

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME^(A) (Sea Sunday)

Saturday 11th	Church	6.15 pm	Sybil Kathleen Lyons RIP
Sunday 12th	Church	8:00 am	Mass of Thanksgiving
	Church	10:30 am	Ints: Pauline Rook
	Church	2.00 pm	Polish Mass
	Church	6.30 pm	Ints: Fr Adrian Lowe
	West Mersea	8:30 am	Bill Wynne RIP
	Monkwick	10:15 am	Parishioners
Monday 13th			Feria
	Church	10.00 am	Ints: Bridie Lohan
Tuesday 14th			Feria
	Church	10.00 am	Patrick Quinlivan RIP
Wednesday 15th			St Bonaventure, Bp, D
	Church	10.00 am	Canon John Bloomfield
Thursday 16th			Feria
	Church	10.00 am	Mrs. Chacy Joseph RIP
Friday 17th			Feria
	Church	10.00 am	
Saturday 18th			Feria
	Church	10.00 am	

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME^(A)

Saturday 18th	Church	6.15 pm	
Sunday 19th	Church	8.00 am	Parishioners
	Church	10:30 am	
	Church	2.00 pm	
	Church	6.30 pm	
	West Mersea	8:30 am	Mary Hopgood RIP
	Monkwick	10:15 am	

To reserve a seat at Mass, please right-click [Mass Bookings](#) and open the hyperlink, which will take you to the *Booking Forms* for each Mass.

It is important to reaffirm that, at present, the obligation to attend Sunday Mass remains suspended.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION	(confession)	By appointment – please contact us
SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE:		At least six months' notice is required
BAPTISM COURSE:		Contact the parish office

LIVE STREAMING OF MASSES: The following link is to a website that has live streaming of church services in the UK <https://www.churchservices.tv/>

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, subject to hospital restrictions due to virus.

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
 Deacon: Deacon Adrian Lowe

Address: 51 Priory Street, Colchester, Essex, CO1 2QB
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St James the Less and St Helen RC Church, Colchester

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A)
WEEK COMMENCING: 12TH JULY 2020 - PARISH MASS BOOK PAGE

Seed that fell on good soil

In the parable of the sower, we hear about the seed that fell on rocky ground and grew at once but it withered away because it found little soil. On first receiving the word, we accept it with excitement. Often, this desire needs to be supported by habitual prayer, daily devotions so as to be grounded in practice. If we follow suit then the word takes root. In present times, we can take courage to pray daily, or care for the sick even when it is unpleasant. In so doing we will ground ourselves strongly in prayer through our word and deeds. God's word says, *"The word that goes forth from my mouth does not return to me empty, without carrying out my will and succeeding in what it was sent to do."*

Fr. Nixon Gomes

PLEASE SEE MASS SCHEDULE FOR ALL CHANGES

DAILY	Morning Prayer	Temporarily suspended
DAILY	Rosary/Divine Mercy	
SUNDAYS:	Rosary/Divine Mercy	
2 nd SUNDAY MONTHLY	Eucharistic Adoration	
CHRISTIAN MEDITATION	Tuesdays in Crypt (8.00 ^{pm})	

Dear Parishioners and Friends,

A booking service for mass attendance has been put in place (*contact details may have to be supplied for Track and Trace*); you can only attend mass if you have booked a place (!) We request that you limit yourselves to one mass per person per week to ensure a fair distribution of seats are available for everyone wishing to attend a weekly mass (note that Sunday obligation remains suspended), although we will have a system for attending more if spare places are available. It will be essential that people sit where they are asked and do not move from there. Please note that the toilets will be closed. Practical points:-

- ♦ Churches will open 20 minutes before start of Mass
- ♦ Entrance via the main door, exit by the side door;
- ♦ Hand sanitiser available at entrance and exit, though you may bring your own;
- ♦ It will take longer than normal to enter the church, please make allowances;
- ♦ An Offertory Collection will be taken at each mass with Collection bags available on entry and exit; the donation station is also useable;
- ♦ Candles may be lit after Mass – Instructions to follow
- ♦ Church opening for Private Prayer will be stopped when Masses resume
- ♦ Other changes to the celebration will be announced in church.

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.

Meanwhile:-

- For Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals, please contact our parish office.
- Visiting for the Sacrament of the Sick is possible, under certain circumstances.
- Mass Intentions. These can be posted/popped through the letterbox of 51, Priory Street and will be published in the newsletter, which will be available on the parish website.
- If you are self-isolating and would like to speak to a priest or have any worries, please contact us at the Presbytery on 01206 866317 and we will try to help you.

THE HOLY FATHER'S INTENTIONS FOR JULY *Our Families*. We pray that today's families may be accompanied with love, respect and guidance.

MARRIAGE MATTERS: (Isaiah 55:10-11 Rom 8:18-23 Matthew 13:1-23) **Listen to the person behind the words.** The stony ground is when we are too engrossed in the telly, reading or working on the computer to listen to our partner. The thorny ground is where we disengage with such but not wanting real involvement, suggest a cuppa as a diversion. We are called to be fertile ground by real listening – hold hands, look in each other's eyes.

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK: We continue to pray for those parishioners we know who are sick and housebound especially, Nicollas and Adam Campbell-Vencarto, Elizabeth Pace, Hilda Morah. Valerie Thurston, Joan Jeal. Jimmy Clarin. We pray for all persons who have contracted Covid-19

FR. ADRIAN LOWE: Our congratulations to Fr Adrian on his Ordination to Priesthood, we wish him much success and happiness, as he enters this new chapter in his life with God.

GIFT AID SUBSCRIBERS: Please can you collect your new box sets from the church porch. Box sets are laid out in alphabetical order. Thank you.

TO RESERVE A SEAT AT MASS: This can be done via the following means:-

- Click on the Mass Bookings tab in the Newsletter
- Parish Website under the tab for Mass Times
- Clicking on the links on Facebook
- By phoning the presbytery office (*If you do not have access to the Internet*); when calling please advise how many seats you will require (*must be from same household*) and give your full name and contact number.

We will have stewards at every Mass and after the service the church will be cleaned to get it ready for the next Mass. We are so grateful to all the volunteers who have come forward to help. It's a huge ask but the response has been tremendous. If you would like to Volunteer as a Stewart/Cleaner, please call the Presbytery Office. Thank you.

MAKING A DONATION: Some parishioners have asked how they can continue to make their offerings during this period. This is much appreciated; our Parish needs your continued support at this time as Coronavirus has raised some very particular financial challenges for us. Not only do we have no plate and envelope collection, but we cannot hire out our parish hall either. We must, however, continue to pay for essentials such as our priest's living expenses, the upkeep of our buildings and other ongoing costs. Of course, we realise that the current situation is affecting many people's income and they may not be able to continue their level of offerings. If this is the case, we fully understand, and our prayers are with you. If you usually give by envelope or via cash in the collection, you can either make individual payments whenever you like by dropping envelope through Presbytery door, or you can set up a regular gift by Standing Order. This can be stopped at any time, for example, if you wish to resume giving by cash or envelope once Sunday Mass is resumed. The Donation Station (in Church porch) can be used when attending mass or alternatively, you can donate online using the Diocesan Online Donation platform (where donations can also be gift aided):-

* St. James the Less & St. Helen <https://www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/donations?parish=colchester>

* St. Joseph, Mile End: <https://www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/donations?parish=colchester-c>

* St. Cedd & St. Gregory: <https://www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/donations?parish=colchester-b>

* St. Theodore of Canterbury: <https://www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/donations?parish=colchester-d>

To those who have sent in offerings and set up Standing Orders - Thank you very much for your donation. Everything that happens in our parish is only possible with your support.

NEW FACEBOOK PAGE: Please look for **St James the Less and St Helen RC Church, Colchester** (picture of Church). Please like the page in order to follow all the Parish/Diocese News.

GARDENING VOLUNTEERS: We are looking for volunteers who are willing and able to contribute to the maintenance of the Church garden and outdoor space. No experience is necessary just a love of gardening! If interested, please contact the presbytery office.

LOURDES IN YOUR LIVING ROOM, 27th – 31st July. Join Bishop Alan and hundreds of people from across the Diocese for this virtual pilgrimage which incl. Mass, Angelus, Rosary, reflections, Morning and Evening Prayer each day, all via YouTube, as well as Stations of the Cross, a Marian Procession, and a talent show on the final evening. The full pilgrimage info is at www.bcys.net incl. a daily timetable, YouTube details, and additional events.

CARITAS DIOCESE OF BRENTWOOD: *Development Officer*. If you are passionate about supporting local volunteers, and have strong experience in training and networking in the charitable sector, this could be your perfect job! Please visit <https://www.caritasbrentwood.org/news/developmentofficer/> for more details. The deadline to apply is October 2nd 2020 and the start date is January 2021.

- **SVP (St Vincent de Paul Society):** Tel: 07493 439427 or email: colchestersvp@gmail.com
 - **CARDINAL BOURNE HALL:** The hall is closed and all group activity suspended until further notice.
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