

ST. JAMES THE LESS AND ST. HELEN

CATHOLIC CHURCH, COLCHESTER

WITH MERSEA, MILE END AND MONKWICK

1 PARISH, 4 CHURCHES, 1 COMMUNITY



Parish Priest:
Assistant Priest:
Assistant Priest:

Mgr. Christopher Brooks
Fr. Paschal Uche
Fr. Philip Willenbrock

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 St James the Less and St Helen RC Church, Colchester

SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (B)

PEACE DAY

Saturday 16 th	Church	6.15 pm	Holy Souls
Sunday 17 th	Church	8.00 am	David Anthony Hill RIP
Live Streamed	Church	9.15 am	Joseph O'Connor RIP
	Church	10.30 am	Jim Ruarty RIP
	Church	2.00 pm	Polish Mass
	Church	6.30 pm	Frederick, Elizabeth + Angelo Lucas
	West Mersea	8.30 am	Parishioners
Monkwick	10.15 am	Celestine Tighe RIP	
Monday 18 th			Feria
	Church	10.00 am	Ella Weston RIP
Tuesday 19 th			Feria
	Church	10.00 am	Anne Chapman RIP
Wednesday 20 th			St. Sebastian
	Church	10.00 am	Julie & John O'Connor RIP
Thursday 21 st			St. Agnes, V, M
	Church	10.00 am	Des Fuller RIP
Friday 22 nd			Feria
	Church	10.00 am	Dr. Paolo Doria RIP
Private Service	Church	12.30 pm	Funeral Service: Antonietta Foley RIP
Saturday 23 rd			Memorial of the Blessed Virgin Mary (BVM)
	Church	10.00 am	Norah Hewitt RIP

THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (B)

SUNDAY OF THE WORD OF GOD

Saturday 23 rd	Church	6.15 pm	Holy Souls
Sunday 24 th	Church	8.00 am	Holy Souls
	Church	9.15 am	Stephen Hilton RIP
	Church	10.30 am	Parishioners
	Church	2.00 pm	Polish Mass
	Church	6.30 pm	Stefan Gomes RIP
West Mersea	8.30 am	Frank Woollatt RIP	
Live Streamed	Monkwick	10.15 am	Mrs. Celestine Tighe RIP

FACE MASKS. 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 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 STREAMING OF SUNDAY MASS: (see Schedule for Live Stream Mass Time)

VIA  [St James the Less and St Helen RC Church, Colchester](https://www.facebook.com/stjamesthelessandstheleen)

 Please check out our Facebook page for all the latest Parish/Diocese/Vatican news/ Clergy photos/videos, Reflections from Fr Paschal. Please remember to like and follow our page.

SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (B)

Week Commencing 17th JANUARY 2021

So, there have been 80,000 deaths and counting from COVID! Statistics can sometimes turn people in to numbers. We become just one out of many, here today and gone tomorrow.

However, this Sunday's reading invites each of us to behold the lamb of God and in turn be held by the loving gaze of God, in whose eyes we are "unique and unrepeatable, thought of and chosen, and called from all eternity by our own names."

In today's readings, Samuel and Simon show us that to hear the call of God we must be attentive to the voice of God, which we can do by prayerfully reading God's word. Hearing God's call is first, an invitation to believe that we are precious. The Gospel says Jesus looked hard at Simon. It was a gaze full of intense personal love. Have you let yourself be held by Jesus and his loving gaze when prayerfully reading the scriptures? Secondly, the call invites us to see that each one of our lives is purposed. Following Samuel's calling, he is given a task to help bring order back to Eli's house. Similarly, the call on Simon's life results in Jesus giving him a new name; Peter and a new ministry; Pope! In a world of so many, we are both precious and purposed for greatness. Through a more concerted effort to hear God's call and study God's word, we can discover who we are and then embark afresh on the task to "become who we are."

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 JANUARY: HUMAN FRATERNITY. May the Lord give us the grace to live in full fellowship with our brothers and sisters of other religions, praying for one another, open to all.

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.

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 Elizabeth Pace, Hilda Morah, Nicollas and Adam Campbell-Vencarto, Valerie Thurston, Joan Jeal, Jimmy Clarin. We pray for all persons who have contracted Covid-19 and their families.

RECENTLY DECEASED: Please pray for the repose of the soul of Michael Norman who has recently passed away. May he rest in peace. We pray for the comfort of his bereaved family and friends. Michael's funeral will take place here on 3rd February at 2.00^{pm}. In accordance with government guidelines, this will be a private Mass. We need volunteer Stewards to cover this service, if you are able to assist, please contact the Presbytery 01206 866317. Thank you

PRESBYTERY: If calling at the Presbytery, social distancing is required and if entering premises masks are to be worn. Thank you

9.15 SUNDAY MASS: Please be advised that after Sunday 24th January, we will no longer hold a 9.15^{am} Mass. We will monitor the attendance levels and reinstate if needed. Thank you.

MERSEA NEWS: Mass Bookings will continue at Mersea in order to control numbers attending. Please use the following links for masses over the next 2 weekends (right click booking form and open hyperlink) alternatively, links for booking forms are on website under mass times: - Sunday 24th January [Mersea Booking Form](#) Sunday 31st January [Mersea Booking Form](#)

YEAR OF ST JOSEPH: Pope Francis has declared a special "Year of Saint Joseph" starting 8th December 2020 (Feast of the Immaculate Conception) and concluding on the same feast in 2021. This is to mark the 150th anniversary of Saint Joseph being declared Patron of the Universal Church. The Pope's apostolic letter entitled *Patris Corde (With a Father's Heart)* http://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/apost_letters/documents/papa-francesco-lettera-ap_20201208_patris-corde.html "Each of us can discover in Joseph –the man who goes unnoticed, a daily, discreet and hidden presence –an intercessor, a support and a guide in times of trouble." [Pope Francis]

DIOCESAN 2nd COLLECTION: There will be a 2nd collection for World Peace Day (Pax Christi) today. Pope Francis Message on World Peace Day 2021 is 'Culture of Care as a Path to Peace'. A collection basket will be situated at the exit of church if attending Mass in Church alternatively, an envelope can be posted through Presbytery letterbox (please mark envelope as World Peace Day donation). Please give what you can to enable Pax Christi to continue their vital work throughout the World. The next collection will be on 31st January for Racial Justice Sunday.

CHRISTMAS CRIB COLLECTION IN AID OF THE BRENTWOOD CATHOLIC CHILDREN'S SOCIETY: In accordance with Diocesan policy, our Crib will remain in place until the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord [February 2nd]. Thank you.

DIOCESAN DIRECTORIES: These are very useful as they contain the liturgical calendar for the church year and info about all parts of the Diocese incl. Diocesan contact details, parishes, schools, prayer groups and other organisations and societies. £2.80 per copy (money to go in "Repository" Box in church porch). In addition, 2021 Diaries reduced - ½- price!

ESSENTIAL LIVING FUND (ESSEX COUNTY COUNCIL): if you find yourself in need of help this winter, the Essential Living Fund provides emergency help with utility bills, food & water and essential household items. (Fridge/Cooker/Table etc..) You must live in Essex and be aged over 16yrs. To apply visit www.southend.gov.uk/elforessex or if you are vulnerable or have no access to the internet call 0300 7900124 (between 8.45^{am}-5.00^{pm}).

SVP (St Vincent de Paul Society): SVP: SVP news: We are concerned that this new lockdown will cause greater hardship for families suffering from loss of income or loneliness. If you or anyone you know needs some extra help over the coming weeks please let us know using these contact details. Tel: 07493 439427 or email: colchestersvp@gmail.com

THE CATHOLIC UNIVERSE: We have received a complimentary digital copy of the paper (free to read) <https://www.thecatholicuniverse.com/DE/JNI210108nj.pdf>

PARISH FINANCES: Many thanks to those who regularly donate and to those who are keeping up with their Gift Aid payments. 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