OUR LADY OF RANSOM OPEN FOR PRIVATE PRAYER 10AM—5PM SATURDAY 15 MAY		
OLR	11am	Adoration, Rosary and Confessions
OLR	5pm	Confessions
OLR	6pm	Loretta Wood (Eileen & Dorothy Walsh)
SUNDAY 16 7th of Easter	Readings:	1. Acts 1:15-17. 20-26 [Psalm 102] 2. John 4:11-16 3. John 17:11-19
OLR	9.15am	People of the Parish [Live streamed]
St Gregory's:	9.30am	Marilyn & Brian Barrow (Jean Lloyd)
St Agnes	11.15am	Michael Butters RIP (Elizabeth Redmond)
OLR	11.30am	Deceased members of OLR Choir (OLR Choir)
OLR	5.30pm	Colin Waters (May Waters)
MON 17	Dawn	Private intention
	Dusk	Priest's intention
TUES 18	Dawn	Priest's intention
	Dusk	Priest's intention
WED 19	Dawn	Priest's intention
OLR	11am	Jennifer Tsang
THURS 20	Dawn	Priest's intention
OLR	11am	Richard and Sheila O'Grady (Deborah O'Grady)
	Dusk	Priest's intention
FRI 21	Dawn	Priest's intention
OLR	11am	Michaeline Winterbottom RIP
	Dusk	Priest's intention
SAT 22	10am	Mass (Vigil of Pentecost/Traditional Latin)
SA1 22	11.15am	Adoration, Rosary and Confessions
OLR		Confessions
	5pm	
OLR	6pm	Ann Smiley RIP (Rigamonti)
SUN 23 PENTECOST	Readings:	1. Acts 2:1-11 [Psalm 103] 2. Paul 5:16-25 3. John 15:26-27; 16:12-15
OLR	9.15am	People of the Parish [Live streamed]
St Gregory's:	9.30am	Ellen Smith RIP (Rita Smith)
St Agnes	11.15am	Sarafiena Pestavia RIP (Bruna Pestavia)
OLR	11.30am	Douglas Mawhinney (Anneliese Ingham)
OLR	5.30pm	Repose of the soul of Theresa Wiseman (Maureen Doyle)

15th/16th MAY - SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
THE PARISH OF OUR LADY OF RANSOM
2 Grange Road, BN21 4EU
St GREGORY 247 Victoria Drive, BN20 8QY
St AGNES 10 Whitley Road, BN22 8NJ
Parish Office e mail or telephone during lockdown:
9.30am-2.30pm - Mon-Fri 01323 723222
E-mail: eastbourneolor@abdiocese.org.uk

Parish website <u>ourladyofransom.org.uk</u>
Fr Raglan Hay-Will, Parish Priest
Fr Tristan Cranfield, Fr Bruno Witchalls (Assistant Priests)
Deacon Paul Scholey (retired)

A question that we might find asking ourselves sometimes, in desperate moments: "Where is God?!" It might come as a surprise to us to discover that the Scriptures themselves, which are not just human texts, but are inspired by God, actually contain many examples of people asking this question too. One example is at the way the disciples react when He appears for the last time: Matthew says "They worshipped him, but some doubted" (Mt 28:17); the next thing, He ascends into heaven and is gone! Has Christ abandoned His disciples, leaving them faithless? Not at all. In fact, as He said to them previously: "It is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Advocate will not come to you, but if I go, I will send Him to you. " (Jn 16:17) By withdrawing from bodily sight, Jesus completes the task He came to achieve - He draws mankind into heaven, that is, to the right hand of God the Father Himself, and - at the same time - He makes way for a new Person to come and dwell in the disciples: the "Advocate" or as we more often call Him, The Holy Spirit.

The Holy Spirit makes Jesus, and the Father, present in the souls of all those who believe and love Him. He gives and increases faith by *convincing* those who welcome Him of the presence of Jesus within the soul. The faithful believer thus knows that he is somehow has one foot on earth, and one in heaven because he or she is so intimately joined to God, even in this life. Yes, we may doubt sometimes, but it is thanks to the mysterious and wonderful entrance of Jesus into our own humanity through the Spirit, which is what we call "The Church", of which we are members, that we can see that Jesus' Ascension represents His coming *even closer to us*. No wonder His last words before ascending were: "Remember, I am with you always, even to the end of the age." (Mt 28:20)

If we ever feel abandoned by God, or know someone who feels this way, we should follow Jesus' advice to the disciples to watch and pray: to wait, "until you have been clothed with power from on high" (Lk 24:29) This nine-day space between the celebration of the Ascension and Pentecost is just for this purpose, and gives a model for the believer to follow. The Holy Spirit always comes as love, enabling us to share Him in love to others. But He also comes, as today's Gospel tell us, as a consecration in the truth: showing that God is present even in suffering. The Truth is the life of and death of Jesus Himself, which is displayed in the life of the baptized carrying the Cross, which is the very highest act of love. Jesus's presence through the Spirit does not make life easy for the Church - far from it - but He is a great comfort, a guide, and a source of courage, enabling Christ's members to live and to act in accordance with love and the truth of the Gospel.

## LIVE STREAMED MASSES ON YOU TUBE:www.voutube.com/

## THIS WEEK: CHILDRENS' LITURGY, GOSPEL REFLECTION AND ACTIVITY

Sister Mary Rose reflects on the Gospel reading for the seventh Sunday of Easter with prayers Art and Music.

https://youtu.be/HUc5k5rd1W4

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## **Online Family Faith Formation**

The family is the most influential factor in a child's faith. In acknowledgement of this Sr Mary Rose has created six interactive videos (10-15 minutes) which explore our faith to help parents and children grow stronger in their faith together.

The videos cover the topics of 1 Baptism (its significance) 2 Sunday (making it a special day) **Reconciliation** (just as our daily lives involve saying and hearing the word 'sorry' often, so we need God's healing power) The Liturgy of the Word (how God speaks to us in the Bible readings;) 5 The Eucharist (how Mass celebrates Jesus farewell gift of the Eucharist at the Last Supper) 6 Faith (how our faith guides us not just on Sundays but in our daily lives) The videos explore the topics and also reflect on a short Gospel Reading with prayer suggestions for the family. If you would be interested in these please email the Parish Office.

EXTRAORDINARY FORM (LATIN) MASSES now being held again at OLR on each Saturday at 10am; however, as long as current Covid restrictions are in place, we need stewards to count the number of attendees (no need for cleaning or other duties). If anyone under 70 would be willing to steward these Masses, please let Mary in the office know asap. Four people have offered to steward so far; do sign up if you can.

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**St Gregory's Montessori Nursery** has a few spaces available from September for children age 2-4. If anyone is interested please contact the nursery on 01323 639164 for more information.

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**CAPTAIN TOM** update from the sponsored hymns on Bank Holiday Monday; As of 13th May the total raised was £2,522.00. Well done again to all involved.

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LET US PRAY FOR THOSE WHO HAVE BEEN TAKEN ILL AND ASK FOR OUR PRAYERS: Bernard Sanderson, Sybil Glenister, Miles Tracey, Bob Cadwallender, Pauline Bosley, Pat Higgins, Joan Garbet, Rosanna da Sousa, Trish Ryan, Martin Forte-Hyland, Lynnette Butters, Valerie Downey, Roy Sleigh, Reynaldo Cruz and all our

RIP: PLEASE PRAY FOR THE REPOSE OF THE SOUL of: Michaeline Winterbottom RIP and Sonia Holmes RIP. Our sympathy and prayers are with their families.

parishioners who are suffering.

THE RIVER DOES NOT DIVIDE US: PENTECOST NOVENA ON THE CARE OF CREATION. (ON THE  $6^{TH}$  ANNIVERSARY OF LAUDATO SI, ISSUED ON PENTECOST 2015).

Ascension day, which we celebrated on Thursday, brought into being the original "nine days' " or "novena" of prayer for the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. All Catholics are invited to pray on these nine days reflecting on the account of the creation in the book of Genesis. This Novena can be used on its own or to complement the prayers and reflections of the global prayer movement—Thy Kingdom Come.

- **Day 1:** (14th May) **Friday after the Ascension.** 'Show Mercy to our Common Home'. Saint Francis invites us to see nature as a magnificent book in which God speaks to us and grants us a glimpse of his infinite beauty and goodness.
- **Day 2:** (15th May). **Saturday after the Ascension.** Scripture Reading and Prayer. *And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light.* (Genesis 1:3-5).
- **Day 3.** (16th May). **Seventh Sunday of Easter** Scripture Reading and Prayer. *And God said, "let there be an expanse in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters.* (Genesis 1:6-8).
- **Day 4.** (17th May). **Scripture Reading and Prayer.** And God said, "Let the waters under the heavens be gathered together into one place and let dry land appear". (Genesis 1:9-13)
- **Day 5.** (18th May). **Scripture Reading and Prayer.** And God said, "Let there be lights in the expanse of the heavens to separate the day from the night. (Genesis 1:14-19).
- **Day 6.** (19th May). **Scripture Reading and Prayer.** And God said, "Let the waters swarm with swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the expanse of the heavens.". (Genesis 1:20-23).
- **Day 7.** (20th May). **Scripture Reading and Prayer.** And God said, "Let the earth bring forth living creatures according to the kinds livestock and creeping things and beasts of the earth according to their kinds." (Genesis 1:23-3).
- **Day 8.** (21st May). **Scripture Reading and Prayer.** Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all the host of them. (Genesis 2:1-3).
- **Day 9.** (22nd May). **Scripture Reading and Prayer.** *I do not cease to give thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers.* (Ephesians 1:15-23).

Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of Your faithful
And kindle in them the fire of Your love
Send forth Your Spirit and they shall be created
And You shall renew the face of the earth
O God, Who has taught the hearts of the faithful by the light of the Holy Spirit,
grant that by the gift of the same Spirit, we may be truly wise
and ever rejoice in His consolation.
Through Christ, our Lord. Amen