

# ST. JAMES THE LESS AND ST. HELEN

## CATHOLIC CHURCH, COLCHESTER

### WITH MERSEA, MILE END AND MONKWICK

1 PARISH, 4 CHURCHES, 1 COMMUNITY



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St James the Less and St Helen RC Church, Colchester

#### SECOND SUNDAY AFTER THE NATIVITY (C)

<b>Sunday 1<sup>st</sup></b>	Church	6.15 pm	Jerome Burke RIP
<b>Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup></b>	Church	8.00 am	Parishioners
	Church	10.30 am	Ints: Maureen + Peter Ahern + Family
	Church	2.00 pm	Polish Mass
	Church	4.00 pm	Filipino Mass
	Church	6.30 pm	Private Intention
	West Mersea	8.30 am	Private Intention
	Mile End	9.15 am	Holy Souls
	Monkwick	10.15 am	Ints: Joseph Hawken
<b>Monday 3<sup>rd</sup></b>			<b>Feria of Christmastide</b>
	Church	9.30 am	Joseph O'Connor RIP + Donor's Intentions
<b>Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup></b>			<b>Feria of Christmastide</b>
	Church	9.30 am	Ints: B. Liew
<b>Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup></b>			<b>Feria of Christmastide</b>
	Church	9.30 am	May Molinari RIP
	West Mersea	7.30 pm	Alan Buck RIP
<b>Thursday 6<sup>th</sup></b>			<b>THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD</b>
	Church	9.30 am	Jamil Michael RIP
	Church	12.15 pm	Ints: B. W.
	Church	7.30 pm	Parishioners
<b>Friday 7<sup>th</sup></b>			<b>Feria of Christmastide</b>
	Church	9.30 am	Mrs. Mary Sebastian RIP
<b>Saturday 8<sup>th</sup></b>			<b>Feria of Christmastide</b>
	Church	9.30 am	Ints: Martin Quist Agbezuge
<b>THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD (C)</b>			
<b>Saturday 8<sup>th</sup></b>	Church	6.15 pm	Holy Souls
<b>Sunday 9<sup>th</sup></b>	Church	8.00 am	Parishioners
	Church	10.30 am	Ints: Monica Galvin +Family
	Church	2.00 pm	Polish Mass
	Church	6.30 pm	Ints: Jude S. A.
	West Mersea	8.30 am	Private Intention
	Mile End	9.15 am	Paul Richard B. Brunola RIP
	Monkwick	10.15 am	Celestine Tighe RIP

## SECOND SUNDAY AFTER THE NATIVITY (C)

WEEK COMMENCING 2<sup>ND</sup> JANUARY 2022

The second reading today gives us a passage from St. Paul's letter to the Ephesians in which he tells us what he asks for them when he prays. Clearly he asks for their good, as he does elsewhere praying for others. The blessing sought here is centered on the minds of the Ephesians and in particular something we could ask for also as we enter a new year. He wishes their minds to be clear about what has been revealed so that their hope is also clear. There is a lesson here for us. It is easy to get caught up in daily life, even in the good sense of seeking always to do God's will, so sometimes we need to be reminded of our destination. We are called to be citizens of heaven, members of the communion of saints, gloriously renewed in Christ and rejoicing for eternity in the vision of God. In the light of such a calling I think it is fair to say that not a few of our daily concerns become less pressing? What is really important?

Fr. Chris

- ❖ For Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals, please email or contact our parish office.
- ❖ Visiting for the Sacrament of the Sick is possible, Please contact the Presbytery.
- ❖ Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) Saturdays after 10am Mass and 5.30pm-6.00pm
- ❖ Mass Intentions. Envelopes are available in Church Porch and are situated either side of Church Entrance, please complete envelope & drop through presbytery door. A suggested minimum stipend is £10 per Mass. The Mass Intention will be published in the newsletter (available on the parish website or via Facebook or collection from Church).
- ❖ Colchester General Hospital: If you would like to arrange for a priest to visit a Catholic relative in hospital please contact the presbytery direct on (01206) 866317



Please note that Face Masks must be worn in Church, unless medically exempt.



**PLEASE SEE MASS SCHEDULE FOR ALL CHANGES**

DAILY	Morning Prayer	at 9.15 am
CHRISTIAN MEDITATION	Wednesdays (Cardinal Bourne Hall)	at 8.00 pm
DAILY Mon-Fri	Rosary/Divine Mercy	at 8.45 am
2 <sup>nd</sup> SUNDAY MONTHLY	Eucharistic Adoration	Temporarily suspended

Please refer to the Website Home Page or External Church Notice Board for details on the **Relaxation of Covid restrictions.**

*As a Reminder: Anyone displaying symptoms of Covid-19, or who has reason to believe that they have been in contact with someone who has, should not attend church or volunteer in any capacity until they have received medical advice that it is safe to do so.*



**THE POPE'S INTENTIONS FOR JANUARY: *True Human Fraternity.*** We pray for all those suffering from religious discrimination and persecution; may their own rights and dignity be recognized, which originate from being brothers and sisters in the human family.

**MARRIAGE MATTERS:** (Ecclesiasticus 24: 1-2, 8-12; Eph 1: 3-6, 15-18; John 1: 1-18) **Married wisdom.** Paul's letter tells us "...the Father of glory give you a spirit of wisdom and perception". We married couples need wisdom to be our guide through our life together. We need a wisdom that can grow and affect those around us, providing a unique joy if we are open to experience "...the rich glories..." that have been given to us.

**PRAYERS FOR THE SICK:** We continue to pray for those parishioners we know who are sick and housebound especially Elizabeth Pace, Hilda Morah, Nicollas and Adam Campbell-Vencarto, Jim Lynas, Maureen R. We pray for all persons who are ill or have contracted Covid-19 and their families.

**RECENTLY DECEASED:** Please pray for the repose of the soul Angela Kelly who has recently passed away. The parish community offers her family and friends our condolences and the assurance of our prayers at this most difficult time. Angela's reception into church will be on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> January at 4.30pm and the funeral Mass will be on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> January at 10.30am.

**MESSAGE FROM FR CHRIS & FR PASCHAL:** We hope you enjoyed the festive break and spending time with your loved ones. Please accept our thanks for your kind generosity by way of the Clergy Christmas Collection and Gifts received. Our thanks to all of you who, in any way, made our Christmas celebrations run so smoothly.

**THANK YOU TO ALL OUR VOLUNTEERS:** Our gratitude to all the Church volunteers as well as the hard working "Cleaning" and "Floral" Teams who made our church look so resplendent over the festive period and to all adults and children who decorated our amazing Christmas Tree. Our volunteers are vitally important to the running of this parish and they don't necessarily have the time but they have the heart. Thank you for helping we are truly grateful for all you do for our Parish. If anyone would like to volunteer for any of these groups, please contact the Presbytery office. Thank you.

**THANK YOU** to everyone who attended and supported the *Parish Christmas Afternoon Tea Party* in the hall on the 11<sup>th</sup> December. It was a great success and many delicious items were served to all guests who attended. A special thanks to Frances and Nora for their hard work in organising the event and to all the team of volunteers who supported them. The event raised £246.00 for Parish Funds. Thank you.

**NEXT DIOCESAN SECOND COLLECTIONS:** Pax Christi will take place on 16<sup>th</sup> January and the (SPUC) White Flower Appeal will take place on the 22+23<sup>rd</sup> January 2022.

**THE MEDITATION GROUP:** The next meeting will take place on 5<sup>th</sup> Jan 2022.

**PARISH COUNCIL MEETING:** This will take place after the 10.30am Mass on 23<sup>rd</sup> January.

**MILE END NEWS:** The coffee morning will be today after the 9:15am Mass at St Joseph's and will be held at the Dog & Pheasant. All welcome.

**ST. THOMAS MORE SCHOOL [ADMISSIONS FOR 2022/2023]:** (Local Authority Closing Date 15/01/22). The final date for signing of the "**Certificate of Catholic Practice**" will take place in the church crypt on the following date: - **Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2022 at 4.00pm-5.00pm**  
There is no need to make an appointment as parents/guardians and the child (with Baptism Certificate) applying to St Thomas, will be seen on a 1<sup>st</sup> come, 1<sup>st</sup> served basis.

**CHRISTMAS CRIB COLLECTION IN AID OF THE BRENTWOOD CATHOLIC CHILDREN'S SOCIETY:** In accordance with Diocesan policy, our Crib will remain in place until the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord [February 2<sup>nd</sup>] and these offerings will go to the (BCCS) Brentwood Catholic Children's Society.

**MESSAGE FROM SVP:** We would like to convey our gratitude for all the gifts donated to the children at Brett House. They were so happy to receive these thoughtful and caring Christmas presents. Thank you.

**2022 RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults):** RCIA is the process developed by the Catholic Church for those who are interested in finding out more about the Catholic Faith, teachings and practices with a view to becoming Catholics, or for those who have a background in the Catholic Faith but who have not yet been confirmed, or for anyone who wants to refresh their knowledge of the Catholic Faith. To register your interest, please email your contact details [colchester@dioceseofbrentwood.org](mailto:colchester@dioceseofbrentwood.org). Thank You

**DIOCESAN DIRECTORIES** are on sale in the Church Porch. These are very useful as they contain the liturgical calendar for the church year and information about all parts of the Diocese including Diocesan contact details, parishes, schools, prayer groups and other organisations and societies. Priced at £2.80 per copy (money to go in "Repository" Box in church porch).

**PARISH FINANCES:** If you wish to make an offering/donation this can be done by: -

- Dropping envelope through Presbytery door (please write on envelope Mass Offering or Parish Maintenance) or in the Donation Basket situated at Church entrance & Exit
- Diocesan Online Donation platform (where donations can also be gift aided):-  
**Priory St:** <https://www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/donations?parish=colchester>  
**Mile End:** <https://www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/donations?parish=colchester-c>  
**Mersea:** <https://www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/donations?parish=colchester-b>  
**Monkwick:** <https://www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/donations?parish=colchester-d>

**Everything that happens in our parish is only possible with your support. Thank you**

**BAPTISM, CONFIRMATION & FIRST HOLY COMMUNION CERTIFICATES:** If your child has made these sacraments, Certificates can be collected from Presbytery.

**MISSIO CHRISTMAS CALENDARS IN CHURCH PORCH:** Please take a free calendar.

**GIFT AID ENVELOPES:** There are still uncollected Gift Aid box sets in porch. Thank you.

**SVP (St Vincent de Paul Society): SVP:** If you know of someone who is lonely, housebound or simply in need of a friend, please contact us, using the details below. If you would like to join us the details of our next meeting are at the back of the church, along with a collection box. Tel: 07493 439427 or email: [colchestersvp@gmail.com](mailto:colchestersvp@gmail.com)

**CHURCH CLEANING TEAM:** Monday 03/01/22: **Team 2** / Monday 10/01/22: **Team 3**  
**CBH COFFEE MORNING ROTA:** 02/01/22 (Diane + Adrian) + 09/01/22 (KSC)  
2022 Rota's are available in Church Porch.