

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER ^(A)

Sunday 3rd	<i>Church</i>	Canon John Bloomfield Parishioners
Monday 4th		English Martyrs
	<i>Church</i>	Michael & Ellen Kate Conlon RIP
Tuesday 5th		Feria
	<i>Church</i>	Colleen Thurlow RIP
Wednesday 6th		St. John Payne
	<i>Church</i>	Colleen Thurlow RIP
Thursday 7th		Feria
	<i>Church</i>	
Friday 8th		Feria
	<i>Church</i>	
Saturday 9th		Feria
	<i>Church</i>	

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER ^(A)

Sunday 10th	<i>Church</i>	Parishioners
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LIVE STREAMING OF MASSES: The following link is to a website that has live streaming of church services in the UK <https://www.churchservices.tv/>

BRENTWOOD PASTORAL DEAF SERVICE: The only signed Mass streamed online is from the Diocese of Westminster: <https://www.churchservices.tv/pottersbar> or from the Church's own website look for the Live Streaming link near the end of the page <https://olasv.org.uk/>

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION	(confession):	By appointment – please contact us
SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE:		At least six months' notice is required
BAPTISM COURSE:		Contact the parish office

THE HOLY FATHER'S INTENTIONS FOR MAY: For Deacons

We pray that deacons, faithful in their service to the Word and the poor, may be an invigorating symbol for the entire Church.

Please pray for any parishioners who are suffering from the virus or self-isolating.

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.

ST. JAMES THE LESS AND ST. HELEN

CATHOLIC CHURCH, COLCHESTER

WITH MERSEA, MILE END AND MONKWICK

1 PARISH, 4 CHURCHES, 1 COMMUNITY



Parish Priest: Mgr. Christopher Brooks
Assistant Priest: Fr. Nixon Gomes
Assistant Priest: Fr. Philip Willenbrock

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FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER ^(A)

WEEK COMMENCING: 3RD MAY 2020 - PARISH MASS BOOK PAGE -

Dear friends, 'When he has brought out his flock, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow because they know his voice.' John 10:4
This line, from the Sunday Mass readings this week, talks of how sheep follow the shepherd because they have gotten used to the shepherd's voice. In the same way, we are asked to follow Jesus, the Good Shepherd, because we are used to his voice. Jesus speaks to us in many different ways, but during this time when there are not public Masses, we can perhaps spend some more time listening to the voice of the Lord in scripture. Sometimes, it is good to start at the beginning of a book in the bible like one of the gospels or the book of psalms, and read straight through, rather than read passages here and there. When we do this, we can be amazed how what we are reading each day somehow fits in with what is going on with our lives in the present moment! It is all part of learning to hear the voice of Jesus Christ speaking to us, the Shepherd and Pastor of our souls, who wants us to recognise his voice and his message of love for us. God bless, Deacon Adrian

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})	

While our churches remain closed the Bishops are working with others to draw up guidelines as to how Mass might be celebrated with various social-distancing and hygiene practices in place. Fr. Nixon/ I continue to offer Mass each day at 8.15_{am} (Monday – Saturday) and 10.00_{am} on Sunday, with the intentions published in the newsletter, and daily exposition from 7_{pm}-8_{pm}.

On a practical note, Mass intentions can be posted/popped through the letter box of 51, Priory Street and will be published in the newsletter which will be available on the parish website. You will see from the Mass schedule above that we have no intentions left (other than those for specific dates).

For Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals, please contact our parish office. Visiting for the Sacrament of the Sick is possible, under certain circumstances. Please note also the guidance issued by Rome and published on our website re indulgences.

The parish continues to incur expenses. Several parishioners have made their weekly offering, sometimes in an envelope hand-delivered, others have posted cheques. Thank you. Parishioners may wish to set up a standing order, our parish office can help.

Please see our website for details of the Indulgence available to parishioners for joining in prayerfully while we are celebrating in church.

The Catholic Bishops' website has some good links, <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/>

We have been helping with funerals for neighbouring parishes where the PP is prevented from doing so. Please pray for Laurence Connolly and Philip Hackett. In our own parish I am sad to say that Margaret Foley and Colleen Thurlow have died. May their souls rest in peace.

CAFOD launched its coronavirus emergency appeal on 30 April. The effects of coronavirus on developing countries where CAFOD works are likely to be devastating. Families without enough to eat and without access to clean water and healthcare are particularly vulnerable to coronavirus. The poorest and most marginalised communities will be pushed further into poverty. Your

prayers and gifts are needed now more than ever to help protect the lives of those in poor communities. While we are not able to hold physical collections in our church, you can donate as individuals at cafod.org.uk/coronavirusappeal .

ACTS AT EASTER IN LOCKDOWN Lockdown may provide us with opportunities to dedicate more time to the reading of Scripture, celebrating our own Liturgy of the Word. Throughout the Easter season we read from the Acts of the Apostles, seeing how the Easter gospel is preached in Jerusalem, Judaea, Samaria and to the ends of the earth. Fr Adrian Graffy has recorded a talk on the opening eight chapters of Acts, which is now available on www.whatgoodnews.org/faith-talks.

VOCATIONS

Usually on Good Shepherd Sunday the seminarians travel to parishes to speak about vocations. This year three of them, Michael Barwick, Jonathan Burden and Deacon Paschal Uche have recorded video messages in place of this. You can watch them with the following link: <https://bit.ly/3aGVQp9> (leads to YouTube playlist).

We continue to have evenings for those who would like to enquire about a vocation to the priesthood. At the moment these are being held online. Please get in touch with Fr Mark Swires at vocprom@dioceseofbrentwood.org for more information.

MARRIAGE MATTERS: *The Lord will lead us back together.* Ezekiel's words apply to us when we are going through tough times in our relationship, when intimacy, physical or otherwise, seems impossible. At such times, Jesus weeps for us as He did for Lazarus. He will bring us back together if we ask Him and are willing to be vulnerable enough to explore together the changes we need to make

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

SVP: In these difficult times, we are here to help. If you, or anyone you know, needs help with e.g. Shopping please contact us: Tel: 07493 439427 or email: colchestersvp@gmail.com.

SELF-ISOLATING: 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.

CATHOLIC NEWSPAPERS: UK Catholic Diocesan newspapers are on one website (www.ChurchPaper.co.uk) so parishioners can stay in contact with their Church and their community.

❖ **SVP (St Vincent de Paul Society):** Tel: 07493 439427 or email: colchestersvp@gmail.com
❖ **CARDINAL BOURNE HALL BOOKINGS:** email: cb.hall@btinternet.com
or Tel: 07758 805263 [*answerphone only*] – please leave a message with name + contact number
