



Parish “Lockdown” newsletter

ST. EDWARD THE CONFESSOR
CATHOLIC CHURCH

Sunday 22nd November 2020

Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ the King
(National Youth Sunday in England and Wales)
(Readings: Year A)

Parish Priest: Fr Dominic Howarth
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Parish Administrator: Julia Pitkin

Parish Website www.stedwards-romford.org.uk
Parish YouTube Channel: RomfordRC (www.youtube.com/c/romfordRC)
Parish Facebook Page and Twitter account: RomfordRC

St. Peter’s Primary School 01708 745506
Head Teacher Mrs Jenny Waterfield

During the time of lockdown we remain here for you in any way that is helpful. Please phone or email if you need us, and please do come on a Wednesday or Sunday, when the church is open for individual private prayer.

Join us online for Mass and spiritual communion at 9.30am each Sunday.

The 9.30am Mass is Livestreamed on YouTube. This Sunday, 22nd November, the direct link is: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NNsVXqBb0q0>.

Today is the Feast of Christ the King, and National Youth Sunday. Mass will include prayers for young people in the parish, inspired by the kind of kingship Christ showed us – servant leadership, reaching out to those on the edges.

Our YouTube channel – where you can watch and pray Sunday’s Mass later in the day, at any time that is helpful – is www.youtube.com/c/romfordRC

Come to the church for individual private prayer on Wednesdays and Sundays from 10.30am – 2.00pm. Everyone is welcome. There is a limit to how many can be in the church at any one time, and thorough cleaning throughout. Masks are also needed (unless you are exempt). Come and pray, even for 10 minutes, and help that to be a weekly connection to our sacred space. The Blessed Sacrament will be on the altar, and we hope the church will be a wonderful oasis of peace and prayer.

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: **Saturday 12th December between 2.30pm - 4.00pm and 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 .**

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 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. A 'Virtual' tour is on the school website. Any queries please contact the school office on 01708 745506 or email office@st-peters.havering.sch.uk

RIP – We pray for all those who have died and entered into eternal life:

Bernard Gilley, aged 66 years

His funeral will take place on Friday 27th November at 11.45am

and

Eleanor Piper, aged 82 years of Glenwood Drive, Gidea Park

Her funeral will take place on Friday 11th December 2020 at 11am

Both Requiem Masses will be Livestreamed on the parish YouTube channel.

We also pray for families and friends who have lost loved ones that they may find strength in God to bear their loss.

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

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

Emailing you! We are delighted to have 450+ 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!

Repository Our Parish Shop has a selection of Christmas cards, Missals, Candles and Gifts. Please visit the Parish website for details: www.stedwards-romford.org.uk We are happy to deliver if required. To make a purchase or to arrange a delivery please contact the parish office.

Brentwood Diocesan Directory 2021 is now available from the parish office priced £2.80.

Lockdown postponements

Please keep our **Confirmation candidates** in prayer. We were due to celebrate with them originally on Pentecost Sunday, then on 22nd November. We have rescheduled for Sunday 3rd January at 2.30pm. Our young people are a vital part of the present and future of the parish, and we look forward to celebrating with them.

For parents applying for **primary school places** the arrangements to sign forms on Sunday 29th November cannot now happen; this has been rescheduled to **Saturday 12th December**; please see the notice later in the newsletter for more information.

Lockdown Thankyous

THANK YOU to those who are helping to steward our church during the times of individual prayer. Your service means that the church can be open, and we are very grateful. You should by now have received a separate email with the latest guidance. If you have not got this, please email us!

THANK YOU for the wonderful donations towards the Livestream cameras, and the visitors' toilet in the presbytery. **We now have the amount needed for these projects: thank you all!** We remain in need of general donations to help keep the parish solvent in these difficult times – all details at www.stedwards-romford.org.uk/donate

Lockdown charitable work

FOOD BANK DONATIONS. Thank you for the generous donations so far, the Food bank are immensely grateful. The donation crates can be found by the side exit from the church, opposite the statues and candles. Donations of **toiletries such as shampoo and toothpaste are very, very welcome and in particular the food bank have advised us they are in great need of large and extra-large nappies.** Why not bring something when you come to pray? All donations will be very welcome.

FAIRTRADE STATUS. We have been recognised as a "Fairtrade Church" by the Fairtrade Foundation. To find out more about what this means, and about the whole idea of FairTrade, please go to www.fairtrade.org.uk.

Praying in Lockdown A time of prayer each day is a vital way to sustain our spiritual life; during lockdown it could be a good time to get the App “Universalis” which has the daily Mass readings. To read these quietly each day is a helpful way to pray. You could also try “Pray as you go” – another App – for a daily reflection filled with insight.

You could also consider the Saints and special feasts of the Church; why not Google them to find out about the lives of the Saints, and why they are honoured as Saints of the Church. This week we celebrate:

Monday 23rd St Clement
Tuesday 24th Ss Andrew Dung-Lac, 7 Companions
Next Sunday 29th The First Sunday of Advent (B)

Mass Intentions

Sunday 22nd	9.30am	The Youth of Our Parish & Diocese
Sunday 29th	9.30am	Holy Souls
Sunday 6th	9.30am	Elisabeth Tanner RIP (Sherman)

National Youth Sunday. Today is the Feast of Christ the King, and the weekend where we especially honour and celebrate the place of young people. Last year Pope Francis wrote a letter to young people, *Christus Vivit*, where he said “Young people ... are meant to dream great things ... and to offer the best of themselves to the building of something better.” Covid has had particular effects on the young; since March our Brentwood Catholic Youth Service has offered online opportunities for prayer and service, in wonderful ways, and reaching thousands of people. To discover more – including a series of short videos where young people share their experience of the BCYS – go to www.bcys.net. **Donations:** This year, in addition to lost retreat income, the lack of congregations at Mass will dramatically affect the second collection that usually takes place today – please give a donation to support the BCYS via the website www.bcys.net/donate or post a cheque to “Brentwood Catholic Youth Service” through the presbytery letterbox and we will pass it on.

Supporting young people in Lockdown. The Brentwood Catholic Youth Service (@BrentwoodCYS) Instagram has over 2,000 followers and is alive with fresh insights and resources each day. There is a weekly Youth Mass on Instagram Live each Wednesday at 8pm during Lockdown. During November and Advent there is a lot of additional content, and you will find all the details at www.bcys.net

Mass Intentions. Due to Fr Dominic not yet being resident in the parish, and the Covid restrictions, far fewer Masses are being said in the parish, and so there are a large number of Mass Intentions waiting to be offered. If there is a specific anniversary Mass date, please let Julia know, in the parish office, and we will arrange for Mass as close as possible to the requested date. Many apologies; hopefully a fuller set of weekly Masses can be offered in the New Year.