|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|   | ***Parish newsletter*** **ST. EDWARD THE CONFESSOR****CATHOLIC CHURCH****Sunday 1st November 2020** **Solemnity of All Saints**  |

**Parish Priest: Fr Dominic Howarth**

**5 Park End Road, Romford, Essex RM1 4AT**

**Telephone: 01708 740308**

**e-mail:** **romford@dioceseofbrentwood.org**

**Parish Administrator: Julia Pitkin**

**Parish Website** [**www.stedwards-romford.org.uk**](http://www.stedwards-romford.org.uk)

**Parish YouTube Channel: RomfordRC (**[**www.youtube.com/c/romfordRC**](http://www.youtube.com/c/romfordRC)**)**

**Parish Facebook Page and Twitter account: RomfordRC**

**St. Peter’s Primary School 01708 745506**

**Head Teacher Mrs Jenny Waterfield**

**Thank youfor all the comments received so far about the proposed plans, and to all those who visited the Parish Centre after Masses last weekend.** The consultation continues **until this Wednesday, 4th November.** We warmly welcome emails with comments, questions and suggestions: whether you say, “This is great; go for it!” or “Rip it up and start again!” you will be listened to. Everything is on the website and there are large versions of the plans are on display in the parish hall – please ask if you would like to look at them after Mass this weekend.

**This week we pray for** those who drowned in the English Channel earlier this week, most especially the young children. We pray for the work of the Jesuit Refugee Service, Care4Calais, and Help Refugees, and for the more than 60 million refugees who have been forced to flee their homes due to war, persecution and famine. On this Feast of All Saints we pray that we may be “Saints next door”, welcoming the stranger however they arrive, in the knowledge that in each person we welcome Christ himself.

**A warm welcome** to all visitors, and to those returning to Mass for the first time this weekend. *If you are returning for the first time since Lockdown began, please ask a Steward for a sheet which will help you with the small differences in the celebration of Mass at this time, to keep us all as safe as possible.* For those watching and praying on YouTube, from within the parish and across the globe, welcome.

**Saints we celebrate during this week:**

**Monday 2nd Commemoration of all the Faithful Departed (All Souls) Wednesday 4th St Charles Borromeo**

**Next Sunday 8th Thirty-Second Sunday of the Year (Remembrance Day)**

**Mass Intentions**

**Saturday 31st 6.30pm** The People of the Parish

**Sunday 1st 9.30am** Enya McDonnell RIP (Scullion)

 **11.30am** Tina Cowell RIP (O’Rourke)

**Wednesday 4th 12.15pm** Ints of Coleen O’Sullivan (O’Sullivan)

**Saturday 7th 6.30pm** Sarah Carey RIP (Foundation)

**Sunday 8th 9.30am** The People of the Parish

 **11.30am** In Thanksgiving (Yazhu Lin)

**Please pray for all who are sick** in our hospital, our nursing homes and at home. For those who are anxious, bereaved or struggling in the Faith. May they experience the healing hands of Jesus through our prayerful actions and visits. Especially we pray for:

*Margaret Alake, Sheila Appleton, Mgr Arthur Barrow, Fr Michael Butler,*

*Dyllis Dangerfield, Fr Kieran Dodd, Pauline Gillooly, Margaret Harvey, Fr Liam Hayes, Evelyn Hughes, Benjamin Joseph, Paula Lam, Mrs D Langan, Fr Jean-Laurent Marie, Bina McCarthy, Fr John McKeon, Brendan O’Connor, Eileen O’Connor,*

*Jacqueline O’Neill, Bernadette O’Sullivan, Terry Raftery, Samantha Rowe,*

*Michael Scullion, Peggy Squires, Fr John Taylor, Andrew Todd, Danny Toye,*

*Stephen Toye, Betty Walsh and Trudy Wijeyeratnam*

**Applying for a place in a CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL for September 2021**

Parents seeking to obtain a Certificate of Catholic Practice are invited to meet Fr Dominic on either of the following dates: **Sunday 29th November 2020 or Wednesday 6th January 2021 between 1.30pm and 3pm.** In the normal course of events, Fr Dominic would be delighted to meet families but in these COVID times it will be safer if just one parent/carer attends on behalf of the family. There is no need to make an appointment, just turn up **in the Church and please bring your child’s Baptismal Certificate.**

*Our Parish is part of the Brentwood Diocese and Alan Williams is our Bishop.*

*We are part of the Romford Parishes Partnership within the Havering Deanery, together with Christ the Eternal High Priest, Corpus Christi, Most Holy Redeemer & St Dominic.*

*We are twinned with the parish of Regina Pacis, Ladysmith, Diocese of Dundee, South Africa, and pray for their Bishop, Graham Rose.*

*Diocese of Brentwood Registered Charity No. 234092*

*Web site:* [*www.dioceseofbrentwood.net*](http://www.dioceseofbrentwood.net)

**St Peter’s Catholic Primary School - Admissions 2021-22** Applications for places in Reception classes in September 2021 are now welcome. Parents are invited to view the admissions criteria and application process on the school website under the **School Information tab- Admissions.** Applications must be supported by a Supplementary Information Form also available on the school website. Further information about how to apply for a school place is found on the Havering Admissions website. Unfortunately, due to current restrictions we are not holding our usual school tours but instead are providing a ‘Virtual’ tour which will be found on the website from the week beginning 16 November.Any queries please contact the school office on 01708 745506 or email office@st-peters.havering.sch.uk

**Catechist Training and Resources Morning, 10am – 1pm, Saturday 7th November 2020.** Especially for our First Holy Communion and Confirmation catechists, and anyone else who may be interested. The day (presented on YouTube) will include prayer with the Walsingham House team, a keynote speech from David Wells, fresh reflections and ideas for catechists from Fr Dominic, inspired by the new Directory for Catechesis, and a showcase of fabulous resources from a number of groups and organisations. Read more here; <https://bcys.net/events/catechistsday/>

**Brentwood Catholic Youth Service - “BCYS voices” – online short talks for young people.** The first “BCYS voices” features Fr Paschal Uche, reflecting on the pain and problem of racism, and how we all have the potential to overcome it, as part of living our faith. Each new episode of “BCYS voices”, will go live on YouTube on the first Saturday of every month, beginning with Fr Paschal on 7th November, and continuing through until next March. More details at [www.bcys.net](http://www.bcys.net) and on Instagram and YouTube @BrentwoodCYS.

**Memorial Mass for young people who have died.** This Wednesday, 4th November, the Youth Mass from the chapel at Walsingham House at Abbotswick, streamed at 8pm via Instagram, will commemorate young people who have died. You will find more details at [www.bcys.net](http://www.bcys.net). If you would like the name of a young person to be read during the Mass, and a candle lit for them, please email frdominic@dioceseofbrentwood.org, before 2nd November.

**Memorial Mass for those commemorated at Abbotswick.** Next Sunday, 8th November, at 3pm, there will be a Memorial Mass on the BrentwoodCYS YouTube channel. Those commemorated with plaques and benches at Abbotswick will be named, and a candle lit for each of them. If you are connected to Abbotswick, and are not sure if we already have the name of your loved one, or if someone has passed away recently, please email frdominic@dioceseofbrentwood.org before 5th November.

**Church Cleaners** As number of our regular cleaners are currently shielding we are need of more volunteers. If you would like to join a team on a rota basis for a Thursday morning, please contact the parish office romford@dioceseofbrentwood.org

**We welcome into the family of the Church** Eliza Ann Fulcher, Felicity Ruby Shefford and Eleanor Sophia Abou Hable who were baptised this weekend. We pray for them and their families as they grow in the knowledge and love of Christ.

**Emailing you!** We are delighted to have 400+ email addresses, which we are using to send the newsletter and keep in touch with you, once a week. If you think you are not on the list, simply email romford@dioceseofbrentwood.org and ask to be added!

**“We have loved them in life. Let us not forget them in death”** The Church designates the month of November as a special time to remember and pray for those who have died and gone before us. Envelopes are available at the back of the church to remember your loved ones and can be placed in the box in front of the Altar. Masses for the Holy Souls are a reminder to us all for the need to pray for the departed. Any offerings for the November Dead List will be used to support Youth Ministry in our parish.

**Confirmation 2021** Due to Covid-19 there has been a long delay in celebrating Confirmation with the 2020 cohort. We hope to celebrate with them in late November, and ask you to keep them all in your prayers. We know that a number of those currently in Year 11 are waiting to enrol for the 2021 programme, and you are most certainly not forgotten! Thank you for your patience as we work things out over the next few months; we will have enrolment and programme details for you in early 2021. If you have any questions in the meantime, you are very welcome to ask Liz (who is the lead Confirmation catechist) or Fr Dominic at any time.

**Real Living Wage week, 9th – 15th November 2020.** After months where key workers and care workers have been at the “front line” it remains the case that many are not paid enough to support their families. The Diocese of Brentwood is actively committed to the Real Living Wage, which lifts such hard working families from poverty. This is an integral part of our faith. For more information please visit <https://livingwage.org.uk/>. From 9th November there will also be a specific campaign to ensure workers in care homes are paid the real living wage. This campaign is supported by a number of Catholic Bishops, including Bishop Alan. Find out more at [www.citizensuk.org](http://www.citizensuk.org)

**World Day of the Poor, Sunday 15th November.** Pope Francis writes, “Encountering the poor and those in need constantly challenges us and forces us to think. How can we help to alleviate their marginalization and suffering? How can we help them in their spiritual need?” This is a challenge for us all; today is a day to think and pray about the many works of charity in our parish and the Diocese. You may be inspired to volunteer, or know someone in need of help, visit: [www.caritasbrentwood.org](http://www.caritasbrentwood.org). To mark our commitment in this parish there will be a second collection for our SVP after all Masses on 14th/15th November. To read Pope Francis message for today go to <http://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/messages/poveri/documents/papa-francesco_20200613_messaggio-iv-giornatamondiale-poveri-2020.html>