

PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD ^(A)

Sunday 5th	<i>Church</i>	Monica Galvin Parishioners Michael Hawken RIP
Monday 6th		MONDAY IN HOLY WEEK
	<i>Church</i>	Frederick, Elizabeth & Angelo Lucas
Tuesday 7th		TUESDAY IN HOLY WEEK
	<i>Church</i>	Canon John Bloomfield
Wednesday 8th		WEDNESDAY IN HOLY WEEK
	<i>Church</i>	Kathleen & James & Family
Thursday 9th		MAUNDY THURSDAY
	<i>Church</i>	Kathleen Gilooly & Family
Friday 10th		GOOD FRIDAY
	<i>Church</i>	
Saturday 11th		HOLY SATURDAY
	<i>Church</i>	Ints.D.Fordham

THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD ^(A)

Sunday 12th	<i>Church</i>	Margaret Murray Clarke Family 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	(<i>confession</i>):	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 APRIL: Freedom from Addiction. We pray that those suffering from addiction may be helped and accompanied.

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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PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF OUR LORD

(A)

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

Dear friends

As many of you know, I am a student for the priesthood, finishing my studies in Rome. Due to the current Coronavirus pandemic, my seminary rector gave permission for us to return to our respective countries. After the required period of self-isolation, I now find myself back in our parish in Colchester, having classes online and completing studies mostly though the Internet.

The word we use for the forty days before Easter, lent, comes from the English word to lengthen, really relating to this time of year when the days get longer, but in Italy lent is called Quarèsima which means forty days. The English word quarantine has the same kind of origin and perhaps, when so many of us are having to be indoors at this time, we can think of this lent as being a time where we are set apart for a while. Many of our parish community will be missing being at Mass and being together as a Church community, but even when we are in our homes, we remain

the Church in the true sense of the word - the People of God. We continue to belong to God as his redeemed creation. I am sure that none of us will forget our lent journey this year, and we remember that Pope Francis is still encouraging us to act and think as a Church: he has granted a plenary indulgence for all suffering from the Coronavirus, as well as their family, friends, colleagues, carers and anyone who simply prays for them. Although we are physically isolated and apart at this time, the bonds of our baptism and prayer hold us and keep us together.

With prayers for you all
Deacon Adrian Lowe

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 (8.00pm)	

The global spread of Coronavirus (COVID-19) is a fast-evolving situation. The Bishops have now closed our churches to the public until further notice.

Fr. Nixon/ I will 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 through the letter box of 51, Priory Street and will be published in the newsletter which will be available on the parish website.

For Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals, please contact our parish office. We can still visit for the Sacrament of the Sick, with suitable precautions.

Also, 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.

Gift Aid envelopes for the new financial year will be delivered to your home. Parishioners may wish to set up a standing order, our parish office can help.

Holy week and Easter

Office of readings and morning prayer will be said in the church on Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Holy Saturday (no congregation).

Palm Sunday – palms will be blessed, they will be available once

access to the church is restored.

Mass will be celebrated on Maundy Thursday at 8pm, without the washing of the feet. There is to be no altar of repose but we are taking it in turns to pray before the Blessed Sacrament until just before midnight; during this time Fr. Nixon and I will renew our priestly commitment (usually done at the Chrism Mass).

The Good Friday Liturgy will be at 3pm as normal, though veneration of the cross and communion will be brief. The Pope has asked for a special intention to be added to the intercessions.

The Easter Vigil will begin at 8pm, and will be celebrated as normal except that there will be a simple ceremony for the lighting of the Paschal candle, and no baptisms/receptions, just renewal of baptismal vows.

Easter Sunday, Mass at 10am.

The collection on Good Friday, for the Holy Places, is transferred to the Feast of the Exaltation of the Cross, on September 14th.

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

There is also a new Proper Mass for use in the time of a pandemic which will be celebrated soon after Easter (it cannot be used in Holy week or the Easter Octave).

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
