



# *Parish newsletter*

CATHOLIC PARISH OF  
ST EDWARD THE CONFESSOR

Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> June 2021  
The Eleventh Sunday of the Year (Year B)

Parish Priest: Fr Dominic Howarth  
5 Park End Road, Romford, Essex RM1 4AT  
Telephone: 01708 740308  
e-mail: [romford@dioceseofbrentwood.org](mailto:romford@dioceseofbrentwood.org)  
Parish Administrator: Julia Pitkin

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

**Today we begin to look forward in hope.** There may well yet be some caution about how and when things reopen, and we will carefully look at all the guidance issued on Monday, and in the days ahead. Nothing will change for next weekend, but hopefully there will be easing in the following weeks – do keep an eye on the website.

The **Gospel for the weekend** gives the image of the mustard seed growing and flourishing. It is a powerful image of faith, and – God willing – an image of parish life burgeoning again, after so much hidden work during the Pandemic. It is also an image that reminds us of how **Jesus was immersed in the natural world**; so many of his parables and illustrations of faith draw from nature. In this **week of the G7 summit, with a focus on climate change and the environment**, we pray for world leaders making vital decisions. We pray for the delegation from Cafod, including young leader Erin Walsh, from Hornchurch. We pray that we may all be good stewards of God's creation.

As we look ahead, we are planning a **welcome back Sunday** on **5<sup>th</sup> September**, with refreshments and a BBQ after the morning Masses and into the early afternoon. More details inside. And of course you are very welcome back before then!

Please also find enclosed updates on **parish day-to-day finances from 2020/21, and the latest on the building project**; there are also full updates on the website.

---

**In the month of June, dedicated to the Sacred Heart**, we pray for **all those who have broken hearts, or grief-stricken hearts; those with hearts full of love and hope; and hearts full of joy**. The Sacred Heart welcomes all hearts, understands all hearts, and offers us a heart bursting with grace, compassion and love.

### **Easing out of lockdown, with great care.**

We await government news on any changes to restrictions but, for now, our arrangements remain **unchanged**, with three exceptions:

There are now **weekday Masses** 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 have resumed **Baptisms** – with over 60 children celebrating Baptism in the weeks ahead. 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: in hot weather, take a water bottle around with you, so you don't have to buy a drink when out.** This will save you money – and save the planet the unnecessary production of single-use plastic bottles.

**Thanks to the cubs and scouts, as well as our wonderful gardener, Jayne;** the heart shaped flowerbed is complete, as you can see – on Monday the bee and butterfly friendly planting was completed – and soon the flowers will bloom!

**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](http://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.

**We welcome into the family of the Church** Martin Joseph Ward and Hunter Ross who were baptised this weekend. We pray for them and their families as they grow in the knowledge and love of Christ.

**Save the Date! WELCOME BACK SUNDAY, 5<sup>th</sup> September 2021**

from 10am – 3pm. An opportunity to come together as a parish for (weather permitting) a BBQ, social and fun day around the morning Masses.

**Get involved!** If you would like to help in any way with planning and running please email the parish office or speak to Anne Walsh. In early July we will gather a group for drinks in the presbytery garden, to dream and plan parish socials for the autumn.

Everyone is welcome to be part of this.

**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.

***“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 30<sup>th</sup> July**.

These will then be streamed online each evening, and there will also be a Daily Rosary & Torchlight Procession 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 31<sup>st</sup> July – are available on [www.bcys.net/events](http://www.bcys.net/events).

**Update – Talent Show Acts Welcome** – Whether it is singing, dancing, magic, joke-telling, or anything in between, if you have a talent to share with the Diocese please email [gabriellafusi@dioceseofbrentwood.org](mailto:gabriellafusi@dioceseofbrentwood.org) and be ready to send in a video no later than Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> July.

**Mary’s Meals** offers a simple solution to world hunger. Their vision is that every child receives one daily meal in their place of education and that all those who have more than they need, share with those who lack even the most basic things. A digital copy of their new magazine is available at: <https://www.marysmeals.org.uk/magazine>. If you would like a physical copy of the magazine or more information on how to become involved in supporting Marys Meals, please contact Theresa on 07845 084493 or email: [info@marysmeals.org](mailto:info@marysmeals.org).

**Repository** As restrictions are lifted, we hope to re-open the repository after weekend Masses in early July. If you were previously on the rota and are happy to remain, or you would like to join the rota please contact Annette Bacon or the parish office.

**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).

**This week we celebrate:**

**Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> St Richard of Chichester**

**Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> St Romuald**

**Next Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> Twelfth Sunday of the Year (Year B) – Fathers Day**

### Mass Intentions

<b>Saturday 12<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>6.30pm</b>	<b>The People of the Parish</b>
<b>Sunday 13<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>9.30am</b>	<b>Peter Schroeyers RIP (Schroeyers)</b>
	<b>11.30am</b>	<b>Arthur Coligan RIP (F)</b>
<b>Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>12.15pm</b>	<b>Ints of Fr Martin O'Connor (Gillooly)</b>
<b>Thursday 17<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>9.00am</b>	<b>Anita McWeeney RIP (Herlihy)</b>
<b>Friday 18<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>9.00am</b>	<b>Ints of Helen Sweeney (Rabbitte)</b>
<b>Saturday 19<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>6.30pm</b>	<b>Clifford West RIP (Bacon)</b>
<b>Sunday 20<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>9.30am</b>	<b>Ints of Irene Heeralal (Scullion)</b>
	<b>11.30am</b>	<b>The People of the Parish</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, Mark Dalton, Dyllis Dangerfield, Fr Kieran Dodd, Angela Fitzpatrick (Moss), Dympna Foxen, 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](http://www.dioceseofbrentwood.net)*