

OUR LADY OF RANSOM

28th September 2025 26th Sunday of the Year Psalter Week 2



Jane was busy and successful, flying all over the world. On one of her routine flights, Jane was tired, wanting a little peace and quiet. Waiting for the flight, she decided to find a secluded spot in the airport lounge to read her book. Moments later, an elderly lady came over, sat next to her, and said, "I bet it's cold in Oslo". Uninterested in her chat, Jane replied patronizingly and curtly "I suppose so" and moved her eyes immediately back to her book. Yet all the while the lady kept chatting and asking questions. Jane's answers continued to be curt, blunt and cold. The lady had said that she was going to Oslo to bring back her husband of 53 years who had just died there. Bringing his body home. But Jane was still curt and short. Relief came when they were called to board the plane. While boarding, she saw a young man sit down next to the elderly lady a few rows in front. Jane heard the lady say, "I bet it's cold in Oslo", and the two of them chatted. His compassion for her was evident, strengthening for her impending ordeal.

Jane suddenly realised that she hadn't really noticed the woman's loneliness and sadness, her simple need to chat. Could Jane have engaged and given a lonely, sad, newly widowed lady some dignity and company, so needed, even if just a little? Why didn't Jane notice? Why was her book, and her need not to notice so important to her?

Today we hear about a wealthy man who doesn't notice the poor man's (Lazarus) desperation. We don't know if the wealthy man had actually done anything wrong, just that he didn't care to notice. His desire to not notice is what condemns him. Maybe if he had noticed, he might have cared and acted differently.

Where are the 'Lazaruses' in our lives? Our Lord calls us to see them in the contexts of our daily lives. Maybe someone is desperate and asking for help, the clue may be them saying "I bet it's cold in Oslo". Something on the face of it, completely innocuous. Yet it's a cry to engage, a cry for help, to maybe offer assistance in some small way. Do we engage or are we curt and cold for fear of getting involved? Or we simply can't be bothered. What are we really frightened about?

Can we engage? Are we prepared to? God's kingdom is in the everyday affairs of our lives. "Hidden in plain sight" as theologians say. God is right there. The issues are right there. Maybe, right in front of us. Do we notice? The problems are very often disguised as a 'Lazarus'. Again, Jesus gives us something to seriously ponder. Do we experience God's reality in our everyday lives? Do we truly notice the issues and problems going on, in and around us, and engage? Maybe we are a part of God's answer....

Is someone saying - 'I bet it's cold in Oslo...'

1st Reading: Amos 6: 1a, 4-7

Psalms: 146: 7.8-9a. 9b-10

2nd Reading: 1 Timothy 6:11-16

Gospel: Luke 21: 19-31



MASS INTENTIONS	
Saturday 27th September	St. Vincent de Paul
5.30pm Mass	SVP Conference Members (Ints) - SVP
Sunday 28th September	26th Sunday of the Year (Harvest Sunday)
8.00am Mass	Parish Community
10.00am Mass	Maria and Gerardo Schiavi RIP – Fiorella Schiavi
Monday 29th September	St. Michael, Gabriel and Raphael, Archangels
<u>11.30am Mass</u>	Requiem Mass – Kathleen Smart RIP
Tuesday 30th September	St. Jerome
9.30am Mass	Alice Allso RIP
Wednesday 1st October	St. Theresa of the Child Jesus (Therese of Lisieux)
10.00am Mass	James Rickards RIP – Pat and Mary Rickard
Thursday 2nd October	The Holy Guardian Angels
<u>12.00am Mass</u>	Requiem Mass – Steve Howland RIP
Friday 3rd October	
9.30am Mass	Patricia Herlihy RIP (Anniversary) – Eithne and Una
Saturday 4th October	St. Francis of Assisi
5.30pm Mass	Jenny Danino RIP – Maria Amey
Sunday 5th September	27th Sunday of the Year
8.00am Mass	Habib Khoury 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

<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.....

May they rest in Peace.

† Please remember Kathleen Smart in your prayers. Kathleen, who used to be a member of our Parish, died recently. Kathleen's Requiem Mass will be on September 29th at 11.30am. May she rest in peace. †

† Please also remember in your prayer Steven Howland who died recently. We also keep in prayer his wife, Samantha, and his young children Caiden and Elodie. Steve's Requiem Mass will be on October 2nd at 12 noon. May he rest in peace. †

† Please also remember Patrick Reidy in your prayers who died this week. Please also keep Marie, Caroline and all the family in prayer too. Patrick's Requiem Mass will be on October 9th at 12.30pm. May he rest in peace. †

† We remember and pray for James Rickards who died last week. Please also keep Carol, Mary, Trevor and all the family in prayer. The funeral is to be confirmed. May James 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.

RCIA. Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults. A programme where all are welcome to come along and learn more about what it means to be a Catholic Christian. We started last Monday 22nd September in the Bethany Room – there is of course time if you wish to join. We meet normally on a Monday evening at 8pm.

Perhaps you are completely new to Christianity, or maybe you left the Church as a younger person and now want to return to the Catholic faith. Alternatively, you may just want to informally ask questions to deepen your understanding.

Whatever your circumstances, you are welcome to come along and learn more about what it means to be a Catholic Christian.

Please come along to find out more. You do not have to make any commitments at this point. However, if you are not part of the Catholic tradition, and you decide during the programme you would like to commit yourself to the Catholic faith, you may be received into the Catholic Church at Easter in April 2026.

Pope John Paul 11 Hall Bookings -

Please contact Paul Roseman on 07470 691902 for any Hall Booking requests, thank you.

Wheelchairs and Strollers: Do you have any unwanted or no longer needed? Or any walking aids? Until recently we had a supply for people to take and use as needed. They are now all taken. If you have any that you are happy to donate, please let us know by calling the Parish Office. 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 be on Wednesday, October 1st after the 10.00am Mass.

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

Sunday Coffee Morning Coffee Morning-

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.



Children's Liturgy

Children's Liturgy started again last Sunday 14th September, at 10am mass, for children aged 3 years old to school year 6) There are 2 groups - preschool to school year 2, and school years 3-6).

Parents are welcome to settle the youngest children coming for the first few times, aiming towards them coming independently.

Children do not need to bring anything to the session- any materials needed will be provided. (If your child has special needs, please make leaders aware beforehand - we welcome everyone!)

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

*The Knights of St Columba are organising a **QUIZ NIGHT** on **SATURDAY 4TH OCTOBER** at **7.30pm** in the Pope John Paul II Hall. Please bring your own drinks and snacks.*

*The Legion of Mary in our parish is holding their annual "September Function" on **Sunday 12th October** at **2pm** in the **Bethany Room**. This is really Our Lady's birthday party as it is held by Legionaries on or near the feast day of Our*

Lady's birthday (8th Sept) but, for various reasons, 12th October is the nearest date we could hold the function. It will comprise Legion Rosary and prayers, afternoon tea, general chat and maybe a couple of items of entertainment/stories/poems... Active and Auxiliary members are invited and also any other interested parishioners. Perhaps if you would like to come, you would let Isobel Kennedy know (for catering purposes). 07795 821705.

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.

Missio Red Boxes

If you have a Missio Red Box at home, it is now time for collection. If your box is normally collected by one of our promoters, they will be in touch with you soon, but if your box hasn't been collected for some time, please let me know - we have fewer promoters than previously, but I will make sure to arrange collection.

You can also bring your boxes to hand to me (usually 5.30 pm Mass) or leave in the Sacristy or back of the church for my attention. Any queries, please contact me - Katherine Abel 0790 6844 284 email warren_katherine@hotmail.com

Thank you for your ongoing and generous support to the important work of Missio. God Bless.



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

Brentwood Catholic Youth Service – Jubilee Youth Mass

On Thursday 2nd October, Youth Mass will be celebrated with Bishop Alan at Brentwood Cathedral, following a talk from the Donal Walsh #livelife foundation starting from 6:30pm.

All young people around the Diocese are very welcome to join – there is no need to book, but please do let us know if you'd like to bring a group.

Get in touch at info@bcys.net for more information.

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

Brentwood Catholic Youth Service – Youth Gather, 25th – 26th October

Youth Gather is a weekend of faith, fun and friendship – with speakers, workshops, prayer and outdoor activities, meeting friends old and new, and all while sharing in and celebrating our Catholic faith. There will be coaches offering transport from around the Diocese included in the cost, as well as all meals, cabin accommodation and activities. This event is for year 9 and above. Apply now at www.bcys.net/events

Brentwood Catholic Youth Service – Catechist Training & Resources Day 2025, Saturday 8th November 2025

Open to all confirmation and first holy communion catechists, youth leaders, and children's liturgy coordinators in the Diocese of Brentwood.

The day offers formation, practical workshops, inspiring speakers, and networking to support First Holy Communion and Confirmation programmes.

Open to adults and young leaders (16+); full details and booking at www.bcys.net/events/catechists2025

The SVP Conference ,Rayleigh

September Awareness Month

The Month of September is the Awareness Month for the SVP.

The Feast Day of St Vincent de Paul is on Saturday 27th September,
We will celebrate with Mass at 5.30pm.

The SVP will be hosting a Coffee Morning after 10AM
Mass on Sunday 21st September.

Could I please draw your attention to the Food Bank donations Box in the Church entrance. The Food Bank is at present receiving a reduction in donations of surplus foods from Supermarkets and individuals mainly due to the economic climate.

So, if you can contribute in any way, no matter how small, this will help those families who are struggling to make ends meet.

You have always given the SVP great support and I am sure you will continue to do so.

The members of the SVP Rayleigh will be wearing lanyards during the Month of September to make Parishioners aware of them as you May wish to learn more about the SVP work.
Speak to them about any problems or concerns with strictest confidence.

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

Thank you all once again.

Pat Rickard,
President
SVP Conference Rayleigh

Artificial Intelligence and Catholic Social Teaching

AI is a new, exciting, and fast developing tool that is being used in most aspects of society. But are there drawbacks of this new technology that contradict the moral teachings of the Church? Join us on Thursday 9th October 2025 in Sacred Heart Church Hall as we discuss AI through the perspective of Catholic Social Teaching - the positives, the negatives, and what it could mean for the future of humanity. Please contact southend@brcdt.org if you have any questions. Please also see the article at the end of the newsletter from the Bishops' Conference

St Thomas More Alumni LAST EVER Annual Dinner - Saturday 11th October

After 27 years the organisation for former pupils and staff members of St Thomas More High School in Westcliff has decided to hold one last Annual Dinner. It will take place in the school on Saturday 11th October. Guest Speaker will be Tony McDonald (headteacher 1981-85) and the cost for a four-course meal will be £30. Full details are available on the Alumni website: www.stmalumni.co.uk

ST BERNARD'S HIGH SCHOOL YEAR 6 OPEN MORNINGS

Monday 29 September to Thursday 2 October, Monday 6 October, Wednesday 8 October and Thursday 9 October from 9.30am to 10.30am

*Invitation by appointments only, please contact the school reception to book on Office@stbernards.southend.sch.uk
Tel: 01702 343583*

Silent Weekend Retreat "Be Holy, for I am holy" at Sion Catholic Community, Brentwood.

Dates: Friday 10th - Sunday 12th October 2025.

Our theme focuses on the universal call to holiness. We are ALL called to be saints whatever rank or status. We may assume that this is a vocation reserved to the chosen few without understanding that each and every one of us is called to be holy and live a life of holiness. But what does living a life of holiness mean? How can we embrace this call and learn to live it as a reality?

Our guest speaker for the weekend is Fr Emmanuel Mansford, CFR (Franciscan Friars of the Renewal). This silent weekend retreat offers us the opportunity to spend time with the Lord in quiet prayer and reflection. 40-HOURS of CONTINUOUS Adoration, guidance & ministry included. For more information or to book, visit <https://sioncommunity.org.uk/adults/#SilentRetreat> or email admin@sioncommunity.org.uk

Brentwood Ursuline Convent High School

Our **Open Evening** will take place on **Thursday 25th September, from 6.30pm to 9.00pm**, and we will also be holding two **Open Mornings on the 2nd and 3rd October**.

Additionally, if any of your parishioners have children currently attending schools in **Wickford, Billericay, Rayleigh or South Woodham Ferrers**, we would like to hear from them if they are potentially interested in a **new school bus route** covering these areas. Further information and a **Notice of Interest** form will be available at our open events.

To book a place on one of the Open Mornings, parents can visit our **Eventbrite page** via our website

ST BERNARD'S HIGH SCHOOL

Exam Invigilators – September 2025

Hourly rate: £12.50

The School is looking to recruit Exam Invigilators to join its bank of staff who oversee examinations in the School. Full training will be provided.

We welcome applications from all denominations or none.

Please complete a non-teaching application form which can be found at the bottom of our Vacancies page and email it to recruitment@stbernards.southend.sch.uk.

Note: CVs will not be accepted.

Please contact recruitment@stbernards.southend.sch.uk for more information

Other Education Vacancies

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

Deadline for applications: 12:00 (noon), 29th September 2025

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

Deadline for applications: 15:00, Tuesday 30th September 2025

[Headteacher - St Mary's Primary School, Hornchurch](#)

Deadline for applications: 17:00, Monday 6th October 2025

[KS2 Class Teacher and Phase Leader – St Mary's Primary School, Chingford](#)

Deadline for applications: 17:00, Wednesday 6th October 2025

[Headteacher – Holy Family Catholic Primary School, Benfleet](#)

Deadline for applications: 09:00 Wednesday 15th October 2025



St Vincent's
a place of help, hope and opportunity

Food Donations needed

UHT Milk	Tea, Sugar &
Pasta sauces	Coffee
Tinned Meat	Jams & Spreads
Mayo	Tins of veggie
Butter	food (macaroni
Nappies	cheese/ veggie
Wet wipes	ravioli etc)
Crisps/ biscuits	Tinned Tomato
Tuna Crackers	Cereal
Pot Noodles	Pasta
Instant Noodles	Toiletries

St Vincent's Centre, Victoria Business Park, Short Street, SS2 5BY, Phone: 01702592980
Email: nesperm@svp.org.uk
Charity No: 1053992

