



Parish newsletter

CATHOLIC PARISH OF
ST EDWARD THE CONFESSOR

Sunday 21st November 2021
Our Lord Jesus Christ the King (Year B)
World Youth Sunday
Sunday 28th November 2021
First Sunday of Advent (Year C)

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This weekend is World Youth Sunday - the Catholic Church across the whole world celebrating the gifts, talents, faith, energy and zest of young people, and the many ways in which they are vital to the life of the Church. **Today in the parish we celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation with 24 of our young people.** In their summer time painting of benches and playground equipment, as well as in their help to run the quiz this weekend, they have already shown what a joy and gift they are. We hope that today is the continuation of a wonderful journey into young leadership within the Church.

Pope Francis encourages and challenges young people with these words: **"Young people are meant to dream great things, to seek vast horizons, to aim higher, to take on the world, and to offer the best of themselves to the building of something better."** The Pope also reminds young people, **"Jesus does not teach you from afar, but from within your very youth: contemplate the young Jesus presented in the Gospels, for he was truly one of you."** (Quotes from the Pope's letter to young people, *'Christus Vivit!'*)

Congratulations and many blessings to the 2021 Confirmandi:

Matthew Bacon, Frederick Barlow, John Bond, Cian Bush, Robbin Shae Dacanay, Ryan Fernandes, Imogen Gallagher, Sean Gorman, Josh Issac, Isabella Licenziato, Maddie Martin, Orla McDonnell-Moore, Patrick McLean-Tattan, Jayden Osefoh, Aimée O'Sullivan, Leonardo Prendi, Mia Ramirez Mababa, Grace Rickard, Izzy Seaman, Natalie Sewell, Cara Studdart, Keira Waithe, Sofia Williams and Thomas Williams.
Thank you to the catechists who have accompanied them so generously and kindly: Liz Nicotra, Annette Grimes, Helen Costello, Megan Roberts, Liam Kelly & Aidan Marshall.

We welcome into the family of the Church, Patrick Jack Stokes, Zachariah Aslam, Clementine Francis Wilkinson, Louis Alla and Charles Nevan Rawlings who were baptised this weekend. We pray for them as they grow in knowledge and love of Christ.

Rest in Peace. We pray for Yvonne Kieran, a member of the parish for many decades, who died on Wednesday. We pray for her children and for the whole family.

Brentwood Catholic Youth Service (BCYS) and Walsingham House at Abbotswick offer retreats, pilgrimages and many other events for many thousands of young people every year; most of the work is led by volunteers, trained as young leaders in the Church. The BCYS also supports our catechists and school lay chaplains. **Today a speaker will tell us more about the BCYS and there will be a collection for their vital work, or you can donate online at www.bcys.net/donate.**

NEXT SATURDAY 27th NOVEMBER – THE RETURN OF THE PARISH BAZAAR!

Please support the Bazaar by coming along from 10am – 2pm. The doors open at 10am, so it is a great time to arrive to get the best of the stalls. Refreshments will be served throughout the day, including hot food in marquees outside the parish centre. Why not stay all day. Father Christmas, toys, gifts, bottle stall, cake stall, great ideas from the Petals, plus tombola, chocolate raffle and much more. At 2pm the Grand Draw will take place, with £100 top prize!

Help is needed on Friday 26th November from 4pm – 7pm, and Saturday 27th November from 8am and throughout the day on. Contact Annette Bacon for more info, and to offer help. Cakes can be delivered on Friday 26th or Saturday morning. Grand draw raffle tickets are still available at the back of the church and counterfoils and money can be returned to the parish office or bring them with you on the day.

“Alternative Gifts” this Christmas. St Mother Teresa of Calcutta said, “It is Christmas every time you let God love others through you.” As part of Advent, we naturally reflect on our Christmas giving. Many charities now offer inventive and wonderful ways to support their work, as a gift to others – you can buy goats or bees, support Christians in places where it is very difficult to live as a Christian, help preserve sections of rainforest, and much more. To help in your search for such gifts our Diocesan Caritas has brought a range of charity details all together on one page, and you will find it at: <https://www.caritasbrentwood.org/christmas/>

Bishop Alan will be visiting the parish on **Wednesday 6th July 2022**. He will celebrate **Confirmations**, as well as visiting St Peter’s school, and the Golden Club. For **young people currently in school Year 11 or above** there will be a Confirmation programme running from January to July 2022 (with a break in May/June as you take your GCSEs). To apply for the programme please email frdominic@dioceseofbrentwood.org, and you’ll receive the details of all the dates, etc. The programme will include a weekend retreat at Walsingham House, the opportunity for a sponsored sleepout, and many more ways to dive deep into faith as a young adult in the church. **Deadline to apply is Friday 10th December.**

Advent Carol Service: You are warmly invited to join the Team at Walsingham House at Abbotswick for their annual Advent Carol Service on **Sunday 12th December**. They will offer Christmas carols performed by incredibly talented BCYS musicians, accompanied with readings from scripture and Christmas poems & stories. There are two concerts, at **3pm or 7pm** with limited capacity at each concert. Tickets are £10, including light refreshments. All money raised will support young people to attend BCYS events, including travel to Lourdes. To book your place please contact Joe Beattie, Walsingham House manager on 01277 373 959 or email josephbeattie@dioceseofbrentwood.org.

Thank you. Claire and Gary Isaac wish to thank parishioners and friends for the prayers and support during this difficult time. Gary is now making good progress.

BCYS Summer Lourdes Pilgrimage 2022: 23rd – 30th July 2022. Applications are **now open** for the summer pilgrimage to Lourdes for those in Years 11-13, with those who have left school aged 18+ invited to join us as young leaders. This is one of our most popular events and after a two year gap we are excited to be returning next year. The week is spent assisting the elderly and frail to attend Masses and services in and around the precious Grotto and Sanctuary of Lourdes, as well as accompanying them as they visit shops and cafes within the town. The week also includes a retreat, reconciliation service, social events and a party. Please see www.bcys.net/events/sl22/ for more information including visas, vaccinations and how to apply.

Fathers' Group – Monday 6th December 7.45pm in St Edward's Church. Join other dads for a calm time of Advent prayer in church followed by an informal social with refreshments in the community centre! Come along if you are a new Dad or a battle-worn father of adolescents, or anywhere in between - you are most welcome. Any questions, please email Colin Smith, at colinandvictoria@virginmedia.com

Thresholds of Hope Questions A series of online Zoom meetings on Sundays, 4-5pm, reflecting on theological and spiritual issues. Feel free to join whatever talks you may find of interest. **Next Sunday, 28th November**, Fr Dominic is offering an answer to the question: "What is distinctive about Catholic Social Teaching?" If you have never heard of Catholic Social Teaching, or would like to learn more, you are very welcome to join the conversation! For more information about *The Thresholds of Hope Questions* and how to join in, go to www.thresholdsofhope.co.uk

Certificate of Catholic Practice.

For those applying to Catholic Primary Schools your application should be supported by a Certificate of Catholic Practice. This indicates that you attend Mass regularly; if that applies to you please bring your child's Baptism Certificate to the appropriate weekend and Fr Dominic will have copies of the Certificate, to sign for you after Mass.

No appointment is needed.

**For Parents applying to Catholic Primary School for admission in September 2022:
after any of the weekend Masses on 4th/5th December or 8th/9th January**

COVID safety measures are detailed on the website. Please speak to a steward at the back of the church if you have any questions or suggestions.

During the month of November we continue to remember those who have died. In front of the altar is a box where you can place the names of loved ones – they are prayed for at each Mass in November. There has been the custom of leaving a donation with the names, and you can use an envelope to do that. It is completely optional, and any money given will support our work with young people in the parish.

During the next two weeks we celebrate:

Monday 22nd St Cecilia
Wednesday 24th St Andrew Dung-Lac
Thursday 25th St Catherine of Alexandra
Monday 30th St Andrew
Friday 3rd St Francis Xavier
Sunday 5th Second Sunday of Advent (C)

Two week's Mass Intentions

Saturday 20th	6.30pm	People of the Parish
Sunday 21st	9.30am	Vincent McKenna Snr RIP (Sherman)
	11.30am	Frank Keane RIP (McDermott)
	2.30pm	Confirmation Mass
Wednesday 24th	12.15pm	John & Bridget Herbert RIP (Herbert)
Thursday 25th	9.00am	James Curtis RIP (F)
Friday 26th	9.00am	Mary Catt RIP (F)
Saturday 27th	6.30pm	Joan Mahoney & Teresa Austin RIP (O'Rourke)
Sunday 28th	9.30am	Tom Murnane RIP (Davids)
	11.30am	People of the Parish
Wednesday 1st	12.15pm	Cornelius & Mary O'Sullivan RIP (Johal)
Thursday 2nd	9.00am	Holy Souls (Herbert)
Friday 3rd	9.30am	Fr Tom Jordan RIP (Courtney)
		With children from Year 4 - All welcome
Saturday 4th	6.30pm	Elisabeth Tanner RIP (Savva)
Sunday 5th	9.30am	Those away from family (Gorman)
	11.30am	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, Mark Dalton, Dyllis Dangerfield, Fr Kieran Dodd, Brenda Flaherty, Dympna Foxen, Pauline Gillooly, Margaret Harvey, Fr Liam Hayes, Evelyn Hughes, Benjamin Joseph, Paula Lam, Fr Jean-Laurent Marie, Bina McCarthy, Fr John McKeon, Brendan O'Connor, Eileen O'Connor, Jacqueline O'Neill, 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.

Diocese of Brentwood Registered Charity No. 234092.

Website: www.dioceseofbrentwood.net