



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 26th July

Sunday 2nd August

Sunday 9th August

Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)

Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)

Nineteenth 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: **romfordyouth@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 tells us that the Kingdom of Heaven is like treasure hidden in a field – treasure so unique and wonderful that a person is prepared to buy the whole field to retain and cherish the treasure!

In these weeks I have the privilege of walking alongside young people as they discover this treasure in Lourdes and at the St John Bosco children's camp. The treasure of discovering what it means to live the Kingdom of Heaven here on earth. The treasure of serving others, listening, praying, relaxing and laughing with people they have never met before. The treasure of assisting a pilgrim in need, or a child who would not otherwise have a summer holiday. The treasure of helping such a child to discover a new skill like archery or fishing. The treasure of discovering qualities of character in themselves. All of it wrapped in prayer, and sustained by the intercession of Our Lady, St Bernadette and St John Bosco.

However you are spending your summer, I hope you discover some of the same treasure – the treasure of lived faith. **In October there is a week of opportunities for similar discovery – do save the evenings through the week of 12th – 16th October, so as to dive deep into our Catholic faith in fresh and beautiful ways**, in these precious months when we continue to celebrate 170 years of our parish.

Fr Dominic

Summer and Autumn 2026

From 17-22 July Fr Dominic was in Lourdes, and from 23rd July – 8th August he is 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.

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.

Cafod Special Collection for Venezuela Thank you to all parishioners for their enormous generosity for the Venezuela Earthquake Appeal. We raised the magnificent sum of £1,255.

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.

Thursday 13th and 20th August – special 12.15pm Masses for A level, BTEC and GCSE students on their results day. Whether in great joy, or working out fresh pathways, all are welcome to pray for our young people on these key dates.

Service Days. On Tuesday 18th August some of our teenagers are helping out at St Peter's school, with playground decoration. Then on **Wednesday 19th August anyone aged 15 to 105 is warmly welcome** to assist in the church grounds – refurbishing the benches by Our Lady, and clearing the overflow car park of weeds, etc. Gather at 9.30am. Break for Mass and lunch 12-1.30, then continue until we are done, hopefully by about 3pm. Bring any useful tools and gloves, etc. Let Fr Dominic know if you can come – frdominic@brcdt.org. Confirmation groups of 2024, 2025 and 2026 please check your email! Older young adults, please get involved. Thanks for any help that anyone can give!

Shayne's haircut is long overdue! Shayne is our excellent Sunday morning MC and has been growing his hair for many months in order to provide wigs for children undergoing chemotherapy, via charity. His haircut will be at 10.45am on Sunday 13th September. We are looking for a good mobile barber to do this, to maximise the hair saved – please contact the parish office if you could be that barber, or know someone who can.

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.

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 **after any of the weekend Masses on 3rd /4th October**. Applications to the Brentwood Ursuline do not need a certificate, nor do Catholic primary school applications in Havering.

We pray for the repose of the soul of **Anthony Newman RIP** who died recently. His funeral will take place on Tuesday 11th August at 11am and then to South Essex Crematorium. We pray for his wife Carmel and all his family and friends.

We pray for the repose of the soul of **Carol Pyman RIP** who died recently. Her funeral arrangements are to be confirmed. We pray for all her family and friends. In lieu of flowers, donations are requested in support of Mary's Meals and the Romford Future interior decoration of the church.

Mass Intentions

Saturday 25th	6.30pm	Margaret Reidy RIP (Murnane)
Sunday 26th	9.30am	Brian Robert Marks RIP (Marks)
	11.30am	People of the Parish
Wednesday 29th	12.15pm	John Herbert RIP (Herbert)
Saturday 1st	6.30pm	Ints Sergey & Family (Slavek)
Sunday 2nd	9.30am	Eileen Newman RIP (Brennan)
	11.30am	People of the Parish
Wednesday 5th	12.15pm	Peter Gallagher RIP (O'Leary)
Saturday 8th	6.30pm	People of the Parish
Sunday 9th	9.30am	Bridgie O'Brien RIP (Pitkin)
	11.30am	Michael & Kieran Kelly RIP (Kelly)
Tuesday 11th	11.00am	<i>Funeral – Anthony Newman RIP</i>
	6.30pm	William Murnane RIP (Murnane)
Wednesday 12th	12.15pm	Fr Tom Jordan RIP (F)
Thursday 13th	12.15pm	Ints A Level and BTEC students on results day
Friday 14th	10.00am	Frank Rabbitte RIP (Rabbitte)
Saturday 15th	6.30pm	Ints Merc & Jackie McGee (Bacon)
Sunday 16th	9.30am	Bernadette Perry RIP (Pitkin)
	11.30am	Ged Liam Corbett RIP (Corbett)

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,
Josè Lemos, Clara Mangoro, Matty, Harry McKinley, Dorita Mueller, Brendan O'Connor, Monica O'Donnell,
Agnes O'Sullivan, Shamus Pierce, Kay Rabbitte, 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.