



## *Parish newsletter*

CATHOLIC PARISH OF  
ST EDWARD THE CONFESSOR

Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2025

Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time (C)

Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2025

Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time (C)

(Day for the Unemployed)

Parish Priest: Fr Dominic Howarth

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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

**Our prayers are asked for the Holy Father, Pope Francis,**  
as he continues to battle with infections in both lungs.  
He has served as Pope for over a decade,  
writing Encyclicals which are beautiful and challenging,  
visiting many parts of the world,  
and inspiring people with a fresh vision of lived Catholic faith.  
Please keep the Pope and the doctors treating him  
very much in your prayers.

**“Be merciful, even as your Father is merciful. ... condemn not, and you will not be condemned; forgive, and you will be forgiven.”** The world feels very far from the exhortations in today's Gospel. This week marks the third Anniversary of the Russian invasion of Ukraine. Within this time the Holy Land has also been torn apart by terror and war. Sudan and the DRC are in a hideous and fragile state, and in Nigeria priests have been kidnapped and killed in recent months. In each of these countries, **we pray for peace that is lasting and just.**

The concluding words from the Gospel offer grace filled generosity, intrinsically linked to justice. Bring them to every encounter you have this week: **“Give and it will be given to you; good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured back to you.”**

**DEADLINE THIS THURSDAY! Final call for young people aged 15+ who would like to come to Flame 2025 at Wembley Arena on Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> March.** Coach leaves Romford 08.45, returns approx. 19.30. We have excellent seats, and this amazing day includes speakers such as Bear Grylls and musicians GuvnaB and One Hope Project. Join 10,000 young people from all over the country. The deadline to apply is this **Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> February** – email [romforyouth@brcdt.org](mailto:romforyouth@brcdt.org) to let Onosé know that you want to come. Cost for the whole day, including coach, just £25.

**THIS FRIDAY! “On a bet and a prayer” is an inspiring film** about Mary Stretch, a pioneering black female leader; it will be shown here at 7pm on **Friday 28<sup>th</sup> February**. After the film Mary will be available for a Q&A. £9.99 for the evening – use the code “Church” when you book, to get this discounted rate. Bookings: <https://www.tickettailor.com/events/sheerahnetwork/1481185>

**SATURDAY 1<sup>ST</sup> MARCH 7.30 for 8pm – the Youth Led Parish Quiz is back, and it will be better than ever! Support the 14 young people travelling from the parish to Lourdes this year ... and hear Onosé sing!** Onosé will join with our Youth Band in a live music round, and there will be the usual eclectic mix of rounds on topics you never thought you’d be asked about. £60 for a table of 8 – book your tables with young people after Mass or phone the parish office during the week. You can also book as an individual or couple for £8 per person. Bring your own refreshments on the night. Ideal for families too – children from age 11+ are very welcome.

**Safeguarding Refresher Training.** Parish Volunteers on First Holy Communion and Confirmation programmes, as well as Children’s Liturgy, SVP and any other **groups working with children or vulnerable adults** please **save the date of Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> March, 7-8.30pm.** Attendance is essential.

### **Starting from Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> March; Lenten Lunches**

Lenten Lunches will take place every Saturday during Lent from 8<sup>th</sup> March 12.00 -2.00pm, in the Walsingham Hall of the Parish Centre. Please come along and enjoy a great value lunch and a chat with friends whilst raising money for good causes. Any donations for raffle prizes would be very welcome on the day. Why not treat your family or friends to lunch? We look forward to seeing you. See poster for details.

**This Thursday, 27<sup>th</sup> February, from 3.30 – 6.30pm in the Brewery,** there is a public consultation about the proposed new Mosque for Romford. You can also view the proposals online at [hicc.your-feedback.co.uk](http://hicc.your-feedback.co.uk) where comments can be made until Friday 14<sup>th</sup> March.

**Job Opportunity: Caritas Development Officer.** This new role within the Diocese will help develop and strengthen our charitable action and ministry. Working alongside the Director of Caritas, the successful applicant will have excellent digital media, organisation and presentation skills, and a heart for Catholic Social Teaching, helping to share this valuable work in schools and parishes, supporting existing volunteers. £24,000 - £27,000pa depending on experience. Full time, including some evenings and weekends. Closing date 31<sup>st</sup> March at noon. More information and application details: [caritas@dioceseofbrentwood.org](mailto:caritas@dioceseofbrentwood.org)

**We continue the search for a new Headteacher for St Peter's Catholic Primary School.** As you know, this summer our current Head, Mrs Waterfield, is retiring after 20 years. The Governors are seeking to appoint a Headteacher to begin in September to continue the excellent work at our caring, friendly and diverse two form entry primary school. Visits from prospective applicants are warmly encouraged, and can be arranged at a time to suit you. Full details: <https://www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/departments/education/vacancies/school-vacancies/>. Salary Group 3 L18-24a (depending on experience). Closing date for applications: Monday 17<sup>th</sup> March.

**Local Parish Bereavement Group** Come along to find comfort, support and understanding at this welcoming and informal bereavement support group. You are very welcome as we navigate through grief together. St. Anthony's Hall at the Most Holy Redeemer Church, Petersfield Ave, Harold Hill RM3 9RB on the **1st Wednesday of every month.** **You're not alone on this journey!** All are welcome. Tea/Coffee and Cake will be provided.

**As we look towards the summer, do remember that Fr Dominic is on sabbatical from May 25<sup>th</sup> to October 7<sup>th</sup>.** If you think you may need anything within that period, please ask soon! THANK YOU to those who have volunteered to help with opening and closing the church and parish centre after weekend Masses during this time. We will soon be arranging a briefing and rota, etc., so if anyone else would like to volunteer, now is the time to step forward. Wednesday and weekend Masses, as well as Baptisms and any funerals during this time will most usually be covered by Fr Gerry Gostling – his kindness in doing this is greatly appreciated, and do look after him: as you know he loves cake, coffee and chat!

**In 2026 the Parish will be 170!** We will mark this significant Anniversary in different ways. If you have any suggestions then do email or chat with Fr Dominic and he will share them with the different Parish groups; planning will begin in earnest over the next few months.

Please pray for the Repose of the Soul of **Evelyn Kearns RIP**. Her funeral Mass will take place on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> March and then to South Essex Crematorium. We pray for all her family and friends.

### Mass Times and Intentions

|                               |         |   |
|-------------------------------|---------|---|
| Saturday 22 <sup>nd</sup>     | 6.30pm  | People of the Parish                                      |
| Sunday 23 <sup>rd</sup>       | 9.30am  | Ints Donald & Family (Slawek)                             |
|                               | 11.30am | Vocations to Priesthood & Religious Life (KSC Romford)    |
| Tuesday 25 <sup>th</sup>      | 8.20am  | Ints Ann Reilly (Heneghan) <u>At Campion School</u>       |
| Wednesday 26 <sup>th</sup>    | 12.15pm | Ints Chris Delaney (Murnane)                              |
| Thursday 27 <sup>th</sup>     | 9.00am  | Mary & Mick Hines RIP (Ellis)                             |
| Friday 28 <sup>th</sup>       | 8.15am  | Ints Margie Davids (Donnelly) <u>At St Peter's School</u> |
| Saturday 1 <sup>st</sup>      | 6.30pm  | Darren Maguire RIP (Zincraft)                             |
| Sunday 2 <sup>nd</sup>        | 9.30am  | James Foran RIP (Corbett)                                 |
|                               | 11.30am | People of the Parish                                      |
|                               | 5.50pm  | Ints of Andy Lock (Heneghan) With the Confirmation Group  |
| Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup>       | 8.20am  | For Peace in the World (Murnane) <u>At Campion School</u> |
| Ash Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup> | 9.30am  | Lynn Robinson RIP (Heneghan) <u>At St Peter's School</u>  |
|                               | 12.15pm | Eileen Grannell RIP (Murnane)                             |
|                               | 7.00pm  | Michael & Brigid Power RIP (F)                            |
| Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup>      | 9.00am  | Winifred Gardiner RIP (F)                                 |
| Friday 7 <sup>th</sup>        | 8.15am  | Ints Conti Family (O'Dea) <u>At St Peter's School</u>     |
|                               | 1.00pm  | <b>Funeral – Evelyn Kearns RIP</b>                        |
| Saturday 8 <sup>th</sup>      | 6.30pm  | People of the Parish                                      |
| Sunday 9 <sup>th</sup>        | 9.30am  | Thanksgiving for the Parish (Conti)                       |
|                               | 11.30am | M M Joseph RIP (Sanish)                                   |

**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, John and Genevieve Geary, Pauline Gillooly, Irene Girling, Jim Griffin, Frank and Rose Hayden, Evelyn Hughes, Benjamin Joseph, Michael Kelly, Paula Lam, Matty, Harry McKinley, Brendan O'Connor, Monica O'Donnell, Daniel O'Mahoney, Agnes O'Sullivan, Shamus Pierce, Peggy Squires, Claire Tilyard, Andrew Todd, Danny Toye, Stephen Toye, Betty Walsh, Vince Willshere, Trudy Wijeyeratnam & 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.**