

## Parish Newsletter

# OUR LADY OF RANSOM



**17<sup>th</sup> November 2024 33<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the Year (World Day of the Poor) Psalter Week 1**

*You may be 38 years old as I happen to be. And one day some great opportunity stands before you and calls you to stand for some great principle, some great issue, some great cause. And you refuse to do it because you are afraid...you refuse to do it because you want to live longer...you're afraid that you will lose your job, or that you will be criticised, or you will lose your popularity or someone will stab you, shoot you or bomb your house...so you refuse to take a stand. Well, you may go on to live until you are 90, but you are just as dead at 38 as you would be at 90. And the cessation of breathing in your life is but the belated announcement of an earlier death of the spirit. (Rev. Dr. Martin Luther-King Jnr).*

The above is part of a wonderful speech of his. A man with an amazingly prophetic voice. Shot dead because he prophetically stood for a worthy cause and the establishment felt threatened by him, as with so many prophets. He had a great passion for life, justice and truth. We are all called to share this passion. To make our lives count. To live lives as fulfilled as possible. Those who live largely fulfilled lives are far less frightened of dying. Remember, fear and faith are biblical opposites.

Darkened suns and moons, stars falling, heaven being shaken - are cataclysms that happen in the human heart when our lives remain so unfulfilled. *Death of the Spirit* as Dr. King says, or more simply, *we are already dead*. Maybe something happens calling us for the chance to allow greater fulfilment. Do we rise to it as he suggests? Do we see the signs, as Jesus suggests? The more frightened we are, the more unfulfilled our lives remain.

Many fundamentalist Christians will see Jesus' comments about these worldly cataclysms, darkened suns and falling stars as very literal. Surely, more importantly, we are called to be concerned about living life now. Avoid cataclysms and darkness of the heart. Those who live life now are not so preoccupied with death, life-after-death, and external, worldly cataclysms. They know that life-after-death just happens. Why? Because they have fulfilment now. If you have it now, why would you not have it later? How we are now, is how we are later. So it is the now that counts.

Please do not worry about whether there is life-after-death. Worry more about whether we have a full and real life-*before*-death.

**1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Daniel 12: 1-3**

**Psalm 15: 5, 8-11**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Reading Hebrews 10: 11-14, 18**

**Gospel: Mark 13: 24-32**



## MASS INTENTIONS

<b>Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> November</b>	<b>St. Edmund of Abindgon</b>
<b>5.30pm Mass</b>	Walenty Krolikowski RIP (Anniv) - The Krolikowski Family
<b>Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> November</b>	<b>33<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the Year (World day of the Poor Sunday)</b>
<b>8.00am Mass</b>	Parish Community
<b>10.00am Mass</b>	Dec'd members of the Flower and Lucibello Families RIP
<b>Monday 18<sup>th</sup> November</b>	
<b>9.30am Mass</b>	Margaret Rohan (Ints) – Mary Rickards
<b>Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> November</b>	
<b>9.30am Mass</b>	Byron Brown, Len Hancock and Richard Cooper RIP
<b>Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> November</b>	
<b>10.00am Mass</b>	Holy Souls RIP
<b>Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> November</b>	<b>The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary</b>
<b>9.30am Mass</b>	Fr. Olindo Cramaro RIP
<b>Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> November</b>	<b>St. Cecilia</b>
<b>9.30am Mass</b>	Jules and Reita Lincoln RIP – Maria Woolcott
<b>Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> November</b>	
<b>5.30pm Mass</b>	Holy Souls RIP
<b>Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> November</b>	<b>Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe</b>
<b>8.00am Mass</b>	Valerie Robinson RIP – Marie and Colin Griffin
<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

### PARISH PRIEST

Father Paul Fox  
50 London Hill, Rayleigh  
Essex SS6 7HP  
**01268 38.24.99**  
[www.olorchurch.org](http://www.olorchurch.org)  
email: [rayleigh@brcdt.org](mailto: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..... Daniel Abel, Sheila Freeman, Elisabeth Powley, Veronica Webster, Robert Walker and Penny Stiles.

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.**

† **Book of Remembrance** is in the church porch. Names written in the book will be remembered at Masses throughout November. **May all those whose names are written in the book rest in peace. †**

***Holy Communion**, when receiving, please 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.

**Parish Garden:** if anyone has any good and constructive ideas for our garden, do please let us know. A few have already been expressed. Thank you.

**Printed Parish Newsletters – Reminder: printed newsletters are left outside the Presbytery for those who have NO ACCESS to electronic newsletters. In good conscience, please honour 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 this Monday 18<sup>th</sup> November 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 **20<sup>th</sup> November 2024 after the 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.



**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.**

**Repository: A very good selection of Christmas cards are now available. Prices range from packs of 5 for £1 sold in aid of the SVP, to boxes of 18 for £4.25.**

**Also Nativity Advent Calendars for £1.99. Other Christmas items are also available. Please visit us after the weekend Masses. Thank you.**

### **Junior Legion of Mary.**

The Junior Legion of Mary for our parish is moving from OLOR primary school to the Bethany Room at the church. This gives us the opportunity to open the Junior Legion to young people of all ages from aged 8 to 18.

The Junior Legion of Mary aims to help young people to grow in their faith. In following Our Lady and learning to see her as our mother, we never need to feel alone or feel afraid. As a result, young people grow in confidence and have the courage to do what is right. They also learn to see and serve Jesus in everyone they meet.

We are looking particularly to invite secondary school children to attend, especially those who used to come to Junior Legion when they attended OLOR Primary school. However, all children and teenagers aged 8 to 18 are welcome, regardless of which school they attend.

We will be meeting in the Bethany Room weekly on **Fridays at 5pm** for one hour. For further information please pick up a leaflet at the back of the Church or contact Isobel Kennedy Tel/Text: 07795 821705 or email: [isobel@kennedykin.co.uk](mailto:isobel@kennedykin.co.uk)

### **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](http://www.thekidsbulletin.com) and is aimed at primary school children. It can be downloaded and printed out.

### **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](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

**THANK 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.**

**Assisted Suicide Bill. Kim Leadbeater MP is introducing a bill to introduce assisted suicide, which will be voted on by MPs on the 29 November. We know that assisted**

suicide laws in other jurisdictions have had devastating consequences for the poor, disabled and marginalised. This is the biggest threat to the vulnerable in a decade, and we need a huge effort to lobby MPs. Please contact your MP by visiting [www.livesworthliving.org.uk](http://www.livesworthliving.org.uk)

## **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).*

## **VACANCY AT ST BERNARD'S HIGH SCHOOL**

### **SCHOOL CHAPLAIN**

*Part-time, three days a week, term time only, 8.30am – 4.30pm*

*Salary Scale 9 to 19 - £25,119 - £29,777 (actual salary £13,095 - £15,523)*

### **Are you a practising Catholic with a passion for working with children?**

*We are looking to appoint a School Chaplain to support the Catholic Life and Collective Worship of our school community. You will need to be proactive and be able to work independently, with excellent time management and organisational skills, arranging events such as whole school masses, form masses, charity fundraisers, retreats. Experience in education or youth ministry would be an advantage.*

*The Chaplain must be a practising Roman Catholic and should have relevant experience or qualification (e.g. Catholic Certificate in Religious Studies). You will be someone who is skilled in dealing with a wide range of people, and be compassionate, personable and discreet.*

### **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!.*

## **World Youth Sunday**

*Next Sunday is WORLD YOUTH SUNDAY - a unique opportunity to celebrate the role and significance of young people in the Catholic Church.*

*There will be a second collection to support the work of the Brentwood Catholic Youth Service, as well as the opportunity to hear more about their work.*

*Find out more at [www.bcys.net](http://www.bcys.net), searching @brentwoodcys or if you are able to donate online, please visit [www.bcys.net/donate](http://www.bcys.net/donate). Thank you.*

## St Bernard's High School

### Sixth Form Open Evening

Thursday 28 November 2024

6.30pm to 8.30pm

We would be delighted to welcome to our Sixth Form Open Evening prospective students who are interested in joining St Bernard's High School's Sixth Form in September 2025.

[www.stbernardswestcliff.org.uk](http://www.stbernardswestcliff.org.uk)

We welcome applications to our mixed Sixth Form from students of all faiths and none, who meet our entrance requirements and are seeking a school with a Christian ethos.

*'St Bernard's High School is a welcoming, inclusive school'. Ofsted 2023*

*'Leaders have high expectations of pupils in terms of learning and behaviour. Pupils live up to these expectations.' Ofsted 2023*

*'The behaviour of students is exemplary both in lessons and throughout the school as they strive to live out the mission statement, 'Love one another as I have loved you'. (Diocesan Inspection, 2024)*

*'Behaviour for learning is outstanding, fostered through extremely positive teacher-student relationships'. (Diocesan Inspection, 2024)*

[www.stbernardswestcliff.org.uk](http://www.stbernardswestcliff.org.uk), Milton Road, Westcliff-on-Sea, Essex SS0 7JS

### **Christmas Eve Family Mass-**

Adult volunteers needed to assist with helping the Christmas Eve Family Mass preparation . Please consider helping others to organise this lovely celebration, which has been an important part of Christmas to so many of our families over the years. Please consider sharing some of the responsibility, perhaps with your friends. If you may be able to help, please message Nicola 07801 888787. Thank you.

### **Divine Mercy Retreat**

**The Divine Mercy Apostolate, London is holding a Divine Mercy Lenten Retreat on Saturday 30 November 2024 from 1:30 pm - 4:30 pm at St Scholastica 17 Kenninghall Road Clapton London E5 8BS**

**The Retreat will include teachings on the Message of Mercy, Stations of the Cross, Holy Mass, 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**





# DONATIONS NEEDED

We are in desperate need of the following items:

## Toiletries

Deodorant (Men's & Women's)

Shower gel

Shampoo/Conditioner

Sanitary Pads (All sizes)

Toothpaste

Toothbrushes



## Clothing

Sleeping bags

Tracksuit bottoms (All sizes)

Jumpers (All sizes)

Underwear and socks (All sizes)

Trainers (All sizes)

Warm Coats (All sizes)



**Unit 9, Victoria Business Park, Short Street, SS2 5BY**

**01702 592980 [southendsupport@svp.org.uk](mailto:southendsupport@svp.org.uk)**



# WINTER VOLUNTEER SHOUT-OUT

At St Vincent's Centre, we are the Door of Hope. Your involvement can help us open that door and shine a light on the lives of those in need. Let's work together to clear a path and turn frowns into smiles.

We are urgently seeking **VOLUNTEERS** especially **DRIVERS**. Can you spare an hour or more a week?

How You Can Help: Other Roles:

Food Pickup & Delivery

Furniture Pickup & Delivery

Event Support

And More.

For more details, contact: [lilyd@svp.org.uk](mailto:lilyd@svp.org.uk)

St Vincent's Centre

Unit 9, Victoria Business Park,

Short Street, SS2 5BY

01702 592980



Photo: DEC/Arete/Abdallah Alsayed

Aaliyah\* sits on the remains of a damaged building with her daughter in their neighbourhood in southern Gaza, in October 2024.

\*Name changed to protect identity

Registered charity number 1150384. Company limited by guarantee registered in England and Wales number 03487398

## Middle East Humanitarian Appeal

**£10**  
gives displaced families  
emergency water

**£120**  
gets emergency shelter  
to three households

Millions are fleeing airstrikes in Lebanon and Gaza. CAFOD and our Church partners are already there, responding.

*Please pray and please give.  
Every gift is needed.*

Scan here



**GIVE TODAY**  
[cafod.org.uk/give](https://cafod.org.uk/give)

or call **0808 58 588 85**



# CHRISTMAS HAMPER APPEAL 2024



## HELP US KEEP THE DOOR OF HOPE OPEN

THIS CHRISTMAS WE WILL BE SUPPORTING MANY FAMILIES WITH HAMPERS TO HELP THEM. THESE ARE THE ITEMS WE NEED TO CREATE A HAMPER FOR A FAMILY IN NEED.

- Pasta
- Chocolate spread or jar of jam
- Packet of cream crackers
- Packet of sweets/ biscuits
- UHT milk
- Jar instant coffee
- Bottle of ketchup
- Cereal
- Mince pies
- Christmas crackers
- Tins of Custard
- Jar/packet instant hot chocolate
- Jar Pasta sauce
- Gravy granules
- £10 voucher - Tesco, Sainsbury's or Lidl

**LAST DONATIONS 19TH DECEMBER**

UNIT 9 VICTORIA BUSINESS PARK, SOUTHEND SS2 5BY

CHARITY NO :1053992

[www.svp.org.uk/st-vincent-southend](http://www.svp.org.uk/st-vincent-southend)

