

# OUR LADY OF RANSOM

31<sup>st</sup> May 2026

The Most Holy Trinity (A)

Psalter Week 1



Round and round and round and round...it goes. Almost hypnotically. The watermill goes round. On the watermill are buckets. These buckets constantly overspill into one another. Emptying and filling into one another. Continuously...hypnotically. As they go round, there is an energy being produced that we can almost sense. An energetic flow is happening, and we would be forgiven for feeling that anything interrupting this flow, this continual movement, could be most irritating or annoying.

This continual flow of emptying and filling, giving and receiving water, without hindrance, is how many experts visualize the Holy Trinity. Total, unhindered self-giving and receiving between the three persons of Father, Son and Spirit. A continual, mutual, perfect flow that never ends.

The ancient fathers of our church used an interesting word for this. *Perichoresis*, meaning 'a dance', or 'a dance around'. A rhythmical dance, in total reciprocal harmony that flows beautifully. *Perichoresis*. *Choresis* led to our word *choreography*. God himself is the dance, the dance around. (By the way, this is pure traditional teaching). Jesus' mission is to invite us into, and include us in this dance, this flow, this mutual harmony of giving and receiving of love, so that any knowledge of God is a knowledge through taking part in God's love. Only faith and inner experience really get this. No logic or reasoning can. We must experience the flow for ourselves. We either allow ourselves to experience taking part, or we don't.

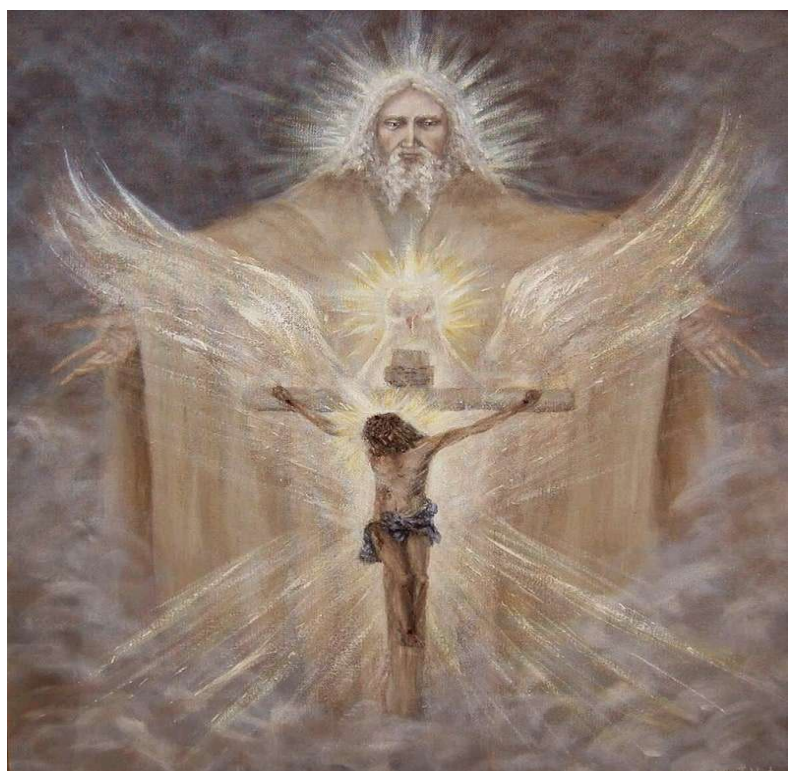
Like the flow of the hypnotic watermill that is suddenly stopped; its sudden stopping upsets, jars. Or beautiful rhythmical dancing that is suddenly stopped, equally quite irritating. Both for those dancing and those taking part. So, blocking the flow of God's love, the mutually giving and receiving; stopping the emptying of ourselves and so being refilled with God's love, blocking the mutual giving and receiving between ourselves – all this 'blocking the flow' is what we call sin. So, with greed, self-centeredness, being judgmental or critical, gossiping, the flow doesn't happen. This is sin. These evils stop the flow. They are blockages between ourselves and others, between ourselves and God. So, the flow is stopped. Most upsetting and annoying. Is the Blessed Trinity challenging us to loosen barriers between ourselves and God, and between each other, to allow a greater flow of mutual love and care?

**1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Exodus 34: 4b-6, 8-9**

**Psalm: 3:52. 53. 54. 55. 56**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Reading .2 Corinthians 13: 11-14**

**Gospel: John 3: 16-18**



<b>MASS INTENTIONS</b>	
<b>Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> May</b>	<b>The Visitation</b>
<b>5.30pm Mass</b>	John and Lee Gillson (Ints – 30 <sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary)
<b>Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> May</b>	<b>The Most Holy Trinity (Day of Life)</b>
<b>8.00am Mass</b>	Parish Community
<b>10.00am Mass</b>	Jean Wood RIP – Sally McNamara
<b>Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June</b>	<b>Dedication of Brentwood Cathedral</b>
<b>9.30pm Mass</b>	Marie Griffin RIP – Brenda Askem
<b>Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> June</b>	
<b>9.30am Mass</b>	Peter Feather RIP (Anniversary)
<b>Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> June</b>	<b>St. Charles Lwanga and Companions</b>
<b>10.00am Mass</b>	Joan Gardiner (Ints)- Ruth and Paul Gardiner
<b>12.30 (NOT A MASS)</b>	<b>Funeral Service – Celia Penney RIP</b>
<b>Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> June</b>	
<b><u>12.15 Requiem Mass</u></b>	<b>Yvonne Newman RIP</b>
<b>Friday 5<sup>th</sup> June</b>	<b>St. Boniface</b>
<b>9.30am Mass</b>	Keith Miller RIP (Anniversary) – Catherine Miller
<b>Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> June</b>	
<b>5.30pm Mass</b>	Kath and Mike Geeson RIP – Nicola Geeson
<b>Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> June</b>	<b>The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ (Corpus Christi)</b>
<b>8.00am Mass</b>	Parish Community
<b>10.00am Mass</b>	Emma Louise Lucibello RIP – Sasan and Damian Lucibello

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>  <a href="http://www.olorchurch.org">www.olorchurch.org</a>            email: <a href="mailto:rayleigh@brcdt.org">rayleigh@brcdt.org</a></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 Pat Murray, Betty Holland and Pamela Denton. **May they rest in Peace.**

† **Christopher Godfrey.** Christopher died recently at Timber Grove. Please keep Christopher in your prayer, along with Peter and all the family. May he rest in peace. Christopher's Requiem Mass to be confirmed. †

† **James (Jim) Logue.** Please keep Jim in your prayers. Jim died recently. Please also keep Pauline and the family in prayer too. May Jim rest in peace. His funeral details are to be confirmed.

† **Celia Penney.** Please keep Celia in your prayers. Please also keep all the family in prayer too. **Celia's funeral service (not a Mass) will be THIS Wednesday at 12.30pm, June 3<sup>rd</sup>.** May Celia rest in peace. †

† **Yvonne Newman.** Please keep Yvonne in your prayers along with Helen, Chris and family. **Yvonne's Requiem Mass will be THIS Thursday June 4<sup>th</sup> at 12.15pm.** May Yvonne rest in peace. †

**Note of thanks** – Peter Wood would like to thank everyone for the kind messages, cards and mass requests received for his wife, Jean. Also thank you to all those who attended Jean's Requiem Mass, gave flowers and donated to Havens Hospice in Jean's memory.

**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.

**Congratulations to:** Millie, Freddie, Frankie, Aidan, Alvan, Isabelle, Alfie, Maeve, Erin, Harry, Aurora, Cian, Sapphire, Leo, Chester, Alessandra, Finlay, Florence, Percy, Keira, Oliver, Bonnie and George on making their First Holy Communion. Well done to all of you.

**Next week, June 7<sup>th</sup> at our 10am Mass, our First Holy Communion Children will be celebrating Going Forth. All our First Holy Communion will hopefully be in attendance.**

### **Pope John Paul 2<sup>nd</sup> Hall Bookings –**

For any Hall Booking requests, please contact the Parish Office by phone or email, Tuesday to Thursday, between 9.30 and 1pm. 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 **3<sup>rd</sup> June 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.

**There will be a coffee morning this Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> May after 10am mass.**



### **KNIGHTS OF ST COLUMBA PARISH SOCIAL EVENTS**

1. *Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> June Coffee Morning after 10am Mass.*
2. *Coffee Mornings will be held on the last Sunday of every subsequent month.*
3. *Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> July Bingo Night (provisional date).*
4. *Saturday 12th September Summer Ball to celebrate 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Co 456 Knights of St Columba.*
5. *Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> October Knights' Open Evening, with guest speaker Sr Joachim.*

**THE Knights of St Columba** wish to thank parishioners for their generous support of the Easter Raffle. A total of £860.00 was raised. After expenses for stationery, printing and prizes £400 will be given to the parish and £400 will go to Sr Joachim's Mission of Hope. Following our monthly meeting on the 11<sup>th</sup> May we will announce future social events

### **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.

**ORGANISTS, PIANISTS**, We are really blessed to have a proper pipe organ in Our Lady of Ransom Church. But there are few parishioners who can play it. Let me know if you are one of the few. Also, if you are having piano lessons and can read music, even to a quite elementary level (AB Grade 4 perhaps) I would be pleased if you would contact me. I can give you some lessons (free of charge) and help you to learn to play the organ. Isobel Kennedy 07795 821705

**CHILDREN'S CHOIR** There seems to be a number of young people in our parish who love to sing. I am therefore starting up a choir for any children who are interested in singing and are prepared to learn to read music. We shall start by having a choir practice on **Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> June** at 6.30pm in the choir loft. The idea will be to join in the singing with the main choir at the 10am Mass. Primary school children would probably like to be accompanied by a parent, secondary school pupils can either join the main choir which rehearses in the choir loft at 7.30 to 8.30pm most Thursdays or attend the earlier rehearsal at 6.30pm. Whichever suits. Let me know if you are interested. I look forward to hearing from you. Isobel Kennedy 07795 821705

**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.*

**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.

**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](http://www.retrouvaille.org.uk) +44 797 338 0443

#### **Red Box 2025 THANK YOU!**

In 2025 Our Lady of Ransom parish raised **£1,573.10** through our Red Boxes and donations to Missio and the Mill Hill Missionaries. Thank You! Our missionary community here in Rayleigh is part of a worldwide network of people supporting missionaries overseas through prayer and financial assistance. Communities around the world rely on your support so they can continue to flourish. Visit [missio.org.uk](http://missio.org.uk) to find out more.

Due to bank closures, it is unfortunately increasingly difficult to bank cash and cheque donations. Additionally, we have fewer volunteers to collect our boxes. Red Boxes will continue to be collected and the easiest way to do this is by leaving your box in the sacristy or presbytery, and emptied boxes will then be left at the back of church for you to collect. If you are unable to do this, please contact me and I will be more than happy to collect from your home.

*I would warmly encourage you to 'Think outside the box' if you would like to support Missio. Spring Mission Today booklets are at the back of church, and you will find information on the back cover of ways to give directly. Donations can be made by Direct Debit, or Bank Transfer **Account Name:** Missio **Sort Code:** 16-00-16 **Account Number:** 10824230 **Reference:** RB + your postcode. You can also give directly on their website, or via phone and text.*

Please contact Katherine Abel: [warren\\_katherine@hotmail.com](mailto:warren_katherine@hotmail.com) or 07906844284 if you have any questions.

#### **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)

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A fully edited version of the recent talk given by Fr Alban McCoy OFM Conv to mark eight hundred years since the death of St Francis of Assisi is now available free of charge from the home page of [www.whatgoodnews.org](http://www.whatgoodnews.org) The talk was given at the Catholic Church of Christ the Eternal High Priest in Gidea Park on 2<sup>nd</sup> May.

## **Our Lady of Ransom Catholic Church – Altar Servers**

Are you looking for a meaningful way to serve your church and grow in faith?

We warmly invite **people of all ages – children and adults** – to join **St Stephen's Guild of Altar Servers**.

Everyone has a part to play in the Mass, but altar servers have a special role – to serve, assist, and support the priest and deacon, especially around the altar. It's a meaningful and active way to take part in worship while helping the whole congregation to pray.

- ✦ Open to new members
- ✦ Full training provided
- ✦ A rewarding and respected role in the parish

If you're interested, we'd love to hear from you!

☎ Contact **Fr Paul** Parish Priest at church

☎ Or **Debbie Smith** MC on 07359 919785



Come and be part of something special – join St Stephen's Guild today!

**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](http://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 25<sup>th</sup> July – 1<sup>st</sup> August or 1<sup>st</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> 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.

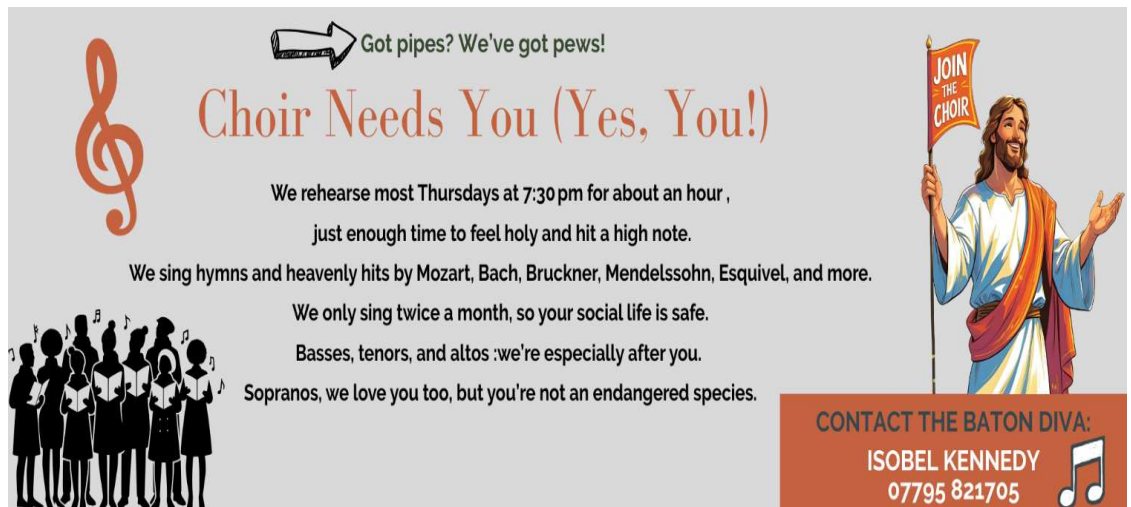
If you wish to bring a group from your Parish or partnership, please request your earlybird tickets here:

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

### **Funding Grants for Crises and Funerals.**

**Crisis grants help parish communities to support local individuals or families facing extreme hardship or crisis.** Crisis grant applications need to be made or supported by the local Catholic parish and the Caritas team. [Parishes can download further information and the application form here.](#)

**Caritas Westminster can offer grants to help specifically with funeral costs in cases of hardship.** Funeral grants can contribute up to £1,500 towards funeral costs. This grant is provided by a third party who wishes to remain anonymous and given through a local Catholic parish in the Diocese of Westminster. [Parishes can download further information and the application form here.](#)



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

The poster features a large treble clef on the left, a silhouette of a choir on the bottom left, and an illustration of Jesus holding a banner that says 'JOIN THE CHOIR' on the right. A red arrow points to the text 'Got pipes? We've got pews!'.

**St. Thomas' Church and School, Grays.** In October this year St. Thomas' Church and School in Grays will be celebrating 140 years of serving the community.

Please do come along for Mass with the Bishop on the 10th October at 5:00pm.

In addition, if people have images or memories that they would like to share please invite them to send them to the parish. Thank you. Canon Stephen.

**THE CANONESSES OF THE HOLY SEPULCHRE INVITE YOU TO A TALK BY DAVID NEUHAUS SJ (JERUSALEM):**

***MUST WE STILL HOPE? - Wednesday 3rd June at 6pm (on ZOOM from Jerusalem)***

*We are deeply grateful to David Neuhaus SJ for agreeing to share his reflections on the topic of 'hope' in the midst of the Israel/Gaza conflict. In his talk, 'Must We Still Hope?', he will confront the difficult question of whether it is right to continue hoping in the face of the suffering in Gaza — and whether there are moments when despair seems inevitable.*

*The talk is free of charge and ALL are welcome. For more details and to book your place please see the link via our home page [www.canonesses.co.uk](http://www.canonesses.co.uk).*

**Parish Administrator for the linked parishes of Our Lady Immaculate, Holy Name and St Augustine – Chelmsford**

*A vacancy has arisen for a Parish Administrator, with financial experience, to provide administrative and financial support 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 role be based at Rochester House, 145 New London Road, Chelmsford , CM2 0QT.*

*The post will be full time working 35 hours per week, Monday to Friday.*

*The salary is £14.50 per hour*

*The full job description is available on our website [www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/diocese/working-for-us](http://www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/diocese/working-for-us)*

*The closing date for applications is 7<sup>th</sup> June 2026 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 and/or completed application form to [office@chelmsfordcatholic.co.uk](mailto:office@chelmsfordcatholic.co.uk) or by post to Rochester House, New London Road, Chelmsford , CM2 0DT.*

## 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 30<sup>th</sup> 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](http://www.marriagecare.org.uk)  
or email: [volunteer@marriagecare.org.uk](mailto:volunteer@marriagecare.org.uk)