

**SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (B)**

WORLD DAY FOR THE UNEMPLOYED

<b>Saturday 13<sup>th</sup></b>	Church	6.15 pm	10 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary: Oksana Zakhleniuk RIP
<b>Sunday 14<sup>th</sup></b> <i>Live Streamed</i>	Church	8.00 am	Mrs. Margaret Barker RIP
	Church	10.30 am	Esther Crowe RIP
	Church	2.00 pm	Polish Mass
	Church	6.30 pm	Private Intentions
	West Mersea	8.30 am	Parishioners
	Monkwick	10.15 am	Brendan Burke RIP
<b>Monday 15<sup>th</sup></b>			<b>Feria</b>
<i>Live Streamed</i>	Church	10.00 am	Kankab Matti RIP
<b>Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup></b>			<b>Feria</b>
<i>Live Streamed</i>	Church	10.00 am	Ian Walker RIP
<b>Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup></b>			<b>ASH WEDNESDAY</b>
	West Mersea	9.00 am	Holy Souls
<i>Live Streamed</i>	Church	10.00 am	Conal M <sup>c</sup> Ginley + Maura O'Connell RIP
	Church	7.00 pm	Private Intention
<b>Thursday 18<sup>th</sup></b>			<b>Thursday after Ash Wednesday</b>
<i>Live Streamed</i>	Church	10.00 am	Bridget Lloyd
<b>Friday 19<sup>th</sup></b>			<b>Friday after Ash Wednesday</b>
<i>Live Streamed</i>	Church	10.00 am	Margaret Murray
<b>Saturday 20<sup>th</sup></b>			<b>Saturday after Ash Wednesday</b>
<i>Live Streamed</i>	Church	10.00 am	Holy Souls
<b>FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT (B)</b>			
<b>Saturday 20<sup>th</sup></b>	Church	6.15 pm	Holy Souls
<b>Sunday 21<sup>st</sup></b>	Church	8.00 am	Dr. Halley Mathew RIP
	Church	10.30 am	Parishioners
	Church	2.00 pm	Polish Mass
	Church	6.30 pm	Ints: Kathleen James + Fam
	West Mersea	8.30 am	Anniversary: William Wynne RIP
<i>Live Streamed</i>	Monkwick	10.15 am	Dec Family Members (K)

**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 11yrs)**

- ❖ For Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals, please contact our parish office.
- ❖ Visiting for the Sacrament of the Sick is possible, under certain circumstances.
- ❖ Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) Saturdays after 10am Mass and 5.30pm-6.00pm
- ❖ Mass Intentions. These can be posted through the presbytery letterbox and they will be published in the newsletter (available on the parish website or via Facebook).
- ❖ 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.

**LIVE STREAM: DAILY MASSES AND A SUNDAY MASS**  
(Weekdays 10am, please see Schedule for Sunday Live Stream Mass Time)

 [St James the Less and St Helen RC Church, Colchester](https://www.facebook.com/stjamescolchester)

 Please check out our Facebook page for all the latest Parish/Diocese/Vatican news/ Clergy photos/videos, Reflections from Fr Paschal. Please remember to [like](#) and [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. Paschal Uche  
Assistant Priest: Fr. Philip Willenbrock

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 St James the Less and St Helen RC Church, Colchester

## SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (B)

Week Commencing 14<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2021

From toys and takeaways to trainers and tracksuits, I would often ask my parents for many different things. In my mind, these were reasonable requests that I had a right to and moreover my parents had a responsibility to get these things for me, right? Wrong! Even the good things that I made requests for were to be given and received as gifts. My Parents knew the importance of grounding me in reality and growing me in humility. St Augustine says If you want to build a tall house of virtues, you must first lay the deep foundations of humility. What I love about the Leper in this Sunday's Gospel is his humility. "If you want to you can make me clean" In this single sentence we see that the leper knows that God holds both the prerogative and the power to heal. Some got their healing by touching his garment; others by calling out in desperation, this leper however, received healing by approaching God in humility. God is desirous to give us good things; this Leper is an example for us to consciously choose humility trusting in God's goodness, God's timing and God's will. Choosing humility is overcoming the social distance of our pride, escaping the isolation of our sin and embracing the vaccine of virtue to inoculate us from the virus of vice. God loves us more than anybody else can or does. In his response to the leper, (of course I want to) Jesus reveals our healing is his heart's desire. With confidence and humility, let us seek the will of God.

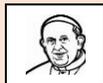
Fr. Paschal

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**PLEASE SEE MASS SCHEDULE FOR ALL CHANGES**

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DAILY	Morning Prayer at 9.45am	<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 (8.00pm)	

**THE POPE'S INTENTIONS FOR FEBRUARY: Violence Against Women**

We pray for women who are victims of violence, that they may be protected by society and have their sufferings considered and heeded.

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**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'?

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Dear Parishioners and Friends,

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 which remain in place in order to promote a COVID 19 safe environment :-

- ♦ Churches will open 15 minutes before start of Mass
- ♦ Facemasks must be worn when entering all places of worship (unless medically exempt)
- ♦ 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 Church) and that you wear it so that it covers both your mouth and nose.
- ♦ Social distancing must be maintained at all times within Church.
- ♦ An Offertory Collection box will be situated at entrance 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 Church Stewards in attendance at each Mass and the Church will be cleaned after each Service in readiness for the next Mass to be held.
- ♦ No mingling with other people you do not live with after Mass outside the Church.

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

**'WALK WITH ME' Booklets (LENT EDITION):** Last few remaining in church porch at £1 a copy.

**RECENTLY DECEASED:** Please pray for the repose of the soul of Davide Gasparin and Robert Douglas Elliott who have recently passed away. May they rest in peace. We pray for the comfort of their respective bereaved family and friends. Roberts's funeral service will be held here on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> March at 11.30am. **Please note that we require volunteer Stewards for Funeral Services on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> March at 11.30am and Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> March at 11.30am. Please contact the Presbytery if you are able to assist.** Thank you.

**MERSEA NEWS:** Please use the following links for reserving seats at Mass (right click booking form and open hyperlink) alternatively, links for booking forms are on website under mass times: - Ash Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> February at 9am: [Ash Wed 9am Mersea Booking Form](#)  
Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> February [Mersea Booking Form](#) Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> February [Mersea Booking Form](#)

**PANCAKES WITH THE PRIESTS!** Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> of February 5pm on Zoom. Welcoming all families and parishioners to join us for a pancake making session. In this time, we are all invited to make pancakes whilst Fr Paschal and Fr Chris season our minds and hearts with the insights about the great Catholic practices of Shrove Tuesday, Ash Wednesday and the Holy season of Lent. Zoom details: Meeting ID: 743 3264 1784 /Passcode: 3rYJpx <https://us04web.zoom.us/j/74332641784?pwd=MEdtQWVhOG1kc1haVmFKSkZFN004Zz09>

**ASH WEDNESDAY:** As Ash Wednesday approaches we want to invite you to participate as fully as you can. The 10am mass will be live-streamed during which those at home will be invited to mark each other with ashes. In order to facilitate this from Monday the 8<sup>th</sup> until Tuesday the 16<sup>th</sup> of February you will be able to collect a small bag of ashes from the church during communal worship. Let us begin this holy season as a parish united in prayer

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS:** This will take place in the church every Friday of Lent at 3pm (This will also be live streamed for those physically unable to attend). For the Polish Community this will be here every Tuesday at 6.30pm.

**PALM CROSSES:** We would be grateful if people could bring their old palm crosses back to us. A basket is situated in the Church Porch for collection of these. Thank you.

**STUDY DAY (Learning From Covid):** Sr Gemma Simmonds CJ of Margaret Beaufort Institute, Cambridge, will lead a livestreamed study day on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> March from 11am, on the topic '*Learning from Covid: church, state and a better future*'. The study day is organised by Gidea Park parish. Free access to the live event will be available on [www.whatgoodnews.org](http://www.whatgoodnews.org) and a recording subsequently on the same website.

**CAFOD LENT APPEAL** is on Friday 26<sup>th</sup> February. Abdella lives in an extremely remote and mountainous part of Ethiopia. It takes him ten hours a day to collect water. He says his life is being wasted, as he has no time for anything else. Give today to reach vulnerable communities around the world with water and to provide other vital support. Donate online at [cafod.org.uk/lent](http://cafod.org.uk/lent) or by using a CAFOD envelope. You can also give via text. Text LENT to 70460 to donate £10\*. \*Texts cost £10 plus one standard rate message you'll be opting in to hear more about CAFOD's work and fundraising via telephone and SMS. If you'd like to give £10 but do not wish to receive marketing communications, text LENTNOINFO to 70460. For more information, please see CAFOD's Privacy Policy: [cafod.org.uk/Legal-information/Privacy-notice](http://cafod.org.uk/Legal-information/Privacy-notice)

**DIOCESAN DIRECTORIES:** still available £2.80 per copy + **2021 Diaries reduced - 1/2- price!**

**PARISH FINANCES:** 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 or Parish Maintenance) or in the Donation Basket situated at Church entrance & Exit
- 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**