



Parish newsletter

CATHOLIC PARISH OF
ST EDWARD THE CONFESSOR

Sunday 22nd September

Twenty-Fifth Sunday of the Year (B)

Sunday 29th September 2024

Twenty-Sixth Sunday of the Year (B)

Parish Priest: Fr Dominic Howarth

Parish Administrator: Julia Pitkin

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Telephone: 01708 740308

E-mail: romford@brcdt.org

Parish Website

www.stedwards-romford.org.uk

Parish Livestream

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

Parish Facebook and Instagram @RomfordRC

Mass Times

See back page.

Reconciliation

Saturday 5.45 – 6.15pm, or on request

St Peter's Primary School

Telephone 01708 745506

Head Teacher

Mrs J Waterfield

Over the last few months you may have noticed that the statue of Our Lady of Lourdes in the prayer garden has been acquiring more and more rosaries, draped over her hands. They are left there sometimes in memory of a loved one, sometimes with a particular prayer intention. They are left reverently and in a sacred way.

However, so many were left that I feared Our Lady's hands may not cope with the weight. Also, as winter approaches, the rosaries get ever more weathered.

So, anticipating October, designated as the month of the Rosary, I have put the rosaries in a basket by the altar. **Please take one**, if you would like to. Pray for the person who left it in the garden, and their intentions. **Please also feel welcome to add to the basket.** Perhaps you have an addiction to religious souvenirs when you go on pilgrimage or holiday, or perhaps your family think you need a new rosary each time they return from a holiday. So you have 20 in a drawer and no idea what to do with them. Again, other parishioners may take them for their prayer. At the end of October we will send the rosaries in the basket to a parish abroad, where the resources to buy or make rosaries are scarce, so that people there can pray with them.

During October, do make time for the Rosary – it is such a beautiful and easy way to pray, and you can pray a Rosary anywhere. Perhaps make it part of your daily commute, or your walk to school? Bringing Jesus and Mary to your heart as you begin the day.

Fr Dominic

First Holy Communion and First Reconciliation Preparation is open for children who will be in Year 3 or above in September. The application forms are available at the back of the church and must be returned by **TODAY, Sunday 22nd September 2024**. The parents' evening will be **Tuesday 8th October**, and the celebration of Communion will be in May 2025.

Confirmation applications are now open for any young person **currently in Year 10 or Year 11** (or sixth form), with sessions beginning in December, and concluding with Bishop Alan's visit on 30th March 2025. Full details on the green forms at the back of the church; applications open until the end of October.

Are you an adult who would like to become a Catholic? Perhaps you have never been Baptised, or Baptised but never received Holy Communion or Confirmation? There is a wonderful Journey in Faith (RCIA) group for adults starting in October, with the chance for excellent conversation, asking questions, and – if you wish – preparing for Sacraments, celebrated at Easter 2025. If you are interested, or would like to know more, simply email frdominic@brcdt.org

The Parish Bazaar is the biggest parish event of the year. To help plan and run it, much support is needed. Please come to **the parish hall from 6.30-7.30pm on Thursday 17th October** if you can offer any help, or contact Annette Bacon via the parish office. The Bazaar is back in the parish centre this year – let's make it amazing.

Secondary School Admissions – Certificate of Catholic Practice

For those with children in Year 6 applying to **Catholic Secondary Schools for admission in September 2025** your application should be supported by a Certificate of Catholic Practice. This is **only** needed for The Champion School and Sacred Heart of Mary Girls' School and 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 on 19th /20th October. No appointment is needed. Applications to the Brentwood Ursuline do not need a certificate, and nor do Catholic primary school applications in Havering.

The Teddies – St Edward's Parent and Toddler Group – every Wednesday in term time from 9 – 10.30pm. Open for babies and pre-school children and a chance for parents to meet others with young children.

Next Friday, 27th September at 1.30pm everyone is warmly invited to meet at the gates of Raphael Park and join the Parish Laudato Si' group on a reflective and prayerful walk as part of the Season of Creation.

Thank you to Fr Gerald Gostling, who will be looking after Masses for the next two weekends. **Thank you** also to the priests from La Salette, Rainham, who will be looking after Wednesday lunchtime Masses. This includes Mass on 9th October, when many will be in Aylesford. Fr Mariusz is soon to move from Rainham to Goodmayes, and Fr Kris will become Parish Priest in Rainham, joined by Fr Edward. The La Salette Fathers have been an immense help to this parish over many years; in this time of moves, prayers for each of them and the parishes that they serve.

Welcome to our local PCSO, Sue, and colleagues who have a stand outside church this Sunday as part of Crime Prevention in Havering, with a special focus on safety for women and girls. Please do chat with them, and please pray for them and all our police officers, in the vital work that they do.

Macmillan “World’s Biggest Coffee Morning” Next Saturday 28th September from 9.30am – 12pm in the Parish Centre, supporting Macmillan Cancer. Any donations of cakes/raffle prizes would be appreciated; these can be left in the parish office on Friday 27th or brought to the community centre on the morning. So why not be part of it; save the date and make time to get together for a coffee and a chat!

Karaoke Next Saturday, 28th September from 8pm in the Walsingham Hall in aid of the Parish Building Project. Bring your own drinks and nibbles. £5 entry. All welcome – bring your best singing voices, and enjoy some of the lovely voices in the parish!

Retreat Manager at Walsingham House: Walsingham House is an integral part of the youth ministry in our diocese. They are seeking to appoint a Retreat Manager who can oversee the smooth running and delivery of retreats to our schools and parishes. It is essential that applicants have experience in youth ministry. This is a unique and exciting role; a chance to help shape the future of retreats within our diocese. For more information please see <https://bcys.net/news/vacancies/> The closing date is midday on Tuesday 15th October.

Thank you *“I would like to take this opportunity to express my gratitude to everyone for your generosity and support with the **Breast Cancer Now** charity fundraiser. It was a lovely afternoon and we raised an amazing £1,365.”* Philomena.

This weekend, Sept 20-22, Calais Light are taking their 29th convoy to help refugees in Northern France. Thirty volunteers from across the Diocese will be bringing essential food and medical supplies to continue helping refugees. For more information, to volunteer next time, or to donate: <https://www.calaislight.com/>

Saturday 12th October, Preparing for the Jubilee of Hope. 2025 will be a Holy Year for the whole church. In line with the original meaning of “Jubilee”, Pope Francis has invited us to have special care for the poor and marginalized, including promoting the rights of refugee. On Saturday 12th October from 11 am – 2pm Victoria Firth and Liam Allmark of the Jesuit Refugee Service UK will discuss how we can take up Pope Francis’ invitation. This informative day is just next door – at Christ the Eternal High Priest in Gidea Park (RM2 6DH). Live participation is encouraged, but the day can also be followed live or accessed later on www.whatgoodnews.org

Saturday 12th October, 25 years of the Parish Legion of Mary. The Legion do wonderful work, praying for us all, visiting people and spreading the Good News. This year marks 25 years since they began in the parish; do join Legion members from across the Diocese for Mass here at 2pm, followed by lovely refreshments.

Mass of Remembrance, 2pm Saturday 2nd November (All Souls Day). Mass will be offered especially for all who have died in the last year within the parish community, and from the community at St Peter's school. Please hand names of those you wish to be remembered into the parish office by Wednesday 30th October: candles will be lit for them during Mass.

We pray for the repose of the soul of Joyce Willshere whose funeral took place on Thursday 19th September. We pray for her husband Vince, her sons John and Mark, and all her family and friends.

In these weeks we celebrate:

Monday 23rd	St Pius of Pietrelcina
Tuesday 24th	Our Lady of Walsingham
Friday 27th	St Vincent de Paul
Monday 30th	St Jerome
Tuesday 1st	St Thérèse of the Child Jesus
Wednesday 2nd	The Holy Guardian Angels
Friday 4th	St Francis of Assisi (Harvest Fast Day)
Sunday 6th	Twenty-Seventh Sunday of the Year

Mass Times and Intentions

Saturday 21st	6.30pm	Andrew Grimes RIP (Grimes)
Sunday 22nd	9.30am	People of the Parish
	11.30am	Raymund Graves RIP (Graves)
<i>(With Confirmation Group)</i>	5.20pm	Ints Kevin Lenos (Lenos)
Wednesday 25th	12.15pm	Restituta Munoz RIP (Regina)
Saturday 28th	6.30pm	People of the Parish
Sunday 29th	9.30am	Josefina Manoguid RIP (Suarez)
	11.30am	Phil Oates RIP (McDaniel)
Wednesday 2nd	12.15pm	Ints Rita Peters (Murnane)
Saturday 5th	6.30pm	People of the Parish
Sunday 6th	9.30am	Hannah Haughey RIP (Hayden)
	11.30am	Dec'd Members Deigo & D'Souza Families(D'Souza)
<i>(With Confirmation Group)</i>	5.20pm	John Doyle RIP (Henehgan)

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, Jacey Cooke, Mark Dalton, Dyllis Dangerfield, Agnes Danielka, Margaret Ellis, Pat Fagan, Genevieve Geary, Pauline Gillooly, Irene Girling, Jim Griffin, Evelyn Hughes, Joseph, Benjamin Joseph, Paula Lam, Matty, Harry McKinley, Brendan O'Connor, Eileen O'Connor, Daniel O'Mahoney, Agnes O'Sullivan, Shamus Pierce, Michael Scullion, Peggy Squires, Maureen Symes, Andrew Todd, Danny Toye, Stephen Toye, Tracy Tucker, Betty Walsh, 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