



Parish newsletter

CATHOLIC PARISH OF
ST EDWARD THE CONFESSOR
Sunday 19th November 2023

Thirty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)
(World Day of the Poor)

Sunday 26th November 2023
Our Lord Jesus Christ the King (A)
(Youth Day)

Parish Priest: Fr Dominic Howarth

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Parish Administrator: Julia Pitkin

Parish Website www.stedwards-romford.org.uk

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

Parish Facebook Page: @RomfordRC

Mass Times: see back page. Reconciliation: Saturday 5.45 – 6.15pm, or on request

St. Peter's Primary School 01708 745506

Head Teacher Mrs Jenny Waterfield

This Sunday, 19th November, is the **World Day of the Poor**. There are many types of poverty in our community; some people have little or no money; some face the poverty of loneliness; others the poverty of anxiety and depression. What can we do? In this weekend's Gospel Jesus invites us to look at our talents, gifted to us. Talents to be used and shared, for the Glory of God. The more we help others, the more our talents multiply. As a parish and a Diocese we are committed to doing all we can to alleviate poverty and its terrible effects, so everyone can live with dignity. At the back of the church you will find posters with information about Caritas Diocese of Brentwood, working with a focus on **Climate change and care for creation; Welcoming refugees and asylum seekers; The cost of living crisis, mental health and homelessness**. To find out more look at www.caritasbrentwood.org. As a parish we are working towards the nationally recognised **Live Simply Award** – more on this in the weeks ahead.

Next Sunday, 26th November, is **the Feast of Christ the King and World Youth Sunday**. During 2024, when the new Parish Centre is open, we hope to greatly increase what we offer for young people in the parish. In the meantime we are blessed with their gifts as singers and readers, altar servers, members of scouts, guides, cubs, rainbows, beavers and brownies, and young catechists. Their energy and enthusiasm is a delight and a blessing. Young people will speak at each Mass about the opportunities offered by the **Brentwood Catholic Youth Service**, including the Summer pilgrimage to Lourdes, and there will be a second collection to support the BCYS. Find out more at www.bcys.net

Building Works – Update

Works continue rapidly, and as much as possible will be ready by Christmas. We continue to pray for our builders, and everyone supporting us professionally.

Thank you to those who responded to the recent appeal for parish donations; if you are not yet contributing to the building project, could you make a donation or begin a Standing Order? Forms are at the back of church or on the website.

We know it is not possible for everyone, so just do what you can.

Could you even leave the parish a legacy in your will?

If so, please speak with Fr Dominic.

S.M.I.L.E. CHRISTMAS SHOEBOX APPEAL – deadline 30th NOVEMBER!

S.M.I.L.E. Shoebox Appeal – give during November for gifts to be distributed to families in Havering at Christmas. We will still have “presents under the tree” to support local families throughout the year, but this is a direct and wonderful way to get a Christmas gift to families in great need. Details can be found on the poster at the back of the church or contact info@smilelondonsex.com.

There remains an ongoing need for Foodbank Donations, Donations can be left in bags in the side chapel any time the church is open.

Opportunities for Young People

BCYS YOUTH MASS – Thursday 7th December 2023, 7.30pm at Brentwood Cathedral

Beginning with pizza & refreshments from 6pm, and an Advent Reconciliation service in the Cathedral before Mass. Absolutely everyone is welcome, No need to book, but do let us know if you have a group coming – just email info@bcys.net

BCYS SUMMER LOURDES YOUTH PILGRIMAGE – July 2024 Bookings are now open online for the Brentwood Catholic Youth Service pilgrimage to Lourdes. A week serving the main Diocesan pilgrimage, assisting the elderly and infirm, alongside times of retreat, reconciliation, visiting the baths, taking part in the beautiful Processions, an afternoon in the mountains, party and social nights - all with other young Catholics from around our Diocese. The pilgrimage is open to all those in school year 10 – 13, with all those of school leaver age (18+) invited to join us as young leaders (subject to attending a training weekend). All details and applications can be found on the website www.bcys.net/events/sl24

CAFOD Thank you to parishioners who donated £938 for the recent Family Fast Day.

Office Clerk- Cathedral House To provide effective and efficient support in relation to administration requirements at Cathedral House. (Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays 9am – 5pm). Salary- £13 per hour. Apply by sending a CV and covering letter (no longer than A4) to hr@brcdt.org. Closing date for applications is 5th December 2023

Contact Would Isaac Omondi please make contact with Fr Dominic or the parish office

PARISH BAZAAR – Saturday 2nd December 10am – 2pm

The bazaar this year will again be held at St Peter's school. We are really thankful to the school, as this will enable the Bazaar to run with lots of stalls and a wonderful atmosphere, centred in and around the school hall.

Raffle tickets – with top prize £125 – go on sale THIS WEEKEND. £5/book.

Donations can be left at the church or presbytery any time.

Please – please – only bring what is on this list:

→ New (or very nearly new), boxed toys

→ Warm winter coats – adults or children's sizes – new or v. good second hand

→ Bottles for the festive shenanigans that is the bottle stall. Bottles containing any fluid that can be drunk, alcoholic or soft. But not any already opened!

→ Gift items – either new, or things that suit a "white elephant stall", with novelty value. Nothing chipped or cracked, please.

→ Fairtrade donations, tea, coffee, or any nonperishable food items

→ Toiletry sets – again, something that might make a lovely gift

→ PLUS we will warmly welcome donations of cakes, biscuits, cup cakes, soda bread and other home baked items in the day or two before the Bazaar, and on the day. Contact Julia in the parish office to arrange drop off.

The Bazaar will run from 10am to 2pm, with the raffles drawn at 1.30pm. There will be loads of stalls, including Advent wreaths and floral decorations, knitted cribs, games for children run by scouts, cubs, guides and brownies, plus – of course – Father Christmas on a little warm-up outing, as he gets ready for Christmas Eve. Come and enjoy the festivities and fun, pick up some Christmas gift bargains, and help raise money to support our wonderful parish!

There is a superb team of volunteers looking after each stall, and getting everything ready. If you can help out – especially setting up on Friday 3.30 – 7pm or clearing up on Saturday 2.00 – 4.30pm please contact Annette Bacon via the parish office.

Home visits. Each Advent and Lent – and at any other time when there is emergency need – Fr Dominic visits housebound parishioners in their homes, or care homes within the parish. If you, a friend or relative, would like a visit, please speak with Fr Dominic or contact Julia in the parish office. Throughout the year Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist can visit with Holy Communion each week, or whenever suits you. Visits can also be arranged from the SVP or Legion of Mary – just let us know, so no-one is alone.

Celebrating the Sacrament of Confirmation for those in school Year 11. We learnt in previous years that running Confirmation while you are studying for GCSEs is a great pressure. So we ask those in Year 11 to register **by December 1st**; we will have a couple of events in spring, and the main programme will run June – November 2024, with Confirmations on World Youth Sunday (the Feast of Christ the King) 2024. Registration forms at the back of the church, or email frdominic@brcdt.org

We pray for the repose of the soul of Jim Hiles who died recently. We pray for his wife Maureen and all his family and friends.

Certificate of Catholic Practice – Primary Schools

For those applying to **Catholic Primary Schools** for admission in September 2024 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 and Fr Dominic will have copies of the Certificate, to sign for you **after any of the weekend Masses 9th /10th December and 6th /7th January.**

During these two weeks we celebrate:

Tuesday 21st The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Wednesday 22nd St Cecilia

Friday 24th St Andrew Dung-Lac

Thursday 30th St Andrew

Sunday 3rd First Sunday of Advent (B)

Mass Intentions

Saturday 18th	6.30pm	People of the Parish
Sunday 19th	9.30am	Sheila McCarthy RIP (Donnelly)
	11.30am	Juan Ruiz Quintanilla RIP (Joyce)
Monday 20th	8.20am	Ints Sue Watson & Family (Heneghan) <u>In CampionSchool</u>
Wednesday 22nd	12.15pm	Sean Donnelly RIP (Donnelly)
Thursday 23rd	9.00am	Susanna O'Donnell RIP (Heneghan)
Friday 24th	9.00am	Holy Souls (Conti)
Saturday 25th	6.30pm	Terry Raftery RIP (Mernin)
Sunday 26th	9.30am	Derek Banks RIP (Davids)
	11.30am	Marie Sainsbury RIP (O'Rourke)
	4.00pm	People of the Parish – <u>Mass for FHC Children & Families</u>
Monday 27th	8.20am	John Quirk RIP (Richards) <u>In Campion School</u>
Wednesday 29th	12.15pm	Fr Kieran Dodd RIP (Lobo)
Thursday 30th	<u>9.30am</u>	John Mullen RIP (Rogan) <u>With Year 5 children from St Peter's</u>
Friday 1st	<i>No Mass today – Fr Dominic at Campion School</i>	
Saturday 2nd	6.30pm	Ints of Miriam Lobo (Gillooly)
Sunday 3rd	9.30am	Kathleen Merritt RIP (Rickard)
	11.30am	People of the Parish

Please pray for all who are sick in hospital, our nursing homes and at home.

Especially we pray for:

Margaret Alake, Joe Bellotti, Mgr Arthur Barrow, Fr Michael Butler, Mark Dalton, Dyllis Dangerfield, Agnes Danielka, Genevieve Geary, Pauline Gillooly, Irene Girling, Jim Griffin, Evelyn Hughes, Joseph, Benjamin Joseph, Paula Lam, Matty, Fr John McKeon, Harry McKinley, Brendan O'Connor, Eileen O'Connor, Jacqueline O'Neill, Agnes O'Sullivan, Shamus Pierce, Michael Scullion, Peggy Squires, Maureen Symes, Fr John Taylor, Andrew Todd, Danny Toye, Stephen Toye, Betty Walsh, Joyce & Vince Willshere and Trudy Wijeyeratnam

Diocese of Brentwood Registered Charity No. 234092.

Website: www.dioceseofbrentwood.net