

ST. JAMES THE LESS AND ST. HELEN

CATHOLIC CHURCH, COLCHESTER

WITH MERSEA, MILE END AND MONKWICK

1 PARISH, 4 CHURCHES, 1 COMMUNITY

Racial Justice Day

FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A)

Sunday 5th	<i>Monkwick</i>	5.00 pm	Eugenia + John Dimech RIP
	<i>Church</i>	8.00 am	Deceased Priests + Students, Plater College
	<i>Church</i>	10.30 am	P. J Kurian RIP
	<i>Church</i>	2.00 pm	Polish Mass
	<i>Church</i>	4.00 pm	Filipino Mass
	<i>Church</i>	6.30 pm	Parishioners
West Mersea		8.30 am	Fr Jeremy Davies RIP
	<i>Mile End</i>	9.30 am	Private Intention
Monday 6th			St Paul Miki and Comps, Mm
	<i>Church</i>	9.30 am	Ints: Marco Baby
Tuesday 7th			Feria
	<i>Church</i>	9.30 am	Patricia Urquhart RIP
Wednesday 8th			Feria
	<i>Church</i>	9.30 am	Annie Wright RIP
Thursday 9th			Feria
	<i>Church</i>	9.30 am	Deceased Relatives of Betts Family
Friday 10th			St Scholastica, V
	<i>Church</i>	9.30 am	Pauline Morreale RIP
Saturday 11th			OUR LADY OF LOURDES World Day of the Sick
	<i>Church</i>	9.30 am	Chachi Joseph RIP
			SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A)
Sunday 12th	<i>Monkwick</i>	5.00 pm	George-Maria Dimech RIP
	<i>Church</i>	8.00 am	Parishioners
	<i>Church</i>	10.30 am	12 th Anniversary: Oksana Zakhleniuk RIP
	<i>Church</i>	2.00 pm	Polish Mass
	<i>Church</i>	6.30 pm	Mick Rowley RIP
	West Mersea		8.30 am
Mile End		9.30 am	Paul Richard Brusola RIP

- ❖ For Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals, please email or contact our parish office.
- ❖ Marriage Preparation: Please be aware that 6 months' notice of intention for Marriage is required especially if marrying outside the Parish. Couples who are planning to get married should contact us **at least 6 months** in advance. Thank you.
- ❖ Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) Saturdays after 9.30am Mass (Priory Street) and after 5.00pm Mass (Monkwick).
- ❖ 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).

- **Cardinal Bourne Hall Enquiries/Bookings:** colchester@dioceseofbrentwood.org
- **SVP (St Vincent de Paul Society):** Tel: 07493 439427/email: colchestersvp@gmail.com



Please check out our Facebook page for all the latest Parish/Diocese/Vatican news, Clergy/Church photos/videos. Please remember to **like & follow** our page



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St James the Less and St Helen RC Church, Colchester



In today's passage from the sermon on the mount Jesus addresses us as, 'the light of the world'. I am reminded of the Service of Light with which we begin the Easter vigil on Holy Saturday. The service begins after sunset, the church in darkness and the people gathered round the newly-lit fire outside. The priest lights the Paschal candle from the fire and at the doorway to the church sings, 'Christ our light' to which the people respond, 'Thanks be to God'. The priest then leads everyone into the church, priest and people repeating the sung dialogue twice more on the way to the sanctuary; the people's candles are lit from the Paschal candle and so the church is illuminated. The great hymn of joy, the Exsultet, is then sung, followed by the readings from the Old Testament read in the light of the Paschal candle, richly symbolic. We remember also that at an infant's baptism the parents and godparents are entrusted with a candle lit from the Paschal candle. There is much darkness in this world, every Christian is called to shed the light of Christ on that darkness, by what we say and do in our calling to be light to the world.

Fr. Chris

PLEASE SEE MASS SCHEDULE FOR ALL CHANGES

DAILY (Mon-Fri)	Rosary/Divine Mercy	at 8.45 am
DAILY	Morning Prayer	at 9.15 am
CHRISTIAN MEDITATION	Wednesdays (Cardinal Bourne Hall)	at 8.00 pm
ADORATION & PRAYER	Thursdays	at 7.30 pm



THE POPE'S INTENTIONS FOR FEBRUARY: For parishes

We pray that parishes, placing communion at the centre, may increasingly become communities of faith, fraternity and welcome towards those most in need.

MARRIAGE MATTERS: (Isaiah 6: 1-8; 1 Corinthians 15:1-11; Luke 5:1-11) **Follow your dream.** 'Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts. His glory fills the whole earth.' Isaiah was sustained by his vision of God in glory; Paul by his vision of Jesus. On our wedding days we had a dream for our future together. The grace of God has sustained that vision through many struggles. Let's always seek to follow our dream.

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK: We continue to pray for those parishioners we know who are sick and housebound especially Joyce Wrobel, Ron Griffin, Darline + Peter Wyatt, Elizabeth Pace, Hilda Morah, Nicollas and Adam Campbell-Vencarto, Jim Lynas, Maureen R. We continue to pray for all persons who are ill or are in need and for those who have recently died.

RECENTLY DECEASED: Please pray for the repose of the souls of Mike Taylor, John Lake & Patricia Brigden who have recently passed away. The parish community offers their respective family and friends our condolences and the assurance of our prayers at this most difficult time. Mike's funeral service will be on Monday 27th February at 12 (Noon).

2nd COLLECTION: There will be a 2nd collection taken after all Masses today for Racial Justice Day. The theme for 2023 is "All are included in the mission of Christ and His Church. Let us walk together, pray together and work together" It's the day the Church focuses on the need to oppose racism and pursue racial justice with renewed vigour.

NEXT 2nd COLLECTION: This will be for Lourdes Sick & Helpers fund on 12th February.

WORLD DAY OF THE SICK: Saturday 11th February is World Day of the Sick, an observation introduced by Pope John Paul II as a way for believers to offer prayers for those suffering from illnesses. The day coincides with the commemoration of Our Lady of Lourdes and is an important opportunity for those who serve in Catholic health ministry to reflect on caring for those who are sick as well as those who provide care to them.



SVP CUPPA CLUB: We meet **every Thursday from 10.00am to 11.30am** in the Hall. This is an opportunity to relax and catch up with others from the local community. Why not Pop in or stay for the whole session and enjoy a warm space with a cuppa, biscuits, a chat, companionship, newspapers, puzzles, games & crafts, etc., all available. We are always pleased to see a new face and offer a warm welcome to newcomers!

JOSIE'S KITCHEN: If you have any unwanted trainers in good condition, please consider donating these to Josie for her homeless "boys and girls." *Men's Sizes: 9 to 11; Women's Sizes 5 to 7. Please drop these into Presbytery and we will ensure that they are passed on to those who need them.*

NEW TO THE PARISH? Then please complete one of our Parish Registration forms, which can be found in the porch at the back of the church.

CALAIS LIGHT: Could you be a volunteer for Calais Light, an Essex refugee charity? We're recruiting NEW volunteers for work in two N. Essex bridging hotels to support refugees get settled in the UK. Volunteer activities are easy and open for anyone to do: simply chatting with or befriending refugees, playing board-games with them, going for local walks, teaching English (both spoken and written) and orienting them to life in the UK. Volunteers can help weekly/fortnightly. Or please consider a donation to our work via our website at www.calaislight.com To find out more, contact our Lead Volunteer, John Bradley. M: 07771626558 or E: johnbradley9255@gmail.com

COLCHESTER DEANERY YOUTH MASS: We would like to invite all young people on **Thursday 9th February at 4:30pm.** The Mass will be celebrated in the **Chapel at St. Benedict's Catholic College in Colchester.** The readings, bidding prayers, altar serving and music will all be led by young people - if you have an instrument, please bring it along!) with Fr Paschal celebrating the Mass. Afterwards, there will be free refreshments and an opportunity to meet and socialise with other young people from around the Deanery. If you are thinking about going to Lourdes, there will also be a meeting at 3:45 where we will be able to answer any questions and help with topics such as fundraising and applying for bursaries.

CAFOD: Could your New Year's resolution be to help build a better world through volunteering? CAFOD, the Catholic Agency for Overseas Development, are looking for people to give some time and join them in their mission. Could you help develop our work in parishes or Catholic schools? Or raise a voice and campaign for justice throughout the diocese? Training and support are provided. See cafod.org.uk/Volunteer for more.

ALL-INCLUSIVE PILGRIMAGE TO THE HOLY LAND, 5TH – 12TH SEPTEMBER 2023, with All Saints Travel Ltd & Fr John Moloney (Forestgate). Be face to face with the world of Jesus and His Gospel, lived out before your eyes. The beautiful, tried and tested 8-day itinerary promises to bring the faithful pilgrim an unforgettable and life-changing experience. Full details are online <https://www.allsaintstravel.co.uk/HL0756/>. The poster is on our Facebook page.



Prayer For Peace. We pray for the people of Ukraine and all war torn countries. For all those suffering or afraid, that you will be close to them and protect them. We pray for world leaders, for compassion, strength, and wisdom to guide their choices.

UKRAINIAN EMERGENCY WINTER APPEAL: Ukrainians remain resilient despite the circumstances of the war, but they are in the throes of a harsh winter. For that reason, a new Emergency Winter Appeal was launched to provide food packages for the most vulnerable on the frontlines and in recently liberated regions in East and South Ukraine, which is suffering from a severe humanitarian crisis. The cost of one food parcel, providing enough food for two people for a week costs approximately £16. Each package contains the basics (grains, flour, pasta, meat and fish preserves, oil, canned vegetables, sugar, tea coffee, biscuits, etc.) It is hoped that £160,000 can be raised allow the supply of 10,000 food parcels to those most in need and I ask that you and your parishioners will consider supporting this Emergency Winter Appeal. Funds can be remitted to: **Account Name: Ukrainian Catholic Church Central Fund Account Number: 20927317. Sort Code: 20-92-60** Or by cheques made payable to **Ukrainian Catholic Church** referencing *Winter Appeal* in both cases. The address for cheques is Ukrainian Catholic Church in Great Britain, 22 Binney Street, London, W1K 5BQ

CHURCH CLEANING TEAM: Monday 06/02/23: **Team 2** / Monday 13/02/23: **Team 3**
CBH COFFEE MORNING: 05/02/23: **The O'Sullivans** / 12/02/23: **Peggy & Anne**