

ST. JAMES THE LESS AND ST. HELEN CATHOLIC CHURCH, COLCHESTER

WITH MERSEA, MILE END AND MONKWICK



Canon Anthony McKentey
Fr Alex Poblador, RCJ
Fr Philip Willenbrock
51 Priory Street, Colchester, Essex, CO1 2QB
Tel: 01206 866317
E-Mail colchester@dioceseofbrentwood.org
www.stjamesthelessandsthelen.org

EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME [A]

February 26th 2017 – Parish Mass Book page 142

In this Sunday's Gospel, Jesus invites us once again to cast off all our worries and put our trust in him. He tells this simply by reminding us not to worry about the future, about security, about money and other things. After all, these things are just but passing, and someday might bring us to failure. As the prophet Isaiah points out, even if a mother forgets her child, God never will. And as St. Paul says: "he who did not spare his own Son but handed him over for us all, how will he not also give us everything else along with him?" (Rom 8:32).

If we think, however, that money, properties and pleasures in life are things which can give us security then we are blinded. In fact, we become more insecure if we have lots of them, and they won't give us a little peace. A person who puts his trust in mammon will always be anxious and worried.

For me, worrying is a result of a defective understanding of the purpose of life. We are not here just to accumulate things and become successful. What St. Teresa of Calcutta says make sense; "God called us to be faithful, not successful".

In his love and compassion, God promised that he will be with us until the end of time. So, no need to worry then.

Brothers and sisters, putting our trust in God, becoming faithful is a daily act. Let us then direct our lives into the right perspective by trusting God at all time. His providence is without limit, if only we believe. Our Father in heaven knows what we need before we ask him. When trials and difficulties comes, turn to God and he will answer you, just believe. Let us ponder upon this words of wisdom from St. Augustine: "You have made us for yourself, O Lord, and our hearts are restless until it rest in you"!

Fr Alex, rcj

EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME [A]

Saturday February 25th 6:15 pm Intentions: Patricia Urquhart
Sunday February 26th 8:00 am Mick and Teresa Haley RIP
10:30 am Patrick Murphy RIP
2:00 pm Polish Mass
6:30 pm In Thanksgiving
West Mersea 8:30 am Parishioners
Mile End 9:15 am Roy Foley RIP
Monkwick 10:15 am Ronald Jay RIP

Monday 27th **Feria**
Church 9:15 am Jim O'Hare RIP

Tuesday 28th **Feria**
Church 9:15 am Margaret Barker RIP

Wed. March 1st **ASH WEDNESDAY** [Fasting and Abstinence]
STM – KS2 Church 9:15 am Parishioners
Mersea 9:30 am Holy Souls RIP
Church 12:15 pm Muriel Roy RIP & Sr Enid RIP
Church 7:30 pm Intentions: Richard Lee

Thursday 2nd **Feria**
Church 9:15 am Frederick, Elizabeth & Angelo Lucas RIP

Friday 3rd **Feria** [Women's World Day of Prayer]
Church 9:15 am Kay Knight RIP
Church 12:00 pm Stations of the Cross
Church 7:30 pm Stations of the Cross

Saturday 4th **Feria**
Church 9:15 am Holy Souls RIP

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT [A]

Saturday March 4th 6:15 pm Mrs Holland RIP
Sunday March 5th 8:00 am Mary and William O'Grady RIP
10:30 am Dr Roger Sykes RIP
2:00 pm Polish Mass
4:00 pm Filipino Mass
6:30 pm Parishioners
West Mersea 8:30 am Intentions: The Wynne Family
Mile End 9:15 am Roy Foley RIP
Monkwick 10:15 am Margaret and Bernard Potter RIP

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: Saturday 9:45-10:30am; 5:30-6pm
SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE: At least six months notice is required

Please see Mass Schedule for ANY change

SUNDAYS: Divine Mercy and Rosary Following 8am Mass
CHRISTIAN MEDITATION Tuesdays – Crypt 8:00pm
DAILY: Morning Prayer 8:15am; Rosary/Divine Mercy 8:35am
FILMS FOR FAITH: Please see below

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK: Please remember in your prayers; Percy Abrahams, Lorraine Atkin, Pat Banks, Antoinetta Caldeira, Frank Campbell, Nicollas and Adam Campbell-Vencarto, Olive Crawford, Vicky Culham, Margaret Doorish, Margaret Griffin, Jim Harvey, John Harvey, Jan Holden, Julie Jefferies, Pat Keene, Marie Kent, Patrick King, John Lawlor, Peter Ledgley, Nathanael Lee, Joanne Leon, Doreen Lowe, Marie Lyons, Canon Anthony McKentey, Jean Mansell, Mary-Ann Martin, Cara Maude, David Merryman, Byron Miller, Amadine Morgan, Margaret Norman, Charles Norman, Anne Renwick, Leah Patterson, Ronald Quijano, Stephen Rhatigan, Chris Sands, Maureen Sheeran, Christine Staines, Patricia Urquhart, Filomena Velasquez, Mary Wallace, Brea Ward, Patricia Wiltshire, Tony White,

LENT 2017

The Season of Lent begins this coming Ash Wednesday, March 1st. It is a day of Fasting and Abstinence, and ashes will be distributed at all the Masses, which are as follows: 9:15am; 9:30am [Mersea]; 12:15; 7:30pm.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS: Every Friday, from Friday 3rd, at 12 noon followed by soup and a roll in the Crypt, with donations going to the Colchester Soup Run. Again, every Friday from 3rd March, Stations of the Cross at 7:30pm which, this year, due to the retirement of Canon Peter Walker, will all take place at Priory Street.

LECTIO DIVINA: [Preparing for Sundays in Lent, reflective Reading of the Sunday scriptures]; Fridays at 6:30pm before Stations of the Cross, in the Crypt from March 3rd until March 31st.

“WALK WITH ME” BOOKLETS are available for £1. A helpful prayer companion for the Lenten Season

LENTEN REFLECTIONS: Valerie Quinlivan will lead 3 one hour long Reflections on the following dates in the Church: Thursday 23rd March, 6:30pm – 7:30pm; Thursday 30th March, 10:15am – 11:15am; Saturday, 8th April, 11:00am – 12noon.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION : The children are now looking at Friendships and will be helping at 10:30 Mass next week. There is a Parents’ Session in the Crypt at 7:30pm on Friday 3rd March, looking at Reconciliation. Please make every effort to attend.

FILMS FOR FAITH: Films For Faith on Wednesday, March 8th, will be showing The Ten Commandments, Part I. On March 22nd, Part II will be screened. Timings: 1:15pm for a 1:30pm start in the Crypt. Refreshments will be provided and all are most welcome.

STEWARDS OF THE GOSPEL: One or more of our Stewards will be available in Cardinal Bourne Hall after the 10:30am Mass today.

MEXICAN MEAL: 4th March in the Cardinal Bourne Hall at 7:30 pm. Cost - £10 adult; £5 child. In aid of Bishop’s Lourdes Fund. This fund helps send pilgrims to the annual Lourdes Diocesan Pilgrimage. Contact Theresa Higgins 523501.

MEETING THE “LIVING GOD” SEMINAR 2: *The three marks of Easter Faith.* Speaker: Bishop Emeritus Thomas McMahon on Saturday 4th March, 10:30am – 12 noon at Cathedral House.

ST PATRICK’S DANCE: Saturday 18th March in the Cardinal Bourne Hall at 7:30pm. Good food, Irish Dancing and live Irish singing and music. Raffle. Adults £12; children 6-12yrs £6. Contacts: Frances on 369568; Nora on 503410.

STUDY DAY ON THE GOSPEL OF JOHN: The next study day at Christ the Eternal High Priest, Gidea Park, will take place on Saturday 18th March from 11 am until 3 pm. The theme will be ‘The Journey of Faith in the Gospel of John’. The day will be led by Fr Victor Darlington, professor of Scripture at St John’s Seminary, Womersley. Admission is free, tea and coffee will be provided, but please bring a packed lunch. Please book your place by email to gpstudydays@gmail.com

LENT LECTURES AT EPPING: In the Catholic Church Hall, CM16 4RA. The first of three Lectures - “The Privilege of Suffering” Dr Colin Harte will speak on suffering, as we find it difficult to cope with and understand. All suffering is in some way redemptive and can be associated with the sufferings of Christ. Monday 6th March 2017 at 8.00pm.

REPOSITORY: Open on Sundays in the Cardinal Bourne Hall after the 10:30am Mass. For cards, gifts, books and medals, First Holy Communion items. A limited number of missals and Bibles are available; On Line can provide a wider range. CTS booklets and items are available from the Church porch. Please place monies in the Repository wall safe situated in the porch above the cards.

VACANCIES: Volunteers are required for the Soup Run. Ideally, this would suit a couple, so if you would like further information please contact Armando or the Parish Office.

PALMS WANTED: Would parishioners please bring their palms into the church of office to be burnt for the creation of this year’s ashes.

SAINSBURY’S SCHOOL VOUCHERS: We are collecting these vouchers for St Thomas More’s School. Please donate your vouchers by bringing them to the Parish Office.

CARDINAL BOURNE HALL BOOKINGS: cb.hall@btinternet.com 07758 805263

CHURCH CLEANERS’ ROTA: Thursday, March 2nd, Team 2..