

Parish Newsletter

OUR LADY OF RANSOM

18th May 2025 Fifth Sunday of Easter C Psalter Week 4



Ouch! That hard slap on the back from an Italian policeman really stung. St Mark's Square in Venice, the man was firmly telling me to put my shirt back on; then a near fatal car-crash in France, as well as meeting wonderful people in all the various European countries, sampling great food, and seeing great sites – I thought my trip around Europe was great. And in those days, I was arguably ahead of many of my contemporaries in terms of travel.

Today, young people are travelling the whole globe - gap-years or work-related. It pales my earlier trips rather into insignificance. Foreign places are so much more accessible today. Years on I have travelled a little further, and I realize and experience just how 'global' we really are.

Whether it's travel, skype, facetime or TV, we now know we are a global village. There are in fact other religions, cultures, ethnicities and worldviews – and they are now 'in our faces'. The world has shrunk. Years ago, we could afford to be much more insular in our thinking, small thinking, we could live in denial of other peoples since they weren't so much in our faces. We could believe that God loved and saved only Catholics (or whatever we professed to be). Today's 'globalization' makes us aware that God is for everyone, not just ourselves. We all stand on this one globe; mother-earth feeds us all. We all breathe the same air and rely on the same sun. This is a foundational truth taking us beyond any ideologies. We are universally and primarily members of this one earth community. Today we know it is for real.

Could this part of St. John's exotic imagery and poetic language (in our second reading from Revelation)? Is John prophetically seeing a new world order (that Jesus himself often proclaims) in this 'globalization'? A global community that encourages us to completely turn around any narrow-minded, insular worldview. Especially a small narrow worldview from years ago. Is he seeing a new social order, the *Kingdom of God*? *The Reign of God*? Is this something beyond any logic?

Pie-in-the-sky? No. Idealistic? No. Those who are open to, and personally experience God's overwhelming love, *they* see this vision partly happening right now, *they* live it, *they know* one-day his will, will be fulfilled, or is now being fulfilled – everywhere and for all time. Do we have that kind of vision?

1st Reading: Acts 15: 21b-27

Psalms 145: 8-9. 10-11.12-13b

2nd Reading: Revelation 21: 1-5a

Gospel: John 13: 31-33a, 34-35



MASS INTENTIONS	
Saturday 17th May	
5.30pm Mass	All young people taking exams (Ints)
Sunday 18th May	
8.00am Mass	Parish Community
10.00am Mass	Emma Louise Lucibello RIP – Susan and Damian
Monday 19th May	
9.30am Mass	Intentions of Pope Leo X1V
Tuesday 20th May	
<u>8.00am Mass</u>	Nick Ryan RIP (Anniversary) – Judy Hoskins
Wednesday 21st May	
10.00am	Eucharistic Service
Thursday 22nd May	
-----	No Mass nor Eucharistic Service
Friday 23rd May	
9.30am	Eucharistic Service
Saturday 24th May	
5.30pm Mass	Parish Community
Sunday 25th May	
8.00 Mass	Maria Schiavi RIP
10.00 Mass	Kath Geeson RIP – Nicola Geeson

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.....Sheila Robertson, Faye Semple, William Packwood, Jim Fallaize,
David Withers, Joan Daubney and Matthew Barnettson.

May they rest in Peace. †

† Please keep Rita Rhodes in prayer. Rita died just before Easter.
Her Requiem Mass will be on Monday June 2nd at 12.00 midday.
Please keep her friends and colleagues in prayer as well.

Please pray for Peggy McWilliams who died last recently. Her
Requiem Mass will be on Tuesday May 27th at 11.30am. Please also
keep Elaine, Emma and Peggy's family in your prayer. †

Congratulations to...Ralph, Gabriel, Greta, Rafferty, Demi, Isaac, Elsie, Henry,
Teddy, Philippa, Rosa, Eloise, Charlie, Daniel, Mia, Chloe, Luna, Esme and
Oscar ...on receiving the Body and Blood of Christ for the very the first time.
You were all truly wonderful. And congratulations to your families too.

Thank You

Sharon Morris, our First Holy Communion Leader and all the Catechists would like to thank everyone
for their kind gifts and generosity, it has been much appreciated.

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 noticeboard for quick reference.
Please leave it attached to the noticeboard for others to see. Thank you.

***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

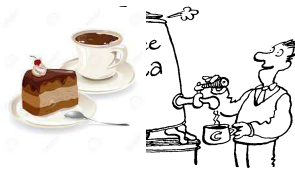
Printed Parish Newsletters – Reminder: printed newsletters are left

outside the Presbytery for those who have **NO ACCESS** to electronic newsletters. In good conscience, please honour this request. Thank you.

Wednesday Coffee Morning

Coffee Morning will take place on Wednesday May 21st **after the 10.00am Eucharistic Service.**

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 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** and is aimed at primary school children. It can be downloaded and printed out.

The Sacrament of Confirmation.

A FEW DAYS LEFT. We are inviting all young people who wish to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation to come along on Monday June 9th to begin a series of sessions leading to the receiving of the Sacrament on Sunday November 16th from Bishop Alan. All sessions will begin at 7pm. The first few will be on a Monday evening, the rest will be on a Wednesday evening. Timetables will be given out on June 9th. You need to be in Year 9 or above (or in year 8 when we begin) in order to receive the Sacrament. Full commitment to these sessions is expected as is regular ongoing Practice of the Faith.

Please, in the first instance, BY THE END OF MAY, write a letter to Fr. Paul clearly stating the reasons why you wish to receive the Sacrament. Be sure to include contact details. 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 sanitized and delivered to wherever they are required in the area. Thank you.

Schoolchildren's education is being affected because parents can't afford hygiene products and are too embarrassed to send their children to school. Some children are also experiencing similar embarrassment because they ARE being sent to school but in unwashed uniform.

Please consider donating these items, washing powder/liquid or feminine hygiene items to the Food Bank collection in the porch of our church. Thank you.

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)

HARP We are very short of items that we give to people who use our services. Here is the list:

Sleeping bags; Hand warmer; Foil blanket, take away cups; Ladies small underwear
Men's boxers small and medium; Leggings; Socks; Deodorants.

If you can help, please do let us know, we are happy to come and collect the items or you can donate to the Bradbury Centre 103-107 York Road, Southend-On-Sea, SS1 2DL.

Thank you for all your support.

Knights of St Columba Pilgrimage to Aylesford Priory in Jubilee Year

Join us on Sunday 29th June at Aylesford Priory for an open-air Mass – Lunch (bring a pack lunch or use The Friars Restaurant) – in the afternoon join us on the Rosary Walk through The Friars beautiful grounds by the banks of The River Medway and finishing with Benediction. A coach will leave Sacred Heart Church at 8:30am and pick-up opposite Nazareth House at 8:40am, Our Lady of Lourdes at 8:50am and at Tarpots Corner at 9:10am. We depart Aylesford at approximately 4pm. The coach costs £20 per adult and children under 16 go free. Please book your place by contacting Sandy Rand 07470 820994. We look forward to welcoming you aboard:

St. Vincent's Centre Southend is holding various events to raise funds to help those in need. Afternoon teas, dinners, plus other events. Interested?

Please visit: Nesperm@svp.org.uk 07549128877 or 01702 592980. Thank you.

Missio Red Box Collection

Our parish Missio collectors are kindly encouraged to begin gathering in their Red Boxes and generous donations to Missio for our Springtime collection. Magazines are at the back of church or contact me for more.

If you are a box holder and your box was not collected by the end of April, please do contact me. If you normally bring your donation directly to church, please leave safely in the Sacristy and let me know so that I can arrange collection, or hand to me directly (or via my mum, Lorna Warren if you are a Wednesday coffee morning regular!).

Lastly, I would encourage anyone interested in the work of Missio, who support missionaries to work alongside communities in need globally, whatever their background or belief, to visit missio.org.uk to see God's work, and our parish contributions, in action. Get in touch if you would like to support by keeping a collection box in your home, or give by cheque/Direct Debit.

Thank you, Katherine Abel 0790 6844 284 / warren_katherine@hotmail.com

Brentwood Catholic Youth Service – Monthly Youth Mass

Each month, on the first Thursday, the BCYS invite young people, Youth Groups, Confirmation Groups and School Groups to celebrate Mass together with other young Catholics from all around the Diocese.

The evening begins at 6pm with pizza and refreshments in the Parish Hall, followed by around an hour of input before celebrating Mass together at 7:30pm.

The whole evening finishes around 8:30pm. There is no need to book and no cost for this - please feel very welcome to come along and simply find out more about the BCYS and what they offer!

Gift Aid

It is important that we have the current address for anyone who has joined the parish Gift Aid scheme. If you have moved since you signed up to Gift Aid, please email your new address to Sandra Cowdrey, our Gift Aid Organiser, at olorgiftaid@hotmail.com.

Missio Red Box Appeal

In 2024 our parish raised £1736.32 through our Red Boxes and donations to Missio and the Mill Hill Missionaries. Thank you! Your support is part of a worldwide network of people supporting missionaries overseas through prayer and financial assistance. Visit missio.org.uk to find out more and contact Katherine Abel on warren_katherine@hotmail.com or 07906844284 if you would like to have a collection box in your home, or if you have any queries.

Thank you to those who have recently brought your donations to church to be collected and banked, and to the local promoters for their invaluable help. Emptied boxes can be found at the back of the church, and please help yourself to a magazine. Thank you, Katherine

Online Book of Condolence for Pope Frances

The Bishop's Conference has set up an online book of condolence for Pope Francis.

<https://popefrancistributes.com/>

To accompany our reading of the Acts of the Apostles during the Easter period you may find my talks on www.whatgoodnews.org helpful.

CONSUBSTANTIAL WITH THE FATHER – A STUDY DAY:

This year we celebrate seventeen-hundred years since the Church Council held at Nicaea, which drew up a statement of faith which is the basis of the Nicene Creed we recite at Mass. Dr Ken Carleton, Deacon of the Brentwood diocese, who has a doctorate in Church History, will explore the issues debated at the Council. The study day will be held on Saturday 7th June 2025 from 11am until 2 pm at the parish of Christ the Eternal High Priest, Gidea Park, RM2 6DH. Coffee available from 10.30. Please bring your own lunch. In-person attendance is encouraged but you can also watch on www.whatgoodnews.org No prior booking necessary for this free event. A recording will be available subsequently on the website.

Letter of thanks from HARP

24/03/2025

Dear everyone at Our Lady of Ransom Church, Rayleigh,

Thank you so much for your generous donation of toiletries to our Bradbury Centre on York Road.

We simply couldn't do what we do without the kindness of our community. To show the impact of your support, here are some figures from February and March:

In February

We helped a total of 449 people.
We housed 21 individuals in HARP accommodation
And 5 people moved on into independent living.
We had 373 visits to our Bradbury day Centre.

In March

- We helped a total of 465 people
- 325 individuals were housed in HARP accommodation
- 4 people successfully moved on into independent living
- Our Bradbury Day Centre saw 719 visits

Your contribution is part of this incredible work, and we are truly grateful. Thank you for helping us make a real difference in the lives of those experiencing homelessness.

Kind regards

Charlotte Stein

Fundraising and Communications Team
HARP

02 May 2025

Dear All,

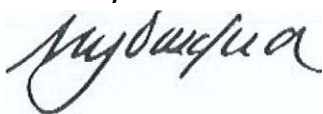
Thank you to all parishioners at Our Lady of Ransom for your generous support for CAFOD this year and for your latest donation of €365.18 which we received on 25 April, 2025. Thank you so much for being there for our global family.

Your parish's generous gift towards our Myanmar Earthquake Appeal will provide emergency help - food, water, and shelter to those affected by this devastating earthquake.

Thank you for reaching out with love and please keep all those affected by this disaster in your prayers. Please pass on our heartfelt thanks to all your parishioners for their solidarity with our brothers and sisters in Myanmar.

If you need anything from us, please do get in touch - we're here for you! Whilst post is a little slower for us, you can call our supporter care team on 0303 303 3030 or email us at cafod@cafod.org.uk

Thank you and God bless



Michelle Oakford - Head of Supporter Relations

School Vacancies in the Diocese of Brentwood

[KS1/KS2 Class Teacher - St Aidan's Primary School, Ilford](#)

Deadline for applications: 12:00 (noon), Monday 19th May 2025

[Headteacher - St Peter's Primary School, Romford](#)

Deadline for applications: 12:00 (noon), Monday 6th June 2025

The Brentwood Catholic Children's Society invite you to join them at their Summer Luncheon!

Join us for an elegant afternoon on **Friday, 13th June**, at The Lawn – a stunning Grade II listed Georgian manor house in Rochford. Enjoy exclusive use of the venue as we serve a delicious two-course luncheon in the Orangery, overlooking beautifully landscaped gardens.

Date: Friday, 13th June

Venue: The Lawn, Rochford

Time: 12.30 to 3.30pm

Seating: Tables of 10

Price: £37.50 per person

Tickets are available now! Reserve your place by visiting our website: www.bccs.org.uk/get-involved/events/
Or simply scan the QR code below to purchase your tickets directly.

St John Bosco Children's Camp 2025. For children aged 9-12 years old (school years 5-7), a week of great fun, activities including climbing wall and zip wire, fishing, football, archery and much more, all in a beautiful setting. The Camp has a Catholic ethos, and exists to give children a magnificent holiday. 26th July – 2nd August. For more details, and application information: www.boscocamp.co.uk. The Camp is a special work of Caritas Diocese of Brentwood.

Brentwood Catholic Children's Society presents a

Summer Luncheon

Friday 13th June 2025

The Lawn, Rochford

12.30 to 3.30pm



Experience the elegance and charm of this magnificent manor house, set amidst stunning grounds, providing an amazing backdrop for a perfect summer luncheon.

Two-course luncheon accompanied by tea and coffee served in the orangery.

Tickets £37.50 each

Book your tickets here:

<https://form.jotform.com/250612521329348>



For further information, contact Julie on 07912 277413 or by email: jabbott@bccs.org.uk