



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

Parish Priest: **Fr Dominic Howarth**
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Sunday 4th October
Sunday 11th October

Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time(A)
Twenty-Eighth 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 Egualéonan**
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**

A wonderful week of renewal

Every so often we need to refresh ourselves. If we are fortunate we take a holiday, have a spa break, or – as Jesus did – climb a mountain. The week of 12th – 16th October, now very close, is a chance to climb just such a mountain, in the company of each other. To refresh our faith. It is a chance to welcome others who are seeking God's love and hope, justice and strength, as we have sent over 5,000 invitations across the town. Perhaps there is a family member you can bring with you, or a friend – again taking inspiration from Jesus own life where he invited the disciples, "Come and see".

On **Monday 12th** at 6pm the invitation is to **renew our participation in Mass**. Perhaps Mass has never really been explained to us, or any explanation was a long time ago. I'll walk us through the Mass, highlighting signs, symbols and meanings. Afterwards – as on every evening – there will be a chance for refreshments, which is also a chance to chat and ask questions.

On **Tuesday 13th** at 6pm we will be **remembering and celebrating the faith of those who have gone before us**, as we celebrate the Feast of St Edward the Confessor led by Bishop Alan, and with a homily given by the Archivist of Westminster Diocese, Rev Canon Nicholas Schofield. Plenty of glorious refreshments afterwards! */cont.*

On **Wednesday 14th** at 6pm we welcome Michelle Moran, leading us in **renewing our personal faith**. Michelle was chosen by Pope Francis to be part of the Pontifical Council for the Laity, and helped found the Sion Community in Brentwood. She is a gifted speaker. Mass at 7pm, refreshments afterwards.

On **Thursday 15th** at 6pm we welcome Greg Finn, leading us in **renewing our family's faith**. Greg will have spent the day at St Peter's, where they use the superb resources he helped to create as Mark 10 Mission. Plenty of insight for families. Mass at 7pm, refreshments afterwards.

On **Friday 16th** many of us – over 120 – head to Westminster Abbey, to enjoy choral evening prayer and then to pray at the tomb of St Edward the Confessor. More details below – final sign ups today (4th October). Then on the **weekend of 17th and 18th October** we have a special focus on **welcome**, with refreshments after all Masses.

We hope it is all a magnificent culmination of the 170th Anniversary celebrations; please come to anything and everything. Refresh and renew your faith – and help others as they discover and renew their faith. *Fr Dominic*

CAFOD Family Fast Day was Friday 2nd October Please donate and put your faith into action and share the Lord's love by supporting our global neighbours experiencing shortages of food and safe water. Your gift can support children like Tayla in Zimbabwe to stay in school by helping communities and schools provide nourishing meals, improve access to water and grow food in school gardens. A collection will be taken after all Masses this weekend. Use the CAFOD envelope in church, donate online at www.cafod.org.uk/envelope

The Feast of **St Francis of Assisi is today, Sunday 4th October**. We will have a special **Blessing of Pets at 2.30pm** in church (or on the piazza in front of church if the weather is good). The service is about 25 minutes, and might be a chance to meet fellow pet lovers, or discover some unusual pets.

Sacrament of Confirmation – Deadline TODAY!

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.

Adoremus ("let us adore") is a national event taking place at Southwark and Westminster Cathedrals **next Saturday 10th October**, focused on the Eucharist. Full details <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/adoremus-2026/> and you are very warmly invited to be part of a day celebrating faith with Catholics from across the country. You need to register for the noon Mass: please sign up at the back of the church.

Quiz Night: Friday 23rd October 7.00pm for 7.30pm start in the Parish Centre. Tickets £5.00 at the door. Teams of 8-10..... but if you can't get a team together, come along and we will find you a table. Bring your own drinks and nibbles. Everyone over 14 is very welcome. Any queries, contact Julia or Margie via parish office.

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 Masses THIS weekend**. Applications to the Brentwood Ursuline do not need a certificate, nor do Catholic primary school applications in Havering.

The new Children's Choir had a great beginning with some very tuneful young singers!

The next rehearsal will be 5pm – 6pm **this** Tuesday 6th October, ready to sing at 9.30am next Sunday, 11th October. Open to anyone in school year 4-8. Parents are welcome to stay with children during rehearsals. Many superb singers started out by singing in a church choir – and it is a lovely way to make new friends with similar interests.

Youth news: Parents and young people are invited to email romforyouth@brcdt.org to receive regular updates. Currently on offer is Open Table Fridays for those aged 18+ accompaniment to the Brentwood Catholic Youth Service (BCYS) monthly Youth Mass for those in school year 9+; Monthly Bible Study (Wednesdays at Gidea Park); Participation in BCYS "Rooted" events (year 7-9/10-13, 24th/25th Oct). www.bcys.net

Westminster Abbey Visit. As part of the Parish Renewal Week, all are warmly invited to hear the choirs of Westminster Cathedral and Westminster Abbey sing Vespers, just steps from the tomb of St Edward the Confessor. **Friday 16th October**, 5pm (arrive at the Abbey by 4.30pm). For those with less mobility, there will be a coach from the parish (£15 per person), leaving 2.45pm and returning about 8.00pm. Please sign up after Mass or email the parish office and indicate if you require a coach seat. If you have booked a seat on the coach please put your payment in an envelope marked clearly with your name had drop into parish office.

Join Caritas Brentwood this autumn for special gatherings across the Diocese exploring Catholic Social Teaching in action. Hear from inspiring speakers, connect with other parishioners and discover how local parishes are living out our faith. Saturday 17 October: St Alban's, Elm Park on **Homelessness** ; Saturday 14 November: St Anne Line, South Woodford on **Refugees**. To register, and find out more go to: <https://www.eventbrite.com/cc/caritas-brentwood-events-4458423>

Live Simply: Please join the Live Simply group when we help the Romford Wombles and Romford Civic Society to plant and maintain flower beds in our town next Saturday 10th October, 10.00 to 11.30. Meet at the flower bed at the corner of George Street/Victoria Road/ Thurloe Gardens. More information about Romford Wombles can be found here: e-voice.org.uk/romfordtownwombles

Headteacher vacancies in Newham: St Michael's, East Ham and St Francis, Stratford. All information <https://www.olog.org.uk/vacancies>

We pray for the repose of the soul of **Mary Buckley RIP** who died recently. Her funeral will take place on Thursday 8th October at 11am and then to Barkingside Garden of Rest. We pray for all her family and friends.

Mass Intentions

Saturday 3rd	6.30pm	Ints Annette & Michael Bacon 25th Wedding Anniv.
Sunday 4th	9.30am	People of the Parish
	11.30am	Bridget Herbert RIP (Herbert)
Tuesday 6th	6.30pm	Theresa West RIP (Bacon)
Wednesday 7th	12.15pm	John Smith RIP 10th Anniv (Smith)
Thursday 8th	11.00am	<i>Funeral – Mary Buckley RIP</i>
Friday 9th	9.30am	<u>At St Peter's School</u> James Stubbs RIP (Brennan)
	5pm–6pm	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Reconciliation
Saturday 10th	6.30pm	People of the Parish
Sunday 11th	9.30am	Thanksgiving for Friends (Martin)
	11.30am	Manuel Garces RIP (Garces)

Parish Renewal Week

Monday 12th	6.00pm	For those searching for faith
Tuesday 13th	6.00pm	For all past and present parishioners
Wednesday 14th	12.15pm	For members of the Golden Club
	7.00pm	For all who spread the Catholic faith
Thursday 15th	7.00pm	For all families in the parish
Friday 16th	9.30am	<u>At St Peter's School:</u> For the pupils of St Peter's
	5.00pm	<u>Vespers at Westminster Abbey</u>
Saturday 17th	6.30pm	People of the Parish
Sunday 18th	9.30am	Kay Curtin RIP (Doe)
	11.30am	Michael Kelly RIP (Kelly)

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, 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.