Parish Newsletter

OUR LADY OF RANSOM

15th June 2025 The Most Holy Trinity C (Day for Life) Psalter Week 1



"Strictly Come Dancing". There is something compelling in watching dancing that is beautifully rhythmical, complementary, and graceful. Where movements are wonderfully reciprocal, exactly to time, it is inherently and aesthetically pleasing. Whether it's "Strictly", Fred and Ginger, or whoever, it's aesthetically gratifying to watch.

In the very old days, this is how the church Fathers described God. God is the dance. Not a dancer, but the dance itself. In God, there is perfect reciprocal movement, towards and away, giving and receiving. This is about as best as we can do to try and grasp the ungraspable concept of the Trinity – as a perfect, graceful, exact complementary movement - or dance - between three persons. A perfect relationship between three.

It's all about relationship. Scientists today, looking through telescopes and microscopes, at atoms and planets, are finding that the power and energy of things is not in the atoms or particles themselves, not in the planets or stars themselves – but in the very orbits they make with each other. The power and energy come from the relationship 'between'. So, we have an entirely relational universe. And our Holy Trinity was saying that all along! All reality is based on relationship. How we intuit so well but explain so poorly. This is old Trinitarian language, maybe with a new, fresh and vital re-appreciation. God is relationship so God must be love, since love is the basis of all healthy and right relationship.

So, if God is love and where all healthy and right relationship is, surely God is two (if you love, there must be another to love)? Yet we say **God is three.** Why?

When two people really love each other <u>so much</u>, they know their relationship is and has something bigger than the two of them put together. And this something holds them together. That something bigger is the Holy Spirit, the 3rd person, a 3rd entity. In Christian language, the Holy Spirit is the shared, mutual, explosive, overflowing love between Father and Son. Overflowing love that brings supreme joy and invites us in. So, God must be three. A perfect relationship of three. And Jesus' mission as the 2nd Person of the Trinity is to bring us into this supreme overflowing joy of the Trinity. To bring us to the ecstatic dance. Therefore, Jesus commands us strictly, come dancing. Be sure to

join the dance, and let the dance go on...

1st Reading Proverbs 8 22-31

Psalm 8: 4-5. 6-7.8-9

2nd Reading: Romans 5: 1-5

Gospel John: 16: 12-15



MASS INTENTIONS	
Saturday 14 th June	
5.30pm Mass	Emma Louise Lucibello RIP (Anniv) – Susan and Damian
Sunday 15 th June	The Most Holy Trinity (Day for Life)
8.00am Mass	Parish Community
10.00am Mass	Jim McErlean (Ints) – The McKenna Family
Monday 16 th June	
11.00am Requiem Mass	Katherine O' Donnell RIP
Tuesday 17 th June	
9.30am Mass	Fr. Tony McKentey RIP
Wednesday 18 th June	
10.00am Mass	Rita Rhodes RIP – Mary Rickards
2pm Requiem Mass	Margaret O' Dwyer RIP
Thursday 19 th June	
<u>8.30am Mass</u>	Fr. Tom Jordan RIP
Friday 20 th June	
9.30am Mass	David Downes RIP
Saturday 21 st June	
5.30pm Mass	Jane and John Cook's families (Ints)
Sunday 22 nd June	The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ (Corpus Christi)
8.00am Mass	Margaret O' Dwyer RIP
10.00am Mass	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

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 Gwendoline Hill, Kathleen O'Dwyer and Edward Mahoney.

May they rest in Peace. †

Please keep Katherine O' Donnell in prayer. Kathy's Requiem Mass will be at 11am THIS Monday, June 16th. Please keep family and friends in prayer.

Please keep Margaret O' Dwyer in prayer. Also her family and friends. Margaret's Requiem Mass will be at 2pm THIS Wednesday, June 18th.

Please keep David Downes in prayer. David's funeral is at 12.30pm THIS Thursday, 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.

<u>Holy Communion</u>, when receiving, please consume the Sacred Host <u>IMMEDIATELY</u>. 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.

<u>Church Car Park:</u> anyone who wishes to leave their car in the church car park overnight, or especially over several nights, <u>must check with the Parish Office first.</u> This is for reasons such as funeral guests having priority parking during funerals, other celebrations occurring requiring parking. Thank you.

<u>Printed Parish Newsletters – Reminder:</u> printed newsletters are left outside the Presbytery for those who have <u>NO ACCESS</u> to electronic newsletters. In good conscience, please honour this request. Thank you.

Wednesday Coffee Morning

Coffee Morning will take place on Wednesday June 11th after the 10.00am Mass.

If anyone is willing and able to volunteer to help once each month, lease 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.

Do you have the need of a Wheelchair/ Mobility Aid?

CHOICE IS MORE LIMITED AT THE MOMENT.

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:

Bingo Night

The Knights will be holding a Bingo Night on Saturday 5th July in the Pope John Paul Hall at 7.30pm. Please make a note of this in your calendar. We are trying to bring our community together. Further details to follow next week. Please support this event if possible.

<u>Legion of Mary Annual Retreat</u>. – Saturday 5th July 2025 Holy Family Church 661 High Road South Benfleet SS7 5SF.

Arrival (tea/coffee) 10.30am

Legion opening prayers at 10.30am

Holy Mass 12 noon

The day will include talks by Fr Adrian Lowe, Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Holy Hour. Confessions will be available.

Lunch will be a Shared Table and there will be a Secret Bag collection.

Benediction and the Legion concluding prayers will complete the day which should finish around 3.30pm.

All active and auxiliary members of the Legion of Mary are invited, and indeed any other parishioners who are interested.

It may be possible to share lifts: contact Isobel Kennedy (07795 821705)

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.

<u>St John Bosco Children's Camp 2025.</u> 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/ztjfwiwu

"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

St Thomas More Alumni Memorial Mass - Thursday 19th June at 8pm

The annual Memorial Mass to remember and pray for all deceased pupils, staff and governors of St Thomas More High School will take place in the school at **8pm** on **Thursday 19th June.**

This will be the 45th such celebration organised by the St Thomas More Alumni and it will also, sadly, be the last.

All former pupils, staff and governors are warmly invited to attend with their partners and to also enjoy the drinks and buffet which will be served afterwards, providing a wonderful opportunity to catch-up with old friends.

The Mass will include the traditional roll-call of all known deceased former pupils, staff and governors; the reading of the Execution Account of St Thomas More; and the school's two favourite hymns.

PA to the Dean- Brentwood Cathedral

A vacancy has arisen for a PA, to provide administrative support services to the Parish Priest and Parish Office by implementing and maintaining office systems, processes and procedures and delivering a welcoming, appropriate service to those attending the parish office. The successful applicant will need to have excellent communication and administration skills.

The post will be full-time working 35 hours per week- Monday to Friday

The salary is £14-£15 per hour depending on experience

The closing date for applications is 12pm on 18th June 2025 and we will then invite suitable applicants to interview.

If you have any queries or if you would like to apply, please send your CV by email to cathedral@brcdt.org

<u>St. Thomas More High School</u> - open evening, Thursday, 10th July 4.00p.m. to 7.00p.m. - for families who have a son due to transfer to secondary school in September 2025 - come and see the school, meet the staff and pupils.

The Headteachers talk will begin at 5.30pm.

Parents of boys who wish to apply to St. Thomas More School for a place in September 2026 should complete the local education authority single application form (saf) and fill in the supplementary information form (sif) that can be collected at the open evening.

If you are unable to come to the open evening, please contact the school in order to get the supplementary information form. The form can also be downloaded from the school web site:-

WWW.ST-THOMASMORE.SOUTHEND.SCH.UK

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: <u>Nesperm@svp.org.uk</u> 07549128877 or 01702 592980. Thank you.

<u>Cleaner Required.</u> To clean and do various housekeeping work in the Hockley area. Time and pay to be negotiated. Please call the Parish Office in the first instance if interested. Thank you.

JUBILEE YEAR – Pilgrims of Hope: FORTY HOURS OF EUCHARISTIC ADORATION – 'QUARANT ORE' – will be celebrated at the Cathedral parish of St Mary & St Helen, Brentwood commencing with Mass at 7.30 p.m. on Thursday 26th June and concluding at 5.45 p.m. on Saturday 28th June. Please see parish website (https://brentwoodcathedral.org.uk/) for full details. All are welcome.

Stella Maris (formerly called Apostleship of the Sea) is seeking one volunteer from this parish please to help with Sea Sunday (which falls on 12/13 July this year) in this parish. This is the day when the Church comes together to pray for seafarers, fishers and their families, and takes a second collection to support the work of Stella Maris. The volunteer will read out the appeal (which Stella Maris will provide) at the end of Masses that weekend. If you can kindly do this, please contact roland.hayes@stellamarismail.org or call 07887 893 763.

Related to that, all parishioners are warmly invited to an online webinar being run by Stella Maris on Thursday 19th June from 7:30pm to 9pm. You will hear about the work that Stella Maris has been doing with seafarers and fishers over the past year or so, including the use of the funds kindly donated on Sea Sunday last year. To attend this webinar, please sign up at: www.stellamaris.org.uk/thankyouwebinar



5 WEEK COURSE



From June 18th
Wednesdays: Wednesdays: 7:15 to 8:15pm

£35 (Book via website)

- Alphabet
- 🔯 Everyday vocab
- Descriptions
- Deaf Awareness





SIGNAWAYBSL.CO.UK Q





Our Lady of Ransom Church 50 London Hill, Rayleigh SS6 7HP

9th June 2025

Dear Our Lady of Ransom Church

I wanted to say a big thank you on behalf of all of us at HARP and the Bradbury Day Centre for your recent donation of toiletries.

These items are a huge help to the people who come through our doors. For someone going through a tough time, having access to clean clothes and hygiene products can really lift their spirits and make a difficult day a bit easier.

The people we support are always grateful, and your kindness doesn't go unnoticed. So thank you, not just from us, but from the homeless community here in Southend as well.

Together, with acts of generosity like yours, we can help change lives and work towards ending homelessness for good.

Warm regards,
Laura Phillips
Fundraising Volunteer

St Bernard's High School

A Catholic Academy for Arts and Science



Open Evening for Year 5 Students

(Starting Year 7 in September 2026)

Thursday 10 July 2025 5.30pm to 8.30pm

We would be delighted to welcome Year 5 girls and their parents/carers to our Open Evening. This is an evening for girls wishing to join Year 7 in September 2026.

We are also offering an opportunity for parents/carers to visit the school during a normal teaching day, between 9.30am and 11.00am on set days in October, dates will be published on our website. Appointments for these guided tours will be available in September.

St Bernard's High School offers selective places based on success in the CSSE selective tests and non-selective places according to faith-based admissions criteria. (Please see school website for full details.)

'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)

<u>www.stbernardswestcliff.org.uk</u> Milton Road, Westcliff-on-Sea, Essex SS0 7JS Tel: 01702 343583