

OUR LADY OF RANSOM

3rd August 2025

18th Sunday of the Year

Psalter Week 2



Who won the FA Cup final two years ago? Who won the Oscar last year for best actor? Who is the richest person ever? Who was on the front cover of your favorite magazine 3 weeks ago? Who won the last Big Brother? Does anyone in Britain 'got talent'?

Can you answer any of the above without trying too hard? Now try these.

Can you name your first teacher? Who helped you most when you felt really down? Who was a great help to you in your first job? Name your favorite aunty or uncle. Name those who you know love you. Name those you love.

I bet the second questions were easier. Of course, because they are more personal. Do we really think our riches and accomplishments impress others? If they do, it says something seriously sad and tragic about those who are impressed. Deep down we know that that is all vanity - as the first reading reminds us. Riches, fame and fortune come and go. Surely what matters is who we love and who loves us. That's eternal. Compassion, service, justice, faith and freedom, and the good and holy people that make them possible for us – that is what lasts, they endure and leave lasting impressions on us.

This is why Jesus seems totally disinterested in the question he is asked today. He will not get into any petty arbitrations about money, fame or fortune. They come and go. Jesus is more interested in us living now what lasts forever. Live it now. That is the freedom of God's kingdom – to live NOW what matters for eternity. Otherwise, it is not that important – it is largely just vanity. Get things back into perspective. Get our priorities right.

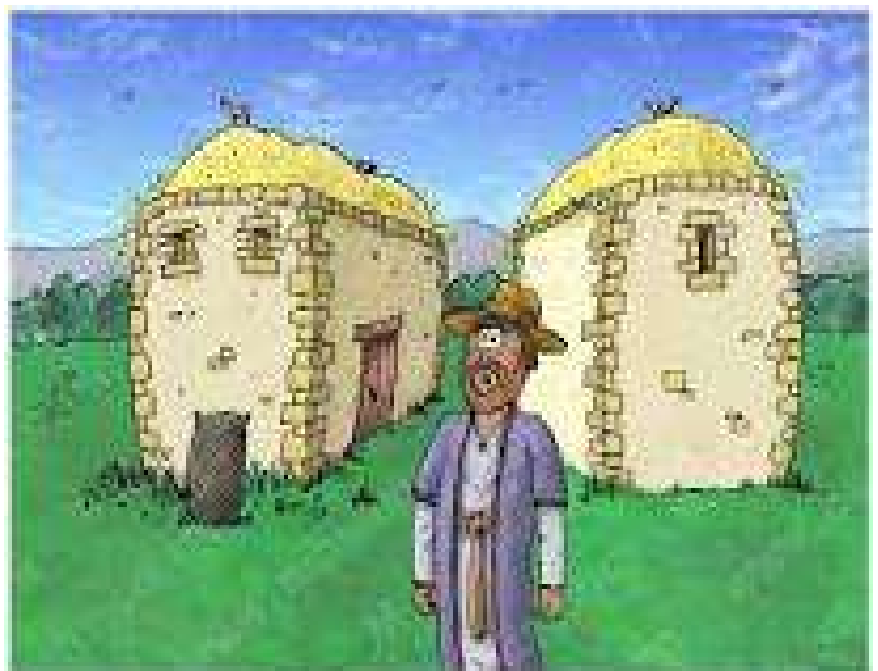
Ask yourself this question: if you knew the world was going to end one month from today, what would you do *right now*? Money, success, fame – I doubt it! You know what you would probably do. Contact as many people as possible and say 'sorry', or 'I forgive you', or 'I love you'. That's what lasts for eternity. That is Jesus' real concern. We must make sure it is ours. The rest is pure vanity.

1st Reading: Ecclesiastes 1:2; 2:21-23

Psalms: 90: 3-4, 5-6, 12-13. 14, 17

2nd Reading: Colossians 3: 1-5, 9-11

Gospel: Luke 12: 13-21



MASS INTENTIONS	
Saturday 2nd August	
5.30pm Mass	Margaret Barton RIP – Sinead Fenton
Sunday 3rd August	Eighteenth Sunday of the Year
8.00am Mass	Parish Community
10.00am Mass	Fr. Patrick Okoye RIP
Monday 4th August	St. John Vianney
9.30am Mass	Freda Miller RIP (Anniversary) – The Miller Family
Tuesday 5th August	
9.30am Mass	Patrick Lydon RIP (Anniversary) – Kathy Hoare
Wednesday 6th August	The Transfiguration of Our Lord
10.00am Mass	Maria Woolcott RIP – Jean Wood
Thursday 7th August	
9.30am Mass	Josephine and Richard Weldon 60 th Wedding Anniversary
Friday 8th August	St. Dominic
9.30am Mass	Fr. Brian McGilloway RIP
Saturday 9th August	St. Teresa Benedicta of the Cross
5.30pm Mass	Parish Community
Sunday 10th August	Nineteenth Sunday of the Year
8.00am Mass	Dermot Hill RIP
10.00am Mass	Hilary Barry 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

<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 23409



ANNIVERSARIES Kindly pray for all those whose anniversaries are at this time.

EspeciallyKathleen Thomas, Gerardo Schiavi, Connie McCann, Sharon Blake, Freda Miller, Stella Everitt and Gabriella Prideaux.

May they rest in Peace.

† Please keep Mrs. Maria Woolcott in your prayers. Maria died recently. Please also keep all her family and friends in prayer too. Maria's funeral is to be advised. May Maria 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.

Our Lady help of Christians and St Helen

Our parish will be making our annual pilgrimage to Lourdes Wednesday 15 October 2025 - Saturday 18th October 2025 inclusive staying at the Hotel Grande Moderne, closest to the Sanctuaries. Full board basis. Flying from Stanstead direct to Lourdes (Tarbes). Luxury coach transfers included in France. We have a few spaces available and any of your parishioners would be made very welcome. The price is £650 pp based on two sharing a double room. Excludes travel insurance. Any information please contact me on 07979746707 Sue Baillie

Wednesday Coffee Morning

The next Coffee Morning will take place on September 3rd after the 10.00am Mass. (Apologies for last week's error.) This is in order to give our volunteers a well-earned rest over August.

If you wish to help about once each month, we very much need you, so come along and make yourself known. We'd love to see you.



If you are interested in running a coffee morning after Sunday : 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.

.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

St. Vincent's Centre Southend... is holding an Afternoon Tea at the Roslin Beach Hotel on Monday 8th December at 1.30pm. Tickets are £37.50 and booking is essential. Please email NesperM@svp.org.uk to reserve your place. Various events are also held 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.

Do you have the need for 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: 01702206842 Mob: 07831 558242

Also, a four-wheeled electric Mobility Scooter is looking for a good home. Please contact the Parish Office. Thank you.

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

Christian Aid

Christian Aid thanks the Parish for their prayers and generous support. £256.30 was raised to help families around the world transform their own lives.

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

Knights of Saint Columba Holy Relic Tour

The Knights of Saint Columba are delighted to announce that between Friday 1st August and Sunday 10th August we will be touring the First-Class Holy Relics of St Columba, St Margaret of Scotland and St Andrew throughout the Diocese of Brentwood. Visiting Clacton, Kelvedon, Chelmsford (Blessed Sacrament), Eastwood, Basildon, Brentwood Cathedral, Hornchurch, West Ham, Elm Park and Chingford. The Holy Relics will be available during periods of each day for private prayer and veneration. Next week we will announce the exact timings and venues as we build up to this remarkable opportunity to be close both physically and spiritually to these remarkable saints. For further information please email Liam Rand

prov10.ippgk.liamrand@gmail.com

Ingatestone Hall Tea & Tour

Brentwood Catholic Children's Society is excited to invite you to a special day exploring the beautiful Ingatestone Hall! Join us for a private guided tour led by Lord Petre or his son, giving you a rare glimpse into this stunning 16th-century Grade I listed manor house. The tour lasts about 1½ hours, and afterwards, you'll be treated to tea and cake in the parlour — a lovely way to relax and chat!

Date: Thursday, 11th September

Times: 10.30 am and 12.30 pm (two tour options)

Tickets: £25 per person — you can reserve yours here: <https://eu.jotform.com/form/251772844632361>

Note: Please be aware that access is limited due to the historic nature of the building, which may not be suitable for individuals with mobility challenges

If you'd like more info, please get in touch with Julie: Email: jabbott@bccs.org.uk / 07912277413 and we look forward to welcoming you to Ingatestone Hall for a day of history, hospitality, and stunning architecture.

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. Carrying out financial duties is also required as part of the role.

All applicants should have good administrative and finance skills, although some training will be given.

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 6th August 2025 and suitable applicants will be invited to attend interviews week commencing 18th August 2025.

If you have any queries or if you would like to apply please complete a [Recruitment Application Form](#) and send this to the HR department by email at hr@brcdt.org.

A Massive "Thank You"

Members of the St Vincent de Paul Society (The SVP) would like to thank everyone who came along and supported the Strawberry Tea Party 2025 last Saturday in the Pope John Paul Hall.

Thank you also to those people who made or donated cakes, provided transport, helped in setting up and clearing the Hall, working in the Kitchen and the Bar. Not forgetting Raffles who provided the Music and the popular Sing-a-long.

It was lovely to see everyone enjoying themselves and it proved to be a very Successful afternoon.

I would ask you to keep the SVP in your Prayers so we can continue to carry on our work of supporting those in need.

Pat Rickard,
President

SVP Conference Rayleigh
01702 206842 or Mobile 07831 558242.

ST BERNARD'S HIGH SCHOOL

Learning Mentor – from September 2025

Five days per week, Term Time Only 8.00am-4.00pm

Scale 7-12 (£25,584-£27,711) / **pro rata actual salary £21,933 - £23,757**

An opportunity has arisen for a Learning Mentor to join our Pastoral Team. We are looking for a positive, enthusiastic and approachable professional to work alongside our Learning Mentor Team supporting identified students.

You will be joining a successful, friendly and supportive department within a high-performing school, supporting students from Years 7 – Y13. You will need to be able to work flexibly and provide support, motivation and guidance to help students overcome barriers to their learning.

St Bernard's High School is a vibrant Catholic girl's school from Years 7-11 with a co-educational mixed Sixth Form. Our school is ranked one of the top schools in Southend, and we are in the top 20% of schools across the country for our progress with students and our outcomes. It is a warm and welcoming school where our Catholic values underpin our day-to-day life.

All new staff are supported with the positive ethos of this happy and high performing school, and to this end all staff complete an applicable induction training programme. The community at St Bernard's welcome applications from all faiths or none.

Closing Date: 1 September 2025, 12:00

Interviews: date tbc

The Governing Body is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff to share in this commitment.

If you are interested in becoming part of the team, please fill in a non-teaching application form found on our website under <https://www.stbernardswestcliff.org.uk/about-us/vacancies/> and email it to recruitment@stbernards.southend.sch.uk

MARRIAGE HELP - Retrouvaille helps couples find hope and healing for their marriage. Next date: 17th-19th Oct. www.retrouvaille.org.uk Tel: 0788 7296983



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What Good News Study Day



Vatican II and its Popes

Celebrating sixty years of the Council

The vast majority of Catholics are unaware of the story of Vatican II and its importance. This study day considers the contribution of a series of Popes to the work of the Council. A further study day will be given by Dr Peter de Mey on 11th October addressing the topic 'From Vatican II to a Synodal Church'.

Fr Adrian Graffy is parish priest in East London, and a Member of the Pontifical Biblical Commission.

Saturday 20th September 2025 11 am – 2 pm (10.00-13.00 GMT)

Those interested are invited to attend in person. Tea and coffee will be available in the hall from 10.30. Please bring a packed lunch. Easy access on the Elizabeth Line, five-minute walk to church. Please note that the event will not be live streamed, but will be available after the day free of charge at www.whatgoodnews.org

Catholic Church of Christ the Eternal High Priest

410 Brentwood Road Gidea Park RM2 6DH