

Parish Newsletter

OUR LADY OF RANSOM



1st June 2025

Seventh Sunday of Easter C

Psalter Week 3

Bang! The starting pistol fired. It was Sports Day, and the children started running their race. Several races were run, and the winners were awarded their trophies. Jubilant individual little arms punched the air. Parents duly applauded and cheered. Then came the race for children with special needs. Bang! The children started running, all went well, until one child tripped and fell. All the other children, in total unity, turned back to help their fallen friend. He was helped up, the children all linked hands, and ran the rest of the race together, crossing the finishing line hand in hand. A standing ovation followed with tears of sheer joy and lumps in throats. And all their little arms punched the air together. True story.

Yes, we award winners in life, we encourage competition, but when true unity and compassion are being lived out, we realize and admire this much more. Losers become winners, winning over our hearts and minds. Who were the real winners above?

Why does it take children with special needs so powerfully to make the point?

George Bernard Shaw once said, “There is only one religion, and thousands of forms of it”. Anyone with any depth will know, that once we go beyond or underneath all the superficial stuff, all religions are striving for the same thing. Get that, and we can work together. Unity happens. A unity Jesus is asking for, as we see today. (Remember Jesus always uses images and metaphors eg. calling people ‘sheep’), All the underlying messages that different religions and denominations use are so often in strong agreement. But the images and metaphors we use may be different – just like Jesus himself does, but all are being used to communicate experience of conscious union with God - unity.

We become so brainwashed into thinking that our own religious images or metaphors are the only true ones, the only correct ones – of course, disunity will follow. It must do! Yes, we need images and metaphors to be able to go deep, but they are plenty, different and varied. Understand that and unity can happen. Compassion happens. Cooperation happens.

I suspect that many children haven’t yet intellectually arrived at the maturity of metaphor and image – which can divide us when so brainwashed. Such children just see things as they are, humanly. compassionately, and so unity happens, it happens so freely, so easily, as we see in the children’s race above.

Jesus calls us to be ‘one’. Unity. The children were ‘one’. How can we best be ‘one’ with God, ‘one’ with each other, as well as ‘one’ with so many who are different to us? And ‘one’ with ourselves?

1st Reading Acts 7: 55-60

Psalms 97: 1, 2b, 6, 7c, 9

2nd Reading: Revelation 22: 12-14, 16-17, 20

Gospel: John 17: 20-26



MASS INTENTIONS	
Saturday 31st May	Dedication of Brentwood Cathedral
5.30pm Mass	Parish Community
Sunday 1st June	Seventh Sunday of Easter C
8.00am Mass	Patrick Murray RIP – Anniversary – Kathleen Murray
10.00am Mass	Gloria Ray RIP – Anniversary – The Ray Family
Monday 2nd June	
<u>12.00pm Requiem Mass</u>	Rita Rhodes RIP
Tuesday 3rd June	St. Charles Lwanga and Companions
9.30am Mass	Peter Feather RIP
Wednesday 4th June	
10.00am Mass	Rita Rhodes RIP
Thursday 5th June	St. Boniface
9.30am Mass	Keith Miller RIP – Catherine Miller
Friday 6th June	
9.30am Mass	Doris Warrington RIP
Saturday 7th June	
5.30pm Mass	Klybe Marr Aurellana RIP
Sunday 8th June	PENTECOST C
8.00am Mass	Parish Community
10.00am Mass	John and Nora McErlean RIP – The McKenna family

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, Betty Holland, Pamela Denton and Mary Manton.
May they rest in Peace. †

† Please keep Rita Rhodes in prayer. Rita's Requiem Mass will be **THIS Monday June 2nd at 12.00 midday**. Please keep her friends and colleagues in prayer as well.

Please keep Heather Mitchell in your prayer. As well as her family and friends. Heather's funeral will be on June 9th at 11.30am.

Please keep Katherine O' Donnell in prayer. Kath's Requiem Mass will be at 11am on June 16th. Please also keep family and friends in prayer.

Please keep Margaret O' Dwyer in prayer. As well as her family and friends. Margaret's Requiem Mass will be at 2pm on June 18th.

Please keep David Downes in prayer. David's funeral will be at 12.30pm on June 19th. Please also keep his family and friends in prayer. †

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 parking. 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.

Wednesday Coffee Morning

Coffee Morning will take place on Wednesday June 4th **after the 10.00am 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.



The Knights will be hosting a Coffee Morning this Sunday 1st June at the request of BCCS. Two of their staff will be present to help sell raffle tickets. The Knights will continue to sell tickets right up to the draw. Thank you for your support.

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.

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.

Brentwood Catholic Youth Service – Monthly Youth Mass

On Thursday 5th June, Youth Mass will be held at Brentwood Cathedral, with a workshop looking at the key themes of Pentecost, and how we live out discipleship in the modern world. Join us in the Brentwood Cathedral Parish Hall from 6pm for Pizza, refreshments and workshop, followed by Youth Mass in the Cathedral from 7:30pm. 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

Online Book of Condolence for Pope Francis

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.

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.

SION COMMUNITY CHARISMATIC TEACHING WEEKEND

From 6pm Friday 13th June to 2pm Sunday 15th June 2025 Theme: 'Moving in the Anointing'.

This weekend is a great follow-up to 'Life in the Spirit' seminars and is especially aimed at those wishing to grow in the Charisms and Gifts of the Holy Spirit and learn to exercise them with more confidence. Guest Speaker: Allegra Mutanda. Cost: £130 residential, £100 non-residential. To book a place or for more information, visit <https://sioncommunity.churchsuite.com/events/ztjfwuwu>

“Catholic Legacy Week is a time to reflect on the values of faith, generosity, and care for future generations. Leaving a Will ensures your loved ones are looked after and allows you to leave a lasting legacy to the causes you care about most. Writing your will with Your Place Achor House, a charity supporting people affected by homelessness, can help build a brighter future for those most in need.

You can write your FREE Will today at: <https://your-place.org.uk/gift-in-your-will/>. Your gift can help support those in our communities who need it most. For more information, please call: 0739 965 3512 or email: Anwar.beeharry@your-place.org.uk

School Vacancies in the Diocese of Brentwood

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

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

[Headteacher – St Peter’s Primary School, Billericay](#)

Deadline for applications: 15:00, Monday 6th June 2025

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

