



**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**  
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Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> May  
Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> May

**Sixth Sunday of Easter (A)**  
**Seventh Sunday of Easter (A)**  
*World Communications Day*

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 Egualeonan**

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

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

Headteacher: **Mrs M Payne** 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**

## **HAPPY 170<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY!**

**The 170<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Year has two “peaks” – and this week has most definitely been a beautiful and memorable celebration of the day when Cardinal Wiseman dedicated and consecrated the church on 6<sup>th</sup> May 1856.** Thanks to the Petals, the Flower Festival arrangements continued to blossom in wonderful glory. The music was scintillating. Those who cleaned the church, baked cakes, served refreshments, designed the “souvenir” Order of Service, served on the Altar, and so much more all made it a wonderful occasion; **thank you** to everyone involved.

**Now we have the immense joys of First Holy Communion and Confirmation celebrations, on each weekend in May,** as well as a week of Guided Prayer starting today (10<sup>th</sup> May). Many parishioners are part of the Diocesan pilgrimage to Walsingham on 23<sup>rd</sup> May. The year continues in June with a Corpus Christi procession (7<sup>th</sup>) and the annual Strawberry Teas (28<sup>th</sup>). Be part of it all!

We will rest a bit in July and August, and then **head towards the second “peak” of this wonderful year in October**, with a week of guest speakers, a trip to the tomb of St Edward the Confessor at Westminster Abbey, and Mass with the Bishop on the **Feast of St Edward the Confessor**. It can only happen because of the dedication and creativity of many people – and the support and encouragement of so many others. To you all, **thank you.** *Fr Dominic*

**Congratulations and Blessings to the 63 young parishioners who celebrate First Holy Communion on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> May. Please pray for each child, and their families: these Masses mark such a significant moment in their journey of life and faith. Thank you to the immensely dedicated team of catechists who help prepare the children.** On the Feast of Corpus Christi – 7<sup>th</sup> June – at 2.30pm everyone is invited to process with the children and their families from St Peter's school to the church, honouring Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament. There will be a simple Benediction at the doors of the church and then (at approx. 3pm) we will celebrate a Mass of Thanksgiving for the children and their families.

**NEXT Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> May, Romford Partnership Youth Mass.** Join us at Corpus Christi, Collier Row (RM5 2AP) for Adoration & Confession at 5:30 PM, followed by a Youth Mass at 6:30 PM with music led by our young people. All are welcome for prayer, song, and a pizza social afterwards! To volunteer as a singer, reader, or server, please email Onosé at [romfordyouth@brcdt.org](mailto:romfordyouth@brcdt.org).

**Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> May, Diocesan Pilgrimage to Walsingham.** Join hundreds of pilgrims from across the Diocese at "England's Nazareth." The coach leaves from outside the church at 07.45, arriving into Walsingham in good time for Mass at Midday, lunch and a walk to the original Walsingham Shrine for prayers and a look at the village. Return to Romford about 7.30pm. Sign up after Mass or by contacting the parish office. £25 covers the coach for the day.

**Applications open: St John Bosco Children's Camp, summer 2026.** For children currently in school year 5 – 7 (i.e. aged 9-12 in August 2026). 25<sup>th</sup> July – 1<sup>st</sup> August or 1<sup>st</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> August. Activities include archery, fishing, AquaPark visit, football, kayaking and much more. The camp is especially for children who may not otherwise have a summer holiday. Suggested donation £200; full bursaries available. [www.boscocamp.co.uk](http://www.boscocamp.co.uk). Places are going quickly – early applications are encouraged.

**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)

**Special Marriage Anniversary this year?** If you are celebrating a special Anniversary then there is a Mass for you at the Cathedral on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> July, 3pm. Please ask Fr Dominic for an invitation.

## **Would you like to become a Catholic, or celebrate Confirmation as an adult?**

It may be that you have recently discovered the Church, or that you were Baptised when young, then dropped away for a bit.

Or perhaps you have been coming for years, with Catholic family or friends, and this year is the moment you want to go deeper.

Whatever your journey, you will be warmly welcomed. In particular, to “dip your toe in the water”, there is a trip to Westminster Cathedral on the afternoon of **Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> July** for those considering Baptism or Confirmation as adults in 2027. This will be together with those who were Baptised and Confirmed a few weeks ago, at the Easter Vigil – a great chance to ask questions of people who were in a similar position to you this time last year. Come to the 11.30am Mass. After Mass we will head to London, get some food together, then go into Westminster Cathedral. Fr Dominic will give a “highlights” tour, with plenty of chances to ask questions about the different features of the church.

**For more information about becoming Catholic, or being Confirmed as an adult, please chat with Fr Dominic after Mass or email [frdominic@brcdt.org](mailto:frdominic@brcdt.org)**

**Garden volunteers for Walsingham House at Abbotswick:** Walsingham House at Abbotswick is set in 14 acres of land which require a lot of care. There is an amazing team of grounds volunteers who help every Tuesday to maintain the gardens and keep everything thriving. It would be wonderful to extend the team, so if you have some free time on a Tuesday, whether it is an hour or two or a whole day, and would like to get involved please contact [clairebailey@brcdt.org](mailto:clairebailey@brcdt.org)

**The parish website is full of helpful information** about the many different groups and activities that take place in the parish; there is also a leaflet available at the back of the church. Anything running in the parish is open to all, and new people are always warmly welcomed and encouraged. [www.stedwards-romford.org.uk](http://www.stedwards-romford.org.uk)

Of particular interest at the moment could be the **170<sup>th</sup> Anniversary page**: [www.stedwards-romford.org.uk/170](http://www.stedwards-romford.org.uk/170)

And **please don't forget the ongoing appeal** as we aim for a full interior refurbishment of the church from January to March next year – all the information about this is also on leaflets at the back of the church and within the newsletter section of the website: [www.stedwards-romford.org.uk/newsletter](http://www.stedwards-romford.org.uk/newsletter)

Please pray for the Repose of the Soul of **Vince Willshere** who died recently. His funeral will take place at Forest Park Crematorium Chapel on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> May at 1.30pm. We pray for all his family and friends.

Please pray for the Repose of the Soul of **Maureen Swallow** who died recently. Her funeral will take place on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> May at 11.00am, and then to South Essex Cemetery. We pray for all her family and friends.

Please pray for the Repose of the Soul of **Elena Martyn** who died recently. Her funeral will take place on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> May at 2pm and then to Forest Park Crematorium. We pray for all her family and friends.

### Mass Intentions

<b>Saturday 9<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>6.30pm</b>	<b>People of the Parish</b>
<b>Sunday 10<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>9.30am</b>	<b>Gemma Crane RIP (Moulds)</b>
	<b>11.30am</b>	<b>Ints of Joy (Athena)</b>
<b>Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>6.30pm</b>	<b>Raymond Brooks RIP (Brennan)</b>
<b>Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>12.15pm</b>	<b>Ints Niki Reeves (Teresa)</b>
<b>Thursday 14<sup>th</sup></b>	<b><u>9.30am</u></b>	<b>Dec'd Members of McNeela Family (F)</b>
		<small>9.30am Mass is in the church with children from Year 4 and 5 from St Peter's – Ascension Thursday</small>
	<b><u>12.15pm</u></b>	<b>Frank Hayden RIP (Chrissie)</b>
	<b><u>6.00pm</u></b>	<b>Eamon Ryall RIP (Mernin)</b>
<b>Friday 15<sup>th</sup></b>		<b>No Mass Today – Fr Dominic at a Caritas event in London</b>
		<b>5pm–6pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament &amp; Reconciliation</b>
<b>Saturday 16<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>6.30pm</b>	<b>Margarite Fowals RIP</b>
<b>Sunday 17<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>9.30am</b>	<b>Ints Arthur Barlow (Rickard)</b>
	<b>11.30am</b>	<b>People of the Parish</b>
<b>Monday 18<sup>th</sup></b>	<b><u>11.00am</u></b>	<b>Funeral Mass – Maureen Swallow, RIP</b>
<b>Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>6.30pm</b>	<b>Maureen Symes RIP (Geary)</b>
<b>Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>12.15pm</b>	<b>Zelia Maria Gomes RIP (O'Gorman)</b>
	<b><u>2.00pm</u></b>	<b>Funeral Mass – Elena Martyn RIP</b>
<b>Thursday 21<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>9.00am</b>	<b>Ints Naomi Philip (Thomas)</b>
<b>Friday 22<sup>nd</sup></b>	<b>9.00am</b>	<b>James Carey RIP (F)</b>
		<b>5pm–6pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament &amp; Reconciliation</b>
<b>Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup></b>	<b>6.30pm</b>	<b>People of the Parish</b>
<b>Sunday 24<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>9.30am</b>	<b>James Shanahan RIP 10<sup>th</sup> Anni (Brennan)</b>
	<b>11.30am</b>	<b>Restituta Munoz RIP (Regina)</b>
	<b>2.30pm</b>	<b>For those celebrating Confirmation</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, 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, 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.**