



## *Parish newsletter*

CATHOLIC PARISH OF  
ST EDWARD THE CONFESSOR

Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> May 2021  
Sixth Sunday of Easter (Year B)

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**This weekend the first reading contains the memorable line, from St Peter:** “The truth I have now come to realise is that God does not have favourites; anybody of any nationality who respects God and does what is right is acceptable to him.” It is what Pope Francis tells us in *Fratelli Tutti* – we are all sisters and brothers in the Lord – and it is what the Pope speaks about in *LaudatoSi*, his letter on the Environment and care for the poorest in the world. The pandemic has shown us how inter-connected we are; no-one is safe until everyone is safe. This weekend we will prepare for *LaudatoSi* week, which is 16<sup>th</sup>-24<sup>th</sup> May, with a special focus on what it means, in the words of Pope Francis, to “care for our common home” ... to listen and respond to “the cry of the earth and the cry of the poor.” **Please take a Cafod Campaign card, or sign online at [www.cafod.org/reclaim](http://www.cafod.org/reclaim)**, asking our Prime Minister and world leaders to be ambitious in their goals at G7 and COP26 meetings this year, and “to put the people worst affected by the climate crisis at the heart of the talks.” This is our Catholic faith, lived.

**We hold in prayer the people of India**, including family members and friends of parishioners, so desperately affected by Covid-19; we pray for medical teams, aid agencies and all of those, in so many parts of the world, battling waves of the virus without the medical facilities that we are privileged to have, here in Havering.

**We pray for students, from Year 11, Year 13 and at University**, taking exams and assessments in all sorts of combinations, online and in schools and colleges. We pray for parents, grandparents and siblings who feel the stresses of the students, as well as for teachers and all who work in education. May the summer bring fresh rest, relaxation and hope.

**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. **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).

**Mass Intentions** A list of Mass intentions sent to Fr Emilio in Kenya is on the notice board at the back of the church.

### Rest in Peace

We pray for the Repose of the Soul of **Doris Colairo** who died recently. We pray for her son Matthew and her family. Her funeral will take place on 13<sup>th</sup> May at 10am.

**This week we celebrate:**

**Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> St John Houghton**

**Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> The Ascension of the Lord (Holyday of Obligation)**

**Friday 14<sup>th</sup> St Matthias**

**Next Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> Seventh Sunday of Easter (Year B) (World Communications Day)**

### Mass Intentions

<b>Saturday 8<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>6.30pm</b>	<b>James Carey RIP (F)</b>
<b>Sunday 9<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>9.30am</b>	<b>Ints of Rita Gaillard (Gaillard)</b>
	<b>11.30am</b>	<b>The People of the Parish</b>
<b>Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>12.15pm</b>	<b>Sean McCarthy RIP (McCarthy)</b>
<b>Thursday 13<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>10.00am</b>	<b>Funeral – Doris Colairo RIP</b>
	<b>7.00pm</b>	<b>Ints of Slawek Gawlik (Gawlik)</b>
<b>Saturday 15<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>6.30pm</b>	<b>Donie O’Callaghan RIP (Peggy)</b>
<b>Sunday 16<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>9.30am</b>	<b>The People of the Parish</b>
	<b>11.30am</b>	<b>Dec’d Members of McNeela Family (F)</b>

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

**Pope Francis and the Culture of Encounter** On Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> May from 11 am until 12.30 pm Dr Austen Ivereigh, biographer of Pope Francis, will lead a Gidea Park live stream study day. To access this free live stream event simply go to [www.whatgoodnews.org](http://www.whatgoodnews.org) and follow the instructions found there.

**A Covid-19 vaccine confidence webinar** for the Dioceses of Brentwood, Southwark and Westminster will take place on Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> May 2021 from 10am to 11.30am with a panel of eminent medical experts led by Prof Kevin Fenton, Regional Director of Public Health London. The panel will share latest information on the COVID-19 vaccines. To join the webinar: <https://zoom.us/j/99627319556> Passcode: 5466

### **Preparing for *LaudatoSi* week, 16<sup>th</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup> May**

**THANK YOU to the parishioners who have volunteered to be part of the group considering Care for Creation.** We will be meeting this week, considering practical ways in which we could make parish life “greener”, and thinking about how we can work towards the Cafod LiveSimply Award. **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. There are details about the **Cafod petition to world leaders** on the front page of the newsletter.

**If you would like to join the group**, or if you have comments/questions about this, please would you email Fr Dominic ([frdominic@dioceseofbrentwood.org](mailto:frdominic@dioceseofbrentwood.org)).

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

### **Covid-19 Arrangements remain UNCHANGED – see the website for full information**

#### **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.**

#### **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](http://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.

**In the month of May we are invited to join with Pope Francis and Marian Shrines throughout the world in praying the Rosary, with a different Shrine leading the prayers each day.** Last Sunday the prayers came from Walsingham and on 18<sup>th</sup> May they will come from Lourdes. In between there is a wonderful tour of the world, as we ask for the Intercession of Our Lady; Mary, who prays for us with a mother's love, with compassion and hope. All details and a live broadcast at 5pm each day (or watch and pray later in the evening) [www.vaticannews.va](http://www.vaticannews.va)

**Confirmation – 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2021. Finally!** A group of 19 young people began their Confirmation programme in January 2020. They were due to be Confirmed on Pentecost Sunday 2020, and two attempts to celebrate the Sacrament since then have coincided with national lockdowns. But finally it looks as if we will be able to celebrate with them, on Pentecost Sunday 2021. Please do keep them all in your prayers – especially as many of them have exams at this time. **If you are one of the group, or a parent, please do check your email to be sure you have the information that you need.** Those who have enrolled for the 2021 programme should have received an email on Wednesday, and your course will begin on 6<sup>th</sup> June, heading towards Confirmation on National Youth Sunday, the Feast of Christ the King, 21<sup>st</sup> November 2021.

**Livestream volunteers needed.** Could you be one of a team of 3-4 people 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.

**Thank you** for your generous donations to CAFOD's Family Fast Day during Lent. As a parish we raised £518.50. We featured Marian and her son Svondo in Zimbabwe in Lent 2018. The community vegetable garden that your donations helped provide is growing well and during the pandemic the family has survived on the vegetables. Your support has also helped to provide soap and handwashing stations in the garden and in family homes. This is just one of many long-term development projects that CAFOD has funded with the money from that Fast Day. Thank you for your steadfast support

**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 10<sup>th</sup> May 2021. All information is on the website: <https://bcys.net/assistantmanager>

**Diocesan Virtual Pilgrimage to Walsingham – Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> May** – Bishop Alan will lead a virtual pilgrimage from the Basilica of Our Lady of Walsingham, which we can join using the Shrine's live-streaming service via their website [www.walsingham.org.uk](http://www.walsingham.org.uk) or their YouTube channel 'Walsingham Catholic TV'.