

THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY (B)

HOLIDAY OF OBLIGATION

Saturday 14th	Church	6.15 pm	Dorothy Hawkins RIP
Sunday 15th	Church	8.00 am	Ints. Jim Lynas
	Church	10.30 am	Private intention
	Church	2.00 pm	Polish Mass
	Church	6.30 pm	People of the Parish
	West Mersea	8.30 am	Private intention
	Mile End	9.15 am	Kathleen & Victor Payne RIP
	Monkwick	10.15 am	Ints. Mary Davies
Monday 16th			Feria
	Church	9.30 am	Frederick, Elizabeth + Angelo Lucas
Tuesday 17th			Feria
	Church	9.30 am	K. M. John RIP
Wednesday 18th			St Helena, Widow (Patroness of Colchester)
	Church	12.15 pm	Ints: P. Rook + Family
Thursday 19th			Feria
	Church	9.30 am	Special Intention (MD)
Friday 20th			St Bernard, Ab, D
	Church	9.30 am	Patrick, Miriam + Baby Doris Murray RIP
Saturday 21st			St Pius X, P
	Church	9.30 am	Thanksgiving
TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (B)			
Saturday 21st	Church	6.15 pm	Baby George Thompson + Family
Sunday 22nd	Church	8.00 am	Ezinne Eunice Urewuchi Ibawuchi
	Church	10.30 am	Ints: The Gillen Family
	Church	2.00 pm	Polish Mass
	Church	6.30 pm	Ints: Tony Grant
	West Mersea	8.30 am	Jan Holden RIP
	Mile End	9.15 am	Parishioners
	Monkwick	10.15 am	Private Intention

- ❖ 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: The Live Streaming of Masses is currently suspended

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!

ST. JAMES THE LESS AND ST. HELEN

CATHOLIC CHURCH, COLCHESTER

WITH MERSEA, MILE END AND MONKWICK

1 PARISH, 4 CHURCHES, 1 COMMUNITY



St James the Less & St Helen

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



THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY (B)

Week commencing 15th August 2021

Medical understanding and therefore treatment has been, for much of human history, best described as basic. Recent centuries have seen enormous advances in both areas, such that health in many places has improved substantially and as a consequence life expectancy has increased dramatically. It is also true that much of the new understanding is based on a materialistic view of a human person, though the significance of the psyche is recognised as well. Today's feast throws a different light on being human as body and soul. Ultimately it is the health of the soul which will decide our bodily state. Mary was, and is, sinless, her soul pure; as a consequence, at the end of her earthly life her body did not experience corruption but was assumed into heaven. We all look forward to the resurrection when our bodies will be glorified as a result of our spiritual state (if we are in a state of grace). A risen and glorified body is immortal and cannot suffer physical pain. Many of our contemporaries put health as their top priority, meaning physical health, so that they can enjoy what they call life. We are called to prioritise our spiritual health and our real life.

Fr. Chris

PLEASE SEE MASS SCHEDULE FOR ALL CHANGES

DAILY	Morning Prayer at 9.15 _{am}	All Temporarily suspended
DAILY	Rosary/Divine Mercy	
	Rosary/Divine Mercy	
2 nd SUNDAY MONTHLY	Eucharistic Adoration	
CHRISTIAN MEDITATION	Tuesdays in Crypt (8.00 _{pm})	

**THE POPE'S INTENTIONS FOR AUGUST: The Church**

Let us pray for the Church, that she may receive from the Holy Spirit the grace and strength to reform herself in the light of the Gospel.

Dear Parishioners and Friends,

Relaxation of Covid restrictions: There will no longer be restrictions on group sizes for attending communal worship. Our collective challenge, as restrictions are lifting, is to make sure we all continue to keep ourselves and others as safe as possible. Please note the following changes that will be implemented:-

- ◆ There will be an expectation that face coverings are worn in the Church, as per the advice of the Government (*unless, of course, a person is exempt from doing so*).
- ◆ As Social distancing rules have changed there will no longer be Church Stewards at Mass guiding people to their seats, this means that people now have the option of choosing where they wish to sit.
- ◆ We will retain a section of the church roped off for those who wish to maintain the 2-metre social distancing.
- ◆ Weekday Masses have returned to their normal time of 9.30_{am} with Morning Prayer at 9.15_{am}.
- ◆ Entrance to Church will be via the main door (no one way system needed)
- ◆ The side door will remain open for ventilation and can be used for exiting if wished.
- ◆ Communion will remain under one kind.
- ◆ Sign of peace will remain not physical
- ◆ For the time being there will be no singing at Mass
- ◆ We will continue to supply hand sanitiser stations at entrance and side door.
- ◆ An Offertory Collection box will be situated at side door; the donation station in church porch is also useable
- ◆ There will be no restrictions on the number allowed to attend Funerals, Baptisms and Weddings

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.

MARRIAGE MATTERS: (Revelation 11: 19, 12: 1-6 10 1 Corinthians 15: 20-26 Luke: 39-56) ***If in need.*** We have good reason for believing that from her special place in heaven God continues to do great things through Mary. Her own experience of being a wife and mother has made her very aware of the joys, trials and sufferings of life for married couples. This means that whenever we need it we can ask her for help.

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, Jim Lynas. We pray for all persons who have contracted Covid-19 and their families.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION: The Certificates are ready for all children who celebrated their special day with Fr Chris and Fr Paschal this year. Collection is from the Presbytery.

CHURCH WELCOMERS: We would like to invite our "Church welcomers" to once again be an active presence at Mass. Please speak to Fr Chris if you are able to assist again. Thank you.

CHURCH CLEANERS: We would like to invite back all the teams for the church cleaning, as we will be restarting the Rota's shortly. **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:** Can you spare 1-2 hours per month to help clean the Church (dusting, vacuuming, polishing etc.) If you are able and willing, please contact the Presbytery. Thank you.

THE SVP WELCOME YOU TO A TEA PARTY ON SATURDAY 21st AUGUST 2.30-5.00_{pm}.

Book your tickets now, as numbers will be limited. All profits will go to the church and SVP to help families and individuals in need. Afternoon Tea to include sandwiches, scones, and cake with unlimited tea! Tickets can be preordered using our email: colchestersvp@gmail.com or leave a message on our mobile: 07493 439427. Some tickets available following weekend masses. Amazing raffle prizes! Tickets: Adults £5; Children under 12 £2.50; Family (x2 Adults + x2 Children) £12.00. We look forward to seeing you.

ANNUAL DIOCESAN MASS FOR ALTAR SERVERS AT WESTMINSTER CATHEDRAL:

Archconfraternity of St Stephen invites all Altar Servers to the annual Diocesan Mass for Altar Servers at Westminster Cathedral on **Saturday 2nd October 2021 at 2.30_{pm}**. Principal celebrant Rt. Rev. Nicholas Hudson, Auxiliary Bishop of Westminster. Servers from beyond the Westminster Diocese are welcome to this Mass if they can't attend the National Mass on 25th September in Wolverhampton. If MCs and Senior / Altar Servers would like to attend this event, please email johnmccormack528@gmail.com by **18th September 2021**. We will need to know how many Altar Servers (& families) will be attending from your Parish, so that accurate numbers can be established.

BCCS RELAY 100: Parishioner Mark Healy is taking part in the BCCS Relay 100, which is organised by Brentwood Catholic Children's Society; Mark plans to run 3 legs in total on the 15th & 22nd August. You can sponsor Mark via the link. [Virgin Money Giving | Relay 100](#)

MARCH FOR LIFE UK: the Annual March for Life UK event will take place on Sat. 4th September in Central London from Approximately 10_{am} – 4.30_{pm}. A coach will leave from Priory street/East Hill, Colchester at 8am stopping at London road, Colchester, Witham, Chelmsford and Brentwood. The cost will be £20 per person (babies go free). Less if we have a full coach. To ask about coach details or book a seat, please contact Justin Nathan at eph890@gmail.com or on 07540 050814. Please do not leave a voice message but I will respond to text or WhatsApp messages. We recently had the highest ever annual abortion figures in the UK (last year saw 210,860 abortions in England and Wales) as well as the introduction of home/DIY abortions. Let's do our part in turning the tide in our nation. More information is available at marchforlife.co.uk or form Isabel on 07773 501721/izzyvs@gmail.com

CYCLING FOR CHARITY ("Pedalling through the Pandemic"). Fr Dominic Howarth, a priest of the Diocese, has been cycling for many months, heading towards 5,000km – and he now has just 500km to go. He is raising money for the Brentwood Catholic Children's Society, Walsingham House, HCPT Easter Lourdes Group 709, and Help Refugees. For more info or to donate <https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/frdominic5000at50>, Thank you.

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.

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. 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