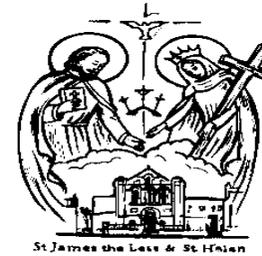


ST. JAMES THE LESS AND ST. HELEN

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

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 St James the Less and St Helen RC Church, Colchester

THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (B) SUNDAY OF THE WORD OF GOD

Saturday 23 rd	Church	6.15 pm	Holy Souls
Sunday 24 th	Church	8.00 am	Holy Souls
	Church	9.15 am	Stephen Hilton RIP
	Church	10.30 am	Parishioners
	Church	2.00 pm	Polish Mass
	Church	6.30 pm	Stefan Gomes RIP
	West Mersea	8.30 am	Frank Woollatt RIP
Live Streamed	Monkwick	10.15 am	Mrs. Celestine Tighe RIP

Monday 25th THE CONVERSION OF ST PAUL, Ap

Live Streamed	Church	10.00 am	Ints: Kenyon Family
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Tuesday 26th Ss Timothy & Titus, Bpp

Live Streamed	Church	10.00 am	Ints: Rob Armstead
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Wednesday 27th St Angela Merici, V

Live Streamed	Church	10.00 am	Canon John Bloomfield
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Thursday 28th St Thomas Aquinas, Pr, D

Live Streamed	Church	10.00 am	Mick Gilbey RIP
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Friday 29th Feria

Live Streamed	Church	10.00 am	Roberto Trezzi RIP
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Private Service	Church	12.00 pm	Funeral Mass :Baby Millie-Mae Lambert-Holland RIP
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Saturday 30th Memorial of the Blessed Virgin Mary (BVM)

Live Streamed	Church	10.00 am	Des Fuller Anniversary
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FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (B) RACIAL JUSTICE DAY

Saturday 30 th	Church	6.15 pm	Des Fuller Anniversary
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Sunday 31 st	Church	8.00 am	Brendan Burke RIP
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Live Streamed	Church	10.30 am	Mrs. Patricia (k/a Anne) Patterson RIP
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	Church	2.00 pm	Polish Mass
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	Church	6.30 pm	Private Intentions
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West Mersea	8.30 am	Parishioners
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Monkwick	10.15 am	Berni Hegarty RIP
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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 contact our parish office.
- ❖ Visiting for the Sacrament of the Sick is possible, under certain circumstances.
- ❖ Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) Saturdays after 10am Mass and 5.30pm-6.00pm
- ❖ 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 10am and please see Schedule for Sunday Live Stream Mass Time)

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

[f](#) Please check out our Facebook page for all the latest Parish/Diocese/Vatican news/ Clergy photos/videos, Reflections from Fr Paschal. Please remember to [like](#) and [follow](#) our page

THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (B)

Week Commencing 24th JANUARY 2021

A simple and very familiar idea from the readings this Sunday (among other possibilities). We are asked to hear the Word of God and hearing it, put it into practice. It sounds straightforward and rather obvious. Yet we aren't always very successful in the 'practice' bit. In varying degrees, practice can be delayed or, if begun, fade away. For example, we decide to spend more time in prayer, and perhaps do for a while, and then other things intrude and we gradually go back to where we were before. What pulls us back? Technically, we can call them 'needs', which could be understood as mental habits, ways of behaving built up over time. Key to change is humility, recognising what is happening. The support, and challenge, of others is invaluable as they may well see in us what we cannot see ourselves. A suggested prayer – Lord that I may see (referring to oneself!).

Fr. Chris

PLEASE SEE MASS SCHEDULE FOR ALL CHANGES

DAILY	Morning Prayer at 9.45 ^{am}	All 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 POPE'S INTENTIONS FOR JANUARY: HUMAN FRATERNITY. May the Lord give us the grace to live in full fellowship with our brothers and sisters of other religions, praying for one another, open to all.

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.

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, Joan Jeal, Jimmy Clarin, Rosie Burnside-Fitch. We pray for all persons who have contracted Covid-19 and their families.

RECENTLY DECEASED: Please pray for the repose of the souls of Brendan Burke and Baby Millie-Mae Lambert-Holland who have recently passed away. May they rest in peace. We pray for the comfort of their respective bereaved family and friends. Brendan served as a Eucharistic Minister in this parish for many years and will be missed by all those whose lives he touched; Brendan's Funeral service will be held here on 26th February at 11.30^{am} (Reception into Church 25th Feb at 4^{pm}). Baby Millie-Mae's Funeral service will be held here on 29th January at 12.00^{pm}. **Please note that we require volunteer Stewards for Funeral Services on Friday 29th January at 12.00^{pm} and Wednesday 3rd February at 2.00^{pm} and Thursday 25th Feb at 4^{pm} and Friday 26th Feb at 11.30^{am}; Please contact the Presbytery if you are able to assist.** Thank you.

9.15 SUNDAY MASS: Please note that after this morning; we will no longer hold a 9.15^{am} Mass. We will monitor the attendance levels and reinstate if needed. Thank you.

MERSEA NEWS: Mass Bookings will continue at Mersea in order to control numbers attending. Please use the following links for masses over the next 2 weekends (right click booking form and open hyperlink) alternatively, links for booking forms are on website under mass times: - Sunday 31st January [Mersea Booking Form](#) Sunday 7th February [Mersea Booking form](#)

YEAR OF ST JOSEPH: Pope Francis has declared a special "Year of Saint Joseph" starting 8th December 2020 (Feast of the Immaculate Conception) and concluding on the same feast in 2021. This is to mark the 150th anniversary of Saint Joseph being declared Patron of the Universal Church. The Pope's apostolic letter entitled *Patris Corde (With a Father's Heart)* http://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/apost_letters/documents/papa-francesco-lettera-ap_20201208_patris-corde.html "Each of us can discover in Joseph –the man who goes unnoticed, a daily, discreet and hidden presence –an intercessor, a support and a guide in times of trouble." [Pope Francis]

DIOCESAN 2nd COLLECTION: There will be a 2nd collection for Racial Justice Day on Sunday 31st January; this year's theme is "A time to Act". In recent years, Pope Francis has repeatedly used four verbs encouraging positive and direct action in relation to migrants and refugees, 'Welcome, Protect, Promote and Integrate'. These same words are essential to advancing the cause of racial justice. None can be omitted, it is as necessary to have plans to *Promote* and *Integrate* as it is to *Welcome*. Donations received will be used for promoting racial justice in England and Wales. Please give what you can.

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]. Thank you.

DIOCESAN DIRECTORIES: These are very useful as they contain the liturgical calendar for the church year and info about all parts of the Diocese incl. Diocesan contact details, parishes, schools, prayer groups and other organisations and societies. £2.80 per copy + **2021 Diaries reduced - ½- price!** (Money to go in "Repository" Box in church porch).

REDISCOVER YOUR MARRIAGE: Retrouvaille offers the chance to rediscover yourself, your spouse and a loving relationship in your marriage. There is no group therapy or group work. [16 couples attended our last weekend (6 of whom were in the process of divorce) and almost all of the couples are still attending the follow up sessions. For confidential info about 'Retrouvaille' or to register for the next programme commencing with a Virtual weekend on 25th - 28th February 2021, call or text 07887 296983 or 07973 380443 – or email retrouvailleukinfo@gmail.com - or visit www.retrouvaille.org.uk

SVP (St Vincent de Paul Society): SVP: SVP news: We are concerned that this new lockdown will cause greater hardship for families suffering from loss of income or loneliness. If you or anyone you know needs some extra help over the coming weeks please let us know using these contact details. Tel: 07493 439427 or email: colchestersvp@gmail.com

PARISH FINANCES: Many thanks to those who regularly donate and to those who are keeping up with their Gift Aid payments. 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. Joseph, Mile End: <https://www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/donations?parish=colchester-c>
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