

ST. JAMES THE LESS AND ST. HELEN

CATHOLIC CHURCH, COLCHESTER

175 YEARS ~ 1837 - 2012

WITH MERSEA, MILE END AND MONKWICK



YEAR OF FAITH 2012
2013

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SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT [C] 9th December 2012

My dear friends

As we come to the middle of the Advent season, it is the message of John the Baptist that dominates the liturgy. He called people to conversion and was able to tell them where they needed to change. We take his message to heart by trying to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation as part of our Advent preparation.

Fr Neil and myself will both be available for confession on the next two Saturdays before Christmas at the usual times morning and evening (9:45am – 10:30am and 5:30pm – 6:30pm). We will also be available on Friday evening 21st December at 7:30pm and on Christmas Eve morning between the Masses and also 9:45am – 10:30am.

There is a great opportunity for Advent watching and praying this afternoon as we have Holy Hour from 5:00pm – 6:00pm on this the second Sunday of the month.

Thank you for your farewell gift to Bishop Thomas of £450, which was presented to him as part of the Diocesan Gift at the Farewell Mass in the Cathedral on November 30th. The homily he gave on that occasion, he shares with us in his Pastoral Letter to be read at Mass today.

May God bless you all

Fr Tony McKentey

SUNDAYS:	Divine Mercy followed by Rosary	3pm
DAILY:	Morning Prayer 8:15am; Rosary/Divine Mercy	8:35am
PRAYER GROUP:	Mondays at 8pm	Church
MEDITATION GROUP:	Tuesdays at 8pm	Crypt

<i>EVENTS THIS WEEK</i>			
Sunday 9th	8:00 pm	Ratzinger Reader	Crypt
	2:00pm – 4:00pm	UCM Christmas Crafts	CBH
Friday 14th	7:30 pm	Lectio Divina	Crypt
Saturday 15th	10-12 pm	FHC Programme	CBH

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK: Please remember in your prayers, June Bickersteth, Grace Blanchette, Frank Campbell, Rosaleen Campbell, Ian Cole, Richard Cox, Stanley Crane, Fr. Ian Dickie, Nancy Drummond, Gianni Emoli, Kitty Foley, Charlie George, Maurice Highfield, Maria Mahy, Pat Maloney, Cara Maude, Paula Nash, Leah Patterson, Elaine Proudfoot, Sabina Rhatigan, Patricia Roche, Catherine Spicer, Jacqueline Sykes, Filomena Velasquez, Ron Wheeler, Tony White.

REQUESTING MASS INTENTIONS: The most helpful method is to use the envelopes provided at the back of church, stating whether it's for the repose of the soul (RIP) or for the person's intentions, in thanksgiving etc. Provide as much information as possible and always leave a contact number. Thank you.

BAPTISMS THIS WEEKEND: Dexter Atkinson & Florine and Isabelle Haskett. God bless these children and congratulations to their families.

DEREK HARVEY: The family and friends of Derek Harvey would like to thank all those who attended his funeral last Wednesday for all their prayers and support.

"WELCOMERS". We would like more volunteers for this very pleasant task at the Sunday Masses in St James. If some more did a little then no one would have to do a lot. A meeting was held last weekend, but if you still interested - please contact Paul Horwood for further information. His details are on the notice board or contact him at paulhorwood@hotmail.com

SECOND COLLECTIONS: There will be a collection for Christmas Flowers (Priory St only) next weekend 15th – 16th December.

CTS NEW SUNDAY MISSAL – People's Edition for 2013 : Available now.

2013 BRENTWOOD DIOCESAN DIRECTORY: Available from the back of church. Price £2.75

PARISH HISTORY: 175th Anniversary by Fr Stewart Foster. Priced at £5 – Just a few copies left.

ADVENT PREPARATION: LECTIO DIVINA: Among the suggestions our Bishops have made for the Year of Faith is the practice of Lectio Divina: reflective reading of scripture. As in the past, we do this before the Sundays of Advent. Friday evenings 7:30pm. December 14th and 21st. See poster in porch.

ADVENT "WALK WITH ME" BOOKLETS: some copies still available.

MASSES OF OUR LADY IN ADVENT: in Polish starting with indoor Procession:

Tuesday 11th and 18th of December at 6:30 pm in St James the Less and St Helen.

WALSINGHAM HOUSE RETREAT: "Tell the World" Advent Open Retreat for those in school years 7-9 on the weekend of the 14th-16th December at Walsingham House. £50 will cover the cost and includes all meals. For an application form email Jon@walsinghamhouse.org or phone 01268 515970.

FAMILY FUN – QUIZ NIGHT: This **Saturday 8th December** at 7:15pm in the Cardinal Bourne Hall. £2 per person. Raising money to send young people to Lourdes.

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS BOOKS: There is a range of good-quality children's books for sale in the crypt bookcase. Answer your present needs with a visit below.

GIFT FOR CHRISTMAS: From St John Payne Greenstead - A professional CD recording of 28 Favourite Hymns of Praise. Make a really nice gift for Christmas. price £12 for set of 2 CD's. Tel: Jean Henley 865038/email mjh38@sky.com.

UCM CHRISTMAS CRAFTS: This **Sunday 9th December** 2 to 4 pm, Cardinal Bourne Hall. Activities include making a nativity scene, reindeer food, Christmas decorations, cards and calendar plus special guest appearance. Refreshments available. £3 per child or £5 per family.

TEACHING VACANCY: St Mary's Primary in Tilbury are seeking a new Headteacher to start in April or September 2013. The closing date is 7th January, please contact the school for an application pack, we welcome informal visits, please contact Mrs Alison Bishop at the school to arrange to arrange a visit. Tel: 01375843254 admin@tilburystmarys.thurrock.sch.uk

CHURCH CLEANERS: **Thursday 13th December – Team 5.**

CHRISTMAS MASSES

Christmas Eve, Monday 24th December

<i>Priory Street</i>	18:00	Vigil Mass especially for families
<i>Monkwick</i>	20:00	Vigil Mass preceded by Carols at 19:30
<i>Priory Street</i>	24:00	Midnight Mass preceded by Carols at 23:30

Christmas Day, Tuesday 25th December

<i>Priory Street</i>	08:00	Christmas Dawn Mass
	10:30	Christmas Day Mass
<i>Mersea</i>	09:00	Christmas Dawn Mass preceded by Carols at 08:30
<i>Mile End</i>	09:15	Christmas Day Mass



"Prepare the way
for the Lord"

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT [C] - (Bible Sunday)

Saturday December 8th

Sunday December 9th

*West Mersea
Mile End
Monkwick*

Monday 10th

Tuesday 11th

Wednesday 12th

Thursday 13th

Friday 14th

Saturday 15th

9th December 2012

6:15 pm	Moira & Dennis Pryke RIP
8:00 am	Dermot & Margaret Moriarty RIP
10:30 am	Ints: Dominic Uchenna Uzukwu
2:00 pm	POLISH MASS
5:00 pm	HOLY HOUR
6:30 pm	Victor Jazier RIP
8:30 am	Parishioners
9:15 am	D/Rels & Friends: Knapp Family
10:15 am	Ints: Terry White
Feria	
Church 7:30 am	Ints: Brenda
Church 9:15 am	Alison Taylor RIP [SVP]
Feria	
Church 9:15 am	V Rev Canon Joseph Whitfield RIP
Church 6:30 pm	POLISH MASS – Our Lady in Advent
Feria	
Church 7:30 am	Helen and Martin Lydon RIP
Church 12:15 pm	D/Rels: Brogan / Owens Families
St Lucy, V, M	
Church 9:15 am	Barbara Putt RIP
St John of the Cross, Pr, D	
Church 9:15 am	Mena Jimenez RIP
Church 6:30 pm	Donald Sutcliffe RIP
Feria	
Church 9:15 am	D/Rels: Herbert / Richards Families

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT [C] - ("Gaudete" Sunday)

16th December 2012

Saturday December 15th

Sunday December 16th

*West Mersea
Mile End
Monkwick*

6:15 pm	Douglas Finch RIP
8:00 am	Arthur & Beryl Oliver RIP
10:30 am	Maria Soutar RIP [DP]
4:00 pm	POLISH MASS
6:30 pm	Ints: Brenda
8:30 am	Parishioners
9:15 am	Derrick Foley RIP
10:15 am	Peggy & Family RIP

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION *Saturday 9:45-10:30am and 5:30-6:00pm*
SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM *Baptismal Courses arranged as per Newsletter*
SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE *At least six months notice is required*

SCHOOLS	St Thomas More	Head: Bridget Harris	[865722]
	St Benedict's	Head: Mrs J Santinelli	[549222]
	Cardinal Bourne Hall	cb.hall@btinternet.com	