



**ST. EDWARD  
THE CONFESSOR**  
CATHOLIC PARISH, ROMFORD

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**

Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> March  
Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> March

**Fifth Sunday of Lent (A)**  
***Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord (A)***

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

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

Parish Facebook / Instagram: **@RomfordRC**

Parish Partnership Youth Co-Ordinator: **Onosé Egualéon**

Email: **romforyouth@brcdt.org** Instagram: **@romford\_youth**

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

Acting Headteacher: **Mrs L Tisi** Website: **[www.st-peters.havering.sch.uk](http://www.st-peters.havering.sch.uk)**

Facebook / Instagram: **@stpeters\_catholicprimaryschool**

Mass Times: **See back page**

Reconciliation: **Saturday 5.45 – 6.15pm and Fridays in Lent, 5.00 – 5.50pm**

**“Jesus wept.”** (John 11:35) In today’s Gospel Jesus weeps – and through his tears he prays. His friend Lazarus is raised from the dead, and Jesus gives thanks to God the Father. There is so much for us to notice; we have a God who cries with us, and prays for us, in any pain and grief.

In Luke 19 we read of Jesus weeping when he draws near to Jerusalem – indeed there is a church which marks this moment: *Dominus Flevit* (“the Lord wept”) which looks over the city from a hill above Jerusalem. **No doubt, Jesus weeps for Jerusalem in these appalling months of war.** What is happening in the Holy Land, Iran and the Middle East is an unjustified and catastrophic violence that could be damaging for generations. Into the rubble, the aching hurts and the shattered lives comes the **Friends of the Holy Land**. This plucky charity works tirelessly to help people build a better future. Today we welcome Edmund Adamus to share more about their work, as we continue to raise funds this Lent to supply water, water tanks and solar panels.

**Thank you** for your immense generosity in charitable works and actions. It is all a way of living faith. If you have donations for SMILE please leave them by St Edward, at the front of the church, before or after Mass, so that they can be put safely inside the house, as we have sadly had some theft recently. We pray for all those in great need – we know Jesus weeps for anyone in pain today. *Fr Dominic*

**Final places remaining: Parish Anniversary Pilgrimage to Ingatestone Hall. Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> April.** Lord Petre and family are pleased to welcome us to their home, full of history, including sheltering Martyrs and key links to our parish. There are many stairs so sadly this is only for people with reasonable mobility and children over 12. Places remain on the 1pm tour which will last for 90 minutes followed by coffee and biscuits. £15. Meet at Ingatestone Hall. Register by emailing [romford@brcdt.org](mailto:romford@brcdt.org)

**Anniversary Year Parish Lourdes Pilgrimage.** Parishioners are warmly invited to join the Diocesan Group travelling to Lourdes from Friday 17<sup>th</sup> - Friday 24<sup>th</sup> July 2026. Join the Bishop, clergy and parishioners from across the Diocese. Cost approx. £1200 for flights, accommodation, insurance and all meals. **You can now book – *please specify in your booking notes that you are with Romford parish.*** Bookings are direct with Tangney Tours: [www.tangney-tours.com/brentwood](http://www.tangney-tours.com/brentwood) The pilgrimage includes medical support – if you have any questions about whether you can travel please email Deidre Pembroke on [lourdes@brcdt.org](mailto:lourdes@brcdt.org)

**Superb Gap Year Opportunity, for anyone finishing Year 13 this summer, or age 18-23 from September: Be part of the Walsingham House Team 26/27.** Applications are now open! Being on the team is a wonderful opportunity to work with young people from across the Diocese, gain life skills, live in community and to share and deepen your faith. For more information including the application form please see the website <https://bcys.net/whabbotswick/be-on-team/> or email [michaelkearns@brcdt.org](mailto:michaelkearns@brcdt.org).

**Celebrate after Easter with a Karaoke Night** Come along and enjoy a fun night of Karaoke and games on **Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> April** from 7.30pm – 10.00pm in the Parish Centre. Bring your own drinks and nibbles. Tickets £5 (age 14+) available from Jingle on 07789963056 or contact the parish office. All money raised in support of the Parish Building Fund.

**Lenten Youth Mass & Adoration: Saturday, 21st March at Corpus Christi, Collier Row**  
All are warmly invited for a special evening of prayer, music, and reflection at **Corpus Christi Catholic Church** (Lowshoe Ln, Romford RM5 2AP):

**5:30 PM – 6:30 PM: Holy Hour of Adoration.** A time of quiet prayer before the Blessed Sacrament, featuring prayerful music with singing led by our Youth Coordinator. **Confessions** will also be available with Fr Philip Denton.

**6:30 PM: Partnership Youth Mass.** A beautiful liturgy where the music will be led by members of **The Schola** from The Champion School.

The whole community is welcome, and we especially encourage **young people** to attend and take part.

**Hornchurch Passion Play 2026.** A powerful presentation of the events of Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter. 7.30pm on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup>, Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> April, on the green outside The Queen's Theatre.  
Full information at <https://www.hornchurchpp.co.uk/2026>

## Holy Week and Easter – Day by Day

You will find everything online at  
<https://stedwards-romford.org.uk/lent-and-easter/>

**28<sup>th</sup> /29<sup>th</sup> March** **Palm Sunday.** Usual weekend Mass times; Masses begin with the blessing of palms in the parish centre/piazza. **Please come early!**

**Weds 1<sup>st</sup> April** **Mass of Chrism, 11am, Brentwood Cathedral.** This Mass is celebrated by Bishop Alan, with all the priests of the Diocese. It is open to all, and replaces our usual Wednesday 12.15 Mass.

**Thurs 2<sup>nd</sup> April** **The Big Clean, 9.30am – 11am.** Come and give the church a wonderful spring clean! All help very welcome.  
**Servers' Rehearsal, 4pm – 5pm,** for all servers at Holy Thursday and Good Friday.

### The Easter Triduum (“three days”)

*The most powerful moments in the Church year.*

**Thurs 2<sup>nd</sup> April** **Holy Thursday: Mass of the Lord's Supper, 7pm.** This Mass includes the presentation of the Holy Oils, Washing of the Feet and the commemoration of the Last Supper, the first Eucharist.

**Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> April** **Good Friday**  
**10-10.30am, “Easter Triduum in 30 minutes” for Children.** Open to all primary school age children, and families.  
**11.30am, Ecumenical Prayers, with music,** outside St Edward the Confessor C of E Church, in the Market Place.  
**3pm Passion of Our Lord Jesus Christ.** This service commemorates Jesus' crucifixion, and includes simple veneration of the cross.  
*Overflow seating will be available in the parish centre.*  
**5pm Stations of the cross in Polish, Ukrainian and English.**

**Sat 4<sup>th</sup> April** **10.00am** Rehearsal for the RCIA candidates and sponsors  
**11.00am** Blessing of Easter Baskets in the Polish tradition  
*W Wielką Sobotę zgodnie z polską tradycją w kościele św. Edwarda o godzinie 4 kwietnia 2026 roku o 11.00 odbędzie się poświęcenie pokarmów. Obrzęd ten będzie sprawowany w języku angielskim i polskim. Serdecznie zapraszamy rodziny i przyjaciół.*

**12noon** Rehearsal for servers coming to the Easter Vigil

**1pm – 3pm** The Petals transform the church with flowers

**Easter Vigil Mass, 7.30pm – 10.00pm.** This is a powerful and beautiful liturgy, including many readings, the light of the Easter candle and individual candles, the blessing of holy water, and many other symbols of Christ's Resurrection.

**Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> April** **Easter Sunday Masses at 8am, 9.30am and 11.30am.** Full of joy, with a quiet Mass at 8am, then youth-led music at 9.30am and choir at 11.30am. *At 11.30am Mass, overflow seating in the parish hall.*

**Livestream:** *Holy Thursday 7pm, Good Friday 3pm and Easter Sunday 9.30am*

Please pray for the Repose of the Soul of **James (Jim) Curtis** who died recently. His funeral will take place at 12.15pm on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> March. We pray for all his family and friends.

Please pray for the Repose of the Soul of **Pat Roarty** who died recently. His funeral will take place at 12noon on Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> March. We pray for his wife Elaine and for all his family and friends.

### Mass Intentions

<b>Saturday 21<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>6.30pm</b>	<b>Joseph Wilkinson RIP (Wilkinson)</b>
<b>Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup></b>	<b>9.30am</b>	<b>Samantha Donnelly RIP (Donnelly)</b>
	<b>11.30am</b>	<b>Winifred Margaretta Gardiner RIP (F)</b>
	<b>3.00pm</b>	<i>With Communion children and families</i> <b>People of the Parish</b>
<b>Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>12.15pm</b>	<b><i>Funeral – Jim Curtis RIP</i></b>
	<b>6.30pm</b>	<b>Gustavo RIP (Anon)</b>
<b>Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>12.15pm</b>	<b>Ints Peggy Scullion (Knit &amp; Natter)</b>
<b>Thursday 26<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>9.00am</b>	<b>Mark Davett’s Mother RIP (Moggan)</b>
<b>Friday 27<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>8.00am</b>	<b><u>At St Peter’s School</u></b>
	<b>5pm–5.50pm</b>	<b>Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament &amp; Reconciliation</b>
	<b>6.00pm</b>	<b>Stations of the Cross</b>
<b>Saturday 28<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>6.30pm</b>	<b>Ints Tony Purcell (Heneghan)</b>
<b>Sunday 29<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>9.30am</b>	<b>Peter Rochford RIP (Williams)</b>
	<b>11.30am</b>	<b>People of the Parrish</b>
<b>Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>12.00pm</b>	<b><i>Funeral – Pat Roarty RIP</i></b>
	<b>6.30pm</b>	<b>Ints Ann Harrington &amp; Family (Heneghan)</b>
<b>Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup></b>	<b><u>11.00am</u></b>	<b>Mass of Chrism <u>at Brentwood Cathedral</u> CM15 8AT</b>
<b>Holy Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup></b>	<b>7.00pm</b>	<b>Michael Scullion RIP (Heneghan)</b>
<b>Good Friday 3<sup>rd</sup></b>	<b>10.00am</b>	<b>“Easter Triduum in 30 minutes” for Primary age children</b>
	<b>11.30am</b>	<b>Ecumenical prayer in the Market Place</b>
	<b>3.00pm</b>	<b>Solemn Liturgy of the Passion of the Lord</b>
		<b><u><i>Easter – The Resurrection of the Lord</i></u></b>
<b>Saturday 4<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>7.30pm</b>	<b>For the Newly Baptised and Confirmed</b>
<b>Sunday 5<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>8.00am</b>	<b>Ints Kathleen Fitzpatrick &amp; Family (Long)</b>
	<b>9.30am</b>	<b>Frank Hayden RIP (Savva)</b>
	<b>11.30am</b>	<b>The Sick and Housebound of the Parish</b>

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

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