

SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A)

Sunday 19 th	Monkwick	5.00 pm	George Farrell RIP	Day for the Unemployed
	Church	8.00 am	Michael Tunstead RIP	
	Church	10.30 am	Frederick, Elizabeth + Angelo Lucas	
	Church	2.00 pm	Polish Mass	
	Church	6.30 pm	Mary Crowe RIP	
	West Mersea	8.30 am	Parishioners	
	Mile End	9.30 am	Private Intention	
Monday 20th		Feria		
	Church	9.30 am	Frederick, Elizabeth + Angelo Lucas	
Tuesday 21st		Feria		
	Church	9.30 am	Dr. Halley Mathew RIP	
Wednesday 22nd		ASH WEDNESDAY		
	West Mersea	9.00 am	Private Intention	
	Church	9.30 am	Mrs. Maire Knapp RIP	
	Church	12.15 pm	Peter Neil Rush RIP	
	Church	7.30 pm	Fr Peter Edwards RIP	
Thursday 23rd		Thursday after Ash Wednesday		
	Church	9.30 am	Canon John Bloomfield	
Friday 24th		Friday after Ash Wednesday		
	Church	9.30 am	John Smith RIP	
	Church	12.30 pm	STATIONS OF THE CROSS/ 10pm-12am PRAYERS	
Saturday 25th		Saturday after Ash Wednesday		
	Church	9.30 am	The Catenian Association	
		FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT (A)		
Sunday 26th	Monkwick	5.00 pm	Christina Lambe RIP	
	Church	8.00 am	Parishioners	
	Church	10.30 am	Anniversary: David Eamonn RIP	
	Church	2.00 pm	Polish Mass	
	Church	6.30 pm	The Delaney Family	
	West Mersea	8.30 am	Private Intention	
	Mile End	9.30 am	Ronny Larkin 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 9.30_{am} Mass (Priory Street) and after 5.00_{pm} Mass (Monkwick).
- ❖ Mass Intentions. Envelopes are available in Church Porch and are situated either side of Church entrance, please complete envelope & drop through presbytery door. A suggested minimum stipend is £10 per Mass. The Mass Intention will be published in the newsletter (available on the parish website or via Facebook or collection from Church).
- **Cardinal Bourne Hall Enquiries/Bookings:** colchester@dioceseofbrentwood.org
- **SVP (St Vincent de Paul Society):** Tel: 07493 439427 /email: colchestersvp@gmail.com



Please check out our Facebook page for all the latest Parish/Diocese/Vatican news, Clergy/Church photos/videos. Please remember to like & 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



Parish Priest:
Assistant Priest:

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Fr. Paschal Uche

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St James the Less and St Helen RC Church, Colchester

SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A)
Day for the Unemployed
Week Commencing 19th February 2023

Jesus enjoins us to be perfect, just as our heavenly Father is perfect, what can we make of this? The Pharisees were dedicated to perfection, seeking to fulfil the Law to the letter and we all know how Jesus viewed them. We also have a phrase from St.Paul, much later of course, that he isn't trying for perfection by his own efforts. Again, the word 'perfect' is a translation of a Greek word, are there any shades of meaning to explore? What we find is that the word has the sense of wholeness, completeness, being undivided and therefore the idea of fulfilment. We could consider the situation where someone is physically ill, what they seek is wholeness, being complete again, in full health; to do this very often involves something and someone from outside, medicine and a doctor. So, to be perfect for us involves recognising we are sinners in need of grace, desiring to be whole through God's forgiveness and healing. We can also say it means to be fully human. We won't be perfect in this life yet desiring it should be a priority. The Father, of course, is perfect.

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
ADORATION & PRAYER	Tuesdays	at 7.30 pm

**THE POPE'S INTENTIONS FOR FEBRUARY: For parishes**

We pray that parishes, placing communion at the centre, may increasingly become communities of faith, fraternity and welcome towards those most in need.



Almighty God, we pray for the people of Turkey and Syria, for the victims, the injured, and all those affected by the devastating earthquake. We pray for first-responders, and all those working tirelessly to rescue survivors from beneath the rubble. May God's peace sustain their efforts. We pray that the God of Life will comfort the grieving families and friends, and give them the strength and courage they need during this very difficult time. May God's love and compassion comfort them. Amen.

MARRIAGE MATTERS: (Lev 19:1-2, 17-18 1 Cor 3:16-23 Matt 5:38-48) ***Finding the joy in our sacramental relationship.*** The joy of courting couples is obvious for all to see. Over the years, excitement can lessen, our independent attitudes strengthen; competition and jealousy creep in. Today Jesus calls us to "...turn the other cheek...". In confidence share, in trust listen, in faith forgive, so that our spouse will grow in self-worth and the sparkle of joy will reignite.

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK: We continue to pray for those parishioners we know who are sick and housebound especially Joyce Wrobel, Ron & Margaret Griffin, Darline + Peter Wyatt, Elizabeth Pace, Hilda Morah, Nicollas and Adam Campbell-Vencarto, Jim Lynas, Maureen R. We continue to pray for all persons who are ill or are in need.

RECENTLY DECEASED: Please pray for the repose of the soul of Ivy Emily Grounsell who has recently passed away. The parish community offers her family and friends our condolences and the assurance of our prayers at this most difficult time. Ivy's funeral service will be at St James the Less & St Helen Church on Wednesday 8th March at 11.30am.

TURKEY-SYRIA EARTHQUAKE APPEAL: Both Caritas and CAFOD (*In partnership with DEC*) are fundraising to support those who have been affected by the devastating earthquakes. To donate to the appeal which aims to get funds to local experts on the ground who are already helping those in need, please use this link to support your chosen charity <https://www.caritasbrentwood.org/news/earthquakes/>

PARISH MEETING: A meeting will take place on **Sunday 26th March 2023 at 2.30pm** in Cardinal Bourne Hall. This meeting is in reference to the Bishops Pastoral Letter (*please click on link to read*) <https://www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/wp-content/uploads/2023/02/Pastoral-Letter-for-6th-Sunday-of-Ordinary-Time-11-12-February-2023.pdf> All are invited to attend so we can discuss as a Parish how we can work together in partnership in *Shaping our Future*.

FLAME 2023: This event will be held on Saturday **4th March 2023** at OVO Arena, Wembley. There are still available tickets and places on the Coach if your teenager is interested in attending the event this year. This year's theme is *Rise up after the pandemic, Rise up as young Catholics, Rise up – as Mary did – for the surprising and beautiful adventure that is our Catholic faith.* Please speak to Fr Paschal for details and to book a place.

EVENING STATIONS OF CROSS + PRAYERS: The church will remain open on Friday 24th February from 7pm to 8.30pm for Stations of the Cross & 10pm to Midnight for Lenten Prayers.



ST PATRICKS DAY CELEBRATION in Cardinal Bourne Hall on **Saturday 18th March 2023 from 7.30pm-10.30pm**. This fun evening will provide a buffet with Vegan & Vegetarian options, tea & coffee (BYO alcohol). Live Entertainment with dancing from the McGann School of Dancing (*back by popular demand*) and music from Steve Williams. Also Singalongs and don't forget to wear your dancing shoes! There will be a prize raffle (*donations accepted*). All nationalities welcome to this fun evening, please book early to assist catering. Tickets £15 per person, Children 5-12yrs - £5.00.

CALAIS LIGHT: Could you be a volunteer for the refugee charity Calais Light? We're recruiting NEW volunteers to support refugees in two N.Essex bridging hotels. Volunteer activities are open to anyone from chatting with refugees to playing board games, going for local walks, teaching English (spoken & written) and orienting them to life in the UK. **Volunteers can help weekly or fortnightly, to find out more please contact the Lead Volunteer, John Bradley at: johnbradley9255@gmail.com** If you are able to support financially, please donate via the website www.calaislight.com

QUIZ NIGHT (knights of Saint Columba): Taking place at St. Teresa's, Lexden, in the Parish hall. On **Saturday 25th February at 7:15pm for a 7:30pm start**. The finish time is envisaged to be 10pm. There will be refreshments and a raffle. This will be in aid of the KSC charitable causes. Families are more than welcome, with our special "Are you smarter than..." round returning. Tickets are £5 a person. Teams of up to 8. Please contact George Johnson on 07476781885 if you wish to reserve a table in advance.

ST TERESA'S, LEXDEN: Will be screening '*The Letter*' on **Friday 3rd March**, as part of Friday Night Cinema in the Church Hall at **7.00pm**. '*The Letter*', an 80-minute film inspired by Pope Francis' Laudato Si encyclical. Make a note of the date and think about inviting non-Catholic friends to 'come and see' because his letter was addressed to the whole world.

PALM CROSSES: We would be grateful if people could bring their old palm crosses back to us. A basket is situated in the Church Porch for collection of these. Thank you.

'WALK WITH ME' Booklets (LENT EDITION): These are available for sale in the church

BRENTWOOD CATHEDRAL LENT LECTURE, "*The pain, passion and privilege of supporting Christians who are suffering persecution*" to be given by Baroness Caroline Cox at Brentwood Cathedral on Wednesday 1st March at 7.00pm. Free Entry - No Booking required. All welcome.

UKRAINIAN EMERGENCY WINTER APPEAL: Ukrainians remain resilient despite the circumstances of the war, but they are in the throes of a harsh winter. For that reason, a new Emergency Winter Appeal was launched to provide food packages for the most vulnerable on the frontlines and in recently liberated regions in East and South Ukraine, which is suffering from a severe humanitarian crisis. The cost of one food parcel, providing enough food for two people for a week costs approximately £16. Each package contains the basics (grains, flour, pasta, meat and fish preserves, oil, canned vegetables, sugar, tea coffee, biscuits, etc.) It is hoped that £160,000 can be raised to allow the supply of 10,000 food parcels to those most in need and I ask that you and your parishioners will consider supporting this Emergency Winter Appeal. Funds can be remitted to: **Account Name: Ukrainian Catholic Church Central Fund Account Number: 20927317. Sort Code: 20-92-60** Or by cheques made payable to **Ukrainian Catholic Church** referencing *Winter Appeal* in both cases. The address for cheques is Ukrainian Catholic Church in Great Britain, 22 Binney Street, London, W1K 5BQ

CTS BOOKLETS: There are a good selection of booklets available for sale not loan in the church porch, please leave monies in the CTS box. Thank you.

CHURCH CLEANING TEAM: Monday 20/02/23: **Team 4** / Thursday 02/03/23: **Team 1**

CBH COFFEE MORNING: 19/02/23: **Yolande + 1** / 26/02/23: **SVP**