



Parish newsletter

CATHOLIC PARISH OF
ST EDWARD THE CONFESSOR

Sunday 4th & 11th April 2021
The Resurrection of the Lord (Year B)

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
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

Many blessings for Easter! The Risen Christ shows that light triumphs over darkness, hope conquers despair, and love overcomes even death itself. After the last year, this eternal hope is a source of immense strength.

May these be peaceful, radiant days for you;
together we pray that we are moving into a summer of hope.

Thank you to everyone who has helped with the Easter services – there is a tremendous team of people who have worked in all sorts of ways throughout this week to prepare the church, and to ensure we can have as beautiful a celebration of Holy Week and Easter as possible. Please keep them all in prayer.

We hold in prayer everyone who is in particular need this Easter weekend. We pray for those still battling on the front line, in critical care and as key workers. We pray for those with anxieties about the future, including those whose employment is fragile. We pray for those in parts of the world yet to see a first dose of vaccine, for refugees who are not part of any health care system, and for those who were homeless before the pandemic and who fear being homeless again when Government schemes end. We pray for those who are part of minority groups, and those living on the edges of society. We pray that we may all be part of building a “new normal” in 2021; rooted in the Gospel, living Christ-like love, joy, hope, and kindness, with dignity shown to every person – every person is made in God’s image and likeness, every person is a child of God.

The resources from Lent (Stations of the Cross and Penitential Service), as well as all of the Holy Week and Easter liturgies, remain on our YouTube channel. This means that you can dip into them at any time, whenever it is helpful for you, or you want to hear something again, as an inspiration for prayer. The link to the channel is www.youtube.com/c/romfordrc and scroll down the page to find things in order of when they were first put on the channel (the newest things are at the top).

Sponsored Sleepout – “Sleep out to help out” – to help the homeless & BCYS.

THANK YOU for your amazing generosity. The latest total is **at least £2,100** including **over £900** for the St Peter’s staff. **Mrs Waterfield, Mrs Parker, Miss Griffin, Mr Hetchin, Miss Munday, Mrs O’Bryan and Mrs Bond** will readily speak with you about their experience, and are delighted with the amount raised.

The money will be split between charities working to provide essential support for those who are homeless, and the BCYS, who provide superb opportunities for young people across the Diocese.

For the young people who took part, in rain and bitter cold, it was an evening which they will remember for a long time, and it certainly helped them to reflect deeply on what it would mean to be homeless every night. Thank you to **Matthew Bacon, John Bond, Cian Bush, Aimee O’Sullivan, Izzy & Megan Roberts and Izzy Seaman**. Also, **Denis Courtney** and other parishioners, as well as Fr Dominic (who slept out with the deer, moles and badgers at Walsingham House at Abbotswick). Finally, a special mention and praise to young Cub Scouts – including **Dominic Bacon, Fraser O’Sullivan and Jack Murphy** – who slept in cardboard dens in their homes – well done!

Groups of young people in other parishes also took part, and hopefully by mid April we will have a final total from across the Diocese. It is an annual event so if you wish you had taken part this year do not worry – you’ll have a chance in March 2022!

To add some sponsorship to the final total, go to www.bcys.net/donate and select the “sleepout” option, or put good old fashioned cash in an envelope marked “sleepout” and put it through the letterbox of the presbytery any time before 11th April, please.

Easter Vigil and Easter Sunday Masses a reminder the retiring collection at the Easter Masses is your personal offering for your Priest. Thank you.

Gift Aid Boxes. If you use the weekly offertory envelopes, please collect your new box of envelopes from the Porch. If you have any queries please contact Tony Hable our Gift Aid organiser at romford-giftaid@dioceseofbrentwood.org or the Parish Office on 01708 740308. Thank you.

Covid-19 Arrangements remain UNCHANGED

Arrangements within the church

Our pews are 1m+ distancing (they are spaced at 1.25m, as a minimum). Face coverings remain compulsory for anyone without medical exemption. We ask those with exemption to wear a lanyard, if at all possible, to avoid embarrassment for you or for our Stewards. The church windows will continue to be opened, to assist with ventilation. We remind you, please, to use sanitizer when entering and exiting the church, not to gather after church, and to follow the advice of our Stewards.

So far, the way that everyone has followed all the Covid-safe arrangements has been a delight – we have, hopefully, just three or four more months – please continue to help everyone to be safe and well. We continue to pray for the nurses, doctors, key workers, essential workers and front-line heroes who are doing so much.

Livestream

The Livestream remains permanently in place, and if you have any Covid symptoms, or are shielding, please do not risk your health or others by coming to Mass. The 9.30am Mass each Sunday is available on www.youtube.com/c/romfordrc, and if 9.30 is not a convenient time the Mass then remains online. The direct link for the most recent Mass is on the parish website. If you **subscribe to the channel (which is free) you get a reminder whenever a fresh Mass or service is broadcast.**

Foodbank donations. The foodbank continues to be as busy as ever, and your donations are helping to feed families every week. It should not have to be like this – as we come out of the pandemic there will be fresh campaigns from the Trussell Trust to ensure that families do not need to use foodbanks, and that we can end child poverty. For now, foodbanks are the lifeline for many in our local community. **As ever, the best items to donate to the foodbank are things with a long shelf life – tins of fruit and vegetables, pasta, beans, etc., as well as and toiletries. Please think about items such as nappies and sanitary products, and do add some items that are treats – simple bars of chocolate are a luxury for those on the breadline. Thank you for any donations that you make – donations can be left whenever the church is open for Mass, and can also be left at the presbytery (please just ring ahead first to be sure someone is in).**

Rest in Peace

We pray for the Repose of the Soul of **Norman Greene** who died recently. We pray for his wife Joan, and for all the family. His funeral will take place at South Essex Crematorium on 6th April.

We pray for the Repose of the Soul of **Patricia Jeeves** who died recently. We pray for her daughter Lisa and her family. Her funeral Mass will take place on 15th April.

We pray for the Repose of the Soul of **Veronica Oddi** who died recently. Her Funeral will take place on Friday 23rd April. We pray for her sister Rosanna and her family.

Mass Intentions

Paschal Vigil

Saturday 3rd **7.30pm** **Fr Tom Jordan RIP**

The Resurrection of the Lord

Sunday 4th **8.00am** **Parishioners who have
passed away in the past year**

9.30am **The People of the Parish**

11.30am **Ints of Lucy Marks (Marks)**

Wednesday 7th **12.15pm** **Sharon Collins RIP (Anne)**

Second Sunday of Easter (Divine Mercy Sunday)

Saturday 10th **6.30pm** **Dec'd Members of Elsley Family (Murnane)**

Sunday 11th **9.30am** **Mrs Lagrimas Ricafrente RIP (De Luna)**

11.30am **The People of the Parish**

Wednesday 14th **12.15pm** **Ada Newby (F)**

Thursday 15th **11.00am** ***Funeral – Patricia Jeeves RIP***

Friday 16th **1.00pm** ***Wedding – Rachel McMillan & Adam Rawlings***

Third Sunday of Easter

Saturday 17th **6.30pm** **The People of the Parish**

Sunday 18th **9.30am** **Maureen Simonelli RIP (Gannon)**

11.30am **Sean O'Sullivan RIP (O'Sullivan)**

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. Especially we pray for:

Margaret Alake, Sheila Appleton, Joe Bellotti, Mgr Arthur Barrow, Fr Michael Butler, Dyllis Dangerfield, Fr Kieran Dodd, Angela Fitzpatrick (Moss), Pauline Gillooly, Margaret Harvey, Fr Liam Hayes, Evelyn Hughes, Benjamin Joseph, Paula Lam, Mrs D Langan, Fr Jean-LaurentMarie, 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.

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