

ST. JAMES THE LESS AND ST. HELEN

CATHOLIC CHURCH, COLCHESTER

WITH MERSEA, MILE END AND MONKWICK

1 PARISH, 4 CHURCHES, 1 COMMUNITY

PENTECOST SUNDAY ^(B)

(Day of Prayer for the Church)

Saturday 22nd	Live Stream Church	6.15 pm	Dec. Mem. Zepeda Faria Fam
Sunday 23rd	Church	8.00 am	Parishioners
	Church	10.30 am	Private Intentions (S.J.)
	Church	2.00 pm	Polish Mass
	Church	6.30 pm	Ints: A. Harley
	West Mersea	8.30 am	Private Intentions
	Monkwick	10.15 am	Tony Dixon RIP
Monday 24th			Mary, Mother of the Church
Live Stream	Church	10.00 am	Ints: Alice Drew
Tuesday 25th			St Bede the Venerable, Pr, D
	Church	10.00 am	Leodegaria Tocmo
Wednesday 26th			St Philip Neri, Pr
Live Stream	Church	10.00 am	Rev L. Matthews
Thursday 27th			OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST THE ETERNAL HIGH PRIEST
Live Stream	Church	10.00 am	Thanksgiving (M.K.Q-A)
	Church	4.00 pm	RECEPTION INTO CHURCH: John Dolamore RIP
Friday 28th			Feria
Live Stream	Church	10.00 am	John + Ellen Donovan RIP
Live Stream	Church	11.00 am	FUNERAL MASS: John David Dolamore RIP
Saturday 29th			Memorial of Blessed Virgin Mary (BVM)
Live Stream	Church	10.00 am	Ints: S. Jacob
			THE MOST HOLY TRINITY ^(B)
Saturday 29th	Live Stream Church	6.15 pm	Bridget + Michael Brady RIP
Sunday 30th	Church	8.00 am	Private Intention
	Church	10.30 am	Mrs. Justina Amadi RIP
	Church	2.00 pm	Polish Mass
	Church	6.30 pm	Jan Holden RIP
	West Mersea	8.30 am	Parishioners
	Monkwick	10.15 am	Olive Hewitt RIP

FACEMASKS. 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: DAILY MASSES AND A SUNDAY MASS
(Weekdays 10_{am}, 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!



Parish Priest:
Assistant Priest:
Assistant Priest:

Mgr. Christopher Brooks
Fr. Paschal Uche
Fr. Philip Willenbrock

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St James the Less and St Helen RC Church, Colchester

PENTECOST SUNDAY ^(B)

Day of Prayer for the Church

Week Commencing 23rd May 2021



PENTECOST

Pentecost is the Birthday of the Church. Like a big bang! A driving wind fills the upper room and tongues of fire rest on Our Lady and all the Apostles giving them utterance to boldly proclaim the marvels of God. I don't think there is a scene as dramatic as this anywhere in the new testament. The moment was memorable and the fruits are tangible. 2,000 years later the church is one, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic. With over a billion members, countless saints, Our Lady, the sacraments and the scriptures we have so much to thank God for! However, when I think of the fruits of the Holy Spirit in my life; the fruits that Paul mentions in Galatians 5:22; love, joy peace, patience, kindness generosity, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control, I know that I need a fresh encounter with the Holy Spirit. Pope St Paul VI says it is not just me but *"the church needs a perennial Pentecost. She needs fire in her heart, words on her lips and prophecy in her outlook."* It is not enough to have a fire lit once, it needs to keep burning, if we are going to have anything meaningful to say we need to keep listening and if we are to be prophets looking to the future with confidence, we need to trust and keep trusting the Holy Spirit. St John Paul II said, *"we have the right the duty and the joy to say that Pentecost goes on."* As we emerge from lockdown may our lives, families and parish community give joyful witness to the God who is for us, with us and in us. Dear church, Happy Birthday!

Fr. Paschal

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 MAY: *The World of Finance*

Let us pray that those in charge of finance will work with governments to regulate the financial sphere and protect citizens from its dangers.

MARRIAGE MATTERS: (Acts of the Apostles 2:1-11 1 Corinthians 12:3-7, 12-13 John 20:19-23) **Differences add richness.** Paul saw the Church as being a corporate body: various people, each with unique identities, talents, different skills and abilities, all contributing to bringing the Good News to others. Our differences became evident early in our marriage; these differences can be problematic or add richness to our relationship. The outcome depends on whether our choices are selfish or 'us' focused.

Dear Parishioners and Friends,

Despite all the restrictions, let us be thankful that we can once again gather together, despite social distancing, as God's people. Please note the following norms which remain in place in order to promote a COVID 19 safe environment :-

- Churches will open 15 minutes before start of Mass
- Facemasks must be worn when entering all places of worship (unless medically exempt)
- Entrance to Church will be via the main door, exit by the side door
- Hand sanitiser is available at entrance and exit, though you may bring your own
- It will be essential that people sit where they are asked and do not move from there
- The use of face covering/mask in Church is now mandatory (please don't forget yours when attending Church) and that you wear it so that it covers both your mouth and nose.
- Social distancing must be maintained at all times within Church.
- An Offertory Collection box will be situated at entrance and exit; the donation station is also useable
- No touching of Statues or Images in Church
- Toilets will be closed except for genuine emergencies.
- We are still required to have Church Stewards in attendance at each Mass and the Church will be cleaned after each Service in readiness for the next Mass to be held.
- No mingling with other people you do not live with after Mass outside the Church.

THE PARISH STEWARDS ARE HERE TO HELP AND DIRECT YOU TO YOUR SEAT(S), PLEASE BE POLITE TO THEM AS THEY CAN ASK YOU TO LEAVE THE CHURCH IF YOU DO NOT COMPLY WITH PRESENT GOVERNMENT AND DIOCESAN REGULATIONS.

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.

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.

SAVE THE DATE! PARISH DAY ON SUNDAY 18TH JULY. Subject to any regulations which may be in place, we are hoping to host a parish lunch. It would be a way of thanking many people for their involvement during the pandemic and also a way of getting back together as a community. We have some ideas about the format but would like your input and suggestions; also, anyone willing to help put the day into practice. Please contact the presbytery.

NORMAL LIFE. As the parish begins to reopen, we'll be looking at lots of areas e.g. weekday mass times, rotas for ministries, new initiatives. Watch this space; and give us your ideas.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION: We congratulate all the children who have made or will be making their First Holy Communion during May and June. We ask God's blessing on those children and their families that they may grow in love for Jesus as they receive Him at Mass now and for the rest of their lives.

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION: Congratulations to all the candidates who will be receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation today and to all their families who continue to nurture and guide them on their faith and life journey! Also a special thank you to our parish catechists for all their hard work in supporting families in preparing the children throughout the year.

MERSEA NEWS: Please use the following links for reserving seats at Mass (right click booking form and open hyperlink) alternatively, links for booking forms are on website under mass times:
Sun 30th May [Booking Form](#) **Sun 6th June** [Booking Form](#)

FAITH FOR THE FAMILY: This will be a short friendly interactive discussion with Fr Paschal on each Sundays Gospel readings on Mondays at 5_{pm} (via Zoom) lasting approx. 30 mins. It would be great if all family members (all ages) could drop by, you don't have to commit to weekly! If interested in participating - Meeting ID: 843 2602 2208/ Passcode: 883004. We hope to see you there.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION CHILDREN: Final dates below for last year's candidates to complete their Holy Communion course and make their Holy Communion: -

- **Session 3:** Saturday 29th May 2021 from 2-5_{pm} in Cardinal Bourne Hall;
1st Holy Communion Mass - Saturday 5th June @ 12.30_{pm} (Arrival in Church 12.15_{pm})
- **Session 4:** Saturday 12th June 2021 from 2-5_{pm} in Cardinal Bourne Hall;
1st Holy Communion Mass -Saturday 19th June @ 12.30_{pm} (Arrival in Church 12.15_{pm})

Please call the Presbytery office On 01206 866317 to reserve your child's place and advise which Session they can attend (first come/first served basis).

Please do NOT turn up without reserving a place for your child!
We require volunteers to act as Stewards to assist (this can be Parents). Thank you.

SVP. Thank you for the kind offers of children's clothes - We now have sufficient. If you or anyone you know would like some extra support, please get in touch using the contact details Tel: 07493 439427 or email: colchestersvp@gmail.com

DIOCESAN VIRTUAL PILGRIMAGE TO WALSINGHAM (Saturday 29th May): Bishop Alan will lead a virtual pilgrimage from the Basilica of Our Lady of Walsingham, which we can join using the Shrine's live-streaming service via their website www.walsingham.org.uk or their YouTube channel 'Walsingham Catholic TV'

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