

# OUR LADY OF RANSOM

6th July 2025

14<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the Year

Psalter Week 2



The “cracked pot” apologized. For two years the man carried two pots of water, each hanging on each end of a pole across his neck. One was cracked; one was perfect. The long walk from the stream to the house meant that the cracked pot arrived only half full. Ashamed of its imperfection, and feeling the man was not getting full value for his efforts, it apologized. Feeling sorry and compassionate for the cracked pot, the man asked the pot to look carefully at the path from the stream to the house. On the cracked pot’s side of the path, there grew beautiful flowers and good vegetables. The path on the other side was dry. The man assured the cracked pot that he was aware of its “flaw”, and told the pot that” every day the cracked pot watered the seeds he had planted on his way back to the house, the flowers that grew beautifully, they decorated the house, and the vegetables were lovely to eat.

How often our ‘crackedness’, imperfections and vulnerabilities become our strengths without us realizing it? So often, wounded, rejected, cracked’ people have a better chance of seeing the truth more clearly and have something real to say. They can feel an “outsider” - not part of the group or the system. Whatever the reasons one may feel an outsider, or of no use, such people recognize the selfishness and illusions going on inside the system – be it religion, country, or politics. The “insider”, company-person, is too comfortable to see the self-serving greed operating within the system. It all serves for personal security, livelihood and promotions. So why would this person want to change? Therefore, s/he must ignore these untruths. This is the story of the perfect pot. By contrast, we see the awesome work and results of the ‘cracked’ pot.

Is this not why Jesus instructs the disciples to take *nothing* for the journey? Crazy? No. He is sending them into certain vulnerability, maybe rejection, maybe failure, to be ‘cracked’ where they must rely on each other, on other people, and God. It’s about relationships and truth. This is why Jesus made Himself an outsider. So, He, and his disciples (in time) could see authentic truth and right relationship. He wants the same for all of us.

Have we felt an outsider? Felt lost? On the losing side? Part of a minority? Rejected? Vulnerable? Cracked? Like the cracked pot, this can often be the place of transformation. True wisdom and seeing emerges from what we do with this disadvantage, these problems. Do our crucifixes (Jesus’ pain, His ‘cracked’ body) remind us of this truth – a suffering which He of course transforms? And ours too?

1<sup>st</sup> Reading Isaiah 66: 10-14c

Psalms 66: 1-3a. 4-5. 6-7a. 16.20

2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: Galatians 6: 14-18

Gospel Luke 10: 1-12, 17-20



MASS INTENTIONS	
<b>Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> July</b>	
<b>5.30pm Mass</b>	Parish Community
<b>Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> July</b>	<b>Fourteenth Sunday of the Year</b>
<b>8.00am Mass</b>	Fr. Gerard Flynn RIP
<b>10.00am Mass</b>	Maura Hannigan RIP
<b>Monday 7<sup>th</sup> July</b>	
<b>9.30am Mass</b>	Paddy Corr RIP (Anniversary) – Sam and Martin Corr
<b>Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> July</b>	
<b>9.30am Mass</b>	Fr. Tony Grimshaw RIP
<b>Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> July</b>	
<b>10.00am Mass</b>	Jean Pye RIP – Mathew Thomas
<b>Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> July</b>	
<b>9.30am Mass</b>	The Williams family and Betty Curran RIP
<b>Friday 11<sup>th</sup> July</b>	
<b><u>7.30am Mass</u></b>	Sr. John-Marie Kennedy RIP
<b>Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> July</b>	
<b>5.30pm Mass</b>	Nellie Walsh RIP
<b>Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> July</b>	<b>Fifteenth Sunday of the Year</b>
<b>8.00am Mass</b>	Parish Community
<b>10.00am Mass</b>	Michael Lydon RIP (Anniversary) – Kathy Hoare

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><b>PARISH PRIEST</b>  Father Paul Fox  50 London Hill, Rayleigh  Essex SS6 7HP  <b>01268 38.24.99</b>  <b>www.olorchurch.org</b>  email: <b>rayleigh@brcdt.org</b></p>	<p><b><u>Public Mass times:</u></b>  <b>Saturdays 5.30pm</b>  <b>Sundays 8am &amp; 10.00am</b>  <b>Mondays &amp; Tuesdays 9.30am</b>  <b>Wednesdays 10.00am</b>  <b>Thursdays &amp; Fridays 9.30am</b></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 .... Niqui Denkmayer, Marie (Myra) Baxter, Gladys Tudor,  
Marie Goulbourn and Russell Gonsal.

**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 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.

**Huge thanks** to Ashley Carter for his 20 years of sterling work looking after our Parish Finances.  
Ashley is stepping down from this role.

**Also huge thanks to Sandra Cowdrey** who has also spent 20 years looking after our Parish Gift-  
Aid. Sandra will also be stepping down soon from this role.

Replacing Ashley will be Christopher Johnson. We wish Christopher well in this new role.  
Replacing Sandra will be Donna Beestone who will be taking over the Gift-Aid role. We wish  
Donna well too. Our thanks to you both for agreeing to take on these roles.

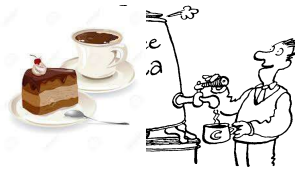
## **CELEBRATING NICEA**

To celebrate 1700 years since the Council of Nicaea, Deacon Ken Carleton recently gave a study day entitled 'Consubstantial with the Father: Creed, Church and Constantine'. The statement of faith it produced became the basis of the Creed we recite at Mass on Sundays. A fully edited version of the study day is now available free of charge on [www.whatgoodnews.org](http://www.whatgoodnews.org)

## **Wednesday Coffee Morning**

Coffee Morning will take place on Wednesday July 9th **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.



**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.**

**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)*

## **Mary's Meals – Foreign Currency Initiative**

***Mary's Meals would like to thank everyone in the parish for their amazing generosity in response to our Foreign Currency initiative. The appeal raised an incredible £770.94 which is enough to feed 40 children one good meal every school day for a whole year. On behalf of the children they serve, they offer huge and heartfelt thanks! Please do continue to pray for the children and for the work of Mary's Meals worldwide. If you would like to find out more about their work, please go to [www.marysmeals.org.uk](http://www.marysmeals.org.uk) May God bless you all.***

**.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.

#### **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 Organizer, at [olorgiftaid@hotmail.com](mailto:olorgiftaid@hotmail.com)

**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. 26<sup>th</sup> July – 2<sup>nd</sup> August. For more details, and application information: [www.boscocamp.co.uk](http://www.boscocamp.co.uk). The Camp is a special work of Caritas Diocese of Brentwood.

**St. Thomas More High School - 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 2026 - 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](http://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: [Nesperm@svp.org.uk](mailto:Nesperm@svp.org.uk) **07549128877** or **01702 592980**. Thank you.

#### **Sea Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> July 2025**

There will be a second collection next weekend for Sea Sunday.

Stella Maris (formerly known as Apostleship of the sea) supports seafarers and fishers worldwide.

**National Pilgrimage of Reparation & Prayer for the Sanctity of Life to Walsingham, Saturday 2nd August to be led by Bishop John Keenan of Paisley diocese, Scotland**

Everyone is invited to join in this pilgrimage either in person or via the Shrine livestream

at <https://www.walsingham.org.uk/live-stream/>.

Details of the day and travel arrangements can found at [www.prolifepilgerimage.org](http://www.prolifepilgerimage.org)

**St Vincent de Paul (SVP) Brentwood Community Festival** – Saturday 12th July, 1 PM – 3:30 PM,  
Brentwood Cathedral

Come along to this free event celebrating the work of SVP volunteers across Essex and East London and discover how you can help make a difference in our community and beyond. Music, food, and displays of life-changing projects. All welcome!

Book your free ticket: [www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/community-festival-svp-tickets-1404654331919](http://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/community-festival-svp-tickets-1404654331919)

**Parish Administrator- Our Lady of Good Counsel- Wickford**

A vacancy has arisen for a Parish Administrator, to provide administrative support services to the Parish Office by implementing and maintaining office systems, processes and procedures and delivering a welcoming, appropriate service to those attending the parish office.

The post will be part-time working 12 hours per week – (4 Days per week, 3 hours per day).

The salary is £12.60 per hour

The closing date for applications is 12pm on 8th July 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 [wickford@brcdt.org](mailto:wickford@brcdt.org)

**SVP Strawberry Tea Party**

Invitations will be distributed for the 2025 SVP Strawberry Tea Party in Pope John Paul II Hall on Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> July from 2pm until 4pm

Attendance numbers are limited, and no offence is intended should you not be invited. Priority will be given to current SVP beneficiaries.

Closer to the date, donations for Raffle prizes would be appreciated which can be handed to an SVP Member.

Volunteer drivers are needed to transport guests to and from the Hall and will also be welcome.

Many thanks

Pat Rickard

President, SVP Conference.

Rayleigh

Tel: 01702 206842 Mobile: 07831 558242



***Do you have the need of an Electric  
Reclining Chair?***

***A reclining electric armchair (Fabric material) is available, free of charge, for someone in need of one.***

***It is in excellent condition and can be delivered (free of charge) to the address concerned.***

***If you are interested, please contact :-***

***Pat Rickard***

***SVP***

***Tel: 01702 206842***

***Mob: 07831 558242***

**The Divine Mercy Apostolate, London** is holding a Celebration of St Faustina Birthday at Aylesford Priory, Aylesford, Kent on Bank Holiday Monday 25 August 2025 from 10:30 am to 4pm. The reflection day will include teachings on the 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. Call Millie on 07957594646 for more information. Coaches from Ealing Broadway and Victoria



Our church choir needs your voice!

## COME AND JOIN OUR CHOIR

We hold a choir practice on most Thursdays at 7.30pm for an hour or so.  
We sing all the church hits from your Hymn book but also beautiful pieces from Mozart, Bruckner, Bach, Mendelssohn, Esquivel and other beloved composers!  
We only sing twice a month, so the commitment is not great and there is a fantastic view from the choir loft.



Just come up to the choir loft after 10am Mass on a Sunday when we are singing

**CONTACT: ISOBEL KENNEDY  
07795 821705**

# ***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 the 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 behavior. Pupils live up to these expectations.' Ofsted 2023*

*'The behaviors 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)*

*'Behavior 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**  
**Tel: 01702 343583**





**St Bernard's High School**  
**Summer**  
**Fete!**

**Saturday, July 5th**  
**12pm-4pm**  
**All Welcome**

**£1 Admission**  
**Includes a**  
**FREE raffle ticket**

Food, Fun, Inflatables,  
Games, BBQ, Stalls, Prizes  
and so much more.

**St Bernard's High School, Milton Road,**  
**Westcliff-on-sea, SS0 7JS**