



Parish newsletter

CATHOLIC PARISH OF
ST EDWARD THE CONFESSOR

Sunday 12th May 2024

Seventh Sunday of Easter (B)
(World Communications Day)

Sunday 19th May 2024

Pentecost (B)

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

We congratulate and pray for our children who receive Holy Communion for the first time over these two weekends.

We pray for their parents, guardians, grandparents, and friends who have journeyed with them. We thank the dedicated and excellent team of catechists, including young catechists, who have given so generously of their time over the last 6 months.



Marcus, Peter, Dara, Gabija, Edward, Evie, Harry, Emrys, Alicia, William, Jamie, Miranda, Mikaila, Elliot, Haylowe, Leus, Isla, Sofia, Chukwunyere, Onyemauche, Sienna, Tiana, Ademidesayo, Regan, Robyn, Gabriela, Callum, Amelia, Lukas, Eila, Lilia, Antonio, Desmond, Chisom, Skyla, Alesha, Brendan, Harry, Anqi, Isaac, Bhinal, Nancy, Jason, Matthew, Nicholas, Kaya, Harry, Dilan, Lilly, Lina, Ema, Joshua, Isaac, George, Joshua, Leo, Semone and Sonny.

Opening and blessing of the narthex and parish centre

Mass with Bishop Alan on Friday 31st May, 7pm, followed by cakes and drinks. Donations of home made cakes are very welcome: please speak to Julia (in the parish office) or to Margie Davids to arrange drop off.

Discover the amazing range of parish groups after all Masses on the weekend of 8th/9th June, when they will each have a display in the new parish centre. Please arrange your schedule so you don't have to rush away after Mass. Mingle over refreshments. There may well be a group in the parish that is ideal for you! **Can Parish Group leaders please contact Joan Murphy or Caroline Dixon to confirm their arrangements. Thank you.**

Then all are welcome to the **Parish Open Meeting** on 9th June at 2.30pm, to offer ideas, comment, praise, suggestions for changes, or anything else you would like to discuss. How can we develop and improve? How can we better reach into the town that we serve? There will be more info about this on the weekend of 1st/2nd June.

THANK YOU to the 30 people who have signed up to be new Stewards for weekend Masses. A great response! There will be a training evening for existing and new Stewards from **6.30 – 8pm on 23rd May**. This will specifically include fire safety training. It is vital for all Stewards to attend, please.

Parent & Toddler Group. Our new Parent & Toddler Group is in the planning stage and we would welcome donations of **new or nearly new toys** suitable for babies - 4 years. Please contact Moira on 07931 156295 or email the parish office romford@brcdt.org

Thank you from St Peter's School. Mrs Waterfield, and the pupils from the Prayer & Worship Group at St Peter's school would like to thank all the parishioners who attended the cake sale and gave so generously towards the collection for the school fire pit. Thanks also to all the parents who baked, donated cakes and assisted on the day. The various fundraising events organised raised £1,075 towards the target of £1,200.

Interested in becoming a Catholic? If you have not been Baptised, or were Baptised (as a Catholic or in a different Christian denomination) but have not ever received Communion or been Confirmed, then you would be very welcome to become a Catholic. It is a journey to be taken at your pace, and there is a lovely group of catechists to walk the journey with you. Please contact Fr Dominic if you are interested – frdominic@brcdt.org or phone the parish office.

Pre-School. The Shining Starz Pre-School for children ages 2-4 years is now open in the parish centre. The pre-school is open on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 8:30am to 4:00pm, in term time. There are funded places available for 2 and 3 year olds, for 15 hours and 30 hours. If you would like to register your child, please contact 07774886331 or shiningstarz24@outlook.com.

Are you celebrating a significant wedding anniversary this year? Join Bishop Alan for the annual Mass for Marriage and Family Life at Brentwood Cathedral at 3pm on Saturday 13th July. Fr Dominic has the invites for the Mass – please let him know your names, and Anniversary date of marriage. The invitation is also warmly extended to engaged couples.

Charitable work and action

Live Simply Our Live Simply group took part in the recent Greenpeace National Plastic Count. We were surprised by the amount of plastic we threw away; our average weekly plastic use was 68 pieces per household, as compared to the national average of 60 pieces per week. After the count, Greenpeace calculated that a huge 1.7 billion pieces of plastic are being disposed by UK households every week! This count has made us much more aware of the need to cut down on disposable plastic items. **We encourage parishioners to count the number of plastic items thrown away over a week. It's a very eye opening experience.**

Our parish St Vincent de Paul Society (SVP) offers discreet support to families facing especially hard times; please get in touch via the parish office.

If there is anything else we can do – or any other local sources of support you come across which we can share with parishioners – please let us know. Just email or call.

Thank you Annette Bacon and her family wish to thank parishioners for all the prayers, messages of sympathy and condolences and support following the illness and sad loss of Theresa. Thank you also for the generous donations of over £600 for St Francis Hospice.

Youth Mass, Thursday 6th June 2024, Brentwood Cathedral. This may be a busy and stressful time for many young people, particularly those taking exams. On 6th June from 6pm the Cathedral and Parish Hall will be open for young people from Year 9 to Year 13, to socialise, pray and celebrate Mass with us, or pop in for a break from revision, change of scenery or quiet personal prayer. Pizza from 6pm in the Parish Hall, Mass at 7:30pm in the Cathedral.

“Revive. Discover. Empower.” Retreat for Young Adults, 22nd – 23rd June at Walsingham House at Abbotswick. This young adult retreat is an opportunity for spiritual growth and reflection, to **revive, discover** and **empower** you in your faith. *This retreat is aimed at those aged 18+, having left school, to roughly 30.*

All details can be found at www.bcys.net/events

Walsingham House Anniversary Mass, 31st August at Walsingham House at Abbotswick. Celebrate 40 years of team at Walsingham House with us, beginning with Mass celebrated by Bishop Alan at 12pm followed by celebrations at our beautiful retreat house just outside Brentwood.

Catholic Social Teaching in an Election Year On Saturday 15th June Raymond Friel OBE, CEO of Caritas Social Action Network, will lead a Study Day, reflecting on Catholic Social Teaching and what the Church says about democracy and voting. Talks will be at the Catholic Church of Christ the Eternal High Priest, RM2 6DH. Coffee will be available from 10.30 am and the talks begin at 11 am, and conclude by 2 pm. This is an in-person event, also available online at www.whatgoodnews.org If you intend to be present please email gideapark@brcdt.org Please bring a packed lunch. Talks will be available on the website after the event.

Donations to the parish building project. It is wonderful that the project has completed so well, and that we have already paid off over £1.75million (£1 Million from the land sale, £470,000 in grants, £100,000 in VAT reclaim and £180,000 already donated or pledged from parishioners). **Can you help us with the last £300,000?**

If 300 people or families could give £1,000 ... that's £20/week for the next year.

Could you do that? The sooner we pay off the debt, the less interest we have to pay.

Full details, online donations, and standing order information is all at

www.stedwards-romford.org.uk/faithinthefuture/donate

We pray for the repose of the soul of Florence Maureen Redgewell who died recently. Her funeral will take place on Friday 17th May at 1.30pm and then to Romford Cemetery. We pray for her children David and Mandy, and all her family and friends.

Mass Times and Intentions

Saturday 11th	6.30pm	People of the Parish
Sunday 12th	9.30am	Bina McCarthy RIP (SVP)
	11.30am	Building a new Home (Joshy)
Monday 13th	8.20am	Donie O'Callaghan RIP (Peggy) <i>In Campion School</i>
Wednesday 15th	12.15pm	Bina McCarthy RIP (McCarthy)
Thursday 16th	9.00am	Isidro Olivarez RIP (Gallardo)
Friday 17th	9.00am	Maria Luz Diaz RIP (Diaz)
	1.30pm	Funeral – <i>Maureen Ridgewell RIP</i>
Saturday 18th	6.30pm	Eillish McBride RIP (Dwyer)
Sunday 19th	9.30am	Frank McDermott RIP (Hayden)
	11.30am	People of the Parish
Monday 20th	8.20am	Ints Sarah Gray (Johnson) <i>In Campion School</i>
Wednesday 22nd	12.15pm	Ints O'Donnell Family (O'Donnell)
Thursday 23rd	9.00am	Ann Gillooly RIP (Gillooly)
Friday 24th	9.00am	Ints Rudy Fruto (Suarez)
Saturday 25th	6.30pm	People of the Parish
Sunday 26th	9.30am	Irmgard Sheidermaip RIP (Ellis)
	11.30am	Mely Olivarez RIP (Gallardo)

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

To ask for prayers for someone who is ill, please check they would like to be named in the newsletter, and then email or call the parish office.

Diocese of Brentwood Registered Charity No. 234092.

Website: www.dioceseofbrentwood.net