

	Church Opening times	Church	Service Times
Sat 19 Sep	5.30pm – 7.30pm	OLR	6pm Vigil Mass [O] – Jonathan Oliver RIP (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		5.30pm Mass [O] - People of the Parish
Mon 21	6pm-7.30pm	OLR	6.30pm Mass [O] -
Tues 22	CLOSED		
Wed 23	10.30am - 12noon	OLR	11am Mass —Fr. Christopher Bergin (D. Bergin)
Thurs 24	10.30am – 12noon	OLR	11am Mass —Majella McCoy
Fri 25	10.30am – 12noon	OLR	11am Adoration and Confessions
Sat 26	5.30pm – 7.30pm	OLR	6pm Vigil Mass [O] – Patricia Hay-Will RIP
TWENTY SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME			Readings: 1. Ezekiel 18:25-28 [Ps. 24] 2. Philippians 2:1-11 3. Matthew 21:28-32
Sun 27	8.45am – 10.15am	OLR	9.15am Mass [L/S] [O] Len Brownsell RIP (Brownsell)
	9am-10.30am	St Gregory	NO MASS
	11am-12.30pm	OLR	11.30am Mass [O] - Margaret Mary Moorton RIP (Crunden) Baptisms: Pia Stokes, Arelli Fernandes and Felicity Sheridan-Stack
	5.00pm – 7pm	OLR	5.30pm Mass [O] – People of the Parish

25th Sunday in Ordinary Time - 19th/20th September 2020

THE PARISH OF OUR LADY OF RANSOM
2 Grange Road, BN21 4EU
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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

In last week's Gospel (Matt. 18: 21-35) Jesus suggested that we should imagine ourselves to have been let off a huge debt, and be merciful to others in turn. He goes on to a series of challenges with his teaching on marriage and divorce; on the importance of children in the Kingdom; and on how wealth can actually be an obstacle to heaven. St Peter asks, in that case, what reward will there be for those who make all these sacrifices in this life? Hopefully he is reassured with the response, that in God's good time, "many who are first will be last, and the last, first" (19:30). And then follows this Gospel, which was the inspiration for much of Catholic social teaching throughout the last century. That social teaching built on values already evident in the Old Testament, such as the command to pay workers the same day they are hired (Leviticus 19: 13; Deuteronomy 24: 14-15). The distinctive focus of several Papal documents was on the dignity of the human person, who is therefore never just a tool of either capitalist or communist economics. Pope St. John Paul II expressed this in his encyclical *Laborem Exercens* ('On Human Labour', 1979). Of course it is important that our work is productive and contributes to the common good. But what is of even higher importance is how work is part of our self-worth. Adam and Eve are shown in the book of Genesis (3: 21- 24) learning to till the soil and make clothes for themselves. To use our God-given skills shapes our character. So the landowner in the parable is shown seeking out those labourers whom he presumably did not absolutely need, because it is soul-destroying to be left "standing idle". We might think of refugees who are not able to use their professional skills, on top of being driven from their home. We are also concerned for those whose employment is threatened in the current economic uncertainty, and for young people facing a struggle to find their first job.

NEW ENQUIRIES FOR THE SACRAMENTS OF BAPTISM, FIRST COMMUNION, CONFIRMATION

At the moment we are giving priority to families who were preparing for sacraments this last year, 2019-20. We are happy to discuss making a date. Please note that guest numbers are limited.

For new enquiries, we understand that many families are not yet coming to Mass with the uncertainty of Covid-19 still with us. Preparation for these sacraments will not be the same 'course' as in previous years. These are the steps you can take:-

- 1) Email the Parish Office to register an interest, with your contact details stating which sacrament you would like to register for. Remember to always give your full name and address and which church you attend.
- 2) The principal preparation is sharing in the Eucharist (Mass) in church. It is the source of grace for all the other sacraments. If in the present situation you are not able to come to Mass, do not worry: we can wait, and you will not miss any 'deadline'!
- 3) Meanwhile you can join an online course we are beginning for families to explore their faith, and how we live it in the Church. Details will follow.

ST RICHARD'S SCHOOL
SIGNING DATES:
Tuesday October 13th 5.30-7pm.
Monday October 19th 5.30-7pm
 Please come to the Parish Centre
 (via the car park)

FR RAGLAN will be on holiday for two weeks until the 7th October.

ENQUIRERS FOR THE CATHOLIC FAITH 'RCIA' begins 8th October at 8pm Our Lady of Ransom hall, access via the car park. See OLR website for further details. Please let us know if you are coming so that we can make the arrangements necessary for social distancing. Please ring Ann - 07790 208889.

RIP: Please pray for the repose of the soul of Anthony Woodhouse and Patrick Sloane. Our sympathy and prayers are with their families.

FOR THOSE WHO HAVE BEEN TAKEN ILL AND ASK FOR OUR PRAYERS: Sybil Glenister, Miles Tracey, Bob Cadwallender, Madeleine O'Brien, 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, Valerie Downey and all our parishioners who are suffering at this time.

OFFERINGS w/e 13 September, Our Lady of Ransom and St Gregory £617.20. Second Collection for the Holy Places £1,079.00. [Gift Aid:Nick Price 07711243419]. We extend a very big thank you to those who manage to remember to put their offering in the buckets as they leave Church.

7 DAYS OF CREATION: Celebrating September with prayers for Creation jointly declared by Greek Patriarch Bartholomew and Pope Francis.

HOLY SPIRIT ETERNAL TEACHER

Jesus promised to send his Spirit to be with us to the end of time. In that spirit our faith communities are called to listen to opinions and discern ways forward. In God given wisdom we are to proclaim hope to the nations, especially in times of confusion and despair. Let us name the wonders of Earth and puzzle out how to care for them as praise of God.

PRAYER

Lord God, you take on our griefs and anxieties, our joys and hopes. Grow within us your spirit of wisdom so that we can find you present in all the workings of Earth, in every living creature and culture. Guide us to love Earth and our earthly kin as a mysterious web of life, working for the harmony of this world so that in its very existence praises you. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

JOHN 6:7-8, 12-13 – ABIDING ADVOCATE

Nevertheless I tell you the truth: 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. And when he comes, he will prove the world wrong about sin and righteousness and judgment: "I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth; for he will not speak on his own, but will speak whatever he hears, and he will declare to you the things that are to come.

REFLECTION

Pope Francis teaches that in these times, dialogue is the way to do mission. He challenges us to face the ecological challenge, loving Earth as mother and sister, caring for our common home. Dialogue means listening/speaking, moving in partnership to new ways of thinking and acting. The followers of Jesus in early church communities give us an example of dialogue in practice. When faced with Gentile groups forming new Christian communities, the apostles had to broaden their ideas of what was demanded of them as leaders in Christ. The apostles learnt that the Spirit blows where it wills. As Christians engage with the insights of ecological scientists they are challenged by the Holy Spirit to listen to the voice of Earth, even to rethink their faith expression. Through dialogue believers make decisions to act, new commitments and new partnerships, finding new and unexpected friends for the human journey. The Christian spiritual journey grows and evolves so that even prayer itself takes on new language.

We pray as Jesus taught us: OUR FATHER

"It is my hope that this Encyclical Letter, which is now added to the body of the Church's social teaching, can help us to acknowledge the appeal, immensity and urgency of the challenge we face." –Laudato Si #15.