



## *Parish “Lockdown” newsletter*

CATHOLIC PARISH OF  
ST EDWARD THE CONFESSOR

Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> November 2020  
The First Sunday of Advent  
(Readings: Year B)

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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

**The lockdown ends at 12.01am (just after midnight) on the morning of Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> December.** Collective worship is again permitted and so our normal Mass schedule resumes with Mass at **12.15pm Wednesday, 2<sup>nd</sup> December**, and weekend Masses **from next weekend 5<sup>th</sup> /6<sup>th</sup> December** at 6.30pm Saturday, 9.30am and 11.30am Sunday. Numbers remain limited, and all the Covid restrictions are in place – face coverings, track and trace, sanitiser and no group singing! But we can gather again, and we look forward to welcoming you back, if it is safe for you to attend.

**The 9.30am Mass will continue to be Livestreamed**, via the parish YouTube channel. The direct link is posted on the website each week.

**Today is the First Sunday of Advent**; as we consider the precarious and unusual journey of the Holy Family, we know that this year their journey resonates deeply in our lives, and across the world. In a particular way we pray for pregnant mothers, and for all who are undertaking difficult journeys in the next few weeks.

**CHRISTMAS 2020** – full details on the website, and more information over the page. There are additional Masses, but numbers remain limited, and booking is essential.

**Thank-you** to the stewards who have enabled the church to be open during the latest lockdown; your help is invaluable. We continue to need stewards for all Masses – if you are able to volunteer, please contact Julia in the parish office. You need to be friendly, reliable, 18+ and not in any category deemed vulnerable to Covid-19.

**The parish website has been refreshed**, with a lot of information updated and a new layout. Do have a look – all comments and feedback are warmly welcomed.

### **Masses for Christmas 2020**

#### **Christmas Eve, Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> December**

**2.30pm** – by invitation – those who are frail and housebound. This will be a special Mass for those known to the SVP, members of the Golden Club, etc., who may feel vulnerable if attending Mass with many families/children. People on the postal list receiving newsletters have been invited, as they often do not have access to the website/email. If you know of anyone who would appreciate being able to attend this Mass, please let us know.

**5.00pm** – Mass for families with young children

**7.00pm** – Mass for families with young children

**10.00pm** – Mass for all

#### **Christmas Day, Friday 25<sup>th</sup> December**

9.30am – Mass for all

11.30am – Mass for all

**It is essential to book a place for Mass. Bookings open this Saturday, 28<sup>th</sup> November**, and you can book by emailing [romford@dioceseofbrentwood.org](mailto:romford@dioceseofbrentwood.org) and telling us:

- Your name
- The number of people (adults and children) who will be attending Mass (this can include grandparents, etc., but must only be those in your “Christmas Bubble” of not more than three households in total)
- The Mass you would like to attend

We will email you a response from 4<sup>th</sup> December; if the Mass you choose is fully booked, we will suggest an alternative. Your data will not be shared, or used for anything else.

**Advent Concert, Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> December 4pm**, and throughout Advent on YouTube: Featuring favourite carols, with music led by Art from Brentwood Cathedral, as well as Gabi, Felishia and Erin from the BCYS and Walsingham House team, along with readings and poems, the concert will be a prayerful and delightful way to journey through Advent. And, of course, you can sing along to your heart’s content at home! Free to watch, with donations welcome: money raised will be split between the Trussell Trust, supporting food banks across the Diocese, and the Brentwood Catholic Youth Service. Full details and links: [www.bcys.net/events/adventcarols](http://www.bcys.net/events/adventcarols)

**Women’s Refuge** As in previous years, we will be collecting gifts around the parish Christmas tree for the Romford Women’s Refuge. Unwrapped gifts can be for women or children, remembering that they have often left the family home with nothing. Please mark your gift for a woman or a child, (with approx age) and there will be an opportunity during the Christmas masses to bring your gift to the crib. Thank you.

**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](http://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.

**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](mailto:romford@dioceseofbrentwood.org) and ask to be added!

**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. This week the food bank have particularly requested donations of washing up liquid, washing powder/capsules and chocolate (non-alcoholic). As always, all donations will be very welcome.

**Praying in Advent.** A time of prayer each day is a vital way to sustain our spiritual life; during Advent 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:**

<b>Monday 30<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>St Andrew</b>
<b>Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>St Edmund Campion, and the Martyrs of the English College, Rome</b>
<b>Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup></b>	<b>St Francis Xavier</b>
<b>Sunday 6<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Second Sunday of Advent (B)</b>

**Mass Intentions**

<b>Sunday 29<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>9.30am</b>	<b>Holy Souls</b>
<b>Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup></b>	<b>12.15pm</b>	<b>Monica Day RIP (Conti)</b>
<b>Saturday 5<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>6.30pm</b>	<b>The People of the Parish</b>
<b>Sunday 6<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>9.30am</b>	<b>Elisabeth Tanner RIP (Sherman)</b>
	<b>11.30am</b>	<b>In Thanksgiving (Yazhu Lin)</b>
<b>Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>12.15pm</b>	<b>Dec'd members of Gilan Family (F)</b>

**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.

**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 12<sup>th</sup> December between 2.30pm - 4.00pm and Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:office@st-peters.havering.sch.uk)

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

*Eleanor Piper, aged 82years of Glenwood Drive, Gidea Park  
Her funeral will take place on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> December 2020 at 11am*

The Requiem Mass will be Livestreamed on the parish YouTube channel.

*Helen Ging,  
Funeral will take place at St Mary Mother of God, Hornchurch on  
Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> December at 10am*

**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](http://www.dioceseofbrentwood.net)*