

THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY (A) HOLYDAY OF OBLIGATION

Saturday 15th	Church	6.15 pm	Barbara Rooney RIP
Sunday 16th	Church	8.00 am	Patrick + Mary English RIP
	Church	10:30 am	Parishioners
	Church	2.00 pm	Polish Mass
	Church	6.30 pm	Frederick, Elizabeth + Angelo Lucas
	West Mersea	8:30 am	Private Intention
	Monkwick	10:15 am	
Monday 17th			Feria
	Church	10.00 am	Reni's Birthday
Tuesday 18th			St Helena, Widow (Patroness of Colchester)
	Church	10.00 am	Mr. K. M. John RIP
Wednesday 19th			Feria
	Church	10.00 am	Ints: Beatrice, Percy & Mini Floyd
Thursday 20th			St Bernard, Ab, D
	Church	10.00 am	Frederick, Elizabeth & Angelo Lucas
Friday 21st			St Pius X, P
	Church	10.00 am	Marcelina (Sally) Widman RIP
Saturday 22nd			The Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary
	Church	10.00 am	Canon John Bloomfield

TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A)

Saturday 22nd	Church	6.15 pm	Honour of Christ's suffering
Sunday 23rd	Church	8.00 am	Daniel, Florence & Danny Farrell RIP
	Church	10:30 am	Thanksgiving
	Church	2.00 pm	Polish Mass
	Church	6.30 pm	Private Intention
	West Mersea	8:30 am	
	Monkwick	10:15 am	Catherine Hawken RIP

To reserve seat(s) at Weekend Masses, please right-click [HERE](#) and open the hyperlink, which will take you to the Booking Form for each Mass

(When you submit form - your requested seat(s) are then reserved - No confirmation text is sent).

Please Note: Facemasks/Coverings are now mandatory when attending Church.

It is important to reaffirm that, at present, the obligation to attend Sunday Mass remains suspended. (Sunday and Weekday Masses are of equal significance).

- ❖ For Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals, please contact our parish office.
- ❖ Visiting for the Sacrament of the Sick is possible, under certain circumstances.
- ❖ Mass Intentions. These can be posted through the presbytery letterbox and they will be published in the newsletter (available on the parish website).
- ❖ 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.

COLCHESTER GENERAL HOSPITAL: If you would like to arrange for a priest to visit a Catholic relative in hospital, please contact the presbytery direct on (01206) 866317, subject to hospital restrictions due to virus.

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. Nixon Gomes
 Assistant Priest: Fr. Philip Willenbrock
 Assistant Priest: Fr. Adrian Lowe

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 St James the Less and St Helen RC Church, Colchester

THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY (A)

WEEK COMMENCING 16TH AUGUST 2020 - PARISH MASS BOOK PAGE

At the end of her earthly life Mary was assumed, body and soul, into heaven. Catholics are often accused, wrongly, of denigrating the body. It is true that there is a tradition, going back to the earliest days of the church, of 'mortifying the flesh' and this is interpreted, wrongly, as hate for the body. The truth is that we have a genuine respect for the body, which is why we recognise the importance of achieving harmony, as far as possible, between body and soul. We might call to mind Pope St. John Paul II's teaching on the theology of the body, a series of weekly homilies turned into a book; well worth a read. We might also question the worldly view of the body, supposedly better and more correct than ours – strange that we see so much bodily abuse e.g. drugs, alcohol, sex, over-eating, lack of exercise etc.; and that curious expression, 'I can do what I like with my body', which reveals that people do think of their bodies as things to be manipulated. The Assumption shows God's respect for us as body and soul, let us do likewise.

Fr. Chris

PLEASE SEE MASS SCHEDULE FOR ALL CHANGES

DAILY	Morning Prayer	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})	

Dear Parishioners and Friends,
Covid-19 still presents many challenges to us all. It can seem at times overwhelming but 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 in order to promote a COVID 19 safe environment :-

- ◆ Weekend masses need to be booked in advance (before 7_{pm} the day before you wish to attend mass)
- ◆ Churches will open 20 minutes before start of Mass as it will take longer than normal to enter the church, please make allowances
- ◆ 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 mass)
- ◆ An Offertory Collection will be taken at each mass with 'collection bags' available on entry and exit; the donation station is also useable
- ◆ No touching of Statues or Images in Church
- ◆ Toilets will be closed except for genuine emergencies.

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.

THE HOLY FATHER'S INTENTIONS FOR AUGUST: *The Maritime World.* We pray for all those who work and live from the sea, among them sailors, fishermen and their families.

MARRIAGE MATTERS: (Apocalypse 11:19, 12:1-6, 10 1 Corinthians 15:20-26 Luke 1:39-56) ***We are exalted***

Today we celebrate that Jesus exalted his mother in special way. As married couples, we too can take heart from Mary. Although everything will be changed by the death of one of us, it is not the end! Nothing of our love for each other will be lost, but, as the Lord promised, will be made glorious in heaven.

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

REQUIRED CHURCH STEWARDS/CLEANERS: We are so grateful to all the volunteers who have come forward to help, as without your assistance it would not have been possible to reopen our Church. In order to continue with our services, we still require MORE volunteers (*under Government regulations the masses will not be able to continue without sufficient volunteers for each mass*). If you would like to put your name forward, please call the Presbytery Office for details. Our Parish relies on you. Thank you.

GIFT AID SUBSCRIBERS: Please can you collect your new box sets from the church porch

FR NIXON GOMES: There will be a leaving collection for Fr Nixon on the weekend of 29/30th August - If anyone wishes to contribute there will be a basket in Church. Alternatively, you can pop a card/envelope through Presbytery door (please mark front of envelope with Fr Nixon's leaving collection) Thank you.

ST HELENA (Patroness of Colchester) Feast day: Tuesday 18th August. Saint Helena is the patron of divorced people, empresses, difficult marriages, converts, and archaeologists. She played an important role in the history of early Christianity, as the mother of Constantine the Great and at the age of 80, she led a group to the Holy Land in search of the True Cross. They unearthed three crosses and had an afflicted woman touch all three. One of them immediately cured her and therefore they decided that that cross must be the True Cross. St. Helena then sent pieces of the cross to Rome and Constantinople. It is very fitting that Helena, the mother of a Roman Emperor who converted to Christianity, should be associated with Colchester, Britain's oldest town.

FR TOM JORDAN, RIP. After 31yrs as a priest of Brentwood Diocese, serving in Grays, Leigh on Sea, Basildon and Romford, Fr Tom sadly passed away on Wednesday 5th August. His funeral will take place at 11_{am} on Wednesday 19th August; however due to Covid-19 restrictions this is by invitation only. The funeral Mass will be livestreamed, and there is also the opportunity for people to come to the parish church of St Edward the Confessor, 5 Park End Road, Romford RM1 4AT between 6_{pm} and 9_{pm} on Tuesday 18th August, for prayer. On Wednesday 19th, everyone is warmly invited to line Park End Road as the cortege leaves the church at 12.30_{pm}. Full information, including the link to the Mass, is at www.stedwards-romford.org.uk

TO RESERVE A SEAT AT A WEEKEND MASS: This can be done via the following means: -

- Click on the Mass Bookings tab in the Newsletter
- Parish Website under the tab for Mass Times
- Clicking on the links on Facebook
- By phoning the presbytery office (*If you do not have access to the Internet*); when calling please advise how many seats you will require (*must be from same household*) and give your full name and contact number.

Please note that when you submit your completed form; your seat (s) are reserved. The system does not enable confirmations texts.

We will have stewards at every Mass and after the service the church will be cleaned to get it ready for the next Mass

MAKING A DONATION: If you wish to donate this can be done in various ways: -

- By dropping envelope through Presbytery door (please write on envelope Mass Offering)
- Donation baskets situated at entrance and exit of church
- Setting up a regular gift by Standing Order (please contact Presbytery office for form).
- The Donation Station (in Church porch)
- 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>

We realise that the current situation is affecting many people's income and they may not be able to continue their level of offerings. If this is the case, we fully understand, and our prayers are with you. **Everything that happens in our parish is only possible with your support.**
Thank you

SVP (St Vincent de Paul Society): If you, or anyone you know, would benefit from a call please contact, using the details below and we will respond. Tel: 07493 439427 or email: colchestersvp@gmail.com

CARDINAL BOURNE HALL: The hall is closed and all group activity suspended until further notice.
