them. So the group, tribe or institution becomes a substitute for their own identity.

So we see many people joining gangs; football supporters; fundamentalist religious groups, 'religions' or the military – any institution, tribe or group that will offer some kind of identity (and security). It's a fundamental human longing to look for this, to know who we are. If we do not find it in God, we will look elsewhere.

When that group is threatened in any way, so someone's whole identity is under threat. What happens? Violence, or at best, intolerance and exclusion - be it religious, football or whatever. So we see it really has nothing to do with God – but people's identity, identity apparently under some kind of threat. No-one likes identity threats.

Also, because of the intense and insecure need to stick to this tribal or group identity, they *have to be right* to the exclusion of all others. 'Being right' can give my life meaning! Or why belong? (Being a Catholic Christian has far deeper resonances than 'being right' – but that's for further discussion.) To be told 'my group' is wrong, weak, bad or inferior - what an identity threat that can be! So we hit back – with religious/gang/football/tribal intolerance or violence.

Does religion cause wars? No, of course not. But inappropriate identification with groups where the group becomes our whole identity certainly can lead to major worries such as wars and violence.

Today, more urgently than ever it seems, people need to find their identities in God, to **really experience** his love. We see Jesus and Moses very much stressing this point. If we authentically experience the Lord and his love, his love will necessarily blossom into his work, so does it matter which tribe religion/group we belong to?

1st Reading: Numbers 11: 25-29

Psalm: 18: 8,10, 12-14

2nd Reading: James 5: 1-6

Gospel: Mark 9: 38-43, 45, 47-48



MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday 28th September

5.30pm Mass John Amey RIP – Maria Amey

Sunday 29th September **26th Sunday of the Year**

8.00am Mass Parish Community

10.00am Mass Lili de Cristofano RIP – Christine and Eddie Callis

Monday 30th September **St. Jerome**

9.30am Mass John and Madge Murphy RIP – Rita Gurney

Tuesday 1st October **St. Therese of the Child Jesus**

9.30am Mass Mina Fox RIP – Frances Wiley

Wednesday 2nd October **The Holy Guardian Angels**

10.00am Mass Jean Pye RIP – Mathew Thomas

Thursday 3rd October

9.30am Mass Patricia Herlihy RIP {Anniv) – Una and Eithne

Friday 4th October **St. Francis of Assisi**

9.30am Mass Hemming family RIP

Saturday 5th October

5.30pm Mass Parish Community

Sunday 6th October **27th Sunday of the Year**

8.00am Mass Frances Galvin RIP – Jane and Paul Abbott

10.00am Mass Pamela Flower RIP (Anniv) - Susan and Damian Lucibello

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 all those whose anniversaries are at this time. Especially.....Patricia Herlihy and Bridie O' Sullivan.

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

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.

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.*

Church Car Park: anyone who wishes to leave their car in the church car park overnight, or especially over several nights, must check with the Parish Office first. This is for reasons such as funeral guests having priority parking during funerals, other celebrations occurring requiring car park use, and possible ground and work maintenance being ongoing, as evidenced recently. Please respect this request. 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. **We will meet again on Monday 30th 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.

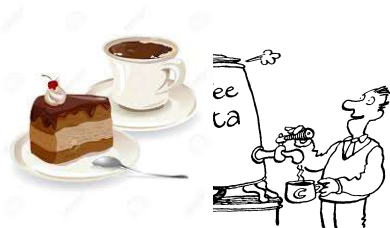
However, if you are not part of the Catholic tradition, and you decide during the programme you would like to commit yourself to the Catholic faith, you may be received into the Catholic Church at Easter in April 2025.

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

Coffee Morning will take place on Wednesday **2nd October 2024 after 10am Mass.**

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.



ALSO... Coffee morning on **today**, September 29th after the 10am Sunday Mass in aid of the SVP.

ALSO.. Coffee morning after 10am Mass on 13th October in aid of HARP's Bradbury Daycentre in Southend.

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.

October is the month of the Holy Rosary. *All people are encouraged to pray the Rosary throughout the month of October. We must ever more urgently pray for world peace – especially in these dangerous times we live in. When we pray the Rosary calmly and meditatively, we can find remedies for any evils that may be lurking deep down within, and find the source of all blessing.*

CELEBRATING THE JUBILEE

2025 will be a Holy Year for the whole church. Pope Francis has invited us to promote the rights of refugees in the Jubilee Year and beyond. On Saturday 12th October from 11 am (coffee available from 10.30) Victoria Firth and Liam Allmark of the Jesuit Refugee Service UK will discuss how we can take up Pope Francis' invitation. The event will take place at the Catholic Church of Christ the Eternal High Priest in Gidea Park (RM2 6DH). Live participation is encouraged, but the day can also be followed live or accessed later on www.whatgoodnews.org For those attending, the church is a short walk from Gidea Park

station (Elizabeth Line). Easy access from A12 Gallows Corner, and from M25. There is ample car parking space at the church. Refreshments available. Please bring a packed lunch.

APPEAL TO ASPIRING YOUNGER PARISHIONERS FROM THE JMG TRUST

Do you feel you would like to make a personal contribution towards the alleviation of poverty both locally and overseas? The "Trustees" are aiming to recruit like minded individuals to take on the work of this locally based charity with assets of £1M. We are looking in particular for younger members preferably with some Financial or IT experience, (but not necessarily qualified) to fill some administrative roles connected mainly with the distribution of grants to the "poor and needy". If you feel that this vocational work may suit your Christian ethos, please apply to Christopher Johnson on 07783326732. We meet only twice a year to discuss Trust business matters.



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: Confirmed date: Monday 12th May – Friday 16th May 2025. The cost quoted is £635pp based on 20 people going. This does not include flights. If interested please contact Fr. Paul or Nicky (07710 126563) or nicky.prideaux@outlook.com. Thank you.

And/or

Pilgrimage 2025 Lourdes

We are planning a pilgrimage to Lourdes next year. The proposed dates are Tuesday, 10th to Saturday, 14th June 2025.

The pilgrimage is being arranged through Tangney Tours. Flights will be via Ryanair from London Stansted and accommodation for 4-nights will be provided by Hotel Stella on a full-board basis.

Tangney have offered a provisional quotation of £598 per person, based on 2 or more sharing a room, and £718 for single room occupancy. These prices are subject to change reflecting Ryanair's pricing policy and early booking is strongly recommended. Optional Travel Insurance is available at extra cost.

The pilgrimage will have a spiritual leader.

If you are interested in joining the pilgrimage, or would like to know more, please contact Colin Griffin, Tel. 01268 772322, Mob. 07841 013606 or email colingriffin@outlook.com.

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

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

TJHANK YOU. A big thank you to all who have put donations of toiletries in the box in the church entrance all which go to help people who are underprivileged. More are needed, if you are able to donate, this would be so very much appreciated.

Missio Red Boxes

We are about three months away from the Missio Year End report submission for OLOR.

If you have a Red Box and it needs emptying and the contents banked into the Missio account, please speak with your local Missio Promoter **or** bring your Red Box to church and hand it to one of the Ushers who will leave it in the Presbytery for safe keeping.

It will be dealt with in good time and returned back to you.

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 . No coaches included but car share / travel companions can be arranged . £5 pp initial payment . All tickets can be paid in instalments.

The trips arranged are as follows :

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

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.

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/>

PARISH CHOIR

Do you like to sing? You would be most welcome to join us in the Parish Choir. Just come up to the choir loft after 10am Mass on a Sunday when we are singing. We only sing twice a month, so the commitment is not great. We hold a choir practice on most Thursdays too at 7.30pm for an hour or so. For more details contact Isobel Kennedy (07795 821705)

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/

ST BERNARD'S HIGH SCHOOL YEAR 6 OPEN MORNINGS

Monday 30th September to Thursday 3rd October 2024 from 9.30am to 10.30am

Invitation by appointments only, please contact the school reception to book

Office@stbernards.southend.sch.uk

Tel: 01702 343583 www.stbernardswestcliff.org.uk

Art Exhibition: The Most Holy Redeemer, Laidon Road, Billericay, CM12 9LL, will be holding an exhibition of art work by a parishioner, Terry Ludden, on Saturday 5th October, 2.30pm-5pm in the Canon Roche Hall (behind the Church). The paintings will be for sale, all proceeds will go to the Parkinsons Society and the local Foodbank. There will be light refreshments and live music. Feel free to pop along.

ST. THOMAS MORE HIGH SCHOOL SIXTH FORM OPEN EVENING - THURSDAY 3rd October
6.00-8.00 P.M.

For families who have students – boys and girls - in year 11 of secondary school who are intending to begin sixth form studies in September 2025. Come and visit the school and meet the staff and current sixth form students. There will be tours of the sixth form building and the rest of the school.

The Knights of St. Columba will be holding two social events; a Quiz Night on the 28th Sept. and a Bingo Night on the 26th Oct. to raise funds for the work of Sr. Joachim and her Mission of Hope. A “flier” will be handed out after weekend Masses with information on the excellent work carried out by Sr. Joachim whose mother resides in our parish. Please support these events. There will be an opportunity for those who cannot attend to donate – do take an envelope from a member of the Knights.

The SVP Conference ,Rayleigh

The Month of September is the Awareness Month for the SVP. The Feast Day of St Vincent de Paul was on Friday 27th September which was celebrated with Holy Mass.

The SVP will be hosting a Coffee Morning after the 10 o'clock Mass **THIS** Sunday 29thSeptember.

Could I please draw your attention to the Food Bank donations Box in the Church entrance. The Food Bank is at present receiving a reduction in donations of surplus foods from Supermarkets and individuals mainly due to the economic climate. So if you can contribute in any way, no matter how small, this will help those families who are struggling to make ends meet.

You have always given the SVP great support and I am sure you will continue to do so.

The members of the SVP Rayleigh will be wearing lanyards during the Month of September to make Parishioners aware of them and if you would like to learn more about the SVP work. Speak to them about any problems or concerns in strictest confidence.

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

URGENT Furniture Appeal

The SVP Conference ,Rayleigh

We are appealing to you following a lady losing everything she owns in a House fire which happened some weeks ago. She is being housed in temporary accommodation in a Travelodge and is as you can imagine , desperate for support.

She has lost all her personal belongings, Clothing, family photos etc.

So I would ask, if you have any Furniture, no matter how old, which you may be thinking of renewing or discarding, kitchen utensils, towels, etc or anything that would help her set up home again, please contact myself or an SVP Member.

We can collect items which are available.

Thank you all once again.

Pat Rickard. President. SVP Conference Rayleigh

Tel: 01702 206842 Mobile: 07831 558242

Retreat Manager at Walsingham House: Walsingham House is an integral part of the youth ministry in our diocese. They are seeking to appoint a Retreat Manager who can oversee the smooth running and delivery of retreats to our schools and parishes. It is essential that applicants have experience in youth ministry. This is an exciting role and a chance to help shape the future of retreats within our diocese. For more information please see their website <https://bcys.net/news/vacancies/> The closing date is midday on Tuesday 15th October.

Class Teacher - Upper Key Stage 2

MPR/UPR ~ Full time ~ Required January 2025
This could be a fixed (two term) or permanent position

Our Lady of Ransom Catholic School is looking to appoint an enthusiastic and highly-motivated class teacher to join our friendly and dedicated team.
(The successful applicant will teach one of our Year 5 classes, until the end of this academic year)

Our Lady of Ransom was judged to be an an **OUTSTANDING** Catholic school (S48 Inspection, May 2022) and a **GOOD** school by Ofsted in January 2023

Our school provides a happy, calm atmosphere with delightful children, a wonderful learning environment and supportive colleagues, governors and parents.

The successful candidate will need to be a strong practitioner committed to achieving high standards of pupils' learning and capable of teaching imaginatively. They will be willing to be involved in all aspects of school life.

The post would suit an experienced teacher who is either a practising Catholic or willing to support the strong Catholic ethos of our school.

The Governing Body is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. The appointment is subject to satisfactory references, medical and enhanced DBS checks.

Visits to the school are welcomed and encouraged.
For more details please contact Mr. Parascandolo (Head Teacher)
via the school office (01268 785741)

For an application form please visit the school website www.olorcps.net
Closing date: Thursday 17th October 2024 (4pm)
Interview date: w/c 21st October 2024

We reserve the right to call for interview and appoint prior to the closing date.

Bookkeeper– St John Payne, Greenstead

St John Payne Parish in Greenstead, Colchester, is looking for a bookkeeper to provide finance/bookkeeping (as well as some admin) support to the parish. The candidate should have finance experience, hold good communication skills and be able to manage their own workload.

The post is for three hours per week and the rate of pay is the real living wage.

Closing date is 2 October 2024.

Full job description: [Book keeper – Greenstead](http://www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/diocese/working-for-us) please visit www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/diocese/working-for-us.

If you have any queries or if you would like to apply please send your CV and cover letter by email to Fr Alex at greenstead@brcdt.org

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, the chance to try archery or climbing, socialise with friends old and new, and all while sharing in and celebrating our Catholic faith.

Applications are now open and you can apply and find all information at www.bcys.net/events/youth-gather-2024/

[Youth Mass, First Thursday of the Month, Brentwood Cathedral, from 6pm](#)

Join the BCYS to celebrate Youth Mass each month with other young Catholics from all around the Diocese.

There will be pizza in the Parish Hall from 6pm, with a different input each month - speakers, workshops, prayer and worship, Reconciliation or more!

Youth Mass is then celebrated in the Cathedral at 7:30pm. Next date: Thursday 3rd October

“Made for a Purpose” – Year 13 Residential Retreat, Walsingham House at Abbotswick, Weds 9th – Friday 11th October.

Going into year 13, you may be about to make big or tough decisions about your future, wonder what God may have planned for you or where to go next.

This retreat is time to think, pray, chat with those in your year from across Essex and East London, and get a good focus for the future, right at the start of Year 13 and will take place in our beautiful retreat house Walsingham House at Abbotswick, just outside Brentwood,

For just £35, the cost will include meals, accommodation and youth-led formation. Visit www.bcys.net/events/year13 for more information and to apply.

Catechist Training and Resources Day, Brentwood Ursuline Convent School, Saturday 9th November, 10am-3pm

With guest speakers, new workshops, exciting resources and fresh ideas.

*Open to anyone working with young people in the Diocese of Brentwood, including First Holy Communion / Confirmation Catechists, Parish Partnership Youth Coordinators and Youth Leaders as well as those who look after the children’s liturgy, especially any young people (16+) who already are or may be interested in working as young leaders and catechists in the parish, and wish to develop their faith further post-confirmation. Please visit www.bcys.net/events for more information on how to reserve your **FREE** place.*

‘We need to talk about gender: Christian Approaches to challenging questions for changing times’ – Tuesday Oct 8th

The Canonesses of the Holy Sepulchre are hosting a talk by Prof Tina Beattie at New Hall School. The talk, followed by discussion, starts at 7pm on Oct 8th. Refreshments will be served from 6.30pm. All are welcome but need to register via the following link:

<https://canonesses.co.uk/event/we-need-to-talk-about-gender/>

From the Canonesses of the Holy Sepulchre

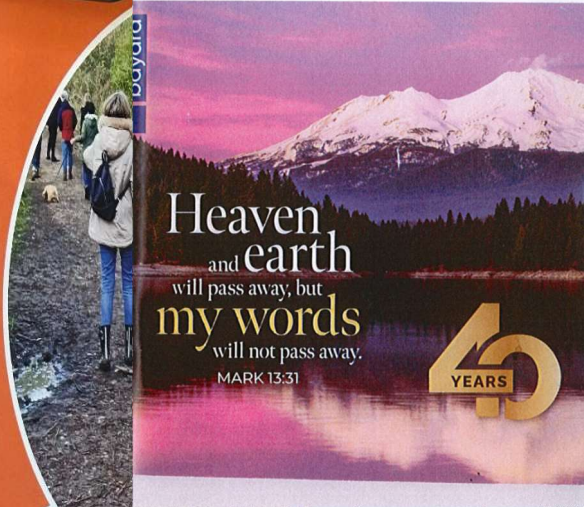
Senior carer position for a Community of 9 religious sisters in their home in Colchester. For further details please see our website: <https://canonesses.co.uk/senior-carer-position-how-close/> OR call Care Manager on 07394-980188

NOW AVAILABLE

OCTOBER | NOVEMBER | DECEMBER 2024

Living Faith

Daily Catholic Devotions



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



		LOCATION & MEETING POINT
		Central Park. Meet at the cafe (CM1 1LQ)
		Town Park. Meet outside Spurriers House (CM20 2QQ)
		Braintree and Bocking Public Gardens (CM7 9AE)
		Wat Tyler Park. Meet at visitors' centre (SS16 4UH)
		Fuze Hill. Meet at Mistley village hall (CO11 1HS)
		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.