

Parish Newsletter

OUR LADY OF RANSOM



3rd November 2024 Thirty-First Sunday of the Year Psalter Week 3

Circle of friends chatting in the pub. Laughter. On this occasion one regular member of the group is absent. Someone has a “pop” at him in his absence. More laughter. Another jumps on the bandwagon. Increased laughter. Before long, they are all in unconscious competition to see who can create the most laughter with the wittiest stab-in-the-back, of course, at the cost of his reputation - the absent friend. *Leave him alone*, eventually retorts one member of the group, *he’s not here to defend himself. So unfair. ‘Don’t be a damp squid, you’re spoiling all the fun’*, he was told.

Be careful of friendships that go only a pint deep. Sound advice I was once offered.

This “scapegoating”, making another person the object of ridicule, so as they suffer our own pains has a long history. It’s mostly done unconsciously. It happens in individuals, groups, nations and internationally. It can give a real sense of solidarity. Laughing together at someone else’s expense. We make someone else an enemy, even temporarily through venting our self-hatreds on to that person. Why? Because people are too spiritually immature and weak to face their own issues within themselves. Someone else has to pay the price. Psychiatrists, psychologists, including Jesus, all teach the same thing. Maybe the most mature member of the group above was the “damp squib”.

It is very easy to round up the troops with common hatreds. It brings a false sense of unity. No depth. Just a pint deep. Gossip has similar power. This is why people “love” a bit of “goss”. But to round up the troops in the way of love – that is a far different cry. More challenging. Yet it’s central to the Gospel, to our lives as Christians. But true Christianity is challenging – never easy.

Jesus, one of the greatest “holistic” teachers ever, reminds us of the need to love “holistically”, with all our hearts, minds, souls and strength. This must include embracing the negative side of ourselves, the stuff maybe we’d prefer to hide – otherwise we will undoubtedly scapegoat others. Jesus on the cross becomes the greatest scapegoat of all time. Paying a price because people are too immature to pay the price in themselves. Jesus settles the price once and for all, so we would stop scapegoating each other.

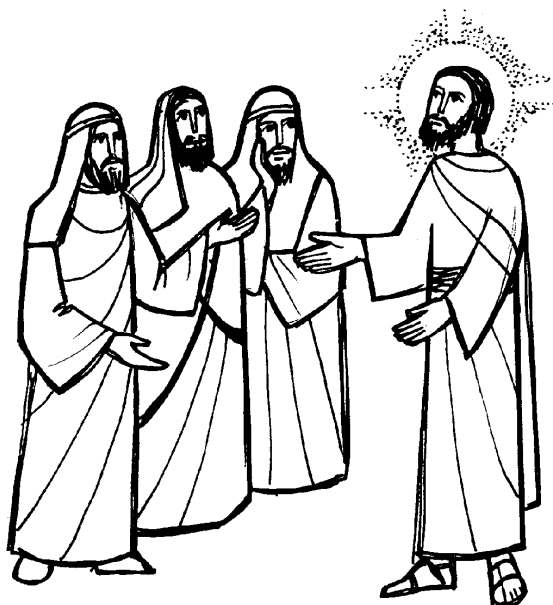
Are our relationships only a pint deep? Or, are we in touch with the stuff deep down, stuff maybe we would rather hide – is our love as holistic as Jesus wishes? Is that love bringing authentic unity?

1st Reading: Deuteronomy 6: 2-6

Psalm: 17: 2-4, 47, 51

2nd Reading: Hebrews 7: 23-28

Gospel: Mark 12: 28-34



MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday 2nd November

All Souls

5.30pm Mass

Parish Community

Sunday 3rd November

31st Sunday of the Year

8.00am Mass

Deceased members of the Rayner and Griffin Families RIP

10.00am Mass

Emma Louise Lucibello RIP – Damian and Susan Lucibello

Monday 4th November

St. Charles Borromeo

9.30am Mass

Frances Roche RIP – Kay O' Connor

Tuesday 5th November

9.30am Mass

John and Michael Healy RIP – Rae Healy

Wednesday 6^h November

10.00am Mass

Patrick Kelleher RIP – Mary and Pat Rickard

Thursday 7th November

9.30am Mass

Deceased members of the Legion of Mary RIP

Friday 8th November

12.00 midday Mass

Frances Roche RIP

Saturday 9th November

The Dedication of the Lateran Basilica

5.30pm Mass

Nick Mead (Ints) – Jane and John Cook

Sunday 10th November

32nd Sunday of the Year (Remembrance Sunday)

8.00am Mass

Parish Community

10.00am Mass

Holy Souls and the Fallen of all Wars RIP

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.....Kathleen Kirkland.

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. This will be in the church porch. Names written in the book will be remembered at Masses throughout November.

Please note: Mass on Friday will be at 12.00pm (midday).

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.

Brown Envelopes regarding the Missionary Work of Sr. Joachim in Ethiopia – please hand them back by next weekend, 10th November at the latest with donations. Thank you for your kind generosity.

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 4th 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 6th 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.

Note from the Council: London Hill will be closed to traffic on Sunday November 10th from 9.30am to 1.00pm due to the Town Centre Parade and the wreath laying service taking place on Remembrance Day. Also, London

Hill Junction with Bellingham Lane into Church St. will be closed from 11.00am on Saturday November 9th in order to ensure safety of all members of the public attending the parade and Remembrance Service at the British Legion.

Junior Legion of Mary – New Start on Friday 8 November 2024.

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 starting on **Friday 8th November 2024**. 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

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.

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

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

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 :

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.

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

Learning Support Assistant - Early Years/Key Stage 1 Our Lady of Ransom School

31.25hrs per week term time only 8:30am - 3:15pm with an unpaid 30 min lunch break
Scale 3 Point 5 £23,500 f.t.e. - Actual salary £16,749

We are looking for a dedicated, talented and experienced practitioner to work as a Learning Support Assistant in our school and with our fabulous team.

Are you motivated to bring out the best in every child?

Is building strong and nurturing relationships central to your practice?

Are you motivated to bring out the best in every child?

Can you work within our distinctly Catholic ethos?

You must be flexible, with an ability to think on your feet and use your initiative. You must have patience, empathy and a positive, can-do attitude. Holistic development is embraced across the school, therefore we are looking for an individual who is able to promote the physical, spiritual, emotional, intellectual and social development of every child.

The successful candidate will have wide experience of working within Early Years and/or Key Stage 1 and be able to apply their knowledge and expertise to support the class teacher in creating an engaging environment which stimulates pupils' curiosity and interests, progress and development. Early Years qualifications, NVQs and/LSA qualifications or HLTA status is desirable. A good standard of English and maths is essential. Also desirable is a First Aid qualification.

We are building a Trauma Perceptive Practice approach and place the highest value on inclusion and celebrating diversity.

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.

Following safer recruitment procedures an appointment will be subject to satisfactory references, medical checks and enhanced DBS clearance.

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: 4pm on Monday 11th November 2024

Interviews: w/c 18th November 2024

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

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!

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.*

Cook (Full-time) – Canonesses of the Holy Sepulchre

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday 12.00- 19.00hrs

Required to work in a unique position within a small religious community, based in Colchester – The Canonesses of the Holy Sepulchre.

If this is of interest to you, please submit a CV and any enquiries to: caremanager@canonesses.co.uk or call on 07394980188.

Application closing date: 13/11/2024

The Brentwood Catholic Children's Society (BCCS) Christmas Craft and Gift Fair will be held at The Mill Hall Arts & Events Centre, Bellingham Lane, Rayleigh SS6 7ED this Sunday 3rd November from 10.30am - 4pm. There is free parking at the venue and admission is only £1.50 for adults and free for children under 14. There will be over 40 stalls selling many unique crafts, gifts and handmade fare so come along and pick up some early Christmas presents. BCCS will have its own stall selling donated gifts and crafts and there will be a fundraising raffle during the event. If you have any crafts, unopened gifts or homemade jams

and chutneys you would like to donate to us and are able to drop off to our premises in Billericay, we would be delighted to receive them. Thank you.

Run Alpha Catholic Context - Romford

Join the Alpha UK Catholic Context team on Saturday 9th November, 10am-3.30pm at St Peter's Catholic Primary School in Romford for a session especially tailored for Catholic parishes to explore Alpha as a tool for evangelisation.

Run Alpha is designed to give you the opportunity to experience sample Alpha sessions, discover how Alpha works in a Catholic parish setting, hear from other parishes already running Alpha, and most importantly to give you space to ask all your questions.

The event is free. Please bring a packed lunch, tea and coffee will be provided. More details about the day can be found in the registration link below.

To register for Run Alpha in Romford please follow this link: [Run Alpha – Catholic Context, Romford Tickets, Sat 9 Nov 2024 at 10:00 | Eventbrite](#)

If you have any questions in the meantime please contact Michael Roche at Michael.Roche@alpha.org.

The Divine Mercy Apostolate, London is holding a Divine Mercy Retreat at St Vincents RC Church, Mallard Close, Dartford, DA1 5HU on Saturday 9 November from 1 pm to 4:30 pm. The Retreat will be led by the Marian Fathers and will include teachings on the Holy Rosary, Message of Divine Mercy, Holy Mass, Hour of Mercy with Stations of the Cross, Adoration and Benediction and Veneration of the Image of Merciful Jesus. All welcome no booking required. Call millie on [07957594646](tel: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



❄️ 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

St Vincent's Centre

Unit 9, Victoria Business Park,

Short Street, SS2 5BY

01702 592980



Photo: DEC/Arrete/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 1160384. Company limited by guarantee registered in England and Wales number 09387398

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.*

GIVE TODAY

cafod.org.uk/give

or call **0808 58 588 85**

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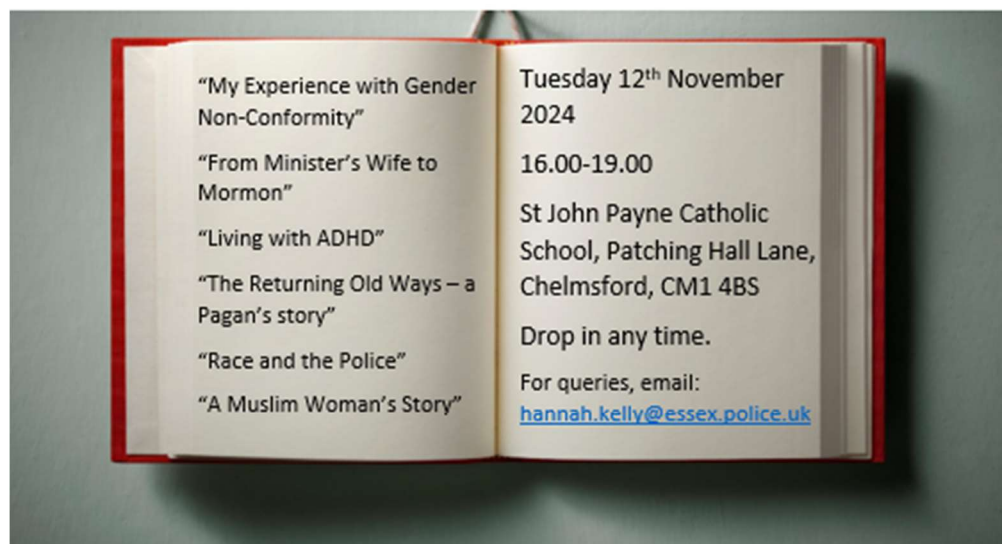
healthwatch
Essex



Essex Faith Covenant and Essex Mind and Spirit invite you to

HUMAN LIBRARY

At the library, you can hear real life experiences, listen to their stories, and ask questions. Books include (but there are many more):



Don't judge books by their cover.

Come and hear their stories.