

SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME [A]

Saturday 14th January	6:15 pm	Peter Mowbray RIP
Sunday 15th January	8:00 am	Albert and Louisa D'Souza RIP
	10:30 am	George Dimech RIP & Maria Pisani RIP
	4:00 pm	Polish Mass
	6:30 pm	Norah Hewitt RIP
<i>West Mersea</i>	8:30 am	Eric Brennan
<i>Mile End</i>	9:15 am	Douglas and David Finch RIP
<i>Monkwick</i>	10:15 am	Michael Hawken RIP

Monday 16th **Feria**
Church **9:15 am** Intentions Fr Tom Coffey

Tuesday 17th **St Anthony, Ab**
Church **9:15 am** Bridget Lloyd RIP

Wednesday 18th **Feria**
Church **12:15 pm** In Thanksgiving [LS]

Thursday 19th **Feria**
Church **9:15 am** Ronald Jay RIP
Church **6:00 pm** Reception of Coffin

Friday 20th **Feria**
Church **9:15 am** John and Julie O'Connor RIP
Church **10:00 am** **REQUIEM – David Hill RIP**
Church **2:00 pm** **REQUIEM – Ronald Jay RIP**

Saturday 21st **St Agnes, V.M.**
Church **9:15 am** Mrs Madge Power RIP
Church **2:00 pm** **Polish Wedding**

THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME [A]

Saturday 21st January	6:15 pm	Ron Wheeler RIP
Sunday January 22nd	8:00 am	Holy Souls RIP
	10:30 am	Jim O'Hare RIP
	2:00 pm	Polish Mass
	6:30 pm	Seamus Power RIP
<i>West Mersea</i>	8:30 am	Joan Donnelly
<i>Mile End</i>	9:15 am	Parishioners
<i>Monkwick</i>	10:15 am	Bert Hewitt RIP

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: Saturday 9:45-10:30am; 5:30-6pm
SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE: At least six months notice is required

ST. JAMES THE LESS AND ST. HELEN

CATHOLIC CHURCH, COLCHESTER

WITH MERSEA, MILE END AND MONKWICK



Canon Anthony McKentey
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May I invite you this week to reflect on the baptism of Jesus as we are about to enter already into the Ordinary time of our liturgical season.

Brothers and sisters, the baptism of Jesus in the Jordan river by John was a prelude to the most awaited beginning of his public ministry. He took upon himself this gesture of cleansing to show us his unconditional solidarity with us sinners. And this is the greatest novelty of our reflection last Monday during the feast of Baptism of Jesus. Accordingly, that even though Jesus did not sin, still he deigned to undergo the baptism of repentance through John the Baptist. God being baptized by a creature?! What a humility! But instead of himself being cleansed, he rather sanctified the water of Jordan. And with this sublime gesture of self-abasement, brothers and sisters, we see that he did not underscore his being God and his divine origin, but rather he showed his being one with us who have sinned much and who are guilty of many things and demonstrates our helplessness without God's forgiveness.

Having this before us, I guess we could say now that Jesus' baptism is thus no mere ritual or show-of, but rather it is a "prolepsis", meaning a flash forward of what this man would become when he will enter into the paschal mystery....into his passion, death and resurrection. Our baptism, therefore, is related to this calling whereby we need to die to ourselves in order to win our victory over sin.

Thus, Jesus became the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world in order to save us out of love for us.

Let us thank Jesus everyday of our lives, for without his self-sacrificing love, we for sure are not able to receive the graces needed for our salvation.

Lastly, let us recall the formula of our baptism which simply means, "I am God's":

I baptize you (name of the person to be baptized) in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Fr Alex, rcj

Please see Mass Schedule for ANY changes

SUNDAYS: Divine Mercy and Rosary Following 8am Mass
DAILY: Morning Prayer 8:15am; Rosary/Divine Mercy 8:35am
MEDITATION GROUP: Tuesdays – Crypt 8:00 pm
FILMS FOR FAITH: Please see below

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK: Please remember in your prayers; Percy Abrahams, Lorraine Atkin, Pat Banks, Frank Campbell, Nicollas and Adam Campbell-Vencarto, Olive Crawford, Vicky Culham, Margaret Doorish, Margaret Griffin, Jim Harvey, John Harvey, Jan Holden, Julie Jefferies, Pat Keene, Marie Kent, Patrick King, Kay Knight, John Lawlor, Peter Ledgley, Nathanael Lee, Joanne Leon, Doreen Lowe, Marie Lyons, Canon Anthony McKentey, Jean Mansell, Mary-Ann Martin, Cara Maude, David Merryman, Byron Miller, Amadine Morgan, Margaret Norman, Charles Norman, Anne Renwick, Leah Patterson, Ronald Quijano, Stephen Rhatigan, Chris Sands, Margaret Scammell, Maureen Sheeran, Fiona Stephenson, Patricia Urquhart, Filomena Velasquez, Mary Wallace, Patricia Wiltshire, Tony White,

100 CLUB: The December Draw winners are: 1st - Tom McElroy; 2nd – Millie Kemple; 3rd – Jonathon Livesley. Congratulations! 2017 Recruitment to the 100 Club starts this weekend. It's a great way of financially supporting our Parish, coupled with a chance to win cash prizes!

BIBLE STUDY SESSIONS RECOMMENCE: This Wednesday, January 18th, in the Crypt, 10am to 12 noon. The topic is the Gospel according to St Matthew [the Evangelist of the current year used on all Sundays until the beginning of Advent].

RECENTLY DECEASED: Please pray for the repose of the soul of Roy Foley who has recently died. May he rest in peace and we pray for the comfort of his bereaved family. The funerals of David Hill and Ronald Jay take place here on Friday, 20th.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PROGRAMME: Information Packs for the Parish Programme are available at the back of church – please collect a pack for each child. **The Programme is suitable for children in school year 3 and above.** The Programme starts with sessions for parents in the Crypt of St James the Less and St Helen on **Fridays 20th and 27th January** – both sessions must be attended. For further information please contact Hywel or Pam Edwards on 01206 867325.

FILMS FOR FAITH: Returns on Wednesday, 25th January, 1pm for a 1:15pm start in the Crypt. The film will be "Bernadette" 1. On the 8th February the

showing will be "Bernadette" 2 [the sequel] and on the 22nd February - "12 Ordinary Men". Refreshments are provided and all are most welcome.

MEETING THE "LIVING GOD" SEMINARS 2017: The first of three Seminars, to held at Cathedral House, Brentwood, is on the theme of "*The Unspoken genocide: Christian persecution in the twenty-first century*". The Speaker is Fr Martin Boland, Dean of Brentwood Cathedral, and takes place on Saturday 21st January 2017 – 10:30 to 12 noon. For info: jude@dioceseofbrentwood.org Tel: 01277 265285.

CHRISTMAS CRIB COLLECTION IN AID OF THE BRENTWOOD CATHOLIC CHILDREN'S SOCIETY : In accordance with new Diocesan policy, our Crib will remain in place until the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord [February 2nd] and these offerings will go to the Brentwood Catholic Children's Society.

NEXT BAPTISM COURSE FOR NEWBORNS UP TO AGE 6: Will take place on Friday **February 3rd**, and **Friday, February 10th** in the Crypt from 7:30pm to 9pm. There is no need to make an appointment, **but both sessions** must be attended. Entry to the Crypt is via the Church.,

MASS FOR THE SICK: Our Lady of Lourdes is both the patroness of our diocese and the sick. At 3 pm on Sunday 5 February, Bishop Alan will celebrate Mass in her honour at Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Wanstead. This is a diocesan celebration; all are invited. During the Mass, the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick will be given to those who are unwell.

DIOCESAN CENTENARY DATES FOR FEBRUARY: Please see above and. Saturday 11 February – (Feast of Our lady of Lourdes, Principal Patron of the Diocese): Inauguration of Centenary Celebrations with Day of Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament in every parish church; Inauguration of Schools' Competition

BCCS: is looking for a new Director. This charity achieves so much for children and young people and their families across the Brentwood Diocese and the right person will find the role of leading bccs to be most rewarding. This Catholic Charity is based on strong foundations of Catholic Social Teaching that enable us to help children of all faiths and none. If you would like to be considered as the next Director of bccs please ask the current Director for an Application Pack by emailing Steven at swebb@bccs.org.uk Closing date for applications is Friday 3rd February (noon).

BCCS: Quiz Night at Brentwood Ursuline Convent High School – 25th February. 7pm. Teams of 8, cost £7.50 p.p. Must be pre-booked. All proceeds to BCCS. Further info: jabbott@bccs.org.uk 01268 784544 07912 277413.

DIOCESAN DIRECTORIES: There are still some available in the porch, price £2:75. Ringbound £4.

CARDINAL BOURNE HALL BOOKINGS: cb.hall@btinternet.com 07758 805263
CHURCH CLEANERS' ROTA: TBA