



Parish newsletter

CATHOLIC PARISH OF
ST EDWARD THE CONFESSOR

Sunday 9th January 2022

The Baptism of the Lord (Year C)

Sunday 16th January 2022

Second Sunday of the Year (Year C)

Parish Priest: Fr Dominic Howarth

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Parish Livestream: <https://stream.seccomgroup.com/channel/st-edward>

Parish Facebook Page and Twitter account: RomfordRC

St. Peter's Primary School

01708 745506

Head Teacher

Mrs Jenny Waterfield

Many prayers and blessings for the New Year. I hope and pray that 2022 is a year full of health, fun, hope and joy. **Here in the parish, we are cautiously hopeful that this will be the year when our parish centre and church finally get their long awaited makeover and extension.** Please keep it all in prayer; we will update you every time a new milestone is reached.

This weekend we begin three weeks focusing on the questions being asked across the Church in every part of the world. Pope Francis invites us to be part of the Synod – I mentioned this before Christmas, and now we enter our moment of deep listening, to help us in how we journey together as Church, and most especially how we reach to the margins. We will focus on these questions, with more details at each Mass.

8th – 9th January: Communion (“Journeying together”). In general, how well do we journey together as a parish? During the Pandemic, how well did we keep everything (and everyone) together? What were the strengths? What did we not do so well?

15th – 16th January: Participation. Who is missing from our church? Why? What could we do to encourage them to be part of the parish community?

22nd – 23rd January: Mission. How well do we reach into the town we serve? How do we reach those on the edges, the margins? What else could we do?

There is more information on the Diocesan website, including discussion sessions and resources: <https://www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/synod-2021-2023/>

Thank you Bridie Donnelly would like to thank friends and parishioners for the messages of sympathy and support following the sad loss of her son Sean.

Peace Sunday Sunday 16th January is PEACE SUNDAY and this year Pope Francis asks us to think about 'Education, work and dialogue between generations; tools for building peace'. The need for peace in the world is obvious. In this country we have an active Catholic peace movement in Pax Christi, which does a great deal of good work to promote peace and nonviolence through parishes, schools and social media. Find out more at www.paxchrist.org.uk/peace-sunday-2022 Donations are very welcome at www.tinyurl.com/yxfcw67x or by post to Pax Christi, St Joseph's Way London NW4 4TY.

Repository will be closed until early February. Any queries please contact the parish office or Annette Bacon.

Safeguarding Update and Training, plus DBS renewals, for all catechists and those working with young or vulnerable people in the parish. This especially includes First Holy Communion and Confirmation Catechists, as well as anyone who visits older parishioners on their own. The session will be held in the church on Tuesday 18th January 7.30-8.30pm. Please make it a priority to attend if this applies to you.

Foodbank. Families continue to need all the basics, all the staple foods – tinned items, toiletries, pasta, toilet rolls, sanitary products, tea, coffee, long life milk, cereals, etc., The Food Bank donations can be offered any time the church is open, in the side chapel.

BCYS Summer Lourdes Pilgrimage 2022: 23rd – 30th July 2022. Applications remain open only until the end of January: see www.bcys.net/events/sl22/ for more information and to apply.

Be part of the Walsingham House Team 2022/23: If you will be 18+ in September, and are looking for an exciting gap year opportunity, then a year on the Walsingham House Team could be for you. Spend a year as a volunteer in a thriving young Catholic Community, working with thousands of young people from Essex and East London. We are looking for inspiring individuals who want to share their faith with other young people and are also looking to learn new skills, grow deeper in their own faith and enjoy a challenge. For more information please contact Joseph Beattie, by emailing josephbeattie@dioceseofbrentwood.org or calling 01277 373959. There is more information on our website (www.bcys.net) and social media @Brentwoodcys

Bishop's Certificate in Catechesis and Youth Ministry: The Bishop's Certificate is designed to be an entry level qualification to help in the ongoing formation of adults involved in sacramental preparation or youth ministry in the Diocese of Brentwood. It includes both the development of practical skills & the deepening of theological knowledge. The course is online and taught through engaging, short videos with expert interviews and begins on **24th February**, with an introduction and welcome evening, held at Walsingham House at Abbotswick. For more information please see the website: <https://bcys.net/bishops-cert/> or email your expression of interest to bishopscertificate@dioceseofbrentwood.org by Monday 22nd February.

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.

- **Please do not come to church if you have any Covid symptoms at all.**
- **Please, if at all possible, take a Lateral Flow Test before coming to Mass.**
- **For all Masses, please wear a mask, in accordance with Government guidance, unless you are medically exempt.**

These are measures to keep everyone safe – “Love your neighbour!”

Thank you from Fr Dominic

Christmas volunteers – THANK YOU. So many people helped over Christmas – musicians, altar servers, church cleaners, flower arrangers, those who helped set up the crib and the tree, the Livestream volunteers, those who stewarded Masses and served as Ministers and Readers ... and trolley pushers! You all give your time and energy with such joy, and the result was a very beautiful celebration of Christmas, even in rather sombre times.

Christmas gifts – THANK YOU. On behalf of the families who will benefit from the food, toys, chocolates and toiletries that were so generously donated during Advent and at Christmas – the “gifts under the tree” – thank you. The amount of donations, and the quality of what was given, was very moving; a great witness to charity and faith, and undoubtedly bringing great joy and hope to those who receive the gifts. Some were distributed before Christmas; everything else was given out in the last few days.

Christmas offering – THANK YOU. The Christmas collection, both in-person and online, was immensely generous. In addition the beautiful, kind, affirming and encouraging messages in your many, many cards were really uplifting. After a very turbulent year, your encouragement is deeply appreciated.

Rest in Peace

We pray for the Repose of the soul of **Dympna Foxen** who died recently. She will be received into the church on Tuesday 11th January 2022 at 4pm and her funeral will take place on Wednesday 12th January at 12.15pm and then to Upminster Cemetery. We pray for her children and all her family and friends.

We pray for the Repose of the souls of **Avis Lee, Maureen Doran, Brendan Cooney, Catherine O’Sullivan and Peter Davis** who died recently. We pray for all their families and friends.

Brentwood Catholic Children’s Society Crib Donations The proceeds of the Crib Collection are donated each year to the Brentwood Catholic Children’s Society to support those children and families who need their help. There is a collection box by the crib or you can donate online at www.bccs.org.uk/donate

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 any of the weekend Masses this weekend, 8th/9th January. Please speak with Fr Dominic at the end of Mass. This is the last of four weekends for Secondary and Primary form signing.

During these two weeks we celebrate:

Wednesday 12th St Aelred of Rievaulx
Thursday 13th St Hilary
Sunday 16th Second Sunday of the Year (C) (Peace Sunday)
Monday 17th St Anthony
Octave of Prayer for Christian Unity 18th – 25th January
Friday 21st St Agnes
Sunday 23rd Third Sunday of the Year (C)

Mass Times and Intentions

Saturday 8th	6.30pm	People of the Parish
Sunday 9th	9.30am	John Murphy RIP (Murphy/Byrne)
	11.30am	Kathleen Page & Sons Tony & Martin Glynn (Paradine)
Wednesday 12th	12.15pm	<u>Requiem Mass</u> for Dympna Foxen RIP
Thursday 13th	9.00am	Betty Coldhart RIP (Corbett)
Friday 14th	9.00am	Ints of Annie McCarthy (McCarthy)
Saturday 15th	6.30pm	People of the Parish
Sunday 16th	9.30am	Peter Schroeyers RIP (Schroeyers)
	11.30am	Vocations to the Priesthood and Religious Life (KSC Romford)
	4.00pm	<i>Welcome Mass – this Mass is just for the First Holy Communion children and families</i>
Wednesday 19th	12.15pm	Intentions of Joan Donohue (Smith)
Thursday 20th	9.00am	Caroline Webb (F)
Friday 21st	9.00am	Ints of Sr Jude Groden (Johnson)
Saturday 22nd	6.30pm	Ints of Siobhan Marshall (School Governors)
Sunday 23rd	9.30am	Gerald Stewart RIP (Sherman)
	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, 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, Shamus Pierce, 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.

We are twinned with the parish of Regina Pacis, Ladysmith, Diocese of Dundee, South Africa.

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