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 22nd November **Our Lord Jesus Christ the King (A)**
World Youth Sunday

Sunday 29th November **First Sunday of Advent (B)**

Website **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: **romfordyouth@brcdt.org** Instagram: **@romford_youth**

Parish Safeguarding Representative: **Hannah Richards**
Contact via the parish office or **hannahrichards@brcdt.org**

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 prayers are asked for Bishop Alan, as he prepares for retirement, and for **Bishop-elect Timothy Menezes,** who will be installed as Bishop of Brentwood on **3rd December**, the Feast of St Francis Xavier.

Today is the Feast of Christ the King and World Youth Sunday

Today, Pope Leo XIV says to young people: **"I want to give thanks to God for the gift that you are to the Church and to society. He knows you, loves you, and accompanies you on your journey through life."** (Message for the 41st World Youth Day). We are so blessed to have young people actively involved in all sorts of ways within the parish, most especially through altar service and music, as well as practical help during the summer. Pope Leo invites all young people to "**Take courage"** as they navigate the world; courage rooted in Jesus Christ.

The involvement by young people happens because of encouragement; **thank you** for the many and varied ways in which you affirm the young. Across the weekend Masses five of them will be speaking about their experience of travelling to Lourdes with the Brentwood Catholic Youth Service (BCYS) and there will be a collection for the work of the BCYS. They include Alfie, who will speak on Saturday evening; he is giving a year of his life as a volunteer at Walsingham House, helping other young people on retreat. How magnificent! For more information look at www.bcys.net or email Onosé on romfordyouth@brcdt.org

Bishop Timothy Menezes invites you to a Mass of Thanksgiving

All parishioners from across the diocese are warmly invited to attend a Mass of Thanksgiving to be celebrated by Bishop Timothy Menezes following his appointment as Bishop of the Diocese of Brentwood.

Masses will be celebrated in three locations:

Tuesday 8th Dec: 11:00 am – Cathedral Church of St Mary & St Helen,
Ingrave Road, Brentwood CM15 8AT
Tuesday 8th Dec: 7:30 pm – St Antony of Padua Church,
St Antony's Road, Forest Gate, London E7 9QB
Wed 9th Dec: 7:00 pm - St James the Less and St Helen Church,
Priory Street, Colchester CO1 2QB

Additionally the Chapter of Canons Mass will take place in the Cathedral Church of St Mary & St Helen, Brentwood on Monday, 14th December at 10.30am, celebrated by Bishop Timothy Menezes. All are very welcome to attend.

Throughout November there is a box in front of the altar where you can place the names of loved ones – they are prayed for at each Mass in November. There has been the custom of leaving a donation with the names, and you can use any envelope to do that. It is completely optional, and any money given will support our work with young people in the parish, including helping young people travel to Lourdes next summer.

"Ask me" … You will see some Parish Stewards and other Parishioners wearing these badges. It just means that they are comfortable to have a chat about faith, perhaps with a new parishioner, or someone unfamiliar with the church. So if you have a question, would like a prayer, or are looking for information – ask them! If you think you could serve others by wearing such a badge, please chat with Fr Dominic. You need to have a decent knowledge of your Catholic faith, a calm and welcoming personality, and be very regularly at Mass.

POETRY PANTRY is an immersive, verbatim play about the Romford charity S.M.I.L.E.. The play shares the unheard stories of staff and service users of the food pantry. There are four shows: 19 and 20 December; 12pm and 3pm. Please arrive 30 minutes before the event at Havering Museum (just across the road from S.M.I.L.E.) and we will take you to the venue. Funded by Havering London and National Lottery Heritage Fund as part of Our Stories. In partnership with Havering Museum. Tickets via the SMILE website:
https://www.smilelondonessex.com/event-details/poetry-pantry-2026-12-19-12-00

Reading the Bible through Advent and Christmas Fr Adrian Graffy, parish priest of Gidea Park and member of the Pontifical Biblical Commission, has just published *Reading the Bible through Advent and Christmas*. Full information about the book can be found on the homepage of the website *www.whatgoodnews.org*

PARISH BAZAAR – Saturday 5th December 10am – 2pm in the Parish Centre

Raffle tickets are available after all Masses, or from the Parish office. Superb prizes. £5/book.

Donations can be left at the church or presbytery any time from Saturday 7th November. Please – please – only bring what is on this list:

→ New (or very nearly new), boxed toys

→ Bottles for the festive delight and mayhem that is the bottle stall. Bottles containing any fluid that can be drunk, alcoholic or soft. But not any already opened!

→ Gift items – either new, or things that suit a "white elephant stall", with novelty value. Nothing chipped or cracked, please.

→ Toiletry sets – again, something that might make a lovely gift

→ PLUS we will warmly welcome donations of cakes, biscuits, cup cakes, soda bread and other home baked items in the day or two before the Bazaar, and on the day. Contact Julia in the parish office to arrange drop off.

The Bazaar will run from 10am to 2pm, with the raffles drawn at 1.30pm. There will be loads of stalls, including Advent wreaths and floral decorations, knitted cribs, games for children run by scouts and cubs, plus – of course – Father Christmas on a little warm-up outing, as he gets ready for Christmas Eve. Come and enjoy the festivities and fun, pick up some Christmas gift bargains, and help raise money to support our wonderful parish!

Advent begins next Sunday, 29th November. Please take a copy of the "Advent Opportunities" leaflet or have a look at the dedicated section on the parish website www.stedwards-romford.org.uk/christmas

The church will be closed for refurbishment from January to March 2027. Please take a copy of the information sheet; more detailed information will be given over the coming weeks.

We pray for the repose of the soul of **Carlton Jones RIP** who died recently. His funeral will take place on Monday 7th December at 10am and then to Manor Park Cemetery. We pray for his daughters and all his family and friends.

We pray for the repose of the soul of **Ellen George RIP** who died recently. Her funeral will take place on Thursday 10th December at 10.30am and then to Upminster Cemetery. We pray for her family and friends.

We pray for the repose of the soul of **Dorita Mueller RIP** who died recently. Her funeral will take place on Wednesday 16th December at 12.15pm and then to South Essex Crematorium. We pray for her many friends within the parish who have been a family to her during her long illness.

Mass Intentions

Saturday 21st	**6.30pm**	**People of the Parish**
Sunday 22nd	**9.30am**	**Clive Wilson RIP (Zincraft)**
	11.30am	**Dec'd Members of Legion of Mary**
Tuesday 24th	**No Mass today – Fr Dominic at a conference**	
Wednesday 25th	**12.15pm**	**Joe Bellotti & family RIP (Bellotti)**
Thursday 26th	**9.00am**	**Clifford West RIP (Bacon)**
Friday 27th	**9.30am in St Peter's School**	**Ints of Burgess Family (Murnane)**
	5pm–6pm	**Reconciliation and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament**
Saturday 28th	**6.30pm**	**Andy & Nancy Sullivan RIP (Bray)**
Sunday 29th	**9.30am**	**People of the Parish**
	11.30am	**Ints Philip Scannell (McDaniel)**
Tuesday 1st	**6.30pm**	**Ciaron Fitzgerald RIP (Brennan)**
Wednesday 2nd	**12.15pm**	**Dec'd Members of Sammut Family (Bellotti)**
Thursday 3rd	**9.00am**	**Bishop Alan and Bishop Timothy**
Friday 4th	**9.30am in St Peter's School**	**Ints Ann McGlynn & Family (Heneghan)**
	5pm–6pm	**Reconciliation and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament**
Saturday 5th	**6.30pm**	**Ints Mary & Arthur Hart (Johal)**
Sunday 6th	**9.30am**	**Eugenio Domingo RIP (Domingo)**
	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, Pat Fagan,
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, 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.