

ST. JAMES THE LESS AND ST. HELEN

CATHOLIC CHURCH, COLCHESTER

WITH MERSEA, MILE END AND MONKWICK

1 PARISH, 4 CHURCHES, 1 COMMUNITY

'LAETARE' SUNDAY

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT (B)

Saturday 13th	Church	6.15 pm	Alice Reid RIP
Sunday 14th	Church	8.00 am	Parishioners
	Church	10.30 am	Baby Liew RIP
	Church	2.00 pm	Polish Mass
	Church	6.30 pm	Private Intention
	West Mersea	8.30 am	Brendan Burke RIP
Live Streamed	Monkwick	10.15 am	Tony Dixon RIP

Monday 15th FERIA

Live Streamed	Church	10.00 am	Chachy Joseph RIP
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Tuesday 16th FERIA

	Church	10.00 am	John and Julie O'Connor RIP
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Wednesday 17th St Patrick, Bp, Apostle of Ireland

Live Streamed	Church	10.00 am	Rose Ann and Patrick McAloon RIP
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Thursday 18th FERIA

Live Streamed	Church	10.00 am	Private Intentions (J.D)
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Friday 19th St Joseph, husband of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Live Streamed	Church	10.00 am	Thanksgiving (R.J)
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Private Service	Church	11.30 am	Funeral Mass: Robert Douglas Elliott RIP
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Live Streamed	Church	3.00 pm	Stations of the Cross
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Saturday 20th FERIA

Live Streamed	Church	10.00 am	Ints: John & Myra Dolomore
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FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT (B)

Saturday 20th	Church	6.15 pm	Holy Souls
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Sunday 21st	Live Streamed Church	8.00 am	Frederick, Elizabeth and Angelo Lucas
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	Church	10.30 am	Private Intentions
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	Church	2.00 pm	Polish Mass
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	Church	6.30 pm	Private Intentions
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	West Mersea	8.30 am	Parishioners
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	Monkwick	10.15 am	Theresa Welfare RIP
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FACEMASKS. 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 email or 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 (Except Tues), please see Schedule for Sunday Live Stream Mass Time)
[St James the Less and St Helen RC Church, Colchester](#)

Please check out our Facebook page for Live Stream Masses and all the latest Parish/Diocese/Vatican news, Clergy photos/videos. Please remember to [like](#) & [follow](#) our page!



Parish Priest: Mgr. Christopher Brooks
Assistant Priest: Fr. Paschal Uche
Assistant Priest: Fr. Philip Willenbrock

Address: 51 Priory Street, Colchester, Essex, CO1 2QB
Tel: 01206 866317
E-Mail: colchester@dioceseofbrentwood.org
Website: www.stjamesthelessandsthelen.org
St James the Less and St Helen RC Church, Colchester

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT (B)

Week Commencing 14th March 2021

God so loved the world that he gave his only son that whosoever believes in him may not perish but have eternal life (John 3.16). One of my great joys as a priest is preparing couples for the sacrament of marriage. They are filled with excitement and giddy with the prospect of all that awaits them. Principally what awaits them is a life of love and a life of Sacrifice the two are inseparable. Why? Because love takes us out of ourselves. When we are in love we make choices that we would not make in the absence of love. We make choices that desire both their good and our union with them. The deeper our love the deeper the sacrifices we are prepared and willing to make. The central truth of our faith is that God so loved us that seeing we were dead in our sins and separated from him, he made the ultimate choice, paying the ultimate price, procuring for those who believe the ultimate reward; eternal union with God. In this season of lent it can be a fruitful meditation to take the scripture above and pray it slowly replacing the words: "the world" and "whosoever believes in him" with your name.

Fr. Paschal

PLEASE SEE MASS SCHEDULE FOR ALL CHANGES

DAILY	Morning Prayer at 9.45 _{am}	All Temporarily suspended
DAILY	Rosary/Divine Mercy	
SUNDAYS:	Rosary/Divine Mercy	
2 nd SUNDAY MONTHLY	Eucharistic Adoration	
CHRISTIAN MEDITATION	Tuesdays in Crypt (8.00 _{pm})	



THE POPE'S INTENTIONS FOR MARCH: Intention for Evangelization: – Sacrament of Reconciliation. Let us pray that we may experience the Sacrament of Reconciliation with renewed depth, to taste the infinite mercy of God.

MARRIAGE MATTERS: (2Chronicles 36: 14-16, 19-23 Ephesians 2: 4-10 John 3: 14-21) **Called to be a 'sign'.** The world often ridicules marriage saying 'it's just a piece of paper', but Scripture draws attention to God's powerful message. St. Paul says: *"We are God's work of art; created in Christ Jesus to live the good life as from the beginning He had meant us to live it."* Let us shine out so the world sees what it's missing.

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.

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK: We continue to pray for those parishioners we know who are sick and housebound especially John Dolamore, 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.

DIOCESAN DIRECTORIES: still available £2.80 per copy.

RECENTLY DECEASED: Theresa Sales Funeral Mass will be held here on 30th March at 12.45_{pm}. The Funeral Mass for Frances Poppy Norman (25/03/21) has been postponed to May. **Please note that we require volunteer Stewards for 30th March. 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: Sunday 21st March [Mersea Booking Form](#) Sunday 28th March [Mersea Booking Form](#)

LENTEN TALKS: Please join us for our mini-series of Lenten talks which will take place at 7_{pm} on Thursday the 18th & 25th of March. These talks will be held via Google Meet with the 2nd talk being led by Fr. Paschal on the theme 'Almsgiving'. If you would like to participate, please email colchester@dioceseofbrentwood.org for further information & password. We look forward to seeing you. Thank you.

MOTHERS DAY BLESSING: Lord God we pray for Mothers everywhere. May those with children feel appreciated. May those grieving empty arms be comforted. May those mourning and missing the one who gave them life be held in the loving grace of God. Amen.

SVP GARDENING APPEAL: With Spring upon us some of our beneficiaries are in need of a little help in their gardens – some grass cutting and hedge trimming. If you are able to help, please get in touch: Tel: 07493 439427 Email colchestersvp@gmail.com

LADY D'ARCY WITH FYNCHES AND BERRYFIELD COTTAGES ALMSHOUSES:

Applications are invited for a vacancy at Berryfield Cottages, East Bay, Colchester. Applicants should be older single people, of limited means, residing in Colchester and in need of housing. The accommodation comprises a living room, bedroom, wet room and kitchen. Current "rent" is £120 per week incl. of water rates. Utility bills and Council tax are resident's responsibility. The property will not be available before May. Application forms are available from the Clerk to the Charity, Michael Siggs, PO Box 993, Colchester, CO3 3TQ Or Tel: 01206 765138 Email: michael.siggs@btconnect.com Closing date for applications is 16th April 2021

RIGHT TO LIFE UK: The All-life Parliamentary Pro-Life Group will be hosting a parliamentary event on Tues 23rd March where experts will cover the latest evidence on how "DIY" home abortions are placing women at risk. Various speakers. Please see the attached link that will enable members of the public to easily contact their MPs asking them to attend this event. [Ask your MP to attend a parliamentary meeting to hear experts discuss the latest research on DIY abortion. – Right To Life UK](#) Every MP contacted will really count! Thank you.

MISSIO MAGAZINES FOR SPRING 2021 are available free in the church porch – please take one. If you do not have a Missio Red Box to put in your contributions at home and wish to have one, please ring Ron Griffin on 01206 571590 Parish Missio Promoter.

DAY OF PRAYER AND FASTING FOR LIFE: On Wednesday 24th March, the Vigil of The Annunciation, please pray and fast for the end of abortion and euthanasia in this Country. On this month's Day of Prayer and Fasting for Life, we are especially asking you to fast and pray for the end of DIY abortions at home. Please join in and invite others to join as well. <https://www.facebook.com/events/725021905067267>

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