



Parish newsletter

CATHOLIC PARISH OF
ST EDWARD THE CONFESSOR

Sunday 30th May 2021
The Most Holy Trinity (Year B)

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Today is Trinity Sunday. We believe in one God, in three “persons” of the Trinity - Father, Son and Holy Spirit. It is an immense, amazing and profound mystery. God the Father creates and nurtures; God the Son understands what it is to be human, and has walked the journey of life, love, sacrifice, forgiveness, hope, struggle and joy – and then, through death and Resurrection, opened the doors to eternal life for us; God the Holy Spirit animates and infuses us with the Gifts and Fruits that we celebrated last Sunday, Pentecost Sunday. Each of these persons of the Trinity is God. A practical way to begin to understand this is to see it like three wicks in a single candle, or H₂O existing as ice, water and steam. But in profound ways it will always be a mystery – a mystery with love at the centre. For it is in love that the Father and Son relate, and with an overflowing of love that the Holy Spirit expresses the very essence of God, as our advocate and companion on earth. Rest in the wonder of the Trinity. Rest in the glorious love of God.

We hold in prayer the people of Gaza, Palestine and Israel, praying that the ceasefire will hold, and fresh peace and understanding will be possible. In this week when **the anniversary of the death of George Floyd** has been commemorated across the world we pray for an ever deeper understanding that every person, in all our diversity, is made in the image and likeness of God. We pray for **students** who have just completed exams, that these may be weeks of rest, relaxation and hope. We pray for **all those who continue to be devastated by Coronavirus**, and all who are working to treat those who are ill, to accompany those who grieve, to encourage and support those who remain fearful of venturing into the world, and to rebuild shattered lives and hearts.

Easing out of lockdown, with great care.

Some arrangements for places of worship have changed this week, but with the advice that where the Indian variant of Covid-19 is in the community, we should not change practices. For now, therefore our arrangements remain **unchanged**, with three exceptions:

Additional weekday Masses. From **this week** Mass will be celebrated on a Thursday at 9am and Friday at 9am, in addition to the Wednesday 12.15 Mass, and weekend Masses.

Funeral congregations can now increase to our Covid-safe maximum, of 85.

We are delighted to be resuming **Baptisms** – between now and September over 50 children will be Baptised at St Edwards! If you had a baby in lockdown, or have a child that is not yet Baptised, please get in touch and we will happily help you. **Thank you** to the catechists who help prepare families for Baptism.

Please see the Parish Website for all our additional Covid-safety measures, including the spacing of pews at 1.25m, the use of sanitizer and face masks, and the ventilation of our church before and during all Masses.

Laudato Si – Caring for our common home; listening and responding to “the cry of the earth, the cry of the world’s poorest people.”

This week’s idea, for your home, is an idea as old as the Last Supper, as old as the Passover meal. Say grace before you eat any food, or have a drink. At Mass we are reminded of Jesus giving thanks before blessing the bread and wine. Saying grace reminds us **that everything we eat and drink is a gift – God’s gift.** This changes our relationship with food and drink – try it and see! And it is a great habit for families to get into. Look up simple graces online. To say grace before meals costs nothing and changes everything.

Thanks to the cubs and scouts, as well as our wonderful gardener, Jayne, who have begun to create a heart shaped flowerbed, full of sensory flowers and shrubs, attracting bees and butterflies. There was some very muddy digging in the rain on Monday!

Cycle racks will be installed soon.

Behind the hoarding, and in the presbytery garden, part of the land is being left wild, for natural diversity. If you want a simple way to do this at home, in a garden or a window box, or to gift a friend some wildflower seeds, have a look at the website www.seedball.co.uk

The members of the group who are developing these ideas further, are: Allison Rees, Amanda McKiernan, Colin Smith, Geraldine Ellis, Jayne Hickie, Joan Murphy, Judith Nichols, Nathaly Franzoni, Sue Courtney, and Fr Dominic.

We are beginning the application for the *LiveSimply* award, and there will be a fresh “LaudatoSi” idea in the newsletter every week. **More people are welcome to join the group, to share ideas,** and we hope this will be a wonderful feature of parish life.

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.

“Lourdes at Your Local”

From **Monday 26th - Friday 30th July** (the usual week of the Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes), Mass will be celebrated by Bishop Alan each morning at 11am, with Anointing of the Sick and joyful music, followed by a cup of coffee and refreshments in the parish hall afterwards. The Masses will take place in Leigh-on-Sea, Clacton-on-Sea, Canning Town, Wanstead and Brentwood and everyone is warmly invited. Our nearest Mass is at **Brentwood Cathedral** at 11am on **Friday 30th July**.

These will then be streamed online each evening, and there will also be a Daily Rosary, Torchlight Procession and Talent Show available to take part in virtually during the week. Further details and a full itinerary – including **“Lourdes on the Lawn”** for **young adults, aged 18-28**, at Walsingham House on Saturday 31st July – are available on www.bcys.net/events.

We congratulate and hold in prayer Amy Jones and Matthew Fleming who were **married** last Friday, as well as the young people who were **Confirmed** last Sunday.

We welcome into the family of the Church Olly Barney Brendan Harris, Bethany Summer Conti, Kane Leo Conti, Mayson Darnyl Ruel John Stanley, Hudson David Pollock and Praise Oludiran who were baptised this weekend. We pray for them and their families as they grow in the knowledge and love of Christ.

Livestream volunteers needed. We have 3 volunteers - could you join them, as part of a team to learn how to operate the Livestream? Ideally you will be familiar with the programme OBS (Outside Broadcast Studio), or have other very good IT knowledge. You'd be needed for Sunday 9.30am Mass, and it would be an act of faith and service for those who are ill, housebound, or unable to be at Mass. Training from now until the end of June with the amazing Beth who has seen us through the last 12 months, but soon heads for pastures new. Contact Fr Dominic if you are interested.

Foodbank donations. The foodbank continues to be as busy as ever, and your donations are helping to feed families every week. At the moment, the foodbank are in particular need of **washing up liquid, long life milk, sugar, multi pack bars of chocolate and laundry detergent.** Thank you for any donations - 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).

Sacred Heart of Mary Girls' School require a Site Manager. Full details can be found at www.sacredheartofmary.net or contact 01708 222660.

Rest in Peace

We pray for the Repose of the soul of **Bernard Ling** who died recently. We pray for his sons Richard, Steve and Martin and all his family. He will be received into the church on Wednesday 2nd June at 5pm and his funeral will take place on Thursday 3rd June at 11am and then to Upminster Crematorium.

This week we celebrate:

Monday 31st Dedication of the Cathedral of St Mary & St Helen Brentwood
Tuesday 1st St Justin
Wednesday 2nd Ss Marcellinus & Peter
Thursday 3rd St Charles Lwanga & Companions
Saturday 5th St Boniface
Next Sunday 6th The Body and Blood of Christ (Year B)

Mass Intentions

Saturday 29th	6.30pm	Ints of Mandi Hewitt (Murnane)
Sunday 30th	9.30am	The People of the Parish
	11.30am	Frank Rabbitte RIP (Rabbitte)
Wednesday 2nd	12.15pm	Dr Adewole Adetoro RIP (Adetoro)
Thursday 3rd	9.00am	Veronica Oddi RIP (Oddi)
	11.00am	Funeral – Bernard Ling RIP
Friday 4th	9.00am	Ints of Ben & Therese D’Souza (Murnane)
Saturday 29th	6.30pm	The People of the Parish
Sunday 30th	9.30am	Danny Wild RIP (Grimes)
	11.30am	Ints of Eileen Farrell (Grannell)

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-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, Maureen Symes, 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