



FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT (c)			
<b>Saturday 5<sup>th</sup></b>	Monkwick	5.00 pm	Michael Brooks RIP
<b>Sunday 6<sup>th</sup></b>	Church	8.00 am	Raymond O'Neill RIP
	Church	10.30 am	Ints: Donat Wilczak
	Church	2.00 pm	Polish Mass
	Church	4.00 pm	Filipino Mass
	Church	6.30 pm	Private Intention
	West Mersea	8.30 am	Parishioners
	Mile End	9.30 am	Private Intention
<b>Monday 7<sup>th</sup></b>			<b>Monday of the Fifth Week of Lent</b>
	Church	9.30 am	Ints: Rafal Wilczak
<b>Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup></b>			<b>Tuesday of the Fifth Week of Lent</b>
	Church	9.30 am	Frederick, Elizabeth + Angelo Lucas
	Church	6.30 pm	<b>Polish Stations of the Cross</b>
<b>Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup></b>			<b>Wednesday of the Fifth Week of Lent</b>
	Church	9.30 am	Chachy Joseph RIP
	Church	12.00 pm	<b>Funeral Mass:</b> Mrs Frances Conlon RIP
<b>Thursday 10<sup>th</sup></b>			<b>Thursday of the Fifth Week of Lent</b>
	Church	9.30 am	Ints: Marco
<b>Friday 11<sup>th</sup></b>		<b>Day of Mercy</b>	<b>Friday of the Fifth Week of Lent</b>
	Church	9.30 am	Francesca Darby RIP
	Church	12.30 pm	<b>Stations of the Cross</b>
	Mile End	7.00 pm	<b>Stations of the Cross</b>
<b>Saturday 12<sup>th</sup></b>			<b>Saturday of the Fifth Week of Lent</b>
	Church	9.30 am	Des Fuller RIP
PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD (c)			
<b>Saturday 12<sup>th</sup></b>	Monkwick	5.00 pm	Thomas Joseph RIP
<b>Sunday 13<sup>th</sup></b>	Church	8.00 am	Parishioners
	Church	10.30 am	Rida Masoom + Family
	Church	2.00 pm	Polish Mass
	Church	6.30 pm	Maria Latacz RIP
	West Mersea	8.30 am	Private Intention
	Mile End	9.30 am	Bernard Wilson 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).
- ❖ Church Loop System: Please note that the Church loop system serves all the seats in the centre Nave but not the aisles or the chancel.
- ❖ Mass Intentions. Envelopes are available in Church Porch; Suggested Stipend £10 a mass.

- **Cardinal Bourne Hall Enquiries/Bookings:** [colchester@brcdt.org](mailto:colchester@brcdt.org)
- **SVP (St Vincent de Paul Society):** Tel: 07493 439427/email: [colchestersvp@gmail.com](mailto: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** and **follow** our page!

# ST. JAMES THE LESS AND ST. HELEN

CATHOLIC CHURCH, COLCHESTER

**WITH MERSEA, MILE END AND MONKWICK**

**1 PARISH, 4 CHURCHES, 1 COMMUNITY**



St James the Less & St Helen

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

Mgr. Christopher Brooks  
Fr. Philip Okoli

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St James the Less and St Helen RC Church, Colchester



## FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT (c)

### Week Commencing 6<sup>th</sup> April 2025

This week, a practical suggestion. I propose that each of us prints out a copy of the second reading, the passage from St. Paul's letter to the Philippians, preferably in a fairly large font so that it can be read easily from several feet away. (I don't think this would be reach of copyright). Whatever we may experience in life, joy or sadness and everything in between, could usefully be brought to this passage as a means of giving perspective to daily life. A joyful moment - is the joy rooted in God? Sorrow – we are founded on God's love and so trust in God with true Hope. In the Jerusalem Bible translation, verses 10 and 11 are especially powerful, 'All I want is to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and to share in his sufferings by reproducing the pattern of his death. That is the way I can hope to take my place in the resurrection of the dead.' Crystal clear and focussed on the meaning of human life, an anchor in our daily life, constantly bringing us back to what is truly important.

Fr Chris

## PLEASE SEE MASS SCHEDULE FOR ALL CHANGES

<b>DAILY (Mon-Fri)</b>	Rosary/Divine Mercy	at 8.45 am
<b>DAILY</b>	Morning Prayer	at 9.15 am
<b>CHRISTIAN MEDITATION</b>	Wednesdays (Cardinal Bourne Hall)	at 8.00 pm
<b>LEGION OF MARY</b>	Fridays (Cardinal Bourne Hall)	at 7.30 pm



2025 Year of Jubilee - Pilgrims of Hope: Pope Francis has declared that 2025 will be a year of Jubilee. A Jubilee happens every 25 years and is a special opportunity for coming closer to Our Lord Jesus Christ. The Church grants special graces called Plenary Indulgences during the Jubilee Year. These graces can be for your own soul or the Holy Souls in purgatory. **Our Lady of Light Church, Clacton on Sea**, has been designated as a Sacred Place of Pilgrimage for the Jubilee Year. Full details of all services are available at: <https://ourladyoflight.uk/>

**THE POPE'S INTENTIONS FOR APRIL:** *For the use of the new technologies.* Let us pray that the use of the new technologies will not replace human relationships, will respect the dignity of the person, and will help us face the crises of our times.



**MARRIAGE MATTERS:** (Isaiah 43:16-21; Philippians 3:8-14; John 8:1-11) *Let joy fill our hearts.* Today is the first day of the rest of our lives! It is vital that we don't carry past hurts with us and are able to forgive and move on. We need to look at our faults and failings and seek forgiveness of each other first. This gives life and hope for our relationship. Let us strive for perfection – together.

**PRAYERS FOR THE SICK:** We continue to pray for those parishioners we know who are sick and housebound especially Anthony (Tony) Weekes, J Brian Critchley, Edwina Pastor, Jimmy Clarin, Ron & Margaret Griffin, Margaret Hawkins, Valerie Thurston, Grace McCartney, Diana Irvén, Mrs. Maureen McKenna, Peter Wyatt, Hilda Morah, Jason Christopher McLean, Nicollas and Adam Campbell-Vencarto. We also pray for all people who are ill or are in need.

**DEANERY DAY OF MERCY** on **Friday 11<sup>th</sup> April 2025:** The Church will be open all day with Mass at 9.30am followed by Exposition & Confession all day; to finish with Benediction at 8.30pm. Please do try to attend at some point during the day.

**WASHING OF FEET- MASS OF THE LORDS SUPPER AT 8.00PM (Maundy Thursday).** The washing of the feet imitates Jesus' act of love for His "twelve" on the night before He died, this ritual signifies their participation in Christ's mission of love and service to one another and to those in need. If you would like to participate, please add your name to the washing of feet list in Church Porch – 12 volunteers needed.



**THANK YOU!** To our fantastic Garden Maintenance team with assistance from Fr Philip and Sean who have all been working hard to clean and paint the railings outside the church in time for Easter, they have done a great job so far! More volunteers are always welcome to help. Photos on our Facebook page!

**THE CHURCH FLORAL TEAMS** would like to thank all parishioners for their generosity in last weekend's special collection for Easter Flowers. These proceeds will go toward the costs of beautifully decorating our Churches at Priory Street and Mile End for Easter. Thank You

**REPOSITORY:** There is a good selection of cards incl. Easter Cards for sale in the Church

**GIFT-AID SUBSCRIBERS:** Please can you collect your new box sets from the church porch. Box sets are laid out in alphabetical order. Thank you for your generosity over the last year(s).

## HOLY WEEK SERVICES 2025

<b>Monday 14<sup>th</sup> April</b>	9.30 am	<b>Mass &amp; Confessions</b>	Priory Street
<b>Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> April</b>	9.30 am	<b>Mass</b>	Priory Street
<b>Spy Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> April</b>	8.30 am	<b>Mass</b>	Priory Street

### EASTER TRIDUUM

<b>17<sup>th</sup> April:</b>	9.30 am 8.00 pm	<b>MAUNDY THURSDAY</b> Office of Readings & Morning Prayer Mass of the Lord's Supper and Watching until Midnight	Priory Street Priory Street
<b>18<sup>th</sup> April:</b>	9.30 am 10.30 am 3.00 pm 12.00 pm	<b>GOOD FRIDAY</b> Office of Readings & Morning Prayer Children's Stations of Cross Liturgy of the Passion of The Lord Stations of Cross	Priory Street Priory Street Priory Street Mile End
<b>19<sup>th</sup> April:</b>	9.30 am 8.00 pm	<b>HOLY SATURDAY [NO CONFESSIONS]</b> Office of Readings & Morning Prayer Solemn Vigil of Easter	Priory Street Priory Street
<b>20<sup>th</sup> April:</b>		<b>EASTER SUNDAY (THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD)</b> Masses at usual Sunday times [There will be no Mass at Monkwick]	
<b>21<sup>st</sup> April:</b>	10.00 am	<b>EASTER MONDAY</b> Mass	Priory Street

POLISH HOLY WEEK SERVICES	
<b>CONFESSIONS (Priory Street)</b>	Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup> April at 5.30pm/ + Stations at 6.00pm
<b>PASCHAL TRIDUUM (Monkwick)</b>	Thursday 17 <sup>th</sup> April at 7.00pm Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> April at 2.30pm Saturday 19 <sup>th</sup> April at 8.00pm
<b>BLESSING OF FOOD (Priory Street)</b>	Saturday 19 <sup>th</sup> April at 1.00pm
<b>EASTER SUNDAY (Priory Street)</b>	Sunday 20 <sup>th</sup> April at 12.30pm
<b>EASTER MONDAY (Priory Street)</b>	Monday 21 <sup>st</sup> April at 12.00pm

**CAFOD MYANMAR EARTHQUAKE APPEAL:** Following the devastating earthquake in Myanmar, CAFOD is responding through the Catholic Church there to support families affected by the disaster. Your donations will provide essentials like water, food, solar lights, and mosquito nets. Please give to CAFOD's Myanmar Earthquake Appeal by donating online at [cafod.org.uk/myanmar](http://cafod.org.uk/myanmar) or by calling 0303 303 3030. You can also text EARTHQUAKE to 70450 to donate £10.

**KNIGHTS OF ST JOSEPH:** The Knights of St Joseph are a new, modern, and locally based Catholic Fraternal order who will serve as a vital support system within our Parish, undertaking various charitable activities and community services. If you would like to join or find out more information, please see the poster in the Church Porch.

**WEDNESDAY FILM GROUP:** The next screenings will be on **Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> & Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> April** commencing at 12.00pm. These screening are a 2-part adaptation about Jesus and are perfectly pertinent on the lead up to Easter. All are welcome.



**OUR LADY OF WALSINGHAM STATUE:** If you would like to host the statue at your home and pray the Rosary for a week, please contact Gemma – Tel: 01206 844751 or email [olwstatue2024@gmail.com](mailto:olwstatue2024@gmail.com)



- **CUPPA CLUB:** We meet **every Thursday from 10.00am to 11.30am** in the Hall.
- **SUNDAY COFFEE MORNING** after 10.30am Mass in Cardinal Bourne Hall.

**CHURCH CLEANING TEAM:** Monday 07/04/25: Team 4 / 18/04/25: Team 5  
**COFFEE MORNING ROTA:** 06/04/25: The O'Sullivan's /13/04/25: Peggy & Sue