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OUR LADY OF RANSOM

5th April 2026 Easter Sunday -The Resurrection (A) Psalter Week 1



Resurrection is truth, - ideas and intellect can never be adequate - it needs experiencing, not explaining, we need to know and experience Resurrection – NOW -for ourselves. As new transformed people. Consider the following poem (I dare you not to be moved).

Her hair tied up in a ponytail, her favourite dress tied with a bow, today was Daddy's Day at school, and she couldn't wait to go. But her mummy tried to tell her that she ought to stay at home, why the kids might not understand, if she went to school alone. But she was not afraid; she knew just what to say. What to tell her classmates why he wasn't there today. But still her mother worried; for her to face this day alone, and so once again she tried, to keep her daughter home. But our little friend ran off to school, eager to tell them all, about a dad she never sees, a dad who never calls. There were daddies lining the back wall, for everyone to meet; children fidgeting impatiently, anxious in their seats. One by one, the teacher called, a student from the class, to introduce their daddy, as seconds slowly passed.

At last the teacher called her name, every child turned to stare. Each of them was searching for a man who wasn't there. "Where is her daddy at?" she heard a boy call out. "She probably doesn't have one" another dared to shout. And from somewhere near the back, she heard a daddy say, "looks like another low-life dad, too busy to waste his day". The words did not offend her as she smiled up at her mum. She looked back at the teacher, who told her to go on. And with hands behind her back, she slowly began to speak, and out from the mouth of a little child, came words incredibly unique.

"My Daddy couldn't be here, as he lives so far away. But I know he wishes he could be, for this special day. And though you cannot meet him, I want you all to know, all about my daddy, and how much he loves me so. He loved to tell me stories, he taught me to ride my bike, he surprised me with pink roses, and taught me to fly a kite. We used to share fudge sundaes, and ice creams in a cone, and though you cannot see him, I'm not standing here alone. 'Cos my daddy's always with me, even though we're far apart, I know because he told me, he'll be forever in my heart". With that her little hand reached up, and lay across her chest. Feeling her own heartbeat, beneath her favourite dress. And from somewhere in the crowd of dads, her mother stood in tears. Proudly watching her little daughter, wise beyond her years.

She stood up for the love, of a man not in her life, doing what was best for her, and doing what was right. And when she dropped her hand back down, she stared into the crowd, and finished with a voice so soft, with a message clear and loud. "I love my daddy very much, he is my shining star, and if he could he'd be here, but heaven's just too far. You see, he is a soldier who died in this past year, when a roadside bomb hit him, and taught us all to fear. But sometimes when I close my eyes, it's like he never went away". Then she closed her eyes and saw him there that day. And to her mum's amazement, she witnessed with surprise, a room full of daddies and children, beginning to close their eyes. Who knows what they saw before them, or what they felt inside, perhaps for just a second, they saw him at her side. "I know you're with me daddy", to the silence she called out, and then what happened next, made believers of those who doubt. No-one could explain it, for all eyes had been closed, but on the desk beside her was a fragrant pink stemmed rose. A child was blessed for just a moment, by the love of a shining star, and given the gift of faith, that heaven's never too far. (Unknown)



1st Reading: Acts 10: 34a, 37-43

Psalm:118: -1-2, 16-17.22-23

2nd Reading 1 Corinthians 5:6b-8 Gospel: John 20: 1-9

MASS INTENTIONS	
Holy Saturday 4th April	Holy Saturday
<u>8.00pm Easter Vigil Mass</u>	RCIA Candidates (Ints)
Sunday 5th April	Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of Our Lord
8.00am Mass	Parish Community
10.00am Mass	Emma Louise Lucibello RIP – Susan and Damian Lucibello
Monday 6th April	Easter Monday
<u>12.00pm Mass</u>	Greta Sewell Callow RIP – Melanie Graham
Tuesday 7st April	Easter Tuesday
9.30am Mass	Mae Holland RIP – Rita Gurney
Wednesday 8th April	Easter Wednesday
10.00am Mass	Marie Griffin RIP – Helen Cooper
Thursday 9th April	Easter Thursday
9.30 Mass	Mgr. Peter Leeming RIP
Friday 10th April	Easter Friday
9.30 Mass	Marie Griffin RIP – Shelagh Mesher
Saturday 11th April	Easter Saturday
5.30pm Mass	Jack and Margaret Nelson RIP (Anniversary) – Joan Gardiner
Sunday 12th April	2nd Sunday of Easter (Divine Mercy Sunday)
8.00am Mass	Parish Community
10.00am Mass	Marie Griffin RIP – Maria, Margaret, Mary and Victoria

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 Elizabeth Fallaize and Joseph McWilliams. **May they rest in Peace.**

A big welcome to all our guests, friends and families of our regular parishioners over this Easter period; everyone, please have a very safe and Happy Easter filled with much grace and many blessings.

† **Marie Griffin.** Marie's Requiem Mass will be held here in Our Lady of Ransom Church at **11:00am on Thursday, 23rd April.** Her body will be brought into church at 4:30pm the previous day. The Requiem will be followed by committal at Southend Crematorium in the South Chapel at 12:30pm. May Marie rest in peace. †

I sincerely thank you for the many kind messages and condolences received, and Mass requests, following the death of my beloved wife, Marie. We, my daughter and son, Clare and Mark, have been deeply touched by your loving sentiments. After the service, you are welcome to join us at The Rayleigh Lodge, 70 The Chase, Rayleigh, SS6 8RW. God bless you all. **Colin Griffin**

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 full newsletter is 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.

Please note: Mass on Easter Monday is at 12.00pm

Pope John Paul 2nd Hall Bookings –

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

Easter Flowers: in loving memories of Tom and Pat Herlihy; Pauline Burgess, Michael Pearson, Emma-Louise Lucibello, Walenty Krolkowski, John Warren.....

Donations towards the cost of flowers to decorate the Church at Easter would be gratefully received.

If you wish to donate in remembrance of a loved one, please write the name on an envelope, together with your name and donation and post through the presbytery letter box. There are envelopes available in the church porch. 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. We have a small supply of aids currently. If you have any that you are happy to donate, please let us know by calling the Parish Office. Thank you.

Wednesday Coffee Morning

The next Wednesday Coffee morning will be on the 1st April 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 -

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.

Easter Raffle. The Knights of St. Columba are organising this coffee morning this Easter Sunday after the 10am Mass, during which the Easter raffle will be drawn.



Well done young Emily Abel for organising the Coffee morning last Sunday morning.

Well over £100 was raised for Brain Tumour Research, in honour of Emily's dad. Well done and congratulations Emily.

Our Lady of Ransom Parish Pilgrimage to Knock & Co. Mayo Ireland

Monday 6th July to Friday 10th July 2026

You are very welcome to join Fr. Paul and fellow pilgrims on our five-day Parish Pilgrimage to Knock & County Mayo. July is fast approaching, so please consider joining us. As well as spending three days in

Knock, we will also be visiting Ballintubber Abbey, Kylemore Abbey, Croagh Patrick, and the Fr. Peyton Centre (with lunch provided). We will be staying at the Castlecourt Hotel in Westport, although a 45-minute drive from Knock, provides a four-course dinner each night, a bar and evening entertainment. Flights are from Stanstead Airport with an early morning outbound flight and early evening return. Price £899 per person based on two people sharing. Package includes flight with 10kg check-in luggage; four nights dinner, bed & breakfast; all entertainment, excursions and guided tours. For further information and to register your interest, please contact: Shirley Hegewald email: shirley.hegewald16@gmail.com mobile: 07900 396256

Repository – Easter cards are now on sale. There are also various items available for First Holy Communion gifts.

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.

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

Legion of Mary

The Legion of Mary meets every Tuesday at 7pm in the Bethany Room. We visit sick and housebound parishioners, the lapsed and those unable to attend church regularly. Our mission is to support the spiritual needs of individuals through personal contact and encourage them to participate in the sacraments and the community life of the Church. We are looking for new members who have a devotion to Our Lady and are willing to volunteer two hours each week for this purpose. Alternatively, as an Auxiliary member you could support us spiritually through prayer and daily devotion to Our Lady. To find out more, please contact Shirley Tel: 07900 396256. If you know anyone who would appreciate a visit from the Legion of Mary, please get in contact.

"Knights of St Columba – Youth Invitation to Our Lady of Ransom Youth Group Meeting

The Knights of St Columba warmly invite the young people of our parish (ages 16–18) the second youth event on Sunday 29th March from 16:00 to 17:00, in the Bethany room at OLOR.

This gathering will give our young people the chance to get to know one another and to help shape the activities and events of this new youth group for the year ahead."

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.

that they have felt it an enormous privilege to be invited and to be part of a celebration in the Cathedral, perhaps for the first time in their lives!

MARRIAGE SUPPORT: From relationships that are 'Just in a Rut', needing some refreshment or more serious issues - If you are open to try again – Retrouvaille could be the solution. We have helped thousands of couples get their relationship back on track as they rediscovered hope and trust in the marriage. To find out more:

www.retrouvaille.org.uk [+44 797 338 0443](tel:+447973380443)

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

Missio Red Boxes

For any enquiries re Missio red boxes, please contact Katherine Abel 0790 6844284 warren_katherine@hotmail.com, thank you for your continued support

NATIONAL MARRIAGE WEEK: Please pray for all those living out the vocation to marriage and couples preparing to marry. Support is available for those who need it, and your parish priest can point you in the right direction. If you are celebrating a significant anniversary this year, please let your parish know so that you can be invited to the Mass of Thanksgiving in the Cathedral on Saturday 11th July.

Bereavement Group Westcliff RC Church, Our Lady and Saint Helen

**2nd Saturday of the month, 10.00 AM to 12.00PM,
at the parish's small hall.**

St John Bosco Children's Camp – an amazing volunteer opportunity for this summer. If you are in school year 12 or student age (or any age over 17!) you are very welcome to apply at www.boscocamp.co.uk. The application process includes references and a DBS check, which we can help with, as well as a training and support before and during Camp. The Camp provides over 100 children a week with a summer holiday – for many their only holiday. As a volunteer you use your skills in assisting with different sporting and fun activities, as well as the practical aspects of camp life. **Volunteer for 25th July – 1st August or 1st – 8th August.** The Camp is a special work of Caritas Diocese of Brentwood, and also seeks financial donations – all information on the website.

Following the success of **Flame 2025**, we are delighted to be preparing for **Flame 2027** – a fantastic event for young people in Years 10–13 (ages 15–18).

Flame brings together inspiring speakers, award-winning musicians and Catholic organisations, and concludes with Adoration led by the Bishops of England and Wales, offering young people a powerful experience of the Church.

You can find all information regarding this event on the attached letter.

If you wish to bring a group from your Parish or partnership, please request your earlybird tickets here:

<https://forms.office.com/e/KTevSZwGQH>

Commissioned. Calling men of all ages and states of life: book your place at 'Commissioned', the National Men's Pro-life Conference, on April 18th at Birmingham Christian College. Through compelling talks on fatherhood, marriage, post-abortion healing, spiritual warfare and sexual responsibility, learn to live out your vocation with humility, courage and integrity. For more info including speakers or to book your place go to <https://www.marchforlife.co.uk/commissioned-pro-life-mens-conference/> or contact info@marchforlife.co.uk

Youth.

World Youth Day 2027 (Seoul, South Korea)

We have an initial group preparing to attend. There is still time to nominate a young person (aged 19+ by August 2027). Further details are available on our website.

Youth Mass

There will be **no Youth Mass in April** due to this falling on Maundy Thursday, so we are encouraging young people to attend their own parish Masses.

The next Youth Mass will take place on Thursday 7th May, which you are very welcome to attend. Please do just send us a quick message if you are planning to bring a group, to assist with catering arrangements.

Diocesan Walsingham Pilgrimage – Saturday 23rd May

Representatives from the BCYS will be joining the Diocesan Pilgrimage to Walsingham, and we would like to invite other young people to join and assist with the liturgy. Please contact us if interested.

Flame 2027 – Saturday 6th March, OVO Wembley Arena

Almost 1,000 young people from the Diocese are already registered. A limited number of early bird tickets (£30) remain available. To book, please complete the form:

<https://forms.office.com/e/KTevSZwGQH>

Walsingham House Team Applications

Applications are now open for those finishing Year 13 or university who are interested in a year of volunteering at Walsingham House.

For further information, please email clairebailey@brcdt.org.

Primary School Vacancy

Click on vacancy to take you to the advert

[Deputy Headteacher – St Mary's Catholic Primary School, Tilbury](#)

Deadline for application: 12:00 noon Friday 10th April 2026



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



TRAIN AS A RELATIONSHIP COUNSELLOR



Would you like train in relationship counselling and provide couples with professional, effective support, that makes a real difference?

BENEFITS:

Enjoy full training with certified trainers, ongoing supervision and CPD, and become part of a community of like-minded relationship professionals within a historic and diverse organisation.

Our next **Certificate in Relationship Counselling (CRC)** training course will begin in March 2027 with a **deadline of 30th June** for applications.

Marriage Care believe that supporting couple relationships is a matter of social justice. Our relationship counsellors enable those in need to access professional counselling – regardless of their ability to pay – by providing two counselling sessions per week on a voluntary basis.

We are looking for those who are **empathetic, understanding** and have an **enthusiasm for supporting adult relationships**. Whilst you do not need experience as a counsellor for this role, **self-awareness** and having the **time and space to commit** to all that the training and role entails is essential.

Please note that there are costs associated with training on our CRC, including a non-refundable registration fee of around £175. These costs, which are outlined on our webpage, are subject to minor changes and are far lower than with alternative training providers. In line with our ethos as a charity, no one is excluded on the basis of their ability to pay. What we ask in return is your commitment to us and our clients.

For more information please visit our website: www.marriagecare.org.uk
or email: volunteer@marriagecare.org.uk