

SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (C) PEACE DAY

Saturday 18th	<i>Monkwick</i>	5.00 pm	Private Intention (M)
Sunday 19th	<i>Church</i>	8.00 am	Ints: Penny Quine
	<i>Church</i>	10.30 am	Frederick, Elizabeth + Angelo Lucas
	<i>Church</i>	2.00 pm	Polish Mass
	<i>Church</i>	6.30 pm	Fr Olindo Cramaro RIP
	<i>West Mersea</i>	8.30 am	Private Intention
	<i>Mile End</i>	9.30 am	Parishioners

Monday 20th			Feria
	<i>Church</i>	9.30 am	Francis Edward Harrison RIP

Tuesday 21st			St Agnes, v m
	<i>Church</i>	9.30 am	Tom McElroy RIP
†	<i>Church</i>	11.00 am	Funeral Mass: Elizabeth Rose Pace RIP

Wednesday 22nd			Feria
	<i>Church</i>	9.30 am	Frederick, Elizabeth + Angelo Lucas

Thursday 23rd			Feria
	<i>Church</i>	9.30 am	Canon John Bloomfield
†	<i>Church</i>	5.00 pm	Reception into Church: Luke Joseph Brennan RIP

Friday 24th			St Frances de Sales Bp, D
	<i>Church</i>	9.30 am	Private Intention (QU)
†	<i>Church</i>	11.00 am	Funeral Mass: Luke Joseph Brennan RIP

Saturday 25th			THE CONVERSION OF ST PAUL, Ap
	<i>Church</i>	9.30 am	Ints: Peter Dylewski + Family

THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (C) Sunday of the Word of God

Saturday 25th	<i>Monkwick</i>	5.00 pm	Private Intention (M)
Sunday 26th	<i>Church</i>	8.00 am	Parishioners
	<i>Church</i>	10.30 am	Anniversary Mike Taylor RIP
	<i>Church</i>	2.00 pm	Polish Mass
	<i>Church</i>	6.30 pm	Fr David Barnes RIP
	<i>West Mersea</i>	8.30 am	Private Intention
	<i>Mile End</i>	9.30 am	John McFadden RIP

- ❖ For Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals, please email or contact our parish office.
- ❖ Marriage Preparation: Please be aware that 6 months' notice of intention for Marriage is required especially if marrying outside the Parish. Couples who are planning to get married should contact us **at least 6 months** in advance. Thank you.
- ❖ Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) Saturdays after 9.30am Mass (Priory Street) and after 5.00pm Mass (Monkwick).
- ❖ Church Loop System: Please note that the Church loop system serves all the seats in the centre Nave but not the aisles or the chancel.
- ❖ Mass Intentions. Envelopes are available in Church Porch and are situated either side of Church entrance, A suggested minimum stipend is £10 per Mass. d

- **Cardinal Bourne Hall Enquiries/Bookings:** colchester@brcdt.org
- **SVP (St Vincent de Paul Society):** Tel: 07493 439427/email: colchestersvp@gmail.com

- **CUPPA CLUB:** We meet every Thursday from 10.00am to 11.30am in the Hall.
- **SUNDAY COFFEE MORNING** after 10.30am Mass in Cardinal Bourne Hall.

Please check out our Facebook page for all the latest Parish/Diocese/Vatican News/ Clergy + Church photos/videos. Please remember to **like** and **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. Philip Okoli

Address: 51 Priory Street, Colchester, Essex, CO1 2QB
Tel: 01206 866317
E-Mail: colchester@brcdt.org
Website: www.stjamesthelessandsthelen.org



St James the Less and St Helen RC Church, Colchester




SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (C)
PEACE DAY
 Week Commencing 19th January 2025

As we can clearly see from the first reading, the idea that the relationship between Israel and God could be expressed as a marriage bond was a familiar one in Old Testament times. Indeed, when Israel turned away from God there would usually be a prophet to describe this as adultery. We have the background to the Gospel account of the marriage feast at Cana. Jesus, the Son of God incarnate, has come to Israel as 'husband' to 'wife'. Israel is not forsaken or abandoned, Jesus is also called Emmanuel, 'God with us'. The Jewish people often thought of the Law as water, because just as water is essential for life and precious in an arid country, so the Law brings spiritual refreshment. Jesus changes the water of the Law into the wine of the New Covenant and does so superabundantly

Fr Chris

PLEASE SEE MASS SCHEDULE FOR ALL CHANGES

DAILY (Mon-Fri)	Rosary/Divine Mercy	at 8.45 am
DAILY	Morning Prayer	at 9.15 am
CHRISTIAN MEDITATION	Wednesdays (Cardinal Bourne Hall)	at 8.00 pm
LEGION OF MARY	Fridays (Cardinal Bourne Hall)	at 7.30 pm



The Holy Father has decided that 2025 will be a year of Jubilee, something which happens every 25 years. The theme for 2025 is 'Pilgrims of Hope', and it will be a year of hope for a world suffering the impacts of war, the ongoing effects of COVID-19 pandemic, and a climate crisis. The Jubilee of Hope will end on the feast of the Epiphany in 2026.



THE POPE'S INTENTIONS FOR JANUARY: For the right to an education. Let us pray for migrants, refugees and those affected by war, that their right to an education, which is necessary to build a better world, might always be respected.

PRAYER FOR WORLD PEACE We pray for the people of all war-torn countries, for all those suffering or afraid, that you will be close to them and protect them. We pray for world leaders, for compassion, strength, and wisdom to guide their choices and for the laying down of all weapons.



MARRIAGE MATTERS: (Isaiah 62:1-5; 1 Corinthians 12: 4-11; John 2:1-11) **Our marriages are blessed with gifts.** Just like the bride and groom at Cana, our marriages are blessed with gifts. Every day we are given the grace to live our marriage vows: loving, cherishing and honouring each other in sickness and health, whether money is flowing or frozen. Each time we embrace each other and our own personal circumstances; we are letting God's glory be seen.

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK: We continue to pray for those parishioners we know who are sick and housebound especially Anthony (Tony) Weekes, Edwina Pastor, Jimmy Clarin, Ron & Margaret Griffin, Margaret Hawkins, Valerie Thurston, Grace McCartney, Diana Irvn, Mrs. Maureen McKenna, Peter Wyatt, Hilda Morah, Jason Christopher McLean, Nicollas and Adam Campbell-Vencarto. We also pray for all persons who are ill or are in need.

RECENTLY DECEASED: Please pray for the repose of the souls of Bernard Wilson, Eileen Rose Kelly, who have both recently passed away. The Parish community offers Bernard's & Eileen's family and friends our condolences and the assurance of our prayers at this most difficult time. Bernard's funeral service will take place on Monday 27th January at 11.00_{am} and Eileen's funeral service will take place on Thursday 30th January at 10.45_{am}. Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. **Amen.**



DIOCESAN 2nd COLLECTION: There will be a collection taken at all Masses this weekend 18th + 19th January for **Pax Christi (Peace Day)**. Every year, with the support of the Catholic Bishops' Conference, England and Wales, Pax Christi promote Peace Sunday as a way of observing the World Day of Peace. Pope Francis' message for the World Day of Peace was published last week and his theme is 'Forgive us our trespasses: Grant us your peace'. - to read Pope Francis Message please click on the following link: - [20241208-messaggio-58giornatamondiale-pace2025.pdf](https://www.vatican.va/holy_father/francesco/messages/peace/messages_synops/pdf/20241208-messaggio-58giornatamondiale-pace2025.pdf).

NEXT DIOCESAN 2nd COLLECTION: Will be for Racial Justice which takes place on 16th February 2025..

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] and these offerings will go to the (BCCS) Brentwood Catholic Children's Society.

DAY OF PRAYER FOR CHILDREN OF WAR on **Tuesday 21st January 2025**. Three times during the day there will be led prayers. These will take place at 10.15_{am}, 12.30_{pm} and 3.15_{pm} and there will be people available at these times to lead prayers. The church will be open all day and people are welcome to come in at any time to pray.

OUR LADY OF WALSINGHAM STATUE: If you would like to host the statue at your home and pray the Rosary for a week. please contact Gemma – Tel: 01206 844751 or email olwstatue2024@gmail.com

BAKE SALE: On Sunday 19th January in Cardinal Bourne Hall after 10.30_{am} Mass. All proceeds going towards funding Noah and Chi Chi so that they can go to Lourdes.

LEGION OF MARY: The Legion of Mary invites parishioners aged 18 and older to join our weekly prayer meetings which will be held in Cardinal Bourne Hall **every Friday at 7.30_{pm}** Please do join us in a meeting. **The Legion of Mary will be attending all Masses on Sunday 9th February if you would like to talk to them.**

THANK YOU: The SVP and Josie's Kitchen both would like to thank all Parishioners who donated to World Day of The Poor. The donations received were split equally between both groups and your generosity will enable them both to carry out their good work with helping those in need and the homeless.

INTERACTIVE PASSION PLAY: Claire Williamson, musical director, is going to be putting on an interactive short Passion the week before Easter on Saturday 12th April. This will consist of readings, acting, choral pieces and music from Godspell and Jesus Christ superstar. If you are interested, please come to a meeting on Sunday 26th January in the hall after 10.30_{am} mass. If there isn't enough interest, it won't go ahead.

WEDNESDAY FILM GROUP: The 1st Film showing is on **Wednesday 5th February** and will continue on the first Wednesday in each month, starting at 12.00_{pm}. In general they will be a mixture of Catholic films and light entertainment. Everyone is most welcome. No Entrance fee just make a donation towards refreshments.

VACANCY: Brentwood Catholic Children's Society (BCCS) is looking to recruit a Communications and Fundraising Administrator to provide effective administrative and communications support to the Marketing and Fundraising Team. The role is based at their head office in Billericay High Street and ideally would be a full-time position (37 hours per week) although some flexibility may be available for the right candidate. Full details can be found in the Job Description on the BCCS website: <https://www.bccs.org.uk/who-we-are/work-us/> Closing Date: 31st January 2025.

COMMUNITY OF OUR LADY OF WALSINGHAM House Appeal: In honour of the Presentation of the Lord on 2nd February - the *World day of Prayer for Consecrated Life* - could you help a new, growing, religious community? The Community of Our Lady of Walsingham seeks donations to establish a mission house in Walsingham where they can expand their work of spiritual accompaniment, hospitality and supporting young people to grow in faith. The community will pray for all benefactors and are grateful for donations of any amount which can be made at www.walsinghamcommunity.org/maryshouseappeal Web: www.walsinghamcommunity.org. Tel 01362 692574

LOURDES: Noah Pike, Claire Williamson's (*choir mistress*) son, is raising funds so he can go to Lourdes this year, with St. Benedict's, to aid and help people. He will be doing bake sales, and a bit later on will be hosting a poets and pints night (details to follow). He will be speaking at the end of mass in a couple of weeks to introduce himself. If you could support him it would be greatly appreciated. For further information email stressedclaire45@gmail.com.

CHURCH CLEANING TEAM: Monday 20/01/25: **Team 3** / Monday 27/01/25: **Team 4**

COFFEE MORNING ROTA: 19/01/25: SVP / 26/01/25: Matthew & Mariamma