

ST. JAMES THE LESS AND ST. HELEN

CATHOLIC CHURCH, COLCHESTER

WITH MERSEA, MILE END AND MONKWICK

1 PARISH, 4 CHURCHES, 1 COMMUNITY



Parish Priest:
Assistant Priest:
Assistant Priest:
Assistant Priest:

Mgr. Christopher Brooks
Fr. Nixon Gomes
Fr. Philip Willenbrock
Fr. Adrian Lowe

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St James the Less and St Helen RC Church, Colchester

EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME^(A)

Saturday 1st August	Church	6.15 pm	Mrs. Colleen Thurlow RIP
Sunday 2nd	Church	8.00 am	Kathleen Shock RIP
	Church	10:30 am	Parishioners
	Church	2.00 pm	Polish Mass
	Church	6.30 pm	Tracey Thomas RIP
	West Mersea	8:30 am	Private Intention
	Monkwick	10:15 am	Leslie Hawken RIP
Monday 3rd			Feria
	Church	10.00 am	Ints: Fr. Adrian Lowe
Tuesday 4th			St John Mary Vianney, Pr
	Church	10.00 am	Ints: Maria Von Wrede
Wednesday 5^h			Feria
	Church	10.00 am	Margaretta Wright
Thursday 6th			TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD (A)
	Church	10.00 am	Ints: David & Ann Doble
Friday 7th			Feria
	Church	10.00 am	Mrs. Chachy Joseph RIP
Saturday 8th			St Dominic, Pr
	Church	10.00 am	Ints: David & Susan Kelly (50 th Wedding anniv.)

NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME^(A)

Saturday 8th	Church	6.15 pm	Mrs. Paddy Phillips RIP
Sunday 9th	Church	8.00 am	Ints: Fr. Neil Brett
	Church	10:30 am	Lea Kernott RIP
	Church	2.00 pm	Polish Mass
	Church	6.30 pm	Private Intention
	West Mersea	8:30 am	Parishioners
	Monkwick	10:15 am	Private Intention

To reserve seat(s) at Weekend Masses, please right-click [Mass Bookings](#) and open the hyperlink, which will take you to the *Booking Form* for each Mass

It is important to reaffirm that, at present, the obligation to attend Sunday Mass remains suspended.

- ❖ For Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals, please contact our parish office.
- ❖ Visiting for the Sacrament of the Sick is possible, under certain circumstances.
- ❖ Mass Intentions. These can be posted through the presbytery letterbox and they will be published in the newsletter (available on the parish website).
- ❖ If you are self-isolating and would like to speak to a priest or have any worries, please contact us at the Presbytery on 01206 866317 and we will try to help you.

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, subject to hospital restrictions due to virus.

EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME ^(A)

WEEK COMMENCING: 2ND AUGUST 2020 - PARISH MASS BOOK PAGE

The miracle of the loaves: The story of the multiplication of the loaves and the fishes has beguiled painters, theologians down the centuries. It speaks a spiritual truth, let us take one aspect. It was evening; one disciple came to Jesus and said, 'This is a lonely place, so send the people away ... to buy themselves some food'. Jesus says, 'There is no need for them to go away but give them something to eat yourselves' (Mt:14:15). Our human nature instinctively provides a quick solution, to scatter and send the crowds away. Jesus came as a great gathering force, and his mission was to draw all people to himself and feed them.

We often dismiss troublesome people: the foreigner, homeless, hungry away who don't fit in. However, the follower of Jesus, the gatherer, ought to bring precisely such people close. Provide by giving the little that they have and then watch as the Lord multiplies their gifts.

Just consider the number of ministries that reach out to the poor. How wonderful to be part of the story that the Lord never tires of multiplying the loaves and the fishes!

Fr. Nixon

PLEASE SEE MASS SCHEDULE FOR ALL CHANGES

DAILY	Morning Prayer	Temporarily suspended
DAILY	Rosary/Divine Mercy	
SUNDAYS:	Rosary/Divine Mercy	
2 nd SUNDAY MONTHLY	Eucharistic Adoration	
CHRISTIAN MEDITATION	Tuesdays in Crypt (8.00 ^{pm})	

Dear Parishioners and Friends,

Despite all the restrictions, let us be thankful that we can once again gather together, despite social distancing, as God's people.

Please note the following norms in order to promote a COVID 19 safe environment :-

- ◆ Weekend masses need to be booked in advance
- ◆ Churches will open 20 minutes before start of Mass as it will take longer than normal to enter the church, please make allowances
- ◆ Entrance to Church will be via the main door, exit by the side door
- ◆ Hand sanitiser is available at entrance and exit, though you may bring your own
- ◆ It will be essential that people sit where they are asked and do not move from there
- ◆ An Offertory Collection will be taken at each mass with 'collection bags' available on entry and exit; the donation station is also useable
- ◆ No touching of Statues or Images in Church
- ◆ Toilets will be closed except for genuine emergencies.
- ◆ The use of face covering is not obligatory but recommended by the NHS

THE PARISH STEWARDS ARE HERE TO HELP AND DIRECT YOU TO YOUR SEAT(S), PLEASE BE POLITE TO THEM AS THEY CAN ASK YOU TO LEAVE THE CHURCH IF YOU DO NOT COMPLY WITH PRESENT GOVERNMENT AND DIOCESAN REGULATIONS.

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 HOLY FATHER'S INTENTIONS FOR AUGUST: *The Maritime World.* We pray for all those who work and live from the sea, among them sailors, fishermen and their families.

MARRIAGE MATTERS: (Isa 55:1-3 Rom 8:35, 37-39 Matt 14:13- 21) ***It can be hard to have compassion sometimes.*** It's hard to have compassion for my spouse when caught up in my own worries and stress. Jesus moved on from His own sadness to see the need of the crowds; He fed them. We witness to the Good News that nothing can come between us when we nourish each other in all ways - physically, mentally, emotionally and spiritually.

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK: We continue to pray for those parishioners we know who are sick and housebound especially, Nicollas and Adam Campbell-Vencarto, Elizabeth Pace, Hilda Morah. Valerie Thurston, Joan Jeal. Jimmy Clarin. We pray for all persons who have contracted Covid-19 and their families.

RECENTLY DECEASED: Please pray for the repose of the soul of Eveline Culham who has recently passed away. May she rest in peace. We pray for the comfort of her bereaved family and friends. Eveline's funeral service will take place on 5th August at Colchester Crematorium.

CHURCH STEWARDS/CLEANERS: If you would like to Volunteer as a Stewart/Cleaner, please call the Presbytery Office. Thank you.

GIFT AID SUBSCRIBERS: Please can you collect your new box sets from the church porch.

GARDENING VOLUNTEERS: We are looking for volunteers who are willing and able to contribute to the maintenance of the Church garden and outdoor space. No experience is necessary just a love of gardening! If interested, please contact the presbytery office.

TO RESERVE A SEAT AT A WEEKEND MASS: This can be done via the following means: -

- Click on the Mass Bookings tab in the Newsletter
- Parish Website under the tab for Mass Times
- Clicking on the links on Facebook
- By phoning the presbytery office (*If you do not have access to the Internet*); when calling please advise how many seats you will require (*must be from same household*) and give your full name and contact number.

We will have stewards at every Mass and after the service the church will be cleaned to get it ready for the next Mass. We are so grateful to all the volunteers who have come forward to help. It's a huge ask but the response has been tremendous. Thank you.

MAKING A DONATION: Our Parish needs your continued support at this time as Coronavirus has raised some very particular financial challenges for us. Not only do we not have an offertory collection, we also cannot hire out our parish hall either. We must, however, continue to pay for essentials such as our priest's living expenses, the upkeep of our buildings and other ongoing costs. We realise that the current situation is affecting many people's income and they may not be able to continue their level of offerings. If this is the case, we fully understand, and our prayers are with you. If you usually give by envelope or via cash in the collection, you can either make individual payments whenever you like by dropping envelope through Presbytery door or if attending Mass you can place an offering in the donation baskets situated at entrance and exit of church. Alternatively, you can set up a regular gift by Standing Order. The Donation Station (in Church porch) can also be used when attending mass or you can donate online using the Diocesan Online Donation platform (where donations can also be gift aided):-

* St. James the Less & St. Helen <https://www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/donations?parish=colchester>

* St. Joseph, Mile End: <https://www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/donations?parish=colchester-c>

* St. Cedd & St. Gregory: <https://www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/donations?parish=colchester-b>

* St. Theodore of Canterbury: <https://www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/donations?parish=colchester-d>

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

PUBLICATION OF POPE'S PRAYERS AND HOMILIES: The Dicastery for Communication of the Holy See is making available a free downloadable book entitled "*Strong in the Face of Tribulation*", containing prayers, supplications and the Pope's homilies as "a sure support in time of trial". https://www.vaticannews.va/content/dam/lev/forti-nella-tribolazione/pdf/eng/20_0961-Forti-nella-tribolazione-inglese-3.pdf

CATHOLIC UNIVERSE AND CATHOLIC TIMES: You can get these delivered direct to your home every week, POST FREE. Please go to www.thecatholicuniverse.com or call on 0161 820 5722 and they will arrange for you. SPECIAL OFFER 3 MONTHS :-£18.00 or 12 Months:-£72.00

LOURDES IN YOUR LIVING ROOM: Hundreds of people from across the Diocese watched and prayed at Masses and liturgies last week, and enjoyed the social content too. Everything is on www.youtube.com/c/brentwoodcys, in case you missed it. **Thank you** for great generosity as over £4,500 was raised by the "*18 hour challenge*" to be split between the BCYS, and CAFOD's coronavirus appeal, "Summer of Hope".

COLCHESTER FOOD BANK: Provide 3 days' nutritionally balanced emergency food and support to local people who are referred to them in crisis. If you are able to donate, please deliver to 33 Moorside Business Park (off East Hill, past Rollerworld onto the Moorside Estate) CO1 2ZF. They are open 10^{am}-2^{pm} (Mon to Sat). For list of required items <https://colchester.foodbank.org.uk/give-help/donate-food/>.

SVP (St Vincent de Paul Society): We have seen the importance of kindness during this crisis. If you, or someone you know, would benefit from a "good neighbour", please contact us, we are here to help with anything from practical assistance to just a friendly chat. Tel: 07493 439427 or email: colchestersvp@gmail.com

CARDINAL BOURNE HALL: The hall is closed and all group activity suspended until further notice.
