

**SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT (C)**

**(Bible Sunday)**

<b>Saturday 8<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>6.15 pm</b>	Richard Lambe RIP
<b>Sunday 9<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>8:00 am</b>	Geoffrey & Beatrice Foley RIP
	<b>10:30 am</b>	Canon Anthony McKentey RIP
	<b>2:00 pm</b>	Polish Mass
	<b>5.00 pm</b>	Holy Hour
	<b>6:30 pm</b>	N. Edwards RIP
<i>West Mersea</i>	<b>8:30 am</b>	Canon Anthony McKentey RIP
<i>Mile End</i>	<b>9:15 am</b>	Canon Anthony McKentey RIP
<i>Monkwick</i>	<b>10:15 am</b>	Canon Anthony McKentey RIP
<b>Monday 10<sup>th</sup></b>		<b>Feria</b>
<i>Church</i>	<b>9.30 am</b>	M. Barrymore + Fams + Stuart RIP
<b>Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup></b>		<b>Feria</b>
<i>Church</i>	<b>9.30 am</b>	Frederick, Elizabeth + Angelo Lucas
<b>Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup></b>		<b>Feria</b>
<i>Church</i>	<b>12.15 pm</b>	Ints: Margaret Hilton
<b>Thursday 13<sup>th</sup></b>		<b>St Lucy</b>
<i>Church</i>	<b>9.30 am</b>	Carolina Cesarini RIP
<b>Friday 14<sup>th</sup></b>		<b>St John of the Cross</b>
<i>Church</i>	<b>9.30 am</b>	Joe McEnaney RIP
<b>Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> December</b>		<b>Feria</b>
<i>Church</i>	<b>9.30 am</b>	Hazel Edith + Sidney Walter RIP

**THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT (C)**

**(‘Gaudete’ Sunday)**

<b>Saturday 15<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>6.15 pm</b>	Thanksgiving
<b>Sunday 16<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>8:00 am</b>	Rev Arthur Oliver/Beryl Oliver + John Oliver RIP
	<b>10:30 am</b>	Parishioners
	<b>2:00 pm</b>	Polish Mass
	<b>6:30 pm</b>	
	<b>8.00 pm</b>	Filipino Simbang Gabi Mass
<i>West Mersea</i>	<b>8:30 am</b>	Colin Whittle RIP
<i>Mile End</i>	<b>9:15 am</b>	Derrick Foley RIP
<i>Monkwick</i>	<b>10:15 am</b>	Mrs. Celestine Tighe RIP

**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](http://www.stjamesthelessandsthelen.org) under events where a list of course dates are available

**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 the patient 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. John Victor Drabeesan  
 Assistant Priest: Fr. Philip Willenbrock  
 Deacon: Gary Dench

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**SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT [C]**  
**WEEK COMMENCING: 9TH DECEMBER 2018 - PARISH MASS BOOK PAGE 84**

In the first reading, the prophet Baruch introduces Yahweh, the God of Israel, preparing the way for, and leading the Babylonian exiles to, Jerusalem. Hence, the prophet invites the weeping Jerusalem to rejoice and go to high places to watch the return of the exiles. Baruch's prophecy announces the return of the whole human race to God. John the Baptist, in today's Gospel, challenges the Jews to prepare their lives for receiving their long-awaited Messiah. They have to prepare a highway in their hearts for their Messiah by levelling the mountains of pride and valleys of impurity and injustice and omissions and by straightening their crooked ways. They are to get ready by repenting of their sins, renewing their lives, and expressing their repentance by receiving the baptism of repentance in River Jordan. During this Advent season, we, too, are asked to return to the Lord from our slavery to sin.

Fr John

## PLEASE SEE MASS SCHEDULE FOR ALL CHANGES

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

### MARRIAGE MATTERS: Smoothing out rough ways...to welcome You

Paul speaks of our 'partnership in the Gospel' and prays that our love continues growing. He wants us to 'come to true discernment' about our choices. Luke's Gospel challenges us as married couples: are we enabling each other to 'prepare a way for the Lord'? Are there 'paths' that need 'straightening' or 'rough' attitudes/behaviours that need to be made smooth?

**PRAYERS FOR THE SICK:** Please remember in your prayers, Nicollas and Adam Campbell-Vencarto, Pat Keene, Venetia Hetherington, Elizabeth Pace, Vicky Culham, Peter Ledgley, Hilda Morah

**BRENTWOOD DIOCESE:** Bearing in mind all the information and opinions collected over the last two years Brentwood Diocese has now published its response "*Vision Document: Shaping our Future*". Please read it or listen to it on the Diocesan Website; [www.dioceseofbrentwood/](http://www.dioceseofbrentwood/). There are some paper copies available for those unable to access the internet. On the website you can also see a video from Bishop Alan discussing the plan.

**GLOBAL HEALING:** This is a film-based event that will inform, challenge and equip us to engage with Pope Francis' vital call to *Care for Our Common Home*. This event will be held on **Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> December at 7.30pm** in the Crypt @ Priory St. Please try to attend, everyone welcome.

**ADVENT REFLECTION: 'Where Christ Dwells'** on **Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> December** in Cardinal Bourne Hall. Tea & Coffee at 10.30am, start time at 11am and finish 2pm, please bring a packed lunch. Poster in porch with further information. Valerie Q. (07941903227). All are welcome to attend.

**ST. THOMAS MORE ADMISSIONS FOR 2019/2020:** [Council closing date for admissions is 15/01/19]: Additional dates have been arranged for the signing of the "**Certificates of Practice**" which will take place in the Crypt\* on the following dates: -

- Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> December from 4.00pm until 5.00pm
- Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> December from 4.00pm until 5.00pm
- Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> December from 11.00am until 12.00pm
- Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> December from 5.00pm until 6.00pm

\* Entrance to the Crypt is via the Church.

**Please note that there will be no further dates booked for signing Certificates.**

**CHRISTMAS CURRY NIGHT:** On **Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> December** in the Cardinal Bourne Hall from 7:30pm. Includes your choice of one curry: lamb, chicken, prawn or vegetable + dessert and tea or coffee. [Bring your own drinks]. "60's" Music and KSC Grand Prize Draw drawn on the night + Raffle tickets will be on sale. Adults: £10; Children: £5.00 [age 5-12]. Tickets available from Norah 503410 and Frances 369568. All proceeds to the Church Fund.

**KSC CHRISTMAS GRAND PRIZE DRAW:** Please buy your tickets for the KSC Christmas Grand Prize Draw in support of our Parish. Books of tickets are available in the church porch and the draw will take place on **Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> December 2018**. £475 to be won plus other quality prizes. Ticket stubs + unsold tickets + monies to be returned to presbytery no later than 14<sup>th</sup> December

**PARISH INTERNATIONAL CHRISTMAS FAYRE: THANK YOU** to everyone who donated goods, cooked, supported and attended our fayre this year, it was a great success and enjoyed by all. A special thanks to Frances and Norah for their hard work in organising the fayre and to all the volunteers who manned the event. We are happy to advise that approx. £1,100 was raised for Parish Funds.

**CHURCH FLORAL TEAM: THANK YOU** for your generous contributions to the collection for Christmas flowers at both Priory Street and Mile End last Sunday.

**FILIPINO CHRISTMAS SIMBANG GABI MASSES:** These will take place on the following dates in December, Sunday 16<sup>th</sup>, Monday 17<sup>th</sup>, Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> in Priory Street at 8pm and on Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> December at 2pm - Bunting Rooms, Essex Street, Colchester, CO2 7AD.

**SILENT RETREAT:** A Lecto Divinia (*Reflecting on the Divine Word*) Retreat is being offered at Dowry House, Walsingham in **February (22<sup>nd</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup>)**. There will be 12-15 places available, if interested in taking part in this retreat and for further details please contact Pauline on (01206) 768418. Travel to Walsingham will be in cars.

**WEDNESDAY FILM GROUP:** The Final Film showing for 2018 is on **19<sup>th</sup> December** with a **start time of 1.15pm** screening "*Scrooge –A Christmas Carol*". Everyone is most welcome. No Entrance fee just make a donation towards refreshments. Please see noticeboard for future films and dates

**MILE END NEWS:** An additional Festive Coffee Morning with mince pies will be held on **23<sup>rd</sup> December** after the 9:15am Mass at St Joseph's - at the Dog & Pheasant – All are most welcome.

### VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED FOR THE FOLLOWING ROLES: -

**1: GIFT AID CO-ORDINATOR:** We would like to offer our heartfelt thanks to John Sales for his sterling work and commitment in his role of Gift Aid Co-Ordinator over the last years. John now feels it is time for him to relinquish this role but will personally hand over to whoever takes this on. If you are interested in serving the parish in this role and would like to find out further details on what is involved- please speak to Fr Chris after mass or contact him on (01206) 866317.

**2: VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED FOR CHURCH CLEANING & CLEANING TEAM LEADER –** Please contact the Presbytery if you can spare approx. 3hrs per month on a Monday or Thursday.

**CHURCHES TOGETHER CHRISTMAS CAROLS:** will be held at the following venues, all are welcome, just turn up: -on 16<sup>th</sup> December @ 4pm: Tall Trees Care Home, Colchester CO4 5XL & 18<sup>th</sup> December @ 3.30pm: Woodland View Care Home, Colchester CO4 5JR

**BRENTWOOD CATHEDRAL: NINE LESSONS AND CAROLS SERVICE** on **Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> December** at 4.00 p.m. in the Cathedral. Main celebrant, Bishop Alan Williams. A service of readings, carols and beautiful choral music from the Cathedral choir. The perfect way to reflect on the radiant meaning of Christmas. All welcome.

**SVP NEWS:** If you know of someone who is lonely, housebound or simply in need of a friend, please contact us, using the details below. If you would like to join us the details of our next meeting are at the back of the church, along with a collection box.

❖ **SVP (St Vincent de Paul Society):** Tel: 07493 439427  
or email: [colchestersvp@gmail.com](mailto:colchestersvp@gmail.com)

❖ **CARDINAL BOURNE HALL BOOKINGS:** [cb.hall@btinternet.com](mailto:cb.hall@btinternet.com)  
or Tel: 07758 805263 [**answerphone only** – please leave a message]

**CHURCH CLEANERS' ROTA:** Monday 10<sup>th</sup> December 2018: Team 3.