

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER ^(A)

Sunday 19th	<i>Church</i>	Paul and Betty Bolton RIP Parishioners Tom Rattigan RIP
Monday 20th		Feria
	<i>Church</i>	Stammers Family
Tuesday 21st		Feria
	<i>Church</i>	Alan King RIP
Wednesday 22nd		Feria
	<i>Church</i>	Good health for Clare
Thursday 23rd		St. George
	<i>Church</i>	Sidney Finch & Rose Jane Castell
Friday 24th		St. Mellitus
	<i>Church</i>	Berry Pride RIP
Saturday 25th		St. Mark
	<i>Church</i>	Michael Clancy RIP

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER ^(A)

Sunday 26th	<i>Church</i>	Mary Josephine Nanziri RIP V.Rev.Canon Joseph Whitfield Parishioners
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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 APRIL: Freedom from Addiction. We pray that those suffering from addiction may be helped and accompanied.

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

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: Mgr. Christopher Brooks
Assistant Priest: Fr. Nixon Gomes
Assistant Priest: Fr. Philip Willenbrock

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SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER ^(A)

WEEK COMMENCING: 19TH APRIL 2020 - PARISH MASS BOOK PAGE -

We see mercy in the life of the early Church. The Acts of the Apostles (2:42-47) describes the life of believers as “remained faithful to the teaching of the apostles, to the brotherhood, to the breaking of bread and to the prayers”.

As a result of which many miracles were at work in and through them. Seeing this, everyone was filled with ‘awe’. They were selfless and generous; overflowed with “joy so glorious that cannot be described”.

As the disciples allowed the story of Jesus to sink in their hearts, they experienced a unique sense of Joy. Because, God in his “great mercy” has given them and us “a new birth” as his sons/ daughters by raising Jesus from the dead.

Likewise, the story of Thomas the Apostle is so appropriate on Divine Mercy Sunday. The words of the apostle speak to us of a journey of faith, a journey that reaches its climax, in the endless mercy of God. In this journey, it is not often, we who relentlessly pursue the Lord, but rather the Lord who relentlessly pursues us.

(Ps118:1.4)

In these peculiar times, Have I felt Him or hear him speak to me? Our questioning will eventually find confirmations in prayer. And once again, may we hear the beautiful words than sprung from our Saviour's lips, "Shalom", 'Do not be afraid'.

"Encourage souls to place great trust in my fathomless mercy. Let the weak, sinful soul have no fear to approach Me, for even if it had more sins than there are grains of sand in the world, all will be drowned in the immeasurable depths of My Mercy".
St. Faustina Kowalska

PLEASE SEE MASS SCHEDULE FOR ALL CHANGES

DAILY	Morning Prayer	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 global spread of Coronavirus (COVID-19) is a fast-evolving situation. The Bishops have now closed our churches to the public until further notice.

Fr. Nixon/ I continue to offer Mass each day at 8.15_{am} (Monday – Saturday) and 10.00_{am} on Sunday, with the intentions published in the newsletter, and daily exposition from 7_{pm}-8_{pm}.

On a practical note, Mass intentions can be posted/popped through the letter box 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 no longer possible. Please note, however, the guidance issued by Rome and published on our website re indulgences..

Also, 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.
Gift Aid envelopes for the new financial year will be delivered to your home. Parishioners may wish to set up a standing order, our parish office can help.

The collection on Good Friday, for the Holy Places, is transferred to the Feast of the Exaltation of the Cross, September 14th.

Please see our website for details of the Indulgence available to parishioners

for joining in prayerfully while we are celebrating in church.

There is also a new Proper Mass for use in the time of a pandemic which will be celebrated soon after Easter (it cannot be used in Holy week or the Easter Octave).

Bishop Alan has sent a pastoral letter for Easter, it can be accessed on our parish website.

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

Fr. Adrian Graffy, PP at Gidea Park, is a world-renowned biblical scholar. He has posted various talks on <https://www.whatgoodnews.org/faith-talks> the latest two being specific for Easter (Binding of Isaac and Easter Genesis).

Please remember to keep an eye on our parish website.

Thanks to the parishioners who sent cards for Easter, and for Easter offerings.

A blessed Easter to you all. Christ is Risen indeed

MARRIAGE MATTERS: *The Lord will lead us back together.* Ezekiel's words apply to us when we are going through tough times in our relationship, when intimacy, physical or otherwise, seems impossible. At such times, Jesus weeps for us as He did for Lazarus. He will bring us back together if we ask Him and are willing to be vulnerable enough to explore together the changes we need to make

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

SVP: In these difficult times, we are here to help. If you, or anyone you know, needs help with e.g. Shopping please contact us: Tel: 07493 439427 or email: colchestersvp@gmail.com.

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.

CATHOLIC NEWSPAPERS: UK Catholic Diocesan newspapers are on one website (www.ChurchPaper.co.uk) so parishioners can stay in contact with their Church and their community.

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