

We now have a **Facebook Page and a Twitter Account** – both are @RomfordRC and so if you are on Twitter, please “follow”, and if you are on Facebook, please “like”, and in both cases there will be updates in the weeks ahead, as another way to communicate key information in these changing times!

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 visitations. Especially we pray for:

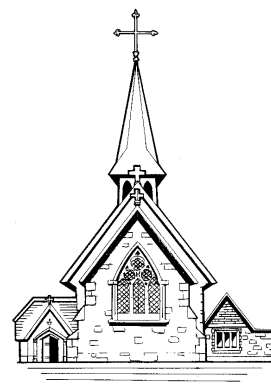
Margaret Alake, Sheila Appleton, Mgr Arthur Barrow, Fr Michael Butler, Dyllis Dangerfield, Fr Kieran Dodd, Des Hall, Margaret Harvey, Fr Liam Hayes, Evelyn Hughes, Fr Tom Jordan, Benjamin Joseph, Paula Lam, Mrs D Langan, Fr Jean-Laurent Marie, Bina McCarthy, Fr John McKeon, Brendan O'Connor, Eileen O'Connor, 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,

Mass Intentions

| | | |
|---------------------------------|----------------|---------------------------------|
| Saturday 18th | 6.30pm | Noreen Barrett RIP (O'Sullivan) |
| Sunday 19th | 10.30am | Ints of Fr Tom Jordan |
| Saturday 25th | 6.30pm | Tom Murnane RIP (Murphy) |
| Sunday 26th | 10.30am | Elisabeth Tanner RIP (Pitkin) |

First Holy Communion 2021 Parents and carers of children in current year 2 and above are invited to register your intention to apply for your Child(ren) to join the Programme commencing Autumn 2020. Places are limited and preference will be given to Children who worship regularly and reside within our Parish Boundary. Forms can be downloaded from the parish website www.stedwards-romford.org.uk and must be returned by 30th September. Please email romford@dioceseofbrentwood.org if you have any concerns or questions, and we will help you in any way we can.

St Peter's Year 6 Leavers' Mass. At a time when it is hard for pupils and parents to gather in school a special Year 6 Leavers Mass will be Livestreamed from Walsingham House at Abbotswick next Wednesday, 22nd July, at 10am. Everyone is warmly welcome online, and all the details are at <https://bcys.net/events/year6leavers/>. The direct link to the YouTube broadcast is <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5W1nT6OZw0I&feature=youtu.be> and the Mass includes a **message for pupils from Bishop Alan.** We hope this will be a lovely moment for our Year 6s, perhaps together with parents and grandparents, to mark many precious memories from primary school, and the transition to secondary school. The theme for the Mass is from Ephesians 2:10, “You are God's work of art.”



Parish newsletter

ST. EDWARD THE CONFESSOR CATHOLIC CHURCH

(St Edward is the Patron Saint of our Deanery)

Parish Priest: Father Tom Jordan

Associate Priest: Father Dominic Howarth

5 Park End Road, Romford, Essex RM1 4AT

Telephone & Fax: 01708 740308

e-mail: romford@dioceseofbrentwood.org

Parish Website www.stedwards-romford.org.uk

Diocese of Brentwood Registered Charity No.234092

Web Site: www.dioceseofbrentwood.net

St. Peter's Primary School

01708 745506

Head Teacher:

Mrs Jenny Waterfield

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.

Sixteenth Sunday of the Year (A)

Sunday 19th July 2020

The church will be open this weekend for private prayer Saturday 10am -2pm, Sunday 12noon-2pm and for Mass on Saturday 6.30pm and Sunday 10.30am

From next weekend 24th /25th July the church will be open for prayer on Saturdays from 5pm followed by Mass at 6.30pm

and on Sunday for Mass at 10.30am

The church will continue to be open for private prayer on

Wednesdays from 11am – 2pm.

The Sunday 10.30am Mass will be livestreamed on YouTube each week – you may find this an easier and more helpful way to participate in Mass if you are in any way vulnerable – simply search “BrentwoodCYS” on YouTube. Many thanks to the BCYS volunteers who are enabling this to happen.

Fr Tom is seriously unwell at this time and is grateful for your continuing prayers. If you have a general enquiry or if you are in need at all, please email romford@dioceseofbrentwood.org and in an emergency please call Fr Dominic on 01277373959, or email frdominic@dioceseofbrentwood.org

Mass timings are to ensure we can comply with all the guidelines to keep everyone safe. **Please know that there is no obligation for people to return to church at this time** – the Bishops, and our Cardinal, have repeatedly stressed that the Sunday obligation is suspended until it is safe to return to church in the usual way.

General Information – for all parishioners

We are able to welcome just 65 people per Mass. Individuals will be able to sit three to a bench (with 1.4m between them); families will be able to sit together. **The church will be cleaned after each Mass.** Again, we are very grateful for volunteers who are assisting with this.

Specific information for those returning to Mass this weekend

WELCOME BACK – and please do read all of this very carefully

Before you set out for Mass: If you have any symptoms of Covid-19 – a dry cough, headache, temperature rise, or shortness of breath – you absolutely should not come to Mass. If you are in a group who is “shielding” or have underlying medical conditions, please do not come into the church; we look forward very much to welcoming you when it is fully safe to do so.

You must wear a mask or face covering on entering the church; please bring this with you. You will need to keep wearing it throughout Mass, except in the moment when you receive Holy Communion. **You will be required to complete a simple form to support Track and Trace. We are not permitted to open the toilets,** due to the cleaning regime that would be needed.

As you enter the church: There is hand sanitiser available to use at the door of the church. **There will be stewards who will show you where to sit.** We must sit people in a way which is safe and makes best use of the space. Please do not use the kneelers, to preserve the distance from those in front of you, and to aid cleaning between Masses.

After the Lamb of God the Priest will show the host to everyone and say “The Body of Christ” for everyone to respond, “Amen.” Holy Communion will then be given and received in silence, and on to the hand of the Communicant, to do all that we can to minimise close contact.

There will be no offertory procession, or collection; there will be the opportunity to give at the end of Mass, with a box at the exit. We also strongly encourage standing orders, please; we are in a very difficult financial situation after 4 months of no offertory collection. We will not be able to sing during Mass, as this can spread the virus, we will, however, have some recorded music.

We realise that these are all very unusual measures – in very unusual times. We fervently hope that as the summer goes on we will be able to gather in a fuller way, but we also know that the virus remains present and contagious and that we must do all we can to preserve health and life. Please do not hesitate to call or email if you have comments, thoughts or questions.

Lourdes in your Living Room – 27th – 31st July.

Enjoy an inspiring daily pilgrimage programme, with Mass at 10.30 each day, Morning Prayer (9am) and Night Prayer (9.30pm) as well as afternoon reflections (4.30pm) from Bishop Alan, Michael Barwick, Rev Paschal Uche and Fr Paul Keane, Stations of the Cross (Friday 5pm) and a Marian (“Torchtlight”) procession with the Hail Mary prayed in over 40 languages (Thursday 8pm). Everything will be streamed on YouTube (BrentwoodCYS), and the full timetable and links are at www.bcys.net This pilgrimage for all ages includes special events for those aged 15-23, as well as a talent show for all on the Friday evening – if you are a musician, magician, singer or dancer, email info@bcys.net for details of how to send in your entertainment!

The 18 hour challenge – please support our young people. In the 18 hours when they would have been travelling to Lourdes (where Our Lady appeared to Bernadette 18 times) our creative young people are undertaking all sorts of challenges. On 25th – 26th July 18 metres is being cut from Fr Dominic’s Corona-hair, Orla Tanner – a gifted artist – is painting 18 pictures and Ben & Therese d’Souza, Denis Courtney and Fr Dominic are among 44 young people and older pilgrims each walking 18 miles to total the 792 miles from Brentwood to Lourdes. One of our young parishioners, Matthew Bacon writes: *“I was originally going to Lourdes this July with Brentwood Catholic Youth Service (BCYS). Unfortunately as with so many things this year it has been cancelled due to Coronavirus. However, the BCYS has organised ‘Lourdes in your living room’ which is a virtual pilgrimage taking place between 27th and 31st of July. The coach journey to Lourdes normally takes about 18 hours, so all those who would have been attending have be asked to undertake an `18 hour challenge to help raise funds for CAFOD and BCYS. For my challenge I will running 18 km in 18 hours between 4.30pm on Sunday the 26th and 10.30 am on Monday 27th. I would be really grateful if you could sponsor me for this event to help raise funds for CAFOD and BCYS. Many thanks, Matthew :)”*

Money raised from donations and sponsorship will be split between Cafod’s support for those across the world suffering from Coronavirus, and our own BCYS youth ministry. Donations can be made online at www.bcys.net/donate or by cheque payable to “BRCDT Youth Service” or in cash in an envelope marked 18 Hour Challenge and posted through the presbytery door.

Thank you for anything you can give.

Sunday Missal In these times when we are unable to use Parish Mass books, you may wish to consider buying your own personal Sunday Missal. These are available from our parish shop priced £10. Please email the office romford@dioceseofbrentwood.org and we can arrange payment and delivery.