

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
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St James the Less and St Helen RC Church, Colchester

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD (C)

Saturday 8th	Church	6.15 pm	Holy Souls
Sunday 9th	Church	8.00 am	Parishioners
	Church	10.30 am	Ints: Monica Galvin + Family
	Church	2.00 pm	Polish Mass
	Church	6.30 pm	Ints: Jude S.A.
	West Mersea	8.30 am	Private Intention
	Mile End	9.15 am	Holy Souls
	Monkwick	10.15 am	Celestine Tighe RIP
Monday 10th			Feria
	Church	9.30 am	Maura Kilcline RIP
Tuesday 11th			Feria
	Church	9.30 am	Blessings Received
Wednesday 12th			St Aelred of Rievaulx, Ab
	Church	9.30 am	Ints: Noelete L'Esperance
Thursday 13th			Feria
	Church	9.30 am	Thanksgiving (Oninono)
Friday 14th			Feria
	Church	9.30 am	Holy Souls
Saturday 15th			Memorial of the Blessed Virgin Mary
	Church	8.00 am	Frederick, Elizabeth + Angelo Lucas
SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (C) Peace Day			
Saturday 15th	Church	6.15 pm	Canon John Bloomfield
Sunday 16th	Church	8.00 am	Parishioners
	Church	10.30 am	Ints: Una Nagle + Family
	Church	2.00 pm	Polish Mass
	Church	6.30 pm	Private Intention
	West Mersea	8.30 am	Private Intention
	Mile End	9.15 am	Paul Richard B. Brusola RIP
	Monkwick	10.15 am	Ros Sutcliffe RIP

- ❖ For Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals, please email or contact our parish office.
- ❖ Visiting for the Sacrament of the Sick is possible, Please contact the Presbytery.
- ❖ Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) Saturdays after 10_{am} Mass and 5.30_{pm}-6.00_{pm}
- ❖ 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



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!



Please note that Face Masks must be worn in Church, unless medically exempt.



Today's feast, the Baptism of the Lord, can often be misunderstood. People hear the word, 'Baptism' and assume that it means exactly the same as the Sacrament of baptism as administered in the Church, which is incorrect. In the first place St. John himself distinguished the baptism he gave from the Sacrament, and it was St. John's baptism that Jesus received. Jesus was of course sinless. He went to St. John, not to be washed clean, but to inaugurate his own mission. He is visibly and audibly consecrated for his ministry of salvation. He goes forth from the Jordan in the power of the Spirit. He is to become the Head of the Church, the Body being made up principally of those who have been washed clean of their sins in the Sacrament and it is Jesus who gives Baptism its effectiveness.

Fr. Chris



THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD (C)

WEEK COMMENCING 9TH JANUARY 2022

PLEASE SEE MASS SCHEDULE FOR ALL CHANGES

DAILY	Morning Prayer	at 9.15 am
CHRISTIAN MEDITATION	Wednesdays (Cardinal Bourne Hall)	at 8.00 pm
DAILY Mon-Fri	Rosary/Divine Mercy	at 8.45 am
2 nd SUNDAY MONTHLY	Eucharistic Adoration	Temporarily suspended

Please refer to the Website Home Page or External Church Notice Board for details on Covid restrictions.

As a Reminder: Anyone displaying symptoms of Covid-19, or who has reason to believe that they have been in contact with someone who has, should not attend church or volunteer in any capacity until they have received medical advice that it is safe to do so.



THE POPE'S INTENTIONS FOR JANUARY: True Human Fraternity. We pray for all those suffering from religious discrimination and persecution; may their own rights and dignity be recognized, which originate from being brothers and sisters in the human family.

MARRIAGE MATTERS: (Isaiah 42:1-4, 6-7; Acts 10:34-38; Luke 3:15-16, 21-22) **Being what we promised to be.** Today's feast tells us who Jesus really is; it calls us to be what we promised at our wedding – a sign to the world of God's love for all of us. At the core of this commitment is the undertaking to trust our spouse with who we really are – feelings, thoughts, ideas; all that makes us who we are today.

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK: We continue to pray for those parishioners we know who are sick and housebound especially Elizabeth Pace, Hilda Morah, Nicollas and Adam Campbell-Vencarto, Jim Lynas, Maureen R. We pray for all persons who are ill or have contracted Covid-19 and their families.

RECENTLY DECEASED: Please pray for the repose of the souls of Iris Jay, Patrick Bailey and Eileen Adams who have all 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. Funeral details for Iris to be advised. Patrick's funeral will be on 21st January at 1.15pm and Eileen Adams funeral service will be on 26th January at 10.15am.

UPCOMING SECOND COLLECTIONS: Pax Christi will take place on 16th January and this year Pope Francis asks us to think about 'Education, work and dialogue between generations: tools for building lasting peace'. (SPUC) White Flower Appeal will take place on the 22+23rd January 2022.

ST. THOMAS MORE SCHOOL [ADMISSIONS FOR 2022/2023]: (Local Authority Closing Date 15/01/22). The final date for signing of the **"Certificate of Catholic Practice"** will take place in the church crypt **today at 4.00pm-5.00pm**, There is no need to make an appointment as parents/guardians and the child (with Baptism Certificate) applying to St Thomas, will be seen on a 1st come, 1st served basis.

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.

CHRISTMAS CRIB COLLECTION IN AID OF THE BRENTWOOD CATHOLIC CHILDREN'S SOCIETY: In accordance with Diocesan policy, our Crib will remain in place until the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord [February 2nd] and these offerings will go to the (BCCS) Brentwood Catholic Children's Society.

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING: This will take place after the 10.30am Mass on 23rd January

DIOCESAN DIRECTORIES last few copies remaining in Church Porch. Priced at £2.80 per copy (money to go in "Repository" Box in church porch).

2022 RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults): RCIA is the process developed by the Catholic Church for those who are interested in finding out more about the Catholic Faith, teachings and practices with a view to becoming Catholics, or for those who have a background in the Catholic Faith but who have not yet been confirmed, or for anyone who wants to refresh their knowledge of the Catholic Faith. To register your interest, please email your contact details colchester@dioceseofbrentwood.org. Thank You

CHURCH MAINTENANCE FUND: Our gratitude to the Christian Mediation Group for their kind donation of £100. Thank you for your generosity.

SATURDAY EVENING SOUP RUN ROTA FOR HOMELESS/HOUSED: Volunteers are required (aged 18 + over) to make up a team of 4+ persons. Volunteers would have to be available one Saturday a month from about 5.30 to 8pm; this includes time for setting up & clearing up afterwards. Teams will be distributing the food and drinks and chat to the folks. (The soup run itself will be from 6.30-7.30pm, the location will be The Salvation Army Car Park, which is situated opposite the police station). If interested please contact SVP Tel: 07493 439427 or email: colchestersvp@gmail.com.

THRESHOLDS OF HOPE QUESTIONS: *What is the point of canon law?* will be given by Fr Gary Dench, assistant priest at Brentwood Cathedral by Zoom meetings on Sunday 9th & 16th January from 4pm to 5pm. To join these meetings just forward a contact email to adultformationvicariate@dioceseofbrentwood.org. For more info www.thresholdsofhope.co.uk

GIDEA PARK STUDY DAY: THE EVOLUTION OF THE MASS: On Saturday 15th January 2022 Professor John Morrill will lead a Study Day on 'The Evolution of the Mass', tracing the development of the Eucharistic liturgy from the earliest centuries to the present day. He will explore in particular the teaching of Trent and Vatican II, and the latest papal instructions on the celebration of Mass. To access this free live stream event simply go to www.whatgoodnews.org The event begins at 11.00 GMT and ends by 13.30. No prior registration is needed.

BRENTWOOD CATHEDRAL will be hosting a 'Be a Cathedral Chorister for a Day' opportunity for boys aged 7-12 on Saturday 29th January 2022. The day will begin at 10.30 with a welcome for families and will end with Choral Vespers at 4 pm, an opportunity for everyone to hear the boys sing. We hope the day will be of interest to all boys who enjoy singing, whatever their prior musical experience. We will be holding a similar day for girls later in the year. For more info and to register a place, please visit www.cathedralbrentwood.org or telephone 01277 265288.

PARISH FINANCES: If you wish to make an offering/donation this can be done by: -

- Dropping envelope through Presbytery door (please write on envelope Mass Offering or Parish Maintenance) or in the Donation Basket situated at Church entrance & Exit
- Diocesan Online Donation platform (where donations can also be gift aided):-
Priory St: <https://www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/donations?parish=colchester>
Mile End: <https://www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/donations?parish=colchester-c>
Mersea: <https://www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/donations?parish=colchester-b>
Monkwick: <https://www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/donations?parish=colchester-d>

Everything that happens in our parish is only possible with your support. Thank you

SVP (St Vincent de Paul Society): Tel: 07493 439427 or email: colchestersvp@gmail.com

CHURCH CLEANING TEAM: Monday 10/01/22: **Team 3** / Monday 17/01/22: **Team 4**
CBH COFFEE MORNING ROTA: 09/01/22 (KSC) / 16/01/22 (Peggy & Anne)
2022 Rotas are available in Church Porch.