



**THE PARISH OF OUR LADY OF RANSOM 2-4 Grange Road, BN21 4EU
ST GREGORY Victoria Drive BN20 8QY
ST AGNES 10 Whitley Road BN22 8NJ**

**Parish Office Hours: Monday to Friday: 9.30am-1.30pm
Tel: 01323 723222 E-mail: eastbourneolor@abdiocese.org.uk**

Parish website: www.ourladyofransom.org.uk

Parish Secretary: Cheryl Wood

Safeguarding Coordinator: Alison Parsons: sg1.eastbourneolor@abdiocese.org.uk

Pastoral Assistant: Caroline Rother : pastoral.eastbourneolor@abdiocese.org.uk

Parish Clergy: Fr Kevin Dring (Parish Priest) Fr Bruno Witchalls (Assistant Priest)

FORTNIGHTLY NEWSLETTER 7 & 14 Jan 2024

COLLECTIONS:

23/24 Dec OLR £993

31 Dec/4 Jan OLR & SG £2269

St.Agnes:£244

SECOND COLLECTIONS 2024

7 Jan Christians in The Holy Land

11 Feb Lourdes Pilgrimage Fund

Prayers for the Sick

Sybil Glenister, Pauline Bosley, Pat Higgins,
Joan Garbet, Valerie Downey, Gerald
Shakespeare, Richard Kenton, Jean Butler,
Kenneth McCann, Amelia Weyman and for
all our sick housebound

For those who have recently died:

Andrew Somerville, Margaret Smith,
Susan Beglan, Giulia Zaccagnini,
Margaret Hunt



This was the moment when Before
Turned into After, and the future's
Uninvented timekeepers presented arms.
This was the moment when nothing
Happened. Only dull peace
Sprawled boringly over the earth.
This was the moment when even energetic
Romans
Could find nothing better to do
Than counting heads in remote provinces.
And this was the moment
When a few farm workers and three
Members of an obscure Persian sect
Walked haphazard by starlight straight
Into the kingdom of Heaven.
BC:AD - U. A. Fanthorpe

MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS

Sat 6 Jan	OLR	10am	Norman Carter RIP
	OLR	10.30am	<i>Adoration & Confessions</i>
	OLR	6pm	Wlodzimier Glapiak RIP
Sun 7 Jan	St.G	9am	Martin Briggs RIP
The Epiphany of	OLR	10.15am	People of the Parish
The Lord	St.A	11.30am	Armanda de Caires Gouveia RIP
	OLR	5.50pm	Anna Jose
Mon 8 Jan	OLR	11am	Pat Price RIP
The Baptism of			
The Lord			
Tues 9 Jan	OLR	7.30am	Latin Mass: Sheila Lyon RIP
Wed 10 Jan	OLR	11am	Melvin Moulding RIP
Thur 11 Jan	OLR	11am	Fred & Stella Paige RIP
Fri 12 Jan	OLR	11am	David Brazier RIP
	OLR	6.30pm	Latin Mass: Priest's Intentions
Sat 13 Jan	OLR	10am	Piotr Betlejewski RIP
	OLR	10.30am	<i>Adoration & Confessions</i>
	OLR	6pm	Wellbeing of Nick & Tim Alchin
Sun 14 Jan	St.G	9am	Melvin Moulding RIP
2nd Sunday in	OLR	10.15am	People of the Parish
Ordinary Time	St.A	11.30am	The Broderick family
	OLR	5.30pm	Glapiak family RIP
Mon 15 Jan	OLR	11am	For Carers
Tues 16 Jan	OLR	7.30am	Latin Mass: Mother of Jesus in thanksgiving
Wed 17 Jan	OLR	11am	Co Workers of St Mother Teresa
Thur 18 Jan	OLR	11am	Thanks for blessings received
Fri 19 Jan	OLR	11am	Melvin Moulding RIP
	OLR	6.30pm	Latin Mass: Holy Souls

CONFESSIONS: Saturday 10.40-11.50am & 5-5.45pm (Our Lady of Ransom)

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT: Monday, Wednesday & Thursday 10.30-11am;

Friday 11.30am – 6pm Benediction; Saturday 10.30am-12pm Benediction

ROSARY: Tuesdays 10.30am St G & Sunday after 9am Mass; OLR after Monday, Wednesday & Thursday Mass. DAILY PRIVATE PRAYER: Our Lady of Ransom Church open daily 8am – 6pm

LOOKING TO THE FUTURE

Last Tuesday the Bishop made public the 3rd draft of the Diocesan Pastoral Plan. It can be accessed on the Diocesan website and hard copies are now available in every parish. The focus is still on the 3 key areas of **PRAYER, FORMATION & MISSION**. What is distinct in this 3rd draft is the appreciation that we can't go on tinkering at the edges any longer but have to take bold and radical steps to bring about effective change for the future. This will mean that what are now "**Deaneries**" (clusters of parishes in an often large area) will, over the coming year, become **SINGLE PARISHES** with clergy and lay people collaborating closely together in new structures that allow sharing resources, administration, celebration of Masses and Sacraments, and providing the best care and formation needed for everybody. **Eastbourne & St Leonard's Deanery** (from here to Rye) will become a **single parish from November 2024**. As we go forward, we will be learning from other Deaneries as they make this transition. Those of us who are currently Deans have been asked by the Bishop to take on the role of Moderator of these new very large parishes. The fine detail of how everything will work will unfold in the months ahead, but key is that the Bishop and Diocese will be channelling time and resources into setting up these new structures in a way that is workable, and always centred on Mission and solid Gospel values. It's daunting, but personally I, and I know other clergy, feel relieved that the Diocese is taking a bold and proactive stance so we can be the Church that we need to be as we move in God's grace into the future. Happy New Year from myself and Fr Bruno. God bless – Fr Kevin

TO VIEW LIVE STREAMED SUNDAY 10.15 AM AND WEEKDAY MASSES GO TO: www.youtube.com/ourladyofransom.

PARISH DIARY - January 2024

Mon 8 Jan - Contemplative Prayer Group, PMR– 4pm - 5.30pm
Mon 8 Jan – Please note - NO Padre Pio Group
Sat 13 Jan – RCIA Session, PMR, 9.00 am - 10.15 am
Sat 13 Jan– Lumen Christi Meeting, OLR Hall, 4.45pm – 5.45pm
Mon 15 Jan – Contemplative Prayer Group, PMR– 4pm - 5.30pm
Wed 17 Jan - Co workers after 11am Mass
Thurs 18 Jan – Faith Development Programme, OLR Hall, 7.30 pm
Fri 19 Jan – New Parishioners Party OLR Hall 7pm-9pm
Mon 22 Jan - Contemplative Prayer Group, PMR– 4pm - 5.30pm
Wed 24 Jan - Kairos Charismatic Prayer Group, OLR Hall, 7.30pm
Sat 27 Jan - Lumen Christi Meeting, OLR Hall, 4.45pm – 5.45pm
Mon 29 Jan - Contemplative Prayer Group, PMR– 4pm - 5.30pm
Tues 30 Jan – EDGH Hospital Mass, 12 noon in Hospital Chapel

PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE:

Bishop Richard has issued a new Pastoral Plan for the Diocese 'The Word Who is Life: The Call to Mission'. As society becomes more secular our parishes must be ever-clearer beacons of light guiding people to Christ. The new Plan highlights how our community of faith can embrace this important time of renewal, forging diocesan parishes into communities of saints and strong, lively, and welcoming schools of discipleship. The Pastoral Plan is available on: www.abdiocese.org.uk/diocese/pastoral-plan with hard copies available to read in each parish. Bishop Richard has met with the Clergy and will be hosting a **Pastoral Plan Webinar** for people across our diocesan community on **Wednesday 10 January at 7.30pm. Please use the following: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86457734895>**

CHRISTIAN MEN'S BREAKFAST on Saturday 13 January at the Royal Eastbourne Golf Club at 8am when David Jackman, a retired vicar, will be sharing his Thought for the Day. To book please call Dennis on 07808 731166 e.dennisthompson618@gmail.com

EDGH HOSPITAL : Next Mass: Tues 30 Jan at 12 noon in the Chapel. If you are in hospital or have a friend in hospital who would like a visit from a priest, please let us know.

GOOD COUNSEL NETWORK REQUEST: On Friday 12 January, the eve of the 27 anniversary of the founding of The Good Counsel Network, please pray and fast for the end of abortion in this Country. Through God's grace we have seen thousands of mothers in our counselling centre continue their pregnancies in very difficult circumstances. Please help us to help save lives with your prayers, fasting and support. www.GoodCounselNetwork.com

DECEMBER 2023 OLR MONEY CLUB DRAW WINNERS:

1st Alex Mthobi £110; 2nd AM Bennell £68; 3rd Ann Ford £55;
4th Edwina Lucani £27, and £20 Christmas bonus to Ann Bennell, Peter Smith, Amelia Weyman and Doreen Bergin.

CHRISTMAS CRACKER AMNESTY: Please do not throw away any left-over crackers. Please bring in and give to Maura or Reception.

FEAST OF ST AGNES SUNDAY 21 JANUARY To celebrate our Patronal Feast, we will be having a Bring and Share Lunch following the 11:30am Mass at St Agnes. All are welcome, just bring a plate of food to share.

POLISH MASS: Every 2nd and 3rd Sunday of the month at 6pm

PASTORAL & FAITH DEVELOPMENT

ROSARY FOR PEACE: is prayed every Thursday, during Exposition at OLR between 10.20 – 10.50am. Please join in.

PRAYERS FOR HEALING in SH Chapel every Thursday after 11am Mass.

The long month of January can be a test to all and especially in prayer if we need a bit of a lift or want to change things up a little to meet the Lord who seeks us. Maybe these will help in that discernment.

FOR PRAYER-TIME PONDERING: In our Parish Mission Prayer we commit to *servng others*. John the Baptist said "There stands among you – **unknown to you** - the one who is coming after me" (Jn 1 v26). Here then is a novel meditative challenge as the New Year begins. Sculptor Timothy Schmalz (1969-) has made a truly visceral work entitled "Homeless Jesus". Jesus is among us, today just as in John's times, present in everyone we meet. Look hard at this sculpture and reflect on the space Schmalz has left beside Jesus...and ask, if that were a real person on that bench, would I sit down next to him or would I pass by failing to see Jesus? How can I best serve others? To view the sculpture visit www.christian.art Or, read Howard Thurman's powerful poem showing that it is only in the quiet aftermath of the festive season that the real work of Christmas begins – very thought provoking. Read the poem on www.newpilgrimpath.ie

10 WAYS TO BEGIN 2024 WELL: Rather than elaborate new resolutions simply do, in some small way what you intend to do all year – Say *Thank You* to at least one person; Make one healthy choice about your body – food, drink, rest or motion; Do one generous act, big or small; Say *Yes* to the day's gifts; Be quiet for 5 minutes; Let one person know you appreciate them; Do one creative act, big or small; Let yourself consider what some else is going through; Do one thing well; Open your arms, and your heart, **to God**.

FAITH DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME: The next event will be on Thursday 18 January in the Parish Hall at 7.30 pm with a most interesting talk by Fr Bruno on "*Pilgrimages – their role, place and significance to our spirituality*". All are welcome.

TO ALL READERS AND EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS - DAYS OF REFLECTION for MINISTERS OF THE WORD – Sat 20 Jan 2024

Bishop Richard will lead a day of reflection and formation for Ministers of the Word at Sacred Heart Church, Cobham, 11-4pm. Including Lectio Divina and Mass, plus talks on Sacred Scripture, the Liturgy of the Word, the Lectionary, Please register using the link W: [Day of Reflection for Ministers of the Word \(20-Jan-2024\) · ChurchSuite Events](http://www.ChurchSuiteEvents.com)

FOR MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST – Saturday 10 Feb 2024.

Bishop Richard will lead a day of reflection and formation for Ministers at St Michael's, High Salvington, Worthing 11-4pm. The day will include theological and practical talks, Eucharistic Adoration and Mass. register using the link W: [Day of Reflection for Ministers of the Eucharist \(10-Feb-2024\) · ChurchSuite Events](http://www.ChurchSuiteEvents.com)

GIFT AID: If you wish to join the scheme to benefit the Parish, please contact Nick Price at pfc.eastbourne@abdiocese.org.uk.

Next Newsletter: will be issued on 21 Jan. All items for this issue to be sent in by 10 Jan. **Entries after this date cannot be guaranteed.**

A WARM WELCOME: to all who join us for Mass, especially to any visitors. If you are new to the Parish, you too are very welcome.