



## *Parish newsletter*

CATHOLIC PARISH OF  
ST EDWARD THE CONFESSOR

Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> September

Twenty-Third Sunday of the Year (B)  
(Education Sunday)

Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> September 2024

Twenty-Fourth Sunday of the Year (B)  
(Evangelii Gaudium Sunday)

Parish Priest: Fr Dominic Howarth

Parish Administrator: Julia Pitkin

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Parish Website                      [www.stedwards-romford.org.uk](http://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

**WELCOME BACK!** If you have been able to go away over the summer, it is lovely to see you again. **WELCOME** to any new parishioners who have moved in over the summer, and to anyone visiting today. Please speak to any of the stewards (with blue lanyards), anyone running “**welcome back Sunday**” activities, or to Fr Dominic, if you have any questions, or if there is any way in which we can help you.

**THANK YOU** to all of those providing activities for children and families throughout Sunday morning and into the early afternoon, along with those providing refreshments for all. **Please do stay after the 9.30am and 11.30am Masses**, meet other parishioners, and enjoy time together. Who knows – you might meet someone who lives just round the corner from you, or who has the same hobby! In such ways, we build community that helps sustain and nourish our faith.

**Prayers for our teachers, students, and school communities on this Education Sunday.** We especially welcome Viv Qurrey, Headteacher of Sacred Heart of Mary School, to speak about Catholic Education at all Masses. St Jean Baptiste de la Salle is the Patron Saint of Education, and he invited prayer for teachers with this beautiful quote: “**Young people need good teachers like visible angels.**” He encouraged teachers with these words: “**You can perform miracles by touching the hearts of those entrusted to your care.**” We pray for teachers who are miracle workers and angels, and we pray for all our young people. *Fr Dominic*

## September – a time of new beginnings

September is a time when many aspects of parish life re-start after the summer.  
**What would you like to be involved with? What can you pray for?  
Is there anywhere you can offer prayer and support?**

**The Teddies – St Edward’s Parent and Toddler Group** – begins again on 11<sup>th</sup> Sept, and 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.

**Parish Uniform Groups – Scout sections** – resume on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> September in the Parish Centre. Beavers: 5 - 6:15; Cubs: 6:15 - 7:30; Scouts 7:30 - 9pm. We look forward to seeing familiar faces and welcoming some new ones too. Adults are particularly welcome to join our Leader team. Also, do speak if you can support our launch of a Squirrel section. Squirrels is for 4 & 5 year olds and is the fastest growing section in the UK - can we keep pace? To find out more have a chat with (or text) John - 07824704617, or email [6thromfordscouts@gmail.com](mailto:6thromfordscouts@gmail.com)

**Rainbows, Brownies and Guides** hope to start later in the term – watch this space.

**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 **Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2024**. The parents’ evening will be **Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> October**, and the celebration of Communion will be in May 2025.

**Confirmation** will be slightly different this year – open to anyone **currently in Year 10 or Year 11** (or sixth form), with sessions beginning in December, and concluding with Bishop Alan’s visit on 30<sup>th</sup> March 2025. Full details will be available in the next two weeks, with applications open until the end of October.

**We are in the midst of The Season of Creation**, which runs from September 1<sup>st</sup> to the Feast of St Francis of Assisi, Patron Saint of the Poor and the Environment, on October 4<sup>th</sup>. Autumn is a wonderful time to notice nature – as the leaves change colour, there is particular beauty to be discovered. **On Friday 27<sup>th</sup> 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. There are also lots of resources on the Caritas Diocese of Brentwood website, for personal prayer and for action: <https://www.caritasbrentwood.org/news/season-of-creation/>

**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](mailto:frdominic@brcdt.org)

## Charitable work and action

**S.M.I.L.E.** are flourishing in their new premises but in this holiday time are very much in need of donations. They are particularly seeking tinned meat/fish, condiments, UHT milk, cooking sauces, biscuits/treats, shower gels, shampoo/conditioner and cleaning items. They have a lovely café open at 40 High St Romford, where donations can be given directly – or leave them by Our Lady in the side chapel, and a parishioner takes them once a week.

**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.

### **FINAL DAYS TO APPLY: PARISH PARTNERSHIP YOUTH CO-ORDINATOR**

**Inspire, nurture and accompany young people on the edge of East London.** Working together with the parishes in Harold Hill, Collier Row and Gidea Park, we are delighted to be recruiting a **Parish Partnership Youth Coordinator**. Salary £30,000/year, closing date **THIS TUESDAY September 10<sup>th</sup> 2024**, start date no later than January 2025. This new role has amazing potential to bring young people into leadership in the Church, and provide a wide range of opportunities for them to live and deepen their faith within a diverse and vibrant part of London. Please do share this information with anyone you know who could be suitable. Full details, including details of how to apply: <https://www.stedwards-romford.org.uk/jobs/>

**Macmillan “World’s Biggest Coffee Morning” Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> 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 27<sup>th</sup> 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!

**Youth Gather, Essex Outdoors, East Mersea, 26<sup>th</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> October** For anyone in year 9 and above, join young people from across Essex and East London for a weekend of speakers, workshops, prayer and more, alongside the opportunity to try high ropes, archery or climbing at the amazing Essex Outdoors in East Mersea. **Applications are now open** and you can apply and find all information at [www.bcys.net/events/youth-gather-2024/](http://www.bcys.net/events/youth-gather-2024/)

**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 30<sup>th</sup> October**: candles will be lit for them during Mass.

In these weeks we celebrate:

Friday 13 <sup>th</sup>	St John Chrysostom
Saturday 14 <sup>th</sup>	The Exaltation of the Holy Cross
Sunday 15 <sup>th</sup>	Twenty-Fourth Sunday of the Year (Evangelii Gaudium Sunday)
Monday 16 <sup>th</sup>	Ss Cornelius and Cyprian
Friday 20 <sup>th</sup>	St Andrew Kim Tae-gon, Paul Chong Ha-sang and Companions
Saturday 21 <sup>st</sup>	St Matthew
Sunday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Twenty-Fifth Sunday of the Year

**Special Note:** On Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> September the Bishops of England and Wales are celebrating Mass with a Eucharistic Procession at Oscott College, as part of the prayerful preparation for the 2025 Jubilee Year of Hope. In churches across the country there will be Eucharistic Adoration; here everyone is welcome from 5.15-6.15pm, during which time the Sacrament of Reconciliation will also be available.

Mass Times and Intentions

Saturday 7 <sup>th</sup>	6.30pm	People of the Parish
Sunday 8 <sup>th</sup>	9.30am	Shahid Mahmud RIP (Selby)
	11.30am	Birthday Thanksgiving (Matutina)
Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup>	08.20am	<i>At Champion School: Ann Geoghan RIP (Zincraft)</i>
Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup>	12.15pm	Tony Papa RIP (Murnane)
Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup>	9.00am	Ints John Conti (O'Dea)
Friday 13 <sup>th</sup>	9.00am	Ints Emmanuel Sammut 90 <sup>th</sup> Birthday
Saturday 14 <sup>th</sup>	6.30pm	Sean Mitchell RIP (Zincraft)
Sunday 15 <sup>th</sup>	9.30am	People of the Parish
	11.30am	Ints family & Friends of Burke Family (Burke)
Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup>	08.20am	<i>At Champion School: Holy Souls (Murnane)</i>
Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup>	12.15pm	Alan Salton RIP (Edkins)
Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup>	No Mass today	
Friday 20 <sup>th</sup>	9.00am	Terry Bird RIP (Bird)
Saturday 21 <sup>st</sup>	6.30pm	Andrew Grimes RIP (Grimes)
Sunday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	9.30am	People of the Parish
	11.30am	Raymund Graves RIP (Graves)

**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, 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, 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](http://www.dioceseofbrentwood.net)**