

# ST. JAMES THE LESS AND ST. HELEN

CATHOLIC CHURCH, COLCHESTER

WITH MERSEA, MILE END AND MONKWICK

1 PARISH, 4 CHURCHES, 1 COMMUNITY



Parish Priest:  
Assistant Priest:  
Assistant Priest:

Mgr. Christopher Brooks  
Fr. Paschal Uche  
Fr. Philip Willenbrock

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 St James the Less and St Helen RC Church, Colchester

## TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A)

(EDUCATION DAY)

Saturday 12 <sup>th</sup>	Church	6.15 pm	Marie Allan RIP
Sunday 13 <sup>th</sup>	Church	8.00 am	Private Intention
	Church	10:30 am	Vivien Clancy RIP
	Church	2.00 pm	Polish Mass
	Church	6.30 pm	
	West Mersea	8:30 am	Parishioners
	Monkwick	10:15 am	Athol Brown RIP
Monday 14 <sup>th</sup>			<b>EXALTATION (TRIUMPH) OF THE HOLY CROSS</b>
	Church	10.00 am	Holy Souls
Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup>			<b>Our Lady of Sorrows</b>
	Church	10.00 am	Marcelina (Sally) Widman RIP
Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup>			<b>St Cornelius, P and Cyprian, Bp, Mm</b>
	Church	10.00 am	Holy Souls
Thursday 17 <sup>th</sup>			<b>Feria</b>
	Church	10.00 am	Sarah Betts
Friday 18 <sup>th</sup>			<b>Feria</b>
	Church	10.00 am	Holy Souls
Saturday 19 <sup>th</sup>			<b>Feria OR St Theodore of Canterbury, Bp</b>
	Church	10.00 am	Holy Souls

## TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A)

Saturday 19 <sup>th</sup>	Church	6.15 pm	Hector Silva RIP
Sunday 20 <sup>th</sup>	Church	8.00 am	Private Intention
	Church	10:30 am	Lo Miu Sim RIP
	Church	2.00 pm	Polish Mass
	Church	6.30 pm	Parishioners
	West Mersea	8:30 am	Private Intention
	Monkwick	10:15 am	Leslie Hawken RIP

**FACE MASKS. It is now a legal requirement that facemasks or coverings are worn when entering all places of worship (unless you are medically exempt or under 3yrs)**

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

- ❖ 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 through the presbytery letterbox and they will be published in the newsletter (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.

**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.

**TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A)**  
WEEK COMMENCING 13<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2020 - PARISH MASS BOOK PAGE

Greetings dear Parishioners.

It's a great joy to be with you here in Colchester as your assistant priest. I very much look forward to getting to know you all.

Socrates famously said, "The unexamined life is not worth living." When reading this week's Gospel on the unforgiving servant it struck me afresh that the servant in question, (which could be me or you) did not take any time to reflect on all that he had been given and forgiven. Scholars say that it would have taken armies to carry the load he owed had it been in coins, while the amount that was owed him could have fitted in to your trouser pocket.

If we do not take time to reflect, repent and resolve to live out of what we have received then like the unforgiving servant we will end up choking the breath out of life!

To forgive others as we have been forgiven is to be daily transformed by God's grace. Let us pray for the grace to daily examine our lives in the light of God's love to live loved, freed and forgiven.

Fr. Paschal

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**PLEASE SEE MASS SCHEDULE FOR ALL CHANGES**

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DAILY	Morning Prayer	<b>All Temporarily suspended</b>
DAILY	Rosary/Divine Mercy	
SUNDAYS:	Rosary/Divine Mercy	
2 <sup>nd</sup> SUNDAY MONTHLY	Eucharistic Adoration	
CHRISTIAN MEDITATION	Tuesdays in Crypt (8.00 <sub>pm</sub> )	

Dear Parishioners and Friends,  
Covid-19 still presents many challenges to us all. It can seem at times overwhelming but despite all the restrictions, let us be thankful that we can once again gather together, despite social distancing, as God's people.

Please note the following norms in order to promote a COVID 19 safe environment :-

- Churches will open 20 minutes before start of Mass as it will take longer than normal to enter the church, please make allowances
- Entrance to Church will be via the main door, exit by the side door
- Hand sanitiser is available at entrance and exit, though you may bring your own
- It will be essential that people sit where they are asked and do not move from there
- The use of face covering/mask in Church is now mandatory (please don't forget yours when attending mass) and that you wear it so that it covers both your mouth and nose.
- When chatting with people from outside your household (or bubble), before or after Mass, you must maintain social distancing. If you are wearing a mask, this means a minimum of one-metre distance. If you are not wearing a mask: two metres distance is essential.
- An Offertory Collection will be taken at each mass with 'collection bags' available on entry and exit; the donation station is also useable
- No touching of Statues or Images in Church
- Toilets will be closed except for genuine emergencies.
- We are still required to have stewards at every Mass and after the service; the church will be cleaned in readiness for the next Mass.

**THE PARISH STEWARDS ARE HERE TO HELP AND DIRECT YOU TO YOUR SEAT(S), PLEASE BE POLITE TO THEM AS THEY CAN ASK YOU TO LEAVE THE CHURCH IF YOU DO NOT COMPLY WITH PRESENT GOVERNMENT AND DIOCESAN REGULATIONS.**

*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.*

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**THE HOLY FATHER'S INTENTIONS FOR SEPTEMBER: *Respect for the Planet's Resources.*** We pray that the planet's resources will not be plundered, but shared in a just and respectful manner.

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**MARRIAGE MATTERS:** (Eccles 27:30-28:7 Rom 14:7-9 Matt 18: 21- 35) ***The call to forgive.*** How can I love my spouse and bring life? We are called to set aside resentment, to listen gently to our beloved, seeking understanding. In today's gospel the servant who is forgiven refuses to forgive the man who owes him. God forgives us everything, but are we willing to let go of the hurts we have experienced via our spouse?

**PRAYERS FOR THE SICK:** We continue to pray for those parishioners we know who are sick and housebound especially, John Sales, Tony Dixon, 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 and their families.

**WALSINGHAM:** to read the homily preached by Bishop Hopes to mark Mgr John Armitage's departure as Rector of the Catholic Shrine at Walsingham: <https://www.rcdea.org.uk/bishop-gives-parting-tribute-to-mgr-john-armitage/>

**MERSEA NEWS:** Mass Bookings will continue at Mersea in order to control numbers attending. Please use the following links for masses over the next 3 weekends (right click booking form and open hyperlink) alternatively, links for booking form are on website under mass times: -

- Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> September @ 8.30<sub>am</sub> [Booking Form](#)
- Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> September @ 8.30<sub>am</sub> [Booking Form](#)
- Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> October @ 8.30<sub>am</sub> [Booking Form](#)
- Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> October @ 8.30<sub>am</sub> [Booking Form](#)


**EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS:** We would like to invite a Eucharistic Minister (from our existing team) to assist the priests with Holy Communion at our masses with larger attendances (i.e. 8<sub>am</sub> and 10.30<sub>am</sub> Sunday masses). On the day, please speak to the priest before mass, if you would like to volunteer to assist for that service. Thank you.

**PARISH FINANCES:** Some people have experienced financial hardship during the lockdown and face uncertain financial futures. Our parish has also experienced the challenge of much reduced finances, which is a serious concern. We thank you in advance for the offering that you give today.

If you wish to make an offering/donation this can be done in various ways: -

- By dropping envelope through Presbytery door (please write on envelope Mass Offering)
- Donation baskets are situated at entrance and exit of church
- Setting up a regular gift by Standing Order, (please contact Presbytery office for form).
- The Donation Station (in Church porch)
- 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>

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

 Please check out our Facebook page for all the latest Parish/Diocese/Vatican news + photos of our Parish Clergy etc. Please like our page in order to follow our news and get all the latest news first!

**BRENTWOOD CATHOLIC CHILDREN'S SOCIETY – 2020 VIRTUAL FUN/WALK.** This year, instead of walking 2k or 5k around the Barleylands site in Billericay, we are joining in the fun walk trust's virtual walk and asking our supporters to walk anywhere, anytime in September in support of our work for further info <https://www.bccs.org.uk/fundraising-and-events/all-events/2020-virtual-fun-walk> . we would be very happy to hear from parish or family groups who would like to walk for us – please email Libby: [lphillips@bccs.org.uk](mailto:lphillips@bccs.org.uk)

**COLCHESTER FOOD BANK:** During these difficult times, more people are turning to Foodbanks for assistance in feeding themselves and their families. If you are able to take essential items to them, they would be greatly appreciated. For more info & their address <https://colchester.foodbank.org.uk/locations/> Please remember local people in crisis in your prayers.

**JOSIE'S KITCHEN:** are looking for volunteers to ***'knit for the homeless'***; Hats, Scarves, Gloves, Socks are all required for the winter season. If you enjoy knitting and have the time and spare wool, please consider giving a gift of warmth this coming winter.

**SCAM WARNING:** for all the latest info on fraudulent scams and how to protect yourself, please check out Action Fraud: <https://www.actionfraud.police.uk/news>. Phishing email can be forwarded on to the Suspicious Email Reporting Service (SERS) at [report@phishing.gov.uk](mailto:report@phishing.gov.uk)

**GIFT AID SUBSCRIBERS:** Please can you collect your new box sets from the church porch

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

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