



Parish newsletter

CATHOLIC PARISH OF
ST EDWARD THE CONFESSOR

Sunday 18th April 2021
Third Sunday of Easter (Year B)

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St. Peter's Primary School 01708 745506
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Thank you to everyone who helped with the Easter services – there is a tremendous team of people who worked in all sorts of ways throughout Holy Week to prepare the church and arrange the liturgies, to ensure we were able to celebrate Holy Week and Easter in beautiful and prayerful Masses and services.

Please keep everyone who helps in the parish in your prayers.

Over the weeks and months ahead some parish groups will gradually restart; please pray for those who are working very hard to see how things can be run as safely and fruitfully as possible, including the catechists leading our First Holy Communion programme which begins next Saturday, thanks to the kindness of St Peter's school, where the children will be meeting.

We hold in prayer the Royal Family, especially the Queen, as they mourn the loss of Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh. We pray for all those who have lost fathers, grandfathers and great-grandfathers in recent months.

In these weeks we pray also for the people of Myanmar, and for the people of Belfast; in different ways, and for different reasons, violence ravages the streets, and many young lives are in danger. We pray for all those in the world where violence and terror are causing great distress; we pray for the hope, joy and peace of the Resurrection to transform hearts and minds.

Mary's Channel of Grace An initiative by the Legion of Mary to join them for nightly rosary, adoration, discussion forums, chats and much more. Starts with the Rosary 8pm daily. Zoom ID 4083 3503 Passcode: 876433. More details available from <https://www.legionofmary.ie/prayers>

Thank you – The Lobo Family wish to thank all those who sent Mass cards, sympathy cards, floral tributes, prayer offerings and candle lights in remembrance of Patrick. A Holy Mass will be offered for your intentions.

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. The foodbank are currently in need of Tomato Ketchup, Instant Coffee, Tinned Potatoes/instant Mash, Long Life Fruit Juice, Tinned Fruit/custard/rice Pudding, Biscuits, Tinned Fish, Dried Rice, Toiletries: Toothpaste, Toothbrushes, Shower Gel, Deodorant. **Please also 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).

Caring for Creation – are you interested in protecting and caring for the environment, God’s creation? During this year we will be considering practical ways in which we could make parish life “greener”, as the country prepares to host International Environment Conferences with world leaders, in June and November, making commitments which affect us all. **Care for creation is part of our faith** – from the Book of Genesis right through to Pope Francis brilliant letter to the world, “LaudatoSi”, we are reminded that we are stewards of God’s creation. How we live, the resources we use, and how and where we spend our money, all have environmental impact.

Here’s just one practical question: if we were to put cycle racks in front of the church, would people cycle to Mass instead of driving? Would you? Or could you walk to Mass?

If you would like to be part of a group considering all this – and working towards becoming a recognized Cafod “LiveSimply” parish – please would you email Fr Dominic (frdominic@dioceseofbrentwood.org) who is looking for parishioners of all ages to see what could be possible, and to develop this vital part of parish life during the spring and summer.

To read more about the LiveSimply Award, you will find plenty of links and information at <https://cafod.org.uk/Campaign/Livesimply-award>

Fr Dominic writes “Thank you for your great kindness in the Easter offerings, as well as the many cards and messages of encouragement that you sent over Easter. In a very unusual Holy Week and Easter it was wonderful to see so many people in church, and to know that so many were also watching and praying on the Livestream. As Eastertide continues, and with parish events and activities gradually opening up again, I wish you many blessings and look forward to meeting more and more of you.”

Congratulations to Rachel McMillan and Adam Rawlings who were married here on Friday.

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

THANK YOU for your amazing generosity. The latest total is **approaching £7,000** of which around £2,500 has been raised by young people, school staff and parishioners here. 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. 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!

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.

Assistant Manager, Walsingham House at Abbotswick. The Youth Service are seeking to appoint an Assistant Manager at Walsingham House at Abbotswick to begin in the late summer. Closing date for applications is midday on Monday 10th May 2021. All information is on the website: <https://bcys.net/assistantmanager>

Rest in Peace

We pray for the Repose of the Soul of **Veronica Oddi** who died recently. We pray for her sister Rosanna and her family. Her body will be received into the church this Thursday, 22nd April, at 4.30pm, and her funeral Mass will take place on Friday 23rd April at 1.00pm.

This week we celebrate:

Wednesday 21st St Anslem

Friday 23rd St George, Patron of England

Saturday 24th St Mellitus

**Next Sunday 25th The Fourth Sunday of Easter (Year B)
World Day of Prayer for Vocations**

Mass Intentions

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)
Wednesday 21st	12.15pm	Margaret Austin & Mary Healy (F)
Friday 23rd	1.00pm	<i>Funeral – Veronica Oddi RIP</i>
Saturday 24th	12.15pm	<i>Elisabeth Tanner RIP (Smith)</i>
		<i>Mass with the FHC children in St Peter's School.</i>
Saturday 24th	6.30pm	Agnes Carey RIP (F)
Sunday 25th	9.30am	Ints of Matt Casey & Family (Foxen)
	11.30am	The People of the Parish

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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