

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT (A)

(Bible Sunday)

Saturday 7th	Church	6.15 pm	Mary Dean RIP
Sunday 8th	Church	8:00 am	Parishioners
	Church	10:30 am	Anthony Southon RIP
	Church	2.00 pm	Polish Mass
	Church	5.00 pm	Holy Hour
	Church	6:30 pm	Holy Souls
	West Mersea	8:30 am	Holy Souls
	Mile End	9:15 am	Ints: Mary, Tom & John Rutherford
	Monkwick	10:15 am	Holy Souls

Monday 9th THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

Church	9.30 am	Frank Alice Waddell RIP followed by Rosary and Procession
Church	11.00 am	REQUIEM MASS: Kenneth James Evans RIP

Tuesday 10th Feria

Church	9.30 am	Fr. Tony McKentey RIP
Church	11.00 am	REQUIEM MASS: Thomas Frank Harrison RIP

Wednesday 11th Feria

Church	11.00 am	REQUIEM MASS: Angela Patricia Staines RIP
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Thursday 12th Feria

Church	9.30 am	Frederick, Elizabeth + Angelo Lucas
Church	6.30 pm	Polish Rorate Mass

Friday 13th St Lucy, V M

Church	9.30 am	Ints: Mary Gerrish
Church	7.00 pm	Reconciliation Service

Saturday 14th St John of the Cross, Pr, D

Church	9.30 am	William Guild RIP
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THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT (A)

('Gaudete' Sunday)

Saturday 14th	Church	6.15 pm	Owen Joseph McEnaney RIP
Sunday 15th	Church	8:00 am	Margaret + Dermot Moriarty RIP
	Church	10:30 am	Private Intention
	Church	2.00 pm	Polish Mass
	Church	6:30 pm	Parishioners
	West Mersea	8:30 am	Anniv: Patrick Brennan
	Mile End	9:15 am	Ann Irvine RIP
	Monkwick	10:15 am	Private Intention

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (Confession): Saturday 9:45am - 10:30am; 5:30pm - 6.00pm**SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE:** At least six months' notice is required**BAPTISM COURSE:** www.stjamesthelessandsthelen.org under Events where a list of course dates are available**Please note there is not a 12.15pm mass on Wed 11th December.**

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. We can also arrange for a Eucharistic Minister to visit patients so that they may receive Holy Communion if they do not require a priest visit or are long term in-patients.

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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**SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT (A)****WEEK COMMENCING: 8TH DECEMBER 2019 - PARISH MASS BOOK PAGE 85**

One of the things children should be taught is to say sorry: sometimes, one can tell that the words are not especially sincere. I would suggest that adults don't all say the words easily, perhaps as a reaction to being told to do so, perhaps because adults can find it hard to admit to being wrong due to pride. The readings today are more challenging. We are asked, not just to say sorry (and mean it) but to do something about it, to change. Repentance means a revolution in our way of acting, as St. John the Baptist expresses it, we need to produce good fruit. Elsewhere St. James tells us that by his works he will show his faith. As we prepare the way for the coming of Christ at Christmas we might reflect on the works we do and discern what they are the fruit of.

Fr. Chris

PLEASE SEE MASS SCHEDULE FOR ALL CHANGES

DAILY	Morning Prayer	9.15 _{am}
DAILY	Rosary/Divine Mercy	8:35 _{am}
SUNDAYS:	Rosary/Divine Mercy	<i>following</i> 8.00 _{am} Mass
2 nd SUNDAY MONTHLY	Eucharistic Adoration	5.00 _{pm} - 6.00 _{pm}
CHRISTIAN MEDITATION	Tuesdays in Crypt	8.00 _{pm}

THE HOLY FATHER'S INTENTIONS FOR DECEMBER: *The Future of the Very Young*

That every country take the measures necessary to prioritise the future of the very young, especially those who are suffering.

MARRIAGE MATTERS: *Advent – a new beginning for us?* Today, Isaiah talks about trust and Matthew focuses on forgiveness. Advent is the opportunity to discover new ways to help our partner to trust us and to share themselves. Our prayer can be that we drop our defences, become more vulnerable and have the courage to open ourselves to be able to really listen, to share and to change.

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK: We continue to pray for those parishioners we know who are sick and housebound especially, Nicollas and Adam Campbell-Vencarto, Pat Keene, Venetia Hetherington, Elizabeth Pace, Hilda Morah. Valerie Thurston,

RECENTLY DECEASED: Please pray for the repose of the soul of Peter Harold Ledgley who has recently passed away. May he rest in peace. We pray for the comfort of his bereaved family and friends. Peter's Requiem Mass will be on Monday 23rd December at 1.15_{pm}.

THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY on Monday 9th December: Following the 9:30_{am} Mass there will be Rosary and Procession. Please note there will be no clergy at procession.

CHURCH CHRISTMAS FLOWERS: It is our tradition to use fresh flowers throughout the year and we are incredibly lucky to have such a talented group of volunteers that create the most wonderful floral displays for us. **The next collection** to support the church floristry costs especially Christmas arrangements **will be held today** at Priory Street and Mile End. Thank you for enabling us to continue this tradition. If you are interested in joining the Floral Team please contact the presbytery on 01206 866317 as they always welcome more volunteers.

CHRISTMAS VIGIL MASS : During the 6_{pm} Family Vigil Mass on Christmas Eve we encourage the children to come dressed in Nativity costumes; we are looking to fill the church with Marys, Josephs, Donkeys, Angels, Innkeepers, some travelling kings and characters of all kinds to add to our celebration. There will also be the chance for children to read and take part in the Mass - come early! We are also looking for musicians and narrators ... please see Hywel after the 10:30_{am} Mass. Thank you

CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS: On the last Sundays of Advent, please collect a card bauble to decorate the tree. On one side, a decoration, on the other a prayer for loved ones, our community ... for Christmas. Add to the tree, as a present for all of us, when you come to church over Christmas

(BCCS) BRENTWOOD CATHOLIC CHILDREN'S SOCIETY: A special collection will be taken during the 6_{pm} Vigil Mass, which will be added to the Crib Collection. During the remaining days of Advent, all children, young and old, are asked to save their loose change and wrap this as a present, which will then be brought forward during Mass. Thank you.

NEXT HOLY COMMUNION COURSE: Information packs are available in church porch.

"CUPPA CLUB" The SVP would like to invite you to their 'Cuppa Club' coffee morning. **Every Thursday morning from 10_{am} - 12_{noon}** in the Cardinal Bourne Hall. Free coffee and cake!! Newspapers, crosswords, and craft. Come and make new friends.

EVANGELISATION IN COLCHESTER: -Advent a new start... We are about to introduce "Landings" in Colchester. What is it? Landings is a series of relaxed, informal, lay-led meetings, based on faith-sharing within a small group. It offers a safe and supported "landing place" for Catholics who have been away from the Church and are thinking about coming back. It offers already active Catholics an opportunity to share their faith; to participate in the Church's mission to welcome those who have been away; and a chance to grow and learn from each other's spiritual journeys. More information to be provided in the coming weeks.

WEDNESDAY FILM GROUP: The final film showing for 2019 is on **Wednesday 11th December** with a **start time of 1.15_{pm}** screening "*The Polar Express*". Everyone is most welcome. No Entrance fee just make a donation towards refreshments. Please see noticeboard in porch for future films and screening dates.

CHRISTMAS MASSES		
<u>Christmas Eve, Tuesday 24th December</u>		
Priory Street	6.00 _{pm}	Vigil Mass especially for families
Monkwick	8.00 _{pm}	Vigil Mass preceded by Carols at 7.30 _{pm}
Priory Street	12.00 _{am}	Midnight Mass preceded by Carols at 11.30 _{pm}
Monkwick	12.00 _{am}	Polish Midnight Mass
<u>Christmas Day, Wednesday 25th December</u>		
Priory Street	8.00 _{am}	Christmas Dawn Mass
Priory Street	10.30 _{am}	Christmas Day Mass
Priory Street	2.00 _{pm}	Polish Christmas Day Mass
Mersea	9.00 _{am}	Christmas Dawn Mass preceded by Carols at 8.30 _{am}
Mile End	9.15 _{am}	Christmas Day Mass preceded by Carols at 9.00 _{am}
<u>St Stephens Day, Thursday 27th December</u>		
Please note that the morning Mass will be at 10.00 _{am} (Priory Street).		



FILIPINO CHRISTMAS SIMBANG GABI MASSES: These will take place on the following dates in December, Wednesday 18th, Friday 20th, Monday 23rd in Priory Street at 8_{pm} and on Saturday 28th December at 12_{pm} (Noon) followed by Christmas party in Cardinal Bourne Hall.

REPOSITORY SHOP: New Year * New Ideas * New Person(s) required for the Repository – working alongside Frances (as Pauline is stepping down). If interested in this voluntary role, please contact the presbytery 01206 866317.

LECTIO DIVINA is simply a way of reflecting on scripture in preparation for the Sunday readings. This will take place on **Saturdays of Advent at 5.15_{pm}** in the meeting room in the presbytery. Access will be from the church porch. The Bishops of England and Wales have asked us to celebrate a 'Year of the God who Speaks'. We are invited to listen afresh to the Word of God as Mary did at the Annunciation. We can do this in our parish by scripture study with Sr. Angela, at Mass when we engage with the scripture readings, **and by joining the parish group for Lectio. All are welcome.**

❖ **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]

CHURCH CLEANERS' ROTA: Monday 9th December: **Team 2**