

OUR LADY OF RANSOM

26th October 2025 30th Sunday of the Year Psalter Week 2



Being punched on the nose is not nice! So it was when Jack, a heavily built man lost the plot and I happened to be there. Nose bleeds and bruises. I suspect it was partly because he was unable to name and address the turmoil going on in his heart and head. His girl-friend had just left him. It really was nothing to do with me. Unable to deal with his anger, he projected it on to me. Should I have hit back? No! Should I have prosecuted Jack or complained? No! Why? Because Jack was a man with serious mental health challenges at several levels. He wasn't really to blame. If I was to be blamed in any way, maybe it was because I was in the wrong place at the wrong time!

It's difficult to say whether Jack could have articulated the angry and confused demons deep down that he felt threatened by, which led to his outburst. Demons such as judgement, accusation, criticism, bitterness, jealousy, envy and so on. When not addressed, we know that they can, at least eventually, lead to monstrous behaviours. The name of the game is to name and acknowledge them. Identify and articulate them. Once we do, we *take control of them*. We have *authority over them*. Otherwise, they control us. These emotions direct our lives. Who wants it? We see only too often the results of years of denial, pretending they are not real. All been repressed. Monsters festering within, waiting to explode.

Hence our beautiful Sacrament of Reconciliation. A chance to articulate them in sacred space, so we take authority over these demons within, and they in turn lose their power and control over us.

Jesus is re-defining holiness as not the absence of these demons but admitting them. It's what made our Saints so great. Being radically honest about ourselves – the good and the not-so-good living within. So simple yet can be so hard. To look honestly at the good, and not-so-good, living within us becomes real humility. We become humble. In other words, humility is ultimately honesty. We neither exaggerate nor minimize what's going on within, but honestly accept what is. Not what "ought" to be, not what we "want" things to be, but what is. To see things as they "really" are, that in turn, may (or may not) call us to change.

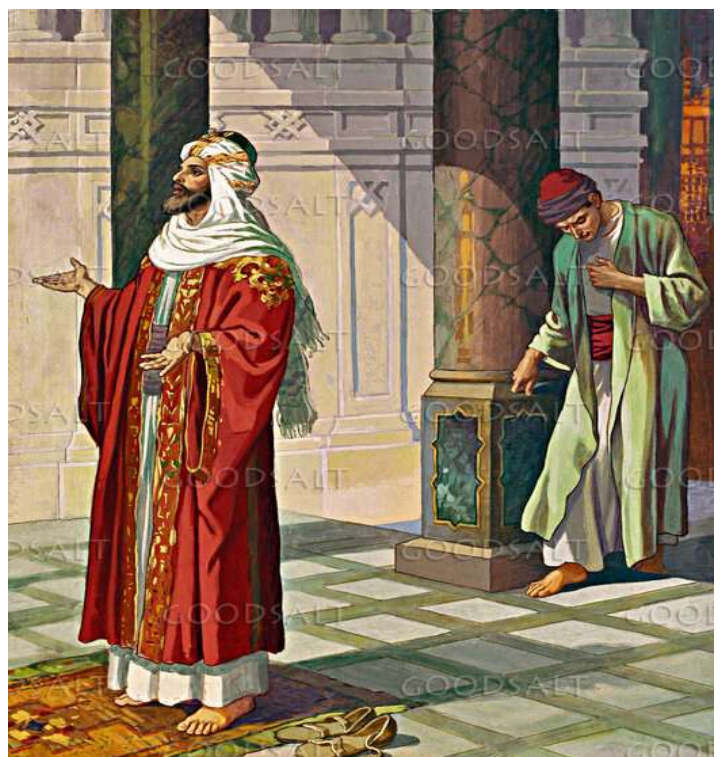
The 'good' Pharisee, self-righteous and arrogant, does not see anything negative within. Like a 'good' catholic, keeps rules, gives to the poor, fasts. Does all the "right" things. The 'good' Pharisee looks down on the wicked tax collector. Do we look down on anyone? Actions scorned by Jesus! Yet the despised tax collector is radically self-honest, naming and acknowledging the truth living within. He becomes justified. That's all God wants from us. Self-honesty. Humility. Then, we too are justified, and experience being set free. Isn't that worth it?

1st Reading: Sirach 35: 15b-17, 20-22b

Psalm: 34: 2-3. 17-18. 19, 23

2nd Reading: 2 Timothy 4: 6-8, 16-18

Gospel: Luke 18: 9-14



MASS INTENTIONS	
Saturday 25th October	
5.30pm Mass	James Rickards RIP – Lorna Warren
Sunday 26th October	30th Sunday of the Year
8.00am Mass	Parish Community
10.00am Mass	Mary Rickards (Ints) – The Corr Family
Monday 27th October	
9.30am Mass	Michael and John Healy RIP – Rita Gurney
Tuesday 28th October	SS. Simon and Jude
9.30am Mass	Kathleen Tyler RIP – Esther Thomas
Wednesday 29th October	
10.00am Mass	Mrs. Emma Lucibello RIP – Susan and Damian Lucibello (Annniversary)
Thursday 30th October	
9.30am Mass	Jean Pye RIP – Mathew Thomas
Friday 31st October	
9.30am Mass	Paul Gurney RIP – Rita Gurney
Saturday 1st November	
5.30pm Mass	Prayer Board Intentions
Sunday 2nd November	All Saints
8.00am Mass	Parish Community
10.00am Mass	James Rickards RIP – Eileen McSweeney

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	<u>Public Mass times:</u> Saturdays 5.30pm Sundays 8am & 10.00am Mondays & Tuesdays 9.30am Wednesdays 10.00am Thursdays & Fridays 9.30am
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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 2340



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

Especially: Molly Walmsley and Margaret Heath.

May they rest in Peace.

† Please keep Robert Kauders in your prayers. Robert, formerly of our parish died recently. His funeral will be on November 19th at 12.30pm. The funeral will be conducted by Fr. Joseph Whisstock, (Parish Priest of Frinton). Please also keep Margaret and the family in prayer too. May Robert 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

Copies of the newsletter are placed on the noticeboard inside the church porch, and parts of the newsletter inside the noticeboard outside the church. Please leave these as they are so as others may see them for quick reference. 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.

Operation Christmas Child - Shoebox Appeal: If you would like to take part to help a struggling child have a decent Christmas, please leave your packed shoeboxes outside the Presbytery **THE LATEST NOVEMBER 16th**, so as they can be collected by the 17th. (Any that arrive after the 16th will be disposed of).

Leaflets available in the church porch as a simple guide in how and what to do.
Thank you.

Alternatively....

you can make your donations through Catholic Women's League, Westcliff! Donate by 10th November! CWL Westcliff are willing to fill the shoeboxes online from donations. The cost per box is £25 so if that is too much in these difficult times you can make a donation of any amount and we will fill the shoeboxes for you up to the amount raised. You can donate, however small or big the amount and make the payment direct to our section account. If you would like to make a donation, please pay to Catholic Women's League CIO Westcliff section; Sort code 30-98-90; account number 18096960; Reference Shoebox. Thank you for your support and remember what a difference this makes to the children receiving these boxes all over the world. Here is the link if you would like to donate directly <https://www.samaritans-purse.org.uk/what-we-do/operation-christmas-child/shoebox-online>

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 on 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.

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

Wednesday Coffee Morning

The next Coffee Morning will be on Wednesday, October 29th after the 10.00am Mass.

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



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



There will be a coffee morning on Sunday 2nd November hosted by the Knights of St Columba.

Children's Liturgy

Children's Liturgy 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!)

Repository. Christmas is on the way. Advent Calendars are on sale. Boxes of 18 cards- £4.25. Packs of 12 and 10 cards respectively, plus single cards are available. All very reasonable prices. Also, cards and gift items for Confirmation.

Christmas Eve Family Mass-we are looking for adult volunteers to assist with organising costumes and practice. If you enjoy participating in the Christmas Eve family mass, please consider volunteering (ahead) to join a small group and help share a little of the preparation! Everyone is busy at that time of year, so the more it can be shared the better for everybody! Please message 07801 888787 if you can help a little or have any questions! 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.

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.

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

VACANCY – St Peter's Catholic Primary School, Billericay are seeking to appoint an enthusiastic and motivated Learning Support Assistant to join our team.

For more information about the position and to apply, please visit:-

<https://www.essexschoolsjobs.co.uk/Vacancies/Details.aspx?VacancyId=114330>

Closing date is Midday on 10th November 2025

Visits to the school are welcomed and can be arranged by contacting the school office by phone 01277 653770 or email on admin@st-peters-pri.essex.sch.uk

Our Lady Immaculate School, Chelmsford. Required from 1st April 2026. L15-L21 (starting salary based on experience). NOR: 218.

Governors are seeking to appoint a dedicated and inspirational Head Teacher who is a committed, practicing Catholic. We are looking for someone who shares our vision and passion and has the leadership and ambition to build on the successes of our school. Our new Head Teacher will be well-supported by all stakeholders and will have the benefit of a close network of colleagues in the CMAT who really enjoy working together.

Deadline for applications: 12:00 noon on Thursday 20th November 2025. We warmly welcome and encourage applicants to visit our school. Please speak with the Admin & Finance Officer, Lindsey Murgatroyd for more information. For an Application Pack please email: lindsey.murgatroyd@ourladyimmaculate.essex.sch.uk

Headteacher vacancy at Holy Family Catholic Primary School, Benfleet, Essex, required for April 2026 – Due to the current headteacher taking the decision to retire from the post, an exciting opportunity has arisen for an inspirational, ambitious and innovative Headteacher to join the team at Holy Family Catholic Primary School. Further information and application documents can be found on the following websites – [HFCPS Website - Job Vacancies](#) and [Vacancies – Assisi Catholic Trust](#).

Brentwood Diocese Interfaith:

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To mark the 60th anniversary of the Declaration of the Second Vatican Council 'Nostra Aetate', you are warmly invited to a talk entitled "God of All People" – an interfaith event celebrating dialogue, understanding, and unity among faith communities. This special gathering brings people of different faiths together and asks how the Catholic Church views the people of other faiths. The main speaker will be Fr. Adrian Graffy and the talk will be given on **Wednesday October 29** at 7pm – 8:30pm at St. Edward's Primary School Meeting Room, Green Street, Upton Park London E13 9AX. There are limited parking spaces both at the Church and school car parks in Upton Park. The school is walking distance from Upton Park tube station. Kindly email your attendance by **Friday 24th October** to frbritoalevendran@brcdt.org

Caritas Event

All welcome at a Caritas event on "What is Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking?" with the Santa Marta Group at St Edward the Confessor Catholic Church Hall, Romford, RM1 4AT on 6 Nov from 6pm to 8pm. Sign up at <https://CARITAS-SM-25.eventbrite.co.uk>









Got pipes? We've got pews!

Choir Needs You (Yes, You!)

We rehearse most Thursdays at 7:30 pm for about an hour ,
just enough time to feel holy and hit a high note.

We sing hymns and heavenly hits by Mozart, Bach, Bruckner, Mendelssohn, Esquivel, and more.

We only sing twice a month, so your social life is safe.

Basses, tenors, and altos :we're especially after you.

Sopranos, we love you too, but you're not an endangered species.

CONTACT THE BATON DIVA:
ISOBEL KENNEDY
07795 821705





ST BERNARD'S SIXTH FORM

OPEN EVENING
THURSDAY 4TH DECEMBER 2025

FROM 6.30PM TO 8.30PM
Headteacher's Talk @ 6:45PM

View our facilities and speak with teachers and staff
about our courses and the opportunities we offer.

We offer a large range of subjects achieving excellent
results including GEOGRAPHY, HISTORY, MATHS, MEDIA
STUDIES, PSYCHOLOGY, SOCIOLOGY, BIOLOGY,
HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE, CHEMISTRY, AND PHYSICS



To register your interest in our Open Evening
please scan the QR Code

**LOVE ONE ANOTHER
AS I HAVE LOVED YOU**

St Bernard's High School, Milton Road,
Westcliff-on-Sea, Essex, SS0 7JS

T 01702 343583 | E office@stbernards.southend.sch.uk

*Pupils work hard in lessons and their behaviour in
class is focused and engaged. OFSTED 2023*

The Brentwood Ursuline Sixth Form Open Evening.

**SIXTH FORM
OPEN EVENING**



**THURSDAY 6TH NOVEMBER
6.30PM - 8.30PM**

HEADTEACHER'S TALK AT 6.30PM



**CO-EDUCATIONAL
BRAND NEW FACILITIES 2026**



St Vincent's

a place of help, hope and opportunity

Food Donations needed

UHT Milk

Pasta sauces

Tinned Meat

Mayo

Butter

Nappies

Wet wipes

Crisps/ biscuits

Tuna Crackers

Pot Noodles

Instant Noodles

Tea, Sugar &

Coffee

Jams & Spreads

Tins of veggie

food (macaroni

cheese/ veggie

ravioli etc)

Tinned Tomato

Cereal

Pasta

Toiletries

St Vincent's Centre, Victoria Business Park, Short
Street, SS2 5BY, Phone: 01702592980

Email: nesperm@svp.org.uk

Charity No: 1053992



ST VINCENT'S CENTRE, SOUTHEND
**Christmas Hamper
Appeal 2025**

**Join Us To Lift Families Up
This Christmas**

This Christmas we will be supporting many families with hampers. These are the items we need to create a hamper for a family in need.

- **Pasta**
- **Chocolate spread or jar of jam**
- **Packet of cream crackers**
- **Packet of sweets/biscuits**
- **UHT milk**
- **Jar of instant coffee**
- **Bottle of ketchup**
- **Cereal**
- **Mince pies**
- **Christmas crackers**
- **Tins of custard**
- **Jar/packet instant hot chocolate**
- **Jar of pasta sauce**
- **Gravy granules**
- **£10 voucher – Tesco, Sainsburys or Lidl**

Last donations 15th December 2025

**Unit 9, Victoria Business Park, Short Street, SS2 5BY
Charity No: 1053992**

ST VINCENT'S CENTRE
INVITES YOU TO
Afternoon Tea

AT
THE ROSLIN BEACH HOTEL
MONDAY 8TH DECEMBER 2025

1:30PM

£37.50 PER PERSON

(ADVISE DIETARY REQUIREMENTS WHEN BOOKING)



To Book Contact Phone: 07549128877

Email: nesperm@svp.org.uk

Charity No: 1053992

