

	Church Opening times	Church	Service Times
Sat 12 Sep	5.30pm – 7.30pm	OLR	6pm Vigil Mass [O] – Joan Marolf RIP (Marolf-Silva family)
TWENTY FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME			Readings: 1. Ecclesiasticus 2:30-28:7 [Ps.] 102 2. Romans 14:7-9 3. Matthew 18:21-35
Sun 13	8.45am – 10.15am	OLR	9.15am Mass [L/S] [O] – David Swann RIP (McCabe)
	9am-10.30am	St Gregory	9.30am Mass —Manuel Fernandes RIP
	11am-12.30pm	OLR	11.30am Mass [O] David Cooksey RIP (McCabe) First Holy Communion for Marika Gierlach, Luke Abane Ana-Amdingo, Alexander Gryszczuk.
	5.00pm – 7pm		5.30pm Mass [O] - Teresa Dillon-White RIP (Crunden)
Mon 14	6pm-7.30pm	OLR	6.30pm Mass [O] - Kevan Regan RIP (The Regan family)
Tues 15	CLOSED		
Wed 16	10.30am - 12noon	OLR	11am Mass —Sheila Lyon RIP
Thurs 17	10.30am – 12noon	OLR	11am Mass — Betty Johnny RIP (Zarian)
Fri 18	10.30am – 12noon	OLR	11am Adoration and Confessions
Sat 19	5.30pm – 7.30pm	OLR	6pm Vigil Mass [O] – Jonathan Oliver RIP (G. Moulding)
TWENTY FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME			Readings: 1. Isaiah 55:6-9 [Ps.] 144 2. Philippians 1:20-24.27 3. Matthew 20:1-16
Sun 20	8.45am – 10.15am	OLR	9.15am Mass [L/S] [O] Moises Fajo-Misa RIP (Fajo-Misa)
	9am-10.30am	St Gregory	9.30am Mass —Ann Smiley RIP (Leatherland)
	11am-12.30pm	OLR	11.30am Mass [O]- James Moulding RIP (G. Moulding)
	5.00pm – 7pm	OLR	5.30pm Mass [O] – People of the Parish

24th Sunday in Ordinary Time - 12th/13th September 2020

THE PARISH OF OUR LADY OF RANSOM
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St AGNES 10 Whitley Road, BN22 8NJ
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Fr Raglan Hay-Will, Parish Priest
Fr Tristan Cranfield, Assistant Priest

Last week, Jesus warned us that sinners who refuse to listen to reason, or refuse God's mercy, risk putting themselves, by their own free choice, out of the Church. But that's not the end of the story! He goes on this week to teach that God's mercy is greater than we can imagine. The Father is compared to a king who is able to forgive the debt of a vast sum of money: a sum beyond imagining, that could never really be paid back. St Thomas Aquinas points out that every single thing God does for us involves mercy, because He pours upon each person more gifts than he could ever deserve. Moreover, Jesus's gift of self on the Cross the gift by which he paid the debt of our sin, is totally unmerited, and cannot be matched by any offering we can make: the worship of the Word made Flesh speaking to the Father with whom He is one.

If God can be so generous, who I am to refuse mercy to my neighbour? That's the upshot of Jesus's teaching on sin and repentance. We pray each day: "Forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us." This means that when we are hurt by others, God wishes us to be the instruments of His forgiveness, extending out beyond the world's logic of tit-for-tat. To be a victim who forgives, in union with Jesus, the Saving Victim, humbles the proud and strong, and rehabilitates those who have hurt and yet cannot forgive themselves, who are surely the more to be pitied. Better by far in God's eyes to be injured, than to injure – for then, we are just like Christ. Extending a hand of mercy to those who have done us wrong breaks the cycle of vengeance and enmity and contributes to the establishment of Christ's kingdom of Love. Many of the saints can inspire us to take this difficult path: St Maria Goretti, for example, who forgave her attacker, resulting in his conversion. To forgive even little things in others is to bless them, but also to receive a blessing for oneself, for it involves recognising our own inadequacy, our own radical need for forgiveness and healing. As Jesus also said: "Blessed are the merciful for they shall receive mercy".

MASSES are currently at Our Lady of Ransom and St Gregory. Bishop Richard has written to all churches reminding us that by agreement with the government, all places of worship have been required to wear masks since the 8th August. Therefore, all those attending Mass **MUST** bring and wear a face covering unless exempt. Please maintain 1m social distancing from other households.

WONERSH SEMINARY AND THE EVANGELIST

We have been blessed these last two years with Stephen O'Brien and then Nicholas Harden joining our parish for a year's attachment. Please pray for all the seminarians as they begin a new academic year. And you might take a copy of their magazine just published, The Evangelist, which is available in church. If you would like to give a donation please put it in an envelope marked 'Evangelist'.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION CONGRATULATIONS TO:-

Marika Gierlach, Luke Abane Ana-Amdingo and Alexander Gryszczuk who will receive their First Holy Communion at Our Lady of Ransom this Sunday at 11.30am Mass.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION, BAPTISM, CONFIRMATION, MARRIAGE

If a family or group of families feel ready to come to Mass again, let us know that you would like to discuss moving forward with a sacrament you had been preparing for before the lockdown. Guest numbers are limited.

7 DAYS OF CREATION: Celebrating September with prayers for Creation jointly declared by Greek Patriarch Bartholomew and Pope Francis. Today, we are publishing Day Three-

God promised to father the nation Israel and sealed that promise in a covenant. And God is ever faithful. However, human behaviour is fickle so that God's promises are rejected and the covenant broken. Human kind puts a curse on itself which in turn flows over onto Earth.

"THE MISUSE OF CREATION BEGINS WHEN WE NO LONGER RECOGNIZE ANY HIGHER INSTANCE THAN OURSELVES, WHEN WE SEE NOTHING ELSE BUT OURSELVES". – Laudato Si #6

ISAIAH 24:4-6– EARTH DIES IF COVENANT BROKEN The Earth dries up and withers, the world languishes and withers; the heavens languish together with the Earth. The Earth lies polluted under its inhabitants; for they have transgressed laws, violated the statutes broken the everlasting covenant. Therefore a curse devours the Earth, and its inhabitants suffer for their guilt; therefore the inhabitants of the Earth dwindled, and few people are left.

JESUS SAID THAT GOD CARES FOR ALL CREATION, 'NOT A SPARROW FALLS TO THE GROUND WITHOUT YOUR FATHER KNOWING'

(Matt. 10: 29-31) - "OUR FATHER..." CONCLUDING PRAYER

Creating and nurturing God, we know that we are called to first be reconciled with each other and Earth itself before approaching your altar in prayer. We know too that we have been washed clean by the obedience of your Son and made into a new creation. May we

encourage each other in kindness knowing that you support us in all that we do. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

STEWARDS APPEAL: If you are thinking of volunteering, it might help to know what stewards are. Firstly, this is something which the government rather than the Church has required to be in place, for churches to open for Mass. They arrive half an hour before Mass, greet people like welcomers, answer any questions, and guide them in going up to Communion in a way that preserves safety. Finally they clean the areas where people have been sitting, to make the church safe for the next Mass. Thank you to all those who have been doing this in the last 2 months, and congregations have commented how well-organised and friendly the system has been.

PRIVATE TUITION for Primary aged children in Maths and English provided by an experienced catholic teacher. DBS provided. Please contact 07481180958 to talk about the support that you would like for your child.

FOR THOSE WHO HAVE BEEN TAKEN ILL AND ASK FOR OUR PRAYERS: Sybil Glenister, Miles Tracey, Bob Cadwallender, Madeleine O'Brien, Laurence Evans, Carmen Pumar, Sheila Brown, Pauline Bosley, Abina Boniface, Gilbert da Silva, Marie Potts, Pat Higgins, Joan Garbet, Rosanna da Sousa, Trish Ryan, Michaeline Winterbottom, Cecilia Mafe, Terry Swales, Lynnette and Michael Butters and all our parishioners who are suffering.

If you or someone you know is ill or going into hospital treatment, please do let us know. If it is an emergency you can leave a message on the answerphone, option 2.

COLLECTIONS: There is a retiring collection for Holy Places this weekend 12th/13th September.

This collection should have taken place on Good Friday. On that day when we solemnly remember Christ's Passion, we also go back to a tradition that began in 1219. St. Francis of Assisi had crossed over to Egypt determining to join the 5th Crusade, except instead of a sword he wished to offer the hand of friendship. He met with the Muslim Viceroy, Malek al Kamil, and they discussed their respective faiths and belief in God. As a result, care of the Holy Places in the Muslim controlled areas of the Holy Land were given into the custodianship of the Franciscan Order. The two men began an enduring friendship, and there is a touching footnote to their relationship: in 1224 Francis composed his 'Canticle of the Creatures', a celebration of God's grace in all creation. But there was a note found added to the manuscript, "oh my brother, how my heart is heavy...". This is thought to refer to a planned campaign by the Crusaders, which Francis knew threatened the life of his friend al Kamil.

Offerings: w/e 6th September Our Lady of Ransom and St Gregory - £1076.06 [Gift Aid:Nick Price 07711243419].