



**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 12th July

Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)
(Sea Sunday)

Sunday 19th July

Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)

Website **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**

Headteacher: **Mrs M Payne** Website: **www.st-peters.havering.sch.uk**

Facebook / Instagram: **@stpeters_catholicprimaryschool**

Mass Times: **See back page**

Reconciliation: **Saturday 5.45 – 6.15pm**

Today's Gospel is set on a beach by a lake – most refreshing, in such weather. Jesus speaks to the crowds about planting seeds in different types of soil. It is an image of faith – we can ask ourselves whether we are planted in rich and fertile soil, or whether things are rather thorny or shallow. Over the summer – perhaps relaxing by the lake in Raphael's Park, or further afield – take a moment to notice the depths of your relationship with the Lord, and anywhere it needs adjusting.

To deepen and renew the faith of each of us, **save the dates of 12th-16th October; a beautiful week of Parish Renewal, where everyone is invited.** Through speakers, events and Masses I pray that each parishioner's faith is refreshed in wonderful ways. But to be sure the thorns and weeds don't crowd out the diary, now is the time to ink in 6pm – 8.30pm Monday to Thursday 12th – 15th, and book the afternoon off work on 16th October for the Westminster Abbey trip; more details on the parish website now, and in paper form over the summer.

Today is Sea Sunday; have a look at www.stellamaris.org.uk and please say a special prayer for over 6,000 seafarers still stuck in the **Straits of Hormuz**. Some have been there since February. These are testing times in the world – next weekend (18/19 July) there will be a **Cafod Special Collection for Venezuela**. Finally please pray for parishioners in **Lourdes** next week, as we will pray for you.

Summer and Autumn 2026

From 17-22 July Fr Dominic will be in Lourdes, and from 23rd July – 8th August he will be assisting at the St John Bosco Camp, a special work of Caritas Diocese of Brentwood. Parish Masses will be on Wednesday lunchtimes and weekends. The **Friday Adoration, Benediction and Reconciliation** will pause for the summer, restarting on Friday 4th September. **Tuesday evening Masses** will restart on 11th August; during August **Thursday and Friday morning Masses** will usually be at 10am. **Wednesday 12.15pm Mass and weekend Masses continue all summer.**

On 12th/13th September it is welcome back weekend. We are here every weekend through the summer – but of course some are fortunate to have holidays! So this is a chance to catch up, compare notes on parishes visited over the summer, all with refreshments after Saturday evening Mass, and both Sunday Masses. On Sunday morning there will also be children's games between Masses. At all Masses that weekend Mrs Payne, the Headteacher of St Peter's will speak; it is Education Sunday, and also a chance for prospective parents to meet Mrs Payne. **On Fridays from 11th September the parish morning Mass will be at 9.30am at the school;** all parishioners are welcome, and on most weeks we will celebrate Saints associated with a school year/house. Come and see!

January to March 2027

We continue to seek funds and apply for grants for the interior redecoration of the church – donations always welcome! Trusting in providence, we begin to prepare for the temporary closure of the church, January – March 2027, with Friday and Sunday Masses at St Peter's, Wednesday and Saturday Masses in the parish centre. Much fuller information as the time gets closer.

Tuesday 14th July, 6.00pm, 6th Romford Scout AGM. For more information about becoming a Beaver, Cub or Scout, or to become a Trustee of the Group helping with arrangements, please email 6thromfordscouts@gmail.com

Wednesday 15th July 12.15pm Mass, music from the Campion Schola, and after Mass the **Golden Club AGM.** From 29th July until the start of September the GC takes a summer break. Special prayers and tremendous thanks to **Geraldine Ellis** and **Pat Crafter** as they hand on to new leaders.

Saturday 8th August from 11am – 2pm Coffee Morning for **Breast Cancer Now** - delicious cakes and vast quantities of tea and coffee in the parish centre. Enjoy time with friends old and new whilst raising money for this very worthy cause.

Friday 14th August, Feast of St Maximilian Kolbe, Mass at 10am. Later in the day a vivid and significant new film of Kolbe's life, *Triumph of the Heart*, in the hall at 2.30 and 7pm. English with Polish Subtitles. Age 13+. £5 entry. Booking info on poster at the back of the church. All welcome.

Sacraments of First Holy Communion and First Reconciliation

For children who will be in Year 3 or above in September 2026. The application forms are available online – go to <https://stedwards-romford.org.uk/newsletter/> or if you are looking at the e-version of the newsletter just [click here](#). If you are unable to access the form online please email romford@brcdt.org. All applications, payments (and if applicable copy Baptism certificates) must be returned by **7th September 2026**.

Sacrament of Confirmation

For any young person in Year 10 to 13. You are warmly invited to celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation on Pentecost Sunday, May 2027. Preparation starts in October 2026, and all the application information is at the back of the church. The completed forms must be returned no later than **4th October 2026**. If you have any questions please email frdominic@brcdt.org.

The Diocesan Youth Retreat House is seeking a new Manager from September. This is a vital role, serving over 5,000 young people every year, with a team of volunteers age 18-23. Please spread the word and encourage applicants. Full details: www.bcys.net/we-are-recruiting-walsingham-house-manager

170th Anniversary Booklet: We are looking for **photographs** of St Edward's Church, past or present, inside or outside, to help illustrate our commemorative booklet. If you have any photos you would be willing to share, please send them to romford@brcdt.org or drop them at the presbytery **before 11th July**.

Strawberry Teas – Thank you to everyone who baked, served, drank tea, chatted and in any way supported our Strawberry Teas. An excellent total of £1,000 was raised for the parish building redecoration fund.

St Peter's Summer Fayre - Thank you to everyone who supported the Summer Fayre and help raise the brilliant grand total of £5,500.

Food Bank Donations. Over the summer children do not have a school lunch, and this is an extra stretch for many families. SMILE welcome donations direct to them at 40 High Street Romford, or leave donations by the Sacred Heart at the front of the church. All non-perishable food items, as well as toiletries, etc., very much needed and welcomed.

Final Places – Summer Holiday Opportunity. The St John Bosco Children's Camp is held near Brentwood. Archery, fishing, Aqua Park visit, football, kayaking and much more. Places available for children currently in school year 5 – 7 (i.e. aged 9 - 12 on 31st August 2026) to spend a week at camp. 25th July – 1st August or 1st – 8th August. The camp is run with a Catholic ethos and is for all children, especially those who may not otherwise have a summer holiday. Suggested donation £200, but part-funded or fully-funded places are also available. Application details: www.boscocamp.co.uk

Secondary School Admissions – Certificate of Catholic Practice

For those with children in Year 6 applying to **Catholic Secondary Schools for admission in September 2027** your application should be supported by a Certificate of Catholic Practice. This is **only** needed for The Champion School and Sacred Heart of Mary Girls' School and **indicates that you attend Mass weekly**. Please only ask for a Certificate if that applies to you. Please bring your child's Baptism Certificate and Fr Dominic will have copies of the Certificate to sign for you **after any of the weekend Masses on 3rd /4th October**. No appointment is needed. Applications to the Brentwood Ursuline do not need a certificate, and nor do Catholic primary school applications in Havering.

We pray for the repose of the soul of **Genevieve Geary RIP** who died recently. Her funeral will take place on Wednesday 15th July at 2.30pm and then to Forest Park Crematorium. We pray for all her family and friends.

Mass Intentions

Saturday 11th	6.30pm	Maria Melinda Fortich RIP (Salinas)
Sunday 12th	9.30am	People of the Parish
	11.30am	Antonio & Maria Dias RIP (Dias)
Tuesday 14th	6.30pm	Ignacio & Victoria RIP (Abesia Family)
Wednesday 15th	12.15pm	Jenny Wilkinson RIP (Wilkinson)
	<u>2.30pm</u>	Funeral – Genevieve Geary RIP
Thursday 16th	9.00am	Dec'd Relatives & Friends Kathleen Ryan (F)
Friday 17th	<u>No Mass today; Fr Dominic in Lourdes</u>	
Saturday 18th	6.30pm	Ints Rosario Campanero Cotin (Cotin)
Sunday 19th	9.30am	Martin & Ann Gillooly RIP (Gillooly)
	11.30am	Vocations to Priesthood and Religious Life (KSC Romford)
Wednesday 22nd	12.15pm	Ryan Musy RIP (Margaret Musy)
Saturday 25th	6.30pm	Margaret Reidy RIP (Murnane)
Sunday 26th	9.30am	Brian Robert Marks RIP (Marks)
	11.30am	People of the Parish

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,
Anji & Dyllis Dangerfield, Agnes Danielka, Margaret Ellis, Pat Fagan,
Pauline Gillooly, Irene Girling, Jim Griffin, Evelyn Hughes, Benjamin Joseph, Paula Lam,
José Lemos, Clara Mangoro, Matty, Harry McKinley, Dorita Mueller, 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.