



Parish newsletter

CATHOLIC PARISH OF
ST EDWARD THE CONFESSOR

Sunday 20th June 2021

The Twelfth Sunday of the Year (Year B)

Fathers Day

Catholic Church National "Day For Life"

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This weekend we celebrate Fathers Day. This is the **Year of St Joseph** and in Pope Francis' beautiful letter to introduce the year (*Patris Corde* – "With a father's heart") he writes powerfully about fatherhood: **"Fathers are not born, but made. A man does not become a father simply by bringing a child into the world, but by taking up the responsibility to care for that child. Whenever a man accepts responsibility for the life of another, in some way he becomes a father to that person."** Fatherhood can be very complex – for fathers, and for children; today we pray for fathers, grandfathers and father figures; we pray for those who grieve the loss of fathers, and for fathers separated from their children. Inspired by the Holy Family, who also knew and understood complexity within a family, we pray for family love, and family life.

In the Church in England and Wales today is also the annual "Day for Life", this year focused on care and dignity for those at the end of life. There are many resources, prayers and links via the website www.dayforlife.org. If you are caring for someone near to the end of life, or are bereaved, there is a dedicated website which you may find very helpful: <https://www.artofdyingwell.org/>

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.

Save the Date! WELCOME BACK SUNDAY, 5th 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.

MEMORIAL MASS – Fr Tom's first anniversary

Thursday 5th August marks one year since the sad death of Fr Tom. There will be a Memorial Mass at **6.30pm**, together with Fr Tom's family, and this will be followed by refreshments; more details in the weeks ahead.

Easing out of lockdown, with great care.

Following the recent government announcement, 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: turn the tap off while you brush your teeth! How many of us leave the tap running, while we brush our teeth or shave. Turn it off – save water, preserve the wonderful gift of God's creation. Visit www.wateraid.org/uk for more information about how the climate crisis is a water crisis, for so many in the world.

Cycle racks will be installed soon.

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.

Livestream News – Changes from the end of June

The Livestream has been a surprising and wonderful benefit of lockdown. When lockdown ends it will still be important for many of our housebound parishioners, and those who find it hard to get to Mass. We hope the changes over the next fortnight will make it even more accessible, while also looking forward to welcoming more and more people back to church, especially after lockdown restrictions end.

After June 26th the Livestream will no longer be on YouTube *but* all regular parish weekend and weekday Masses will be available to watch and pray at home, via one link: <https://stream.seccomgroup.com/channel/st-edward>.

The link will be the same every week, and Masses can be viewed from any tablet, smartphone, or laptop, anywhere in the world. Masses will also be recorded, so that they can be prayed later in the day, if that is helpful.

For the Sunday 9.30 Mass we are very grateful to parish volunteers, who will enable the link to be “curated” with different camera angles, etc. For other Masses there will be a single shot of the altar and lectern.

The person who has got us to this point, unfailingly kind and helpful, and with excellent quality each week, is **Beth Warren**. On behalf of the whole parish many, many thanks to Beth, who was part of the Brentwood Catholic Youth Service staff team until last September, and who has this year completed an MA in Charity Management. We wish her every blessing for the future, as she begins work for the national charity “Million Minutes” as their Senior Parish Engagement Officer.

“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 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.

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 and be ready to send in a video no later than Friday 2nd July.

We welcome into the family of the Church Eden Agyeman, Lyre Bersamina, Levi and Narelle Omotayo, and Patrick Johnpillai who were baptised this week. We pray for them and their families as they grow in the knowledge and love of Christ.

6th Romford Scout Group Appeal. The Scout Group has its AGM on 29 June. We need a Committee Chair, Secretary and a parent representative to join our management team to drive the Group forward. If you think you'd like to help please call me/drop me a txt/email: 07824704617; jhartie@hotmail.com.

Foodbank donations. The foodbank continues to be as busy as ever, and your donations are helping to feed families every week. **Thank you** for any donations - donations can be left whenever the church is open for Mass, and can also be left at the presbytery.

This week we celebrate:

Monday 21st St Aloysius Gonzaga
Tuesday 22nd SS John Fisher & Thomas More
Wednesday 23rd St Etheldreda
Thursday 24th Nativity of St John the Baptist
Next Sunday 27th Thirteenth Sunday of the Year (Year B)

Mass Intentions

Saturday 19th	6.30pm	Clifford West RIP (Bacon)
Sunday 20th	9.30am	Ints of Irene Heeralal (Scullion)
	11.30am	The People of the Parish
Wednesday 23rd	12.15pm	Ints of Charles Suarez (Suarez)
Thursday 24th	9.00am	Eileen & Reg Wood RIP (F)
Friday 25th	9.00am	Des Hall RIP (Denapoli)
Saturday 26th	6.30pm	The People of the Parish
Sunday 27th	9.30am	Frank Cussen RIP (Cussen)
	11.30am	Ints of Nida Molet on 70th Birthday (Suarez)

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 and we are part of the Romford Parishes Partnership within the Havering Deanery.

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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