

**SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER (A)**Sunday 17<sup>th</sup>

Church 10.00 am

**Monday 18<sup>th</sup>**

Church 8.15 am

**Feria**

Ints: Giovanni Bonfanti

**Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup>**

Church 8.15 am

**Feria**

Fausto Mandonico RIP

**Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup>**

Church 8.15 am

**Feria**

Bridget &amp; Michael Brady RIP

**Thursday 21<sup>st</sup>**

Church 8.15 am

**HOLIDAY OF OBLIGATION****THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD**

John Patrick O'Sullivan RIP

**Friday 22<sup>nd</sup>**

Church 8.15 am

**St Rita of Cascia**

Luigi Ferpozzi RIP

**Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup>**

Church 8.15 am

**Feria**

Coleen Thurlow RIP

**SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER (A)**

(World Communications Day)

**Sunday 24<sup>th</sup>**

Church 10.00 am

Fr John Duckett RIP

**Please pray for any parishioners who are suffering from the virus or self-isolating.**

**LIVE STREAMING OF MASSES:** The following link is to a website that has live streaming of church services in the UK <https://www.churchservices.tv/>

**BRENTWOOD PASTORAL DEAF SERVICE:** The only signed Mass streamed online is from the Diocese of Westminster: <https://www.churchservices.tv/pottersbar> or from the Church's own website look for the Live Streaming link near the end of the page <https://olasv.org.uk/>

**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION** (confession): By appointment – please contact us

**SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE:** At least six months' notice is required

**BAPTISM COURSE:** Contact the parish office

**THE HOLY FATHER'S INTENTIONS FOR MAY:** For **Deacons**. We pray that deacons, faithful in their service to the Word and the poor, may be an invigorating symbol for the entire Church.

**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:  
Assistant Priest:  
Assistant Priest:

Mgr. Christopher Brooks  
Fr. Nixon Gomes  
Fr. Philip Willenbrock

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**Website:** [www.stjamesthelessandstheleen.org](http://www.stjamesthelessandstheleen.org)

## SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER (A)

WEEK COMMENCING: 17<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2020 - PARISH MASS BOOK PAGE

The present situation due to the spread of Sars-Cov-2 is resulting in some curious outcomes. Before the virus, a problem for many people was loneliness, especially for older people. Others would be 'too busy' to make time for visits for instance. I agree there were many exceptions to my claim, nevertheless it was sadly true too often. We now have 'social distancing' and lockdown, which seems to have resulted in a renewed concern for others, particularly those living alone (people also find themselves with time on their hands, it's true). Human relationships, for many, have become more central to their lives. Long may this continue. Today's Gospel is a reminder that we are created for relationship, in the first place with God but inextricably linked to simple, day-to-day contacts with other human beings. This week we shall celebrate the Ascension, Jesus enters heaven on our behalf to complete the healing of our relationship with God, and he sends the Holy Spirit into the Church as the foretaste of the eternal communion of saints. Let us be comforted by the Spirit, the Consoler.

Fr. Chris

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**PLEASE SEE MASS SCHEDULE FOR ALL CHANGES**

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DAILY	Morning Prayer	<b>temporarily suspended</b>
DAILY	Rosary/Divine Mercy	
SUNDAYS:	Rosary/Divine Mercy	
2 <sup>nd</sup> SUNDAY MONTHLY	Eucharistic Adoration	
CHRISTIAN MEDITATION	Tuesdays in Crypt (8.00 <sub>pm</sub> )	

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**MARRIAGE MATTERS: *Listen to Jesus within ourselves and within our partner***

Jesus is in me and in you! In marriage we are especially called to honour that presence in our spouse every day. There may be times when we hurt each other or take each other for granted, leading to feelings of jealousy and resentment, often to arguments. At times like this the call is for forgiveness, for healing, for affirmation.

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While our churches remain closed the Bishops are working with others to draw up guidelines as to how Mass might be celebrated with various social-distancing and hygiene practices in place. Fr. Nixon/ I continue to offer Mass each day at 8.15<sub>am</sub> (Monday – Saturday) and 10.00<sub>am</sub> on Sunday, with the intentions published in the newsletter.

On a practical note, Mass intentions can be posted/popped through the letterbox of 51, Priory Street and will be published in the newsletter which will be available on the parish website.

For Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals, please contact our parish office.

Visiting for the Sacrament of the Sick is possible, under certain circumstances. Please note also the guidance issued by Rome and published on our website re indulgences.

The parish continues to incur expenses. Several parishioners have made their weekly offering, sometimes in an envelope hand-delivered, others have posted cheques. Thank you.

Parishioners may wish to set up a standing order, our parish office can help.

Please see our website for details of the Indulgence available to parishioners for joining in prayerfully while we are celebrating in church.

The Catholic Bishops' website has some good links, <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/>

We have been helping with funerals for neighboring parishes where the PP is prevented from doing so. Please pray for Laurence Connolly and Philip Hackett. In our own parish.

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**EXPOSITION:** Please note that this will take place daily from 7<sub>pm</sub> to 8<sub>pm</sub>, we will be praying for parishioners and their intentions.

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

**RECENTLY DECEASED:** Please pray for the repose of the souls of Elisabetta Caracci, Pauline ("Paddy") Helen Phillips and Joy Kathleen Murray who have recently passed away. May they rest in peace. We pray for the comfort of their respective bereaved family and friends.

**SVP** Since the coronavirus lockdown we have seen the importance of a friendly neighbour. if you, or someone you know, would benefit from a "good neighbour" either now or when this crisis is over, please contact us using the details below. We are here to help with anything from practical assistance to just a friendly chat.

**ACTS AT EASTER IN LOCKDOWN:** Lockdown may provide us with opportunities to dedicate more time to the reading of Scripture, celebrating our own Liturgy of the Word. Throughout the Easter season we read from the Acts of the Apostles, seeing how the Easter gospel is preached in Jerusalem, Judaea, Samaria and to the ends of the earth. Fr Adrian Graffy has recorded a talk on the opening eight chapters of Acts, which is now available on [www.whatgoodnews.org/faith-talks](http://www.whatgoodnews.org/faith-talks).

**VOCATIONS:** Usually on Good Shepherd Sunday the seminarians travel to parishes to speak about vocations. This year three of them, Michael Barwick, Jonathan Burden and Deacon Paschal Uche have recorded video messages in place of this. You can watch them with the following link: <https://bit.ly/3aGVQp9> (leads to YouTube playlist). We continue to have evenings for those who would like to enquire about a vocation to the priesthood. At the moment these are being held online. Please get in touch with Fr Mark Swires at [voccprom@dioceseofbrentwood.org](mailto:voccprom@dioceseofbrentwood.org) for more info.

**VIRTUAL DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO WALSINGHAM:** Our annual Diocesan Pilgrimage to Walsingham was due to take place on Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> May but had to be cancelled due to the closure of places of worship as a result of Covid-19. However, thanks to the Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham's 24 hour livestream service we can still have a virtual pilgrimage by joining the services being livestreamed via the Shrine's website [www.walsingham.org.uk](http://www.walsingham.org.uk) on Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> May from 11<sub>am</sub>.

**CAFOD:** launched its coronavirus emergency appeal on 30<sup>th</sup> April. The effects of coronavirus on developing countries where CAFOD works are likely to be devastating. Families without enough to eat and without access to clean water and healthcare are particularly vulnerable to coronavirus. The poorest and most marginalised communities will be pushed further into poverty. Your prayers and gifts are needed now more than ever, you can donate as individuals at [cafod.org.uk/coronavirusappeal](http://cafod.org.uk/coronavirusappeal) .

**SELF-ISOLATING:** 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.

**SUPPORTING MARRIED COUPLES:** If you are experiencing difficulties in your marriage, whether due to the additional stresses cause by the coronavirus crisis or other reasons, help is available. Marriage Care is currently offering remote counselling, or you might find the Smart Loving Breakthrough course helpful. Visit [marriagecare.org.uk](http://marriagecare.org.uk) or [smartloving.org/breakthrough](http://smartloving.org/breakthrough). Please don't leave it too late to get help.

**BCCS:** The particular emotional and mental health needs of children should not be overlooked, and **Brentwood Catholic Children's Society** continues to provide vital support in these areas. Information on the current arrangements can be found at <https://www.bccs.org.uk/who-we-are/coronavirus-update>

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- > **SVP (St Vincent de Paul Society):** Tel: 07493 439427 or email: [colchestersvp@gmail.com](mailto:colchestersvp@gmail.com)
  - > **CARDINAL BOURNE HALL BOOKINGS:** email: [cb.hall@btinternet.com](mailto:cb.hall@btinternet.com)  
or Tel: 07758 805263 [*answerphone only* – please leave a message with name + contact number.
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