



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

Parish Priest: **Fr Dominic Howarth**
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Sunday 6th September
Sunday 13th September

Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)
Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)
Education Sunday

Website **www.stedwards-romford.org.uk**
Livestream **<https://stream.seccomgroup.com/channel/st-edward>**
Parish Facebook / Instagram: **@RomfordRC**
Parish Partnership Youth Co-Ordinator: **Onosé Egualéonán**
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**

Our Catholic faith helps us to deeply navigate the various challenges in the world. We are facing a climate crisis. By taking time in prayer and reflection, changing some habits, promoting peace, and cherishing creation we live our faith and our care for our God-given planet. Over a decade ago Pope Francis initiated the **Season of Creation** as a time to reflect on the wonder and gift of God's creation. On Tuesday Pope Leo XIV offered Mass to begin the 2026 Season of Creation; his homily, and his message for the year, are available at www.vatican.va and are well worth reading. After the summer heat waves it is especially significant that this year's theme is "Living Water". The parish Live Simply group will speak after all Masses this weekend. For more details and resources look at www.caritasbrentwood.org/resource/season-of-creation/. On 4th October we will mark the Feast of St Francis of Assisi with a **blessing of pets** – more details soon.

Another challenge of our times is an ever more casual approach to the ending of life. Every human person is made in God's image and likeness. We cherish life from conception to natural death. **This Friday, 11th September, the House of Commons debate the Assisted Dying Bill.** We pray that it does not pass; for more information and to contact your MP visit www.righttolife.org.uk or www.notdeadyetuk.org

To help all of us deepen, renew and find fresh ideas to sustain our faith the **parish renewal week** is October 12th – 18th. **Stewards, Welcomers, Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist and Readers** are reminded of the preparation meeting **this Tuesday, 8th September, 7.15 – 8.15pm.** Then we will be asking for **everyone's help** to send fliers through every letterbox in the parish – more info next week. *Fr Dominic*

CLOSING THIS MONDAY, 7th September

Applications for Sacraments of First Holy Communion and First Reconciliation

For children who are in Year 3 or above. 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](#)

Next weekend 12th/13th September is welcome back weekend. 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.

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. This is all through the charity The Little Princess Trust, <https://www.littleprincesses.org.uk/> His haircut will be at 10.45am next Sunday 13th September with thanks to Elliott Dean Salon.

The Golden Club has returned from the summer break and meet every Wednesday after the 12.15pm Mass. Old and new members welcome for tea, coffee, cake, raffle and bingo.

Macmillan Coffee Morning. Join us **on Saturday 26th September, from 9:30am to 12:00pm in the Parish Centre.** Come along and enjoy a relaxing morning of coffee, cake and good company, while supporting **Macmillan Cancer Support**. Donations of cakes and raffle prizes are always gratefully received. These can be left with the parish office, given to Annette Bacon, or brought to the hall the evening before or on the morning of the event. **Save the date and pop in for a cuppa — everyone is welcome, and it's all for a great cause!**

Join Caritas Brentwood this autumn for three 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 26 September: Brentwood Cathedral on **Environment**; 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>

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, leaving 2.45pm and returning about 8.00pm; full details and sign up information from next weekend.

Save the Date – Quiz Night in aid of the building fund on **Friday 23rd October** in the Walsingham Hall. More details to follow.

Children's Choir: Anyone in Year 4 to 8 is warmly invited to join a new children's choir. Lara and Jack have just left Campion; they are young adults full of musical skill, humour and kindness, and they will lead the new choir. Rehearsals will usually be once a month, on a Tuesday from 5-6pm, at the church. The children's choir will lead the music at the 9.30am Mass, on the second Sunday of each month. First meeting and rehearsal 5pm Tuesday 15th September, then 5pm Tuesday 6th October, ready to sing at 9.30am on Sunday 11th October. 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. All are welcome!

Youth news: Onosé, our Parish Partnership Youth Co-ordinator, will speak at all Masses on **26th/27th September**. Parents and young people are invited to email romfordyouth@brcdt.org to receive a regular newsletter and info to keep you up to date. 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; Participation in the BCYS "Rooted" events (for year 7-9 / 10 – 13). Onosé also visits St Peter's, Campion and SHOM on a weekly basis – catch him in your school.

Catholic Teaching in the World of AI, 11am – 2pm, Saturday 26th September, Christ the Eternal High Priest, 410 Brentwood Road, Gidea Park. Pope Leo recently wrote: 'In the era of artificial intelligence, when human dignity is threatened by new forms of dehumanisation, ours is the pressing duty to remain profoundly human.' Fr Hugh MacKenzie, chaplain at Westminster Cathedral, will lead this informative day. He is an expert on AI, and those arranging the talk hope it will be of particular interest to young people and young adults, as well as for all of us as we increasingly encounter AI in everyday life. Everyone is welcome. The talk is free and there's no registration needed. The talk will also be on livestream, and then a recorded version will be available – access this and discover more such talks on www.whatgoodnews.org

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 Campion 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 **Margaret Ellis RIP** who died recently. Her funeral will take place on Friday 25th September at 11am and then to South Essex Crematorium. We pray for her husband Sean and all her family and friends.

We pray for the repose of the soul of **Thomas Kelly RIP** who died recently. His funeral will take place on Wednesday 30th September at 12.15pm and then to Forest Park Crematorium. We pray for his wife Chrissie and all his family and friends.

Mass Intentions

Saturday 5th	6.30pm	Doris May Taylor RIP (Mernin)
Sunday 6th	9.30am	People of the Parish
	11.30am	Ints Fergus & Bernie Corcoran
		60th Wedding Anniversary (Grannell)
Tuesday 8th	6.30pm	Felista Chikufenji RIP
Wednesday 9th	12.15pm	Michael Pullman RIP (Ellis)
Thursday 10th	9.00am	Auguste Plom (F)
Friday 11th	9.30am	Margaret Pruna RIP (Heneghan) <u>In St Peter's School</u>
	5pm–6pm	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament & Reconciliation
Saturday 12th	4.00pm	Requiem Mass for Ben Ogborn RIP
	6.30pm	Clifford West RIP (Bacon)
Sunday 13th	9.30am	Tony Newman RIP (Newman)
	11.30am	Pat Roarty RIP (Groves)
Monday 14th	10.30am	Fr Dominic 24th Anniversary of Ordination
Tuesday 15th	6.30pm	John Abello RIP (Heneghan)
Wednesday 16th	12.15pm	John Albert Capps RIP (Ellis)
Thursday 17th	9.00am	Florence Howett RIP (F)
Friday 18th	No Mass today – Fr Dominic away	
	5pm–6pm	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
Saturday 19th	6.30pm	Andrew Grimes RIP (Grimes)
Sunday 20th	9.30am	Ray Graves RIP (Graves)
	11.30am	Dr Rebecca Brown RIP (Joyce)

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.