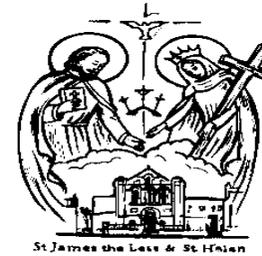


ST. JAMES THE LESS AND ST. HELEN

CATHOLIC CHURCH, COLCHESTER

WITH MERSEA, MILE END AND MONKWICK

1 PARISH, 4 CHURCHES, 1 COMMUNITY



Parish Priest: Mgr. Christopher Brooks
 Assistant Priest: Fr. Paschal Uche
 Assistant Priest: Fr. Philip Willenbrock

Address: 51 Priory Street, Colchester, Essex, CO1 2QB
 Tel: 01206 866317
 E-Mail: colchester@dioceseofbrentwood.org
 Website: www.stjamesthelessandstheleen.org
 St James the Less and St Helen RC Church, Colchester

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (B)

Saturday 17th	Live Stream Church	6.15 pm	Beatrice Floyd RIP
Sunday 18th	Church	8.00 am	Ints: Mrs. S. Jacobs
	Church	10.30 am	Our recently deceased
	Church	2.00 pm	Polish Mass
	Church	6.30 pm	Stan + Winifred Doble
	West Mersea	8.30 am	Private Intention
	Monkwick	10.15 am	Olive Hewitt RIP
Monday 19th			Feria
	Church	10.00 am	Canon Thomas Clarke
Tuesday 20th			Feria
	Church	10.00 am	Anthony Southon RIP
Wednesday 21st			Feria
	Church	10.00 am	Canon T. W. Clarke + Fam
Thursday 22nd			ST MARY MAGDALENE
	Church	10.00 am	Mr. K. T. George RIP
Friday 23rd			ST BRIDGET OF SWEDEN
	Church	10.00 am	Danny Farrell RIP
Saturday 24th			Memorial of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Live Stream	Church	10.00 am	Private Intention (M.T)

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (B)

Saturday 24th	Church	6.15 pm	Kathy Doyle RIP
Sunday 25th	Church	8.00 am	Canon John Bloomfield
	Church	10.30 am	Parishioners
	Church	2.00 pm	Polish Mass
	Church	6.30 pm	Geoffrey Barry New RIP
	West Mersea	8.30 am	Private Intention
	Monkwick	10.15 am	Robert Bradshaw 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 email or contact our parish office.
- ❖ Visiting for the Sacrament of the Sick is possible, under certain circumstances.
- ❖ Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) Saturdays after 10_{am} Mass and 5.30_{pm}-6.00_{pm}
- ❖ 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: Please note that the daily Masses will not be live streamed this week.
 (please see Schedule for Sunday Live Stream Mass Time)

[St James the Less and St Helen RC Church, Colchester](#)

Please check out our Facebook page for Live Stream Masses and all the latest Parish/Diocese/Vatican news, Clergy/Church photos/videos. Please remember to [like](#) & [follow](#) our page!

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (B)

Week Commencing 18th July 2021

We could focus on sheep this Sunday, for obvious reasons, but I would like to consider not the sheep as such but what happens to them. The inspired message seems to be one of gathering together, the sheep have been scattered and God will bring them back into a flock, a community. Two words come to mind, symbolic and diabolic. The second part of each word, common to both, is rooted in the Greek verb, to throw. Sym means together and dia means apart, so the two words could be expressed as, to throw together (symbolic) and to throw apart (diabolic). Sometimes symbols are confused with signs, they are different. The Sacraments are symbolic actions, they throw us together, unite us, gather us in. The Sacrament par excellence is the Eucharist, it culminates in Communion. There has been much separation during the last months, we could do with coming together. We could also remember that the fullness of time will see the Communion of Saints, one flock for eternity.

Fr. Chris

PLEASE SEE MASS SCHEDULE FOR ALL CHANGES

DAILY	Morning Prayer at 9.45 _{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 JULY: Social Friendship

We pray that, in social, economic and political situations of conflict, we may be courageous and passionate architects of dialogue and friendship.

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. As you know The Bishops' Conference liaises with the government regarding guidelines/requirements for churches and has done so throughout the pandemic. The latest guidance, which touches on so many areas, has only just arrived. Some things may change in the coming weeks: 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 will return to their normal time of 9.30_{am} from 26th July 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 exit.
- ◆ An Offertory Collection box will be situated at side door; the donation station 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: (Jeremiah 23:1-6 Ephesians 2:13-18 Mark 6:30-34) ***Walking alongside or away?*** Jesus, the Good Shepherd, experienced rejection: many "*walked with him no longer*". This offers us some consolation, when despite doing our best to pass on our faith in Jesus and His Church to our children, we, their 'shepherds', experience them drifting away from the faith. God loves our children unconditionally, and we need to continually 'hold them' in our love

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

PARISH BBQ: We will be hosting the annual **Parish BBQ on Sunday 25th July** after the **10.30_{am} Mass until 4_{pm}**. This is a chance to catch up with friends old and new whilst enjoying delicious food hot off the grill! There will be a Raffle, Entertainment from Parish groups and the chance to find out about the various Ministry roles with the opportunity to join if interested. We would be happy to accept donations for Raffle prizes and will need volunteers on the day to help set up and manage the event. Please contact Frances on 369568 if you are able to assist on the day. Everyone welcome!

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION: The Certificates are ready all those children who celebrated their special day with Fr Chris (i.e. those who made their First Holy Communion on 8th May + 5th June 2021). Collection is from the Presbytery.

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 07/08/21 (leg 79) starts at St Joseph's then onto St James the less, St John Payne, University of Essex Chapel and finally St Monica's Wivenhoe (8 miles). On 15/08/21 he is running (leg 76) from Our Lady of Heaven, Harwich to St Mary & St. Michael, Mistley and finally on 22/08/21 (leg 75) from Sacred Heart and St Francis, Frinton to Our Lady Queen of heaven, Harwich (13.2miles). Congratulations to Bishop Alan has already completed the first leg of the Relay. Please lend your support and encouragement to Mark as he takes on this challenge.

You can sponsor Mark via the link. <https://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/fundraiser-display/showROFundraiserPage?userUrl=Relay100&isTeam=true>

BCYS: "LOURDES AT YOUR LOCAL": Colchester Deanery, Tuesday 27th July. We would like to invite all Parishes in the Deanery to join the Brentwood Catholic Youth Service on Tuesday 27th July at 11_{am}, for a "*Lourdes at your Local*" Mass at Our Lady of Light, Clacton-on-Sea. Mass will be presided by Bishop Alan, with Anointing of the Sick. This is one of 5 Masses for the week around the Diocese, and each Mass will be recorded and streamed online at 5_{pm} for anyone not able to attend during the day. **All ages are welcome to celebrate Mass and enjoy our virtual events.** Further details and a full itinerary are available on our website www.bcys.net/events

WORLD DAY FOR GRANDPARENTS AND THE ELDERLY 2021: This falls on Sunday 25th July. Pope Francis has given it the theme: "I am with you always" from the Gospel of Matthew [28.30]. The Holy Father reminds us that we should cherish the elderly and recognize that there is no retirement age from the work of proclaiming the Gospel and handing down traditions to grandchildren. Please remember all grandparents in your prayers.

THE GOSPEL OF MARK: On most Sundays of 2021, we shall be reading from the Gospel according to Mark. In 2 new video presentations Fr Adrian Graffy, parish priest and member of the Pontifical Biblical Commission, demonstrates the skill with which Mark put his gospel together, and how Mark's material was used by later evangelists. The talks are accessible free of charge from the home page of www.whatgoodnews.org and also on the page entitled 'Faith Talks'.

MEMORIAL MASS – Fr Tom Jordan, RIP. Marking one year since Fr Tom's death, Mass will be offered at St Edward the Confessor, Romford, on Thursday 5th August, at 6.30_{pm}. Everyone is very welcome.

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