

# 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

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St James the Less and St Helen RC Church, Colchester

#### THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER (B)

<b>Saturday 13<sup>th</sup></b>	<i>Monkwick</i>	5.00 pm	Fr Michael Daly RIP
<b>Sunday 14<sup>th</sup></b>	<i>Church</i>	8.00 am	Raymond O'Neill RIP
	<i>Church</i>	10.30 am	Ints: Cathy + John
	<i>Church</i>	2.00 pm	Polish Mass
	<i>Church</i>	6.30 pm	Canon A. Dolan RIP
	<i>West Mersea</i>	8.30 am	Private Intention
	<i>Mile End</i>	9.30 am	Parishioners
<b>Monday 15<sup>th</sup></b>			<b>Monday after the Third Sunday of Easter</b>
	<i>Church</i>	9.30 am	Frederick, Elizabeth + Angelo Lucas
<b>Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup></b>			<b>Tuesday after the Third Sunday of Easter</b>
	<i>Church</i>	9.30 am	Thanksgiving (SF)
<b>Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup></b>			<b>Wednesday after the Third Sunday of Easter</b>
	<i>Church</i>	9.30 am	Ints: Miss Wilga Marie Lyons
<b>Thursday 18<sup>th</sup></b>			<b>Thursday after the Third Sunday of Easter</b>
	<i>Church</i>	9.30 am	Ints: Manuel
<b>Friday 19<sup>th</sup></b>			<b>Friday after the Third Sunday of Easter</b>
	<i>Church</i>	9.30 am	Mr & Mrs O'Brien RIP
	<i>Church</i>	2.30 pm	<b>Memorial Mass:</b> Anthony William Pybus RIP
<b>Saturday 20<sup>th</sup></b>			<b>Saturday after the Third Sunday of Easter</b>
	<i>Church</i>	9.30 am	George Downes RIP
			<b>FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER (B)</b> <small>World Day of prayer for Vocations</small>
<b>Saturday 20<sup>th</sup></b>	<i>Monkwick</i>	5.00 pm	Mrs P. Okoli RIP
<b>Sunday 21<sup>st</sup></b>	<i>Church</i>	8.00 am	Monica Wood RIP
	<i>Church</i>	10.30 am	Ints: Cathy & John
	<i>Church</i>	2.00 pm	Polish Mass
	<i>Church</i>	6.30 pm	Mrs Annie Campbell RIP
	<i>West Mersea</i>	8.30 am	Parishioners
	<i>Mile End</i>	9.30 am	Paul Richard B. Brusola RIP

- ❖ 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).
- ❖ Mass Intentions. Envelopes are available in Church Porch and are situated either side of Church entrance, please complete envelope & drop through presbytery door. A suggested minimum stipend is £10 per Mass. The Mass Intention will be published in the newsletter (available on the parish website or via Facebook or collection from Church).
- ❖ New To The Parish? Then please complete one of our Parish Registration forms, which can be found in the porch at the back of the church.

- **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

## THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER (B)

### Week commencing 14<sup>th</sup> April 2024

We often find in the readings at this season, a call to repent. This word has the sense of a change of direction. We can illustrate this by imagining someone is out walking in the countryside and gradually comes to realise they are lost. Anxiety levels would likely increase, along with a search for the right path, and possibly self-recrimination over one's mistakes. If the right path is found, what a relief. The past is forgotten and the walker confidently yet carefully goes forward, focussed on their destination. So it is with us and sin. We shouldn't sin, yet we do. We are invited to repent, go back to the right path and move forward. Dwelling on our faults, beating ourselves up, is generally not a good idea; it would be like our imaginary walker standing still and berating themselves for getting lost, rather than moving on. St. Paul asks us to throw off the sin that clings so easily and keep running forward, good apostolic advice.

*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 APRIL: For the role of women.** We pray that the dignity and immense value of women be recognized in every culture, and for the end of discrimination that they experience in different parts of the world.

**PRAYER FOR PEACE IN PALESTINE, ISRAEL & UKRAINE.** God of hope and mercy, protect all who are in any form of danger; provide practical help to those in need; strengthen the weary, console the grieving, heal the suffering; and bless those engaged in disaster relief efforts with safety and courage. Amen.



**MARRIAGE MATTERS:** (Acts of the Apostles 13: 13-15, 17-19 1John 2: 1-5 Luke 24: 35-48) **Let peace reign in our heart.** There are times in life, as couples, when the demands of work, concerns about money and care of the children can seem overwhelming. In times like these let's acknowledge each other, take time out to clarify the issues and remind ourselves of the words of Jesus to the Apostles when they thought it was all over, "*Peace be with you!*"

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

**NEXT SECOND COLLECTION:** The Fourth Sunday of Easter is known as **Vocations Sunday (Good Shepherd Sunday)**, and is marked as the World Day of Prayer for Vocations. The purpose of this day is to fulfil Jesus' instruction to "*Pray the Lord of the harvest to send labourers into his harvest*" (Matthew 9:38). While appreciating all vocations, the Church concentrates her attention on raising up shepherds for God's people - vocations to Holy Orders (the priesthood and diaconate) and to the religious life - while encouraging all who are discerning their vocation to pray more earnestly that they may hear and respond to God's call. There will be a 2<sup>nd</sup> collection taken for Promotion of Vocations on 21<sup>st</sup> April 2024. Please take a prayer cards which are available in Church porch.

**BAPTISMS:** A Godparent must be fully initiated in the Catholic Church. This means they have received the Sacraments of Baptism, Eucharist and Confirmation. You only need one Godparent. It does not matter if they are male or female. If you choose two Godparents, traditionally a male and female that meet the requirements for Godparents. There is no provision for more than two godparents.

**DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO WALSINGHAM – 25<sup>th</sup> MAY 2024:** Join Bishop Alan and other parishes around the Diocese of Brentwood in Walsingham. We will celebrate Mass at the Basilica before walking the Holy Mile to the grounds of Walsingham Abbey to celebrate Vespers and Benediction on the site of the Holy House. If you would like to come, and wish to reserve a seat on the coach – please add your name to the Coach Seat Reservation list, which can be found on a clipboard in the Church Porch. A 53-seat coach will be picking up from East Hill near the corner of Priory Street at 07:45 for 8:00am departure, with tickets at £17.00 per person, payable on the coach for those who have reserved seats. Please bring a packed lunch, as the cafeteria at Walsingham will be very busy. Approx. 10 seats remaining on coach.

**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.

**CANON BRIAN O'SHEA GOLDEN JUBILEE:** On Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> May 2024 at 1.30pm, at St Thomas of Canterbury, Grays - Canon Brian O'Shea will celebrate his Golden Jubilee of ordination. All are welcome to attend the service and reception; If attending, please email [N.Chinnon@sky.com](mailto:N.Chinnon@sky.com) for the purpose of numbers and catering.

**'BISHOP ALAN LISTENS' RESEARCH REPORT.** To see the responses of hundreds of Catholics across our diocese and hear what Bishop Alan heard. <https://www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/news/results-of-bishop-alan-listens-research-report/>



**SVP CUPPA CLUB:** We meet **every Thursday from 10.00am to 11.30am** in the Hall. This is an opportunity to relax and catch up with others from the local community. Why not Pop in or stay for the whole session and enjoy a warm space with a cuppa, biscuits, a chat, companionship, newspapers, puzzles, games & crafts, etc., all available. We are always pleased to see a new face and offer a warm welcome to newcomers!

**RIGHT TO LIFE: ACT NOW TO STOP DIY ABORTION UP TO BIRTH: Ask your MP to support the abortion time limit reduction amendment and oppose abortion up to birth** Join the Catholic Bishops in supporting an amendment to reduce our abortion time limit from 24 weeks to 22 weeks, and opposing an amendment that would introduce abortion up to birth. These amendments may be voted on in the next few weeks.

**Take action:** Collect a postcard today from the back of the church and post it to your MP in support of the 22-week amendment. To oppose the abortion up to birth amendment, email your MP via this link: [/www.righttolife.org.uk/johnsonabortionamendment](http://www.righttolife.org.uk/johnsonabortionamendment)

**YOUTH 2000 LONDON RETREAT DAY: Come and See.** Youth 2000 are running a retreat day for young adults (16-35) on 11<sup>th</sup> May at Sacred Heart Parish in Wimbledon. It is jam-packed one day event, where people come together as a community of young adults in prayer and friendship. The retreat is an invitation to come as you are, and to come and see who Jesus is and what He can do in your life. The cost £25 and more information can be found at: <https://www.youth2000.org/events/london2024>

**HEALING DAY RETREAT:** with healing service at Clare Priory, Ashen Rd, Clare CO10 8NX. Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> April. Led by Fr Gladson Dabre OSA & Fr Luke Goymour. Mass, talks, praise and worship, Reconciliation, Adoration, prayer ministry and healing service. Starts 11.30am / Finish 8.00pm. Bring your own food. Drinks provided. Donations on the day. Please phone Clare Priory to book: 01787 277732. For more information visit: [www.transformministries.uk](http://www.transformministries.uk)

**THE NEXT MARANATHA MASS** celebrated by Fr. Paschal Uche, followed by Prayer and Praise, will be held at Sion Community, Sawyers Hall Lane, Brentwood, CM15 9BX on Thursday, 18<sup>th</sup> April at 7pm. All welcome.

**DIocese VACANCIES:** There are a range of vacancies for staff in our parish schools across the diocese. Please find further information by following this link <https://www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/departments/education/vacancies/school-vacancies/>

**CARITAS:** Interested in the Catholic response to homelessness, welcoming refugees and migrants, assisting with the Cost of Living Crisis, or tackling the causes and effects of climate change? You are invited to the 2024 Caritas Brentwood Networking Day, Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> April, 10am – 2.30pm, at the St Edward the Confessor Church Hall, Romford (10-minute walk from Romford Station on the Elizabeth line, Bus routes from London are regular, parking is available but limited and a bike rack is also on site). This day is a chance to be sustained, share ideas and good practices with people from parishes across Essex and East London and hear about charities and resources available. Details and Registration (for free!) at [www.caritasbrentwood.org/network](http://www.caritasbrentwood.org/network)

**CHURCH CLEANING TEAM:** Monday 15/04/24: **Team 2** / Monday 22/04/24: **Team 3**  
**COFFEE MORNING:** 14/04/24: African Community / 21/04/24: Diane & Adrian