


**SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (B)** *World day for the Sick, and Day of Prayer for the Unemployed*

<b>Saturday 10<sup>th</sup></b>	Monkwick	5.00 pm	Giovanni + Eugenia Dimech RIP
<b>Sunday 11<sup>th</sup></b>	Church	8.00 am	Ints: Jimmy Clarin
	Church	10.30 am	Anniversary: Oksana Zakhleniuk RIP
	Church	2.00 pm	Polish Mass
	Church	6.30 pm	Private Intention
	West Mersea	8.30 am	Parishioners
	Mile End	9.30 am	Theo & Ria Tinneveld RIP
<b>Monday 12<sup>th</sup></b>			<b>Feria</b>
	Church	9.30 am	Frederick, Elizabeth + Angelo Lucas
<b>Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup></b>			<b>Feria</b>
	Church	9.30 am	Thanksgiving (JRJ)
<b>Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup></b>			<b>ASH WEDNESDAY</b>
	West Mersea	9.00 am	Joan Kerrins RIP
	Church	9.30 am	Mrs Margaret Barker RIP
	Church	12.15 pm	Private Intention
	Church	1.45 pm	<b>Funeral Service:</b> Maureen Jobber RIP
	Monkwick	6.30 pm	Polish Mass
	Church	7.30 pm	Private Intention
<b>Thursday 15<sup>th</sup></b>			<b>Thursday after Ash Wednesday</b>
	Church	9.30 am	Canon John Bloomfield
<b>Friday 16<sup>th</sup></b>			<b>Friday after Ash Wednesday</b>
	Church	9.30 am	Ints: Pope Francis
	Church	12.30 pm	Stations of the Cross
<b>Saturday 17<sup>th</sup></b>			<b>Saturday after Ash Wednesday</b>
	Church	9.30 am	Donors Intention
			<b>FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT (B)</b>
<b>Saturday 17<sup>th</sup></b>	Monkwick	5.00 pm	Joan Kerrins RIP
<b>Sunday 18<sup>th</sup></b>	Church	8.00 am	Private Intention
	Church	10.30 am	Mr Ong RIP
	Church	2.00 pm	Polish Mass
	Church	6.30 pm	Maureen Gallagher RIP
	West Mersea	8.30 am	Parishioners
	Mile End	9.30 am	Private Intention

- ❖ 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.

- **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 & 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




Parish Priest: Mgr. Christopher Brooks  
 Assistant Priest: Fr. Philip Okoli

**Address:** 51 Priory Street, Colchester, Essex, CO1 2QB

**Tel:** 01206 866317

**E-Mail :** [colchester@brcdt.org](mailto:colchester@brcdt.org)

**Website:** [www.stjamesthelessandsthelen.org](http://www.stjamesthelessandsthelen.org)

 St James the Less and St Helen RC Church, Colchester

**SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (B)**  
*World day for the Sick, and Day of Prayer for the Unemployed*

**Week commencing 11<sup>th</sup> February 2024**

‘..whatever you do at all, do it for the glory of God.’ If only we remembered to take St. Paul’s advice and acted on it daily! There is something similar at the beginning of every Preface in Mass, we agree that always and everywhere we should give thanks to God. We are again facing the matter of doing God’s will. The saints, from all walks of life, ages etc, grew in holiness by giving glory and thanks to God. We are often pulled in the opposite direction, acting according to the world about us. It is so easy to make the mistake of rejoicing when the world rejoices and sorrowing when the world is sorrowful, all in line with the spirit of the world – pride, envy, greed etc. As Catholics, born again in Baptism, our joyful task is to live more and more in the Spirit of God, the Holy Spirit. The world would judge that what I now write as too sombre, but I’ll write it nevertheless. What will we deem most important in our final moments, if we are blessed enough not to have a sudden and unprovided death?

*Fr. Chris*

**PLEASE SEE MASS SCHEDULE FOR ALL CHANGES**

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



**THE POPE'S INTENTIONS FOR FEBRUARY For the terminally ill.** We pray that those with a terminal illness, and their families, receive the necessary physical and spiritual care and accompaniment.

**PRAYER FOR PEACE IN PALESTINE, ISRAEL & UKRAINE.** We pray for the people of all war torn countries, for all those suffering or afraid, that you will be close to them and protect them. We pray for world leaders, for compassion, strength, and wisdom to guide their choices. We pray for the laying down of all weapons.



**MARRIAGE MATTERS:** (Leviticus 13:1-2, 45-46 1 Corinthians 10: 31-33, 11:1 Mark 1:40-45) **Keeping our love alive.** Sometimes we have a sense of being at odds and separated from each other. The question, often unasked, is 'do you love me?' The answer is the same as Jesus gave to the outcast leper 'of course I do!' From being apart, we can be one again. How often do we say to each other 'I love you'?

**PRAYERS FOR THE SICK:** We continue to pray for those parishioners we know who are sick and housebound especially Jimmy Clarin, Grace McCartney, Diana Irven, Mrs. Maureen McKenna, Joyce Wrobel, Ron & Margaret Griffin, Peter Wyatt, Elizabeth Pace, Jason McLean, Hilda Morah, Nicollas and Adam Campbell-Vencarto, Maureen R. We also pray for all persons who are ill or are in need.

**† RECENTLY DECEASED:** Please pray for the repose of the soul of Fr Philips mother Pauline Okoli who suddenly passed away. The parish community extends their love and support to Fr Philip and the assurance of our prayers - may God grant Fr Philip strength and comfort during this difficult time.



**SPECIAL COLLECTION:** There will be a special collection taken for the **Church Easter Flowers** on **Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> February** the monies collected will be used for the Easter floral displays in Priory Street and Mile End Churches.

**SEASON OF LENT:** Lent is the 40 days (*not including* Sundays) from Ash Wednesday to the Saturday before Easter. Lent is often described as a time of preparation and an opportunity to go deeper with God. This means that it's a time for personal reflection that prepares people's hearts and minds for Good Friday and Easter. Spending time during Lent praying, fasting and giving can make Jesus' sacrifice on Good Friday and His resurrection on Easter even more meaningful.



**LENT FAST DAY will be on Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> February.** We are asked to eat simply and give what we have saved to CAFOD to support families with resources, tools and training to help feed themselves. Envelopes will be in church porch. Please return them the following weekend (25<sup>th</sup> Feb) when a 2<sup>nd</sup> collection will be taken. Thank you for your support and prayers.

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS (LENT):** This will take place every Friday afternoon at 12.30pm commencing on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> February in Priory Street.

**SAVE THE DATE: DAY OF MERCY on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> March 2024:** The Church will be open all day with Mass at 9.30am followed by Exposition & Confession all day; to finish with Benediction at 9.00pm. Please do try to attend at some point during the day.

**REPOSITORY:** The Repository now has a selection of St Patrick Day cards available for sale in the Church Porch.



**SAVE THE DATE! St Patrick's' Day Celebration** in Cardinal Bourne Hall on **Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> March 2023** from **3.00pm-5.30pm**. Details to follow in due course.

**POLISH STATIONS OF THE CROSS (Lent):** This will take place every Tuesday evening at 6.30pm in Priory Street, commencing on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> February.

**KNIGHTS OF SAINT COLUMBA RACE NIGHT:** Join us on **Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> February**, at St John Payne Church Hall, **6.30pm** for a **7.00pm** start. £2 entry but please bring £1 coins to purchase tickets for each race. You can sponsor a race or take out an advert in our Programme for £10. Please contact George (07476781885) or Daniel (07552232888) if you would like to reserve a space. Please bring your own drinks & table snacks. A light buffet will be provided.



**SUNDAY COFFEE MORNING:** Anyone who has half-an-hour to spare after Mass is most welcome to stay for coffee and biscuits after 10.30am Mass on Sundays.

**CUPPA CLUB:** We meet **every Thursday from 10.00am to 11.30am** in the Hall. Everyone is welcome.

**BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP:** When we lose someone we have loved, a relationship where we felt safe, or a job where we felt fulfilled, we are left with grief that affects us emotionally and spiritually. Working together with two neighbouring parishes, we offer opportunities for support at a time of bereavement and loss: **Group support** at St Teresa's, Lexden and St. John Payne's Greenstead and **one to one help** in St James the Less, Priory St. The leaders are trained and experienced and are, or have been part of St Helena's Hospice Counselling and Emotional Support Team. More details on Notice Board, website and Facebook.

**'WALK WITH ME' Booklets (LENT EDITION) & BRENTWOOD DIOCESAN DIRECTORY 2024:** These are both available for sale in the church porch.

**LECTIONARY READINGS FOR LENT:** Commentary on every Scripture reading from Ash Wednesday to Good Friday by Fr Adrian Graffy, parish priest of Gidea Park and member of the Pontifical Biblical Commission, is available free of charge on [www.whatgoodnews.org](http://www.whatgoodnews.org) Click on 'Scripture Readings' and 'Lent Readings'. The commentaries are also available in book form from Darton, Longman and Todd [www.dartonlongmantodd.co.uk](http://www.dartonlongmantodd.co.uk)

**A FIRE IN MY HEART:** On Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> February, to celebrate 50 years of priesthood, Fr Adrian Graffy held a Conversation with some friends who are biblical scholars about their common love of the Bible. These included Carlos Castillo, archbishop of Lima, Peru, and Nuria Calduch-Benages, secretary of the Pontifical Biblical Commission, on which Fr Adrian also serves. The edited programme of the Conversation is now available free of charge by going to the home page of [www.whatgoodnews.org](http://www.whatgoodnews.org)

**THE DIVINE MERCY APOSTOLATE,** London is holding a Divine Mercy Lenten Retreat on **Saturday 24 February 2024 from 1:30 pm - 4:30 pm** at St. Lawrence Church, 1 Hamilton Road, Sidcup, Kent DA15 7HB. The Retreat will include teachings on the Message of Mercy, Stations of the Cross, Holy Mass, Hour of Mercy with Adoration and Benediction and Veneration of the Image of Merciful Jesus. All Welcome. Please call Millie on 07957594646 for more information

**APPRENTICESHIPS AT WALSINGHAM HOUSE:** Walsingham House are offering a two year apprenticeship course in Youth Ministry and Chaplaincy (Yr13 school leavers). Participants will live and work at Walsingham House in Abbotswick, running retreats for young people across the Diocese whilst studying with St Mary's University, Twickenham. For more info please email [clairebailey@brcdt.org](mailto:clairebailey@brcdt.org) or visit the website [www.bcys.net/apprenticeship-opportunity-at-walsingham-house/](http://www.bcys.net/apprenticeship-opportunity-at-walsingham-house/)

**CHURCH CLEANING TEAM:** Monday 12/02/24: **Team 3** / Monday 19/02/24: **Team 4**

**COFFEE MORNING: 11/02/24:** SVP / **18/02/24:** Matthew & Mariamma