



Parish Newsletter

CATHOLIC PARISH OF ST EDWARD THE CONFESSOR

Sunday 26th October 2025 Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time (C)

Sunday 2nd November 2025 Solemnity of All Saints (C)

Parish Priest: Fr Dominic Howarth

Parish Administrator: Julia Pitkin

5 Park End Road, Romford, Essex RM1 4AT

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

Parish Partnership Youth Co-ordinator: Onosé Egualeonan

Email romforyouth@brcdt.org

Instagram @romford_youth

Mass Times: See back page

Reconciliation:

Saturday 5.45 – 6.15pm

Parish School: St Peter's Primary School, RM1 4JA. Phone: 01708 745506

Headteacher: Mrs H Craft

Website: www.st-peters.havering.sch.uk

Facebook and Instagram @stpeters_catholicprimaryschool

The month of November begins with the celebration of All Saints (this year transferred to the Sunday, so celebrated on 2nd November) and continues as a month of remembrance for those who have died. The heart of our faith is the Resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead; Jesus offering a pathway to, through and beyond death that we can each follow. The Gospels constantly highlight the mercy of God; Pope Francis often spoke of God's "tenderness." We trust in this tenderness when we think of life after death. In this Jubilee Year with the theme 'Pilgrims of Hope' we recognise death as the definitive Pilgrimage of Hope.

At 2.30pm on Saturday 8th November 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 5th November: candles will be lit for them during Mass. Additionally, red candles will be blessed during the Mass. These are suitable for taking to the graves and memorials of loved ones. Throughout November there will be a box in front of the altar where you can place the names of loved ones – they will be prayed for at each Mass in November. There has been the custom of leaving a donation with the names, and you can use any envelope to do that. It is completely optional, and any money given will support our work with young people in the parish, including helping young people travel to Lourdes next summer.

Fr Dominic

PARISH BAZAAR – Saturday 29th November 10am – 2pm in the Parish Centre

Raffle tickets will be available over the next few weeks. Superb prizes. £5/book.

Donations can be left at the church or presbytery any time from Saturday 8th November. Please – please – only bring what is on this list:

→ New (or very nearly new), boxed toys

→ Bottles for the festive delight and mayhem 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.

→ 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 and cubs, 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!

Sacrament of Confirmation – Pentecost 2026

Any young person in school year 10 to 13 is warmly invited to celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation next May. There are forms at the back of the church with all the information. If you have any questions please email frdominic@brcdt.org The forms can be returned **any time until 15th November**.

Next Sunday, 2nd November. Live Simply - Debbie Lee from Havering Council will be in the Lourdes Room after **9.30 and 11.30 Mass next weekend** to talk about compost and answer any questions you may have. You can also purchase a compost bin at a subsidised price.

Caritas Diocese of Brentwood invites you to an evening with the Santa Marta Group. **Thursday 6th November, 6-8pm** in the Walsingham Hall of the Parish Centre. To register, go to: <https://caritas-sm-25.eventbrite.co.uk>. We will be joined by Alexander DesForges, Communications Director at the Santa Marta Group and will explore 'What is Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking?'.
What is Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking?'

Advent Wreath Making Saturday 6th December 2-4pm in the Walsingham Hall of the Parish Centre. Cost £40 with limited spaces. To secure a place a deposit of £20 in an envelope clearly marked with your name and contact number to be handed directly to Jenny Selby or Margie Davids or to Parish Office.

Parish Offertory Collection and Donations

Over the last few months our parish funds have not really held up. I imagine many people were away over the summer, and so income diminished. The card machines have also had some glitches, which we hope are now resolved. We continue to pay back our loan of over £380,000 on the building works. We would love to paint the church and we need to repair the organ. **If you think you might have missed some weeks of offertory**, and you could help by putting some of that in over the next couple of weeks, that would be wonderful. The best giving is by **Standing Order**; details on pink forms at the back of church. If you already have a Standing Order, could you increase it by the rate of inflation? Perhaps you have recently been **paid a bonus, won on premium bonds, or the lottery**?! If even a fraction of that is invested in your parish, it is such a gift. Or could you make a **legacy donation**? Please have a chat. *Fr Dominic*

Parish Anniversary, 170 years, 1856-2026

Could you write a prayer for the Anniversary? A few well chosen words, for a prayer card, to sustain us during the year. Email ideas to frdominic@brcdt.org
Could you design a logo for the Anniversary? The theme for the year is "God's love is for ever" (Psalm 100). The logo needs to be able to be reproduced in large or small versions, so a simple image and little text is best. Ideally it will work both in colour and in black and white. Up for the challenge? Feel welcome to spread the word to children / grandchildren who may have moved away but who work in graphic design, or who are wonderful artists. Deadline of **Sunday 9th November**, please, as we hope to start using the logo from Christmas. Hand in or email hand-drawn or digitally produced ideas to frdominic@brcdt.org

Volunteer help needed in the parish

Stewards: if you are 18+ and could welcome people into Mass, and be on hand in case of any questions or emergencies, please email Julia – romford@brcdt.org
The welcome we give is vital, and we also have Health and Safety policies to follow, to help everyone in the church. Please volunteer if you can. There is training, and you would be needed about once every 4-6 weeks.

Tea/Coffee makers and Bakers: If you have a favourite charity and would like to be part of the Sunday morning Coffee Rota to serve tea/coffee and cakes about once every 8 weeks, after 9.30am Mass, please email Julia – romford@brcdt.org

Brentwood Catholic Youth Service – Catechist Training & Resources Day 2025, Saturday 8th November 2025 Open to all confirmation and first holy communion catechists, young leaders (age 16+), and children's liturgy coordinators. The day offers formation, practical workshops and inspiring speakers to support Confirmation and First Holy Communion programmes. Full details: www.bcys.net/events/catechists2025

A special prayer request, please, for **Emeritus Bishop Thomas McMahon** and for **Fr Stephen Myers**, who are both rather unwell. Bishop Thomas served as Bishop of Brentwood for over 30 years. Fr Stephen is Parish Priest in Grays and Episcopal Vicar for Education. Thank you for your prayers.

Livestream Storage will soon be limited to 30 days after a wedding or funeral. If a Mass precious for you and your family was Livestreamed and you would like a permanent copy of the recording, email romford@brcdt.org by **10th November**

Mass Times and Intentions

Saturday 25th	6.30pm	People of the Parish
Sunday 26th	9.30am	Kevin O'Brien RIP (Shanahan)
	11.30am	Agostina Giacomazzi RIP (Oddi)
Wednesday 29th	12.15pm	Christopher Norman RIP (Norman)
Thursday 30th	9.00am	Colin Foulger RIP (Brennan)
Friday 31st	9.00am	Koi Marku (Prendi)
Saturday 1st	6.30pm	People of the Parish
Sunday 2nd	9.30am	Ted O'Connell RIP (Murphy)
	11.30am	Michael Kelly RIP (Kelly)
Wednesday 5th	12.15pm	Jenny Wilkinson RIP (Wilkinson)
Thursday 6th	9.00am	Edward & Kathleen McGlynn RIP (Heneghan)
Friday 7th	<u>9.30am*</u>	Thanksgiving (Imafidon Sutton) Year 6 Children
Saturday 8th	2.30pm	Mass of Remembrance Parishioners who have died
	6.30pm	Jenny Wilkinson RIP (Wilkinson)
Sunday 9th	9.30am	People of the Parish
	11.30am	Veronica Gannon RIP (Gannon)
	3.00pm	Holy Souls (Murnane) with First Holy Communion children and Families

***At the Mass on 7th November we will be joined by children from Year 6 at St Peter's school. Note that Mass is at 9.30am, and takes place in the church.**

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

Especially we pray for:

*Joe Bellotti, Mgr Arthur Barrow, Judy Burgess, Jacey Cooke, Mark Dalton,
Dyllis Dangerfield, Agnes Danielka, Margaret Ellis, Pat Fagan, John and Genevieve Geary,
Pauline Gillooly, Irene Girling, Jim Griffin, Evelyn Hughes, Benjamin Joseph, Paula Lam, Josè Lemos,
Clara Mangoro, Matty, Harry McKinley, Brendan O'Connor, Monica O'Donnell, Agnes O'Sullivan,
Shamus Pierce, Mary Schroeyers, Peggy Squires, Claire Tilyard, Andrew Todd, 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.

Diocese of Brentwood Registered Charity No. 234092.

Website: www.dioceseofbrentwood.net