

**SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER (A)**

(World Communications Day)

**Sunday 24<sup>th</sup>**

Church 10.00 am Fr John Duckett RIP

**Monday 25<sup>th</sup>**Church 8.15 am **St Bede The Venerable, Pr, D**  
Ints: Ashcroft Family**Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup>**Church 8.15 am **St Philip Neri, Pr**  
Rev. L. Matthews**Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup>**Church 8.15 am **ST AUGUSTINE OF CANTERBURY, Bp**  
Ints: Jackson Family**Thursday 28<sup>th</sup>**Church 8.15 am **Feria**  
Fr. Paul Dynan RIP**Friday 29<sup>th</sup>**Church 8.15 am **Feria**  
Coleen Thurlow RIP**Saturday 30<sup>th</sup>**Church 8.15 am **Feria**  
Margaret Ormston RIP**PENTECOST SUNDAY (A)**

(Day of Prayer for the Church)

**Sunday 31<sup>st</sup>**

Church 10.00 am Michael Treby RIP

**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**Please pray for any parishioners who are suffering from the virus or self-isolating.**Lord God, we entrust to you the families and communities  
affected by Coronavirus, wherever they may be.

We pray especially for health care workers, that you may guide and protect them.

We pray that your Spirit might inspire those researching new medicines and treatments.  
And in the midst of this, keep us strong in faith, hope and love. Grant us the courage and  
perseverance to be good neighbours.May the words of your Son Jesus Christ in the Our Father,  
be our prayer as we entrust ourselves and all of us who are affected  
to your infinite power and love. Amen.**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/>**WALSINGHAM:** the Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham has a 24 hour livestream service  
website [www.walsingham.org.uk](http://www.walsingham.org.uk)**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/>**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:  
Assistant Priest:  
Assistant Priest:Mgr. Christopher Brooks  
Fr. Nixon Gomes  
Fr. Philip Willenbrock**Address:** 51 Priory Street, Colchester, Essex, CO1 2QB  
**Tel:** 01206 866317  
**E-Mail :** [colchester@dioceseofbrentwood.org](mailto:colchester@dioceseofbrentwood.org)  
**Website:** [www.stjamesthelessandsthelen.org](http://www.stjamesthelessandsthelen.org)**SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER (A)**  
**WEEK COMMENCING: 24<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2020 - PARISH MASS BOOK PAGE**

Dear Friends,  
 'How many apostles there were? Which fruit did Eve pick in the Garden of Eden? Did Paul fall off his horse on the road to Damascus?'  
 If we are honest, many of us struggle with finding the right answers about our faith when we are asked, especially if we are asked questions which are more important than the ones I quoted. The second readings at Sunday Mass the last few weeks, from the first letter of St. Peter, are about Christian witness and suffering. When we are asked about our faith, we can sometimes feel embarrassed to speak about what we believe or we can feel unsure of how to answer. The important thing to do is to talk and be led by the Holy Spirit, and if we really do not know about something, we can always check and get back to the person asking. If our faith brings us suffering, then St. Peter tells us to be glad because we 'will enjoy a much greater gladness when his glory is revealed.' If anyone wants to look up the answers to the questions above then stop reading! There were 14 apostles. Judas was originally counted as one of the twelve, and after his death, Mathias was chosen. After this, St. Paul called himself the 'apostle to the Gentiles' in Romans 11:13. That makes fourteen in total. Eve is commonly shown with an apple in Eden but Genesis only says that she ate fruit from the tree of knowledge. Paul is often depicted in art falling from a horse on the road to Damascus but in Acts it only says that he fell to the ground: it doesn't mention that he was on a horse!  
 Have a good week and stay safe.

Prayers, Deacon Adrian

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**PLEASE SEE MASS SCHEDULE FOR ALL CHANGES**

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DAILY	Morning Prayer	<b>Temporarily suspended</b>
DAILY	Rosary/Divine Mercy	
SUNDAYS:	Rosary/Divine Mercy	
2 <sup>nd</sup> SUNDAY MONTHLY	Eucharistic Adoration	
CHRISTIAN MEDITATION	Tuesdays in Crypt (8.00 <sub>pm</sub> )	

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**MARRIAGE MATTERS:** The Ascension (Acts 1:1-11 Ephesians 1:17-23 Matt 28:16-20) *Filled with hope.* Today's readings tell us of the end and the beginning of something new and exciting in the life of the young Church. When we married, we were filled with both excitement and trepidation for our future together. But like the disciples, the Spirit of the risen Lord has been with us since we became "Little Church" on our wedding day.

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**THE HOLY FATHER'S INTENTIONS FOR MAY For Deacons.** We pray that deacons, faithful in their service to the Word and the poor, may be an invigorating symbol for the entire Church.

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While our churches remain closed the Bishops are working with others to draw up guidelines as to how Mass might be celebrated with various social-distancing and hygiene practices in place. Fr. Nixon/ I continue to offer Mass each day at 8.15<sub>am</sub> (Monday – Saturday) and 10.00<sub>am</sub> on Sunday, with the intentions published in the newsletter.

On a practical note, Mass intentions can be posted/popped through the letterbox 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 possible, under certain circumstances. Please note also the guidance issued by Rome and published on our website re indulgences.

With the suspension of Sunday Masses and the lack of a Sunday collection, 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. Parishioners may wish to set up a standing order, our parish office can help.

Please see our website for details of the Indulgence available to parishioners for joining in prayerfully while we are celebrating in church.

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

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**EXPOSITION:** Please note that this will take place daily from 7<sub>pm</sub> to 8<sub>pm</sub>, we will be praying for parishioners and their intentions.

**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

**RECENTLY DECEASED:** Please pray for the repose of the soul of Anthony Richard Waters who has recently passed away. May he rest in peace. We pray for the comfort of his bereaved family and friends.

**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.

**SVP** Since the coronavirus lockdown we have seen the importance of a friendly neighbour. If you, or someone you know, would benefit from a "good neighbour" either now or when this crisis is over, please contact us using the details below. We are here to help with anything from practical assistance to just a friendly chat.

**THY KINGDOM COME 2020:** Please join the Annual Novena to pray for Evangelisation. info at [www.thykingdomcome.global](http://www.thykingdomcome.global)

**MAKING A DONATION:** We have been asked: "How can I make my weekly contribution at this time?" There are a number of ways you can still donate: You can drop your envelopes or donations through the presbytery door, and/or cheques can be made payable to the Catholic Church Colchester and sent to The Presbytery, 51 Priory Street, Colchester, CO1 2QB. You can donate by Standing Order, please contact the Presbytery for Standing Order form. Alternatively, you can donate online using the Diocesan Online Donation platform:-

\* 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>

Where donations can also be gift aided. To those who have sent in offerings - thank you for your continuing support. Our Parish relies on your donations.

**VOCATIONS:** Usually on Good Shepherd Sunday the seminarians travel to parishes to speak about vocations. This year three of them, Michael Barwick, Jonathan Burden and Deacon Paschal Uche have recorded video messages in place of this. You can watch them with the following link: <https://bit.ly/3aGVQp9> (leads to YouTube playlist). We continue to have evenings for those who would like to enquire about a vocation to the priesthood. At the moment these are being held online. Please get in touch with Fr Mark Swires at [vocprom@dioceseofbrentwood.org](mailto:vocprom@dioceseofbrentwood.org) for more info.

**MASS FOR CONFIRMANDI** Pentecost Sunday, 31<sup>st</sup> May at 10.30<sub>am</sub>. With a special message from Bishop Alan at the start of Mass, and music recorded by soloists and groups of young people from across the Diocese, as well as Intercessions read by young people, this Mass is especially for those who would have been Confirmed today, and it will be offered for you. On both YouTube and Instagram we are BrentwoodCYS, and more details of the Mass are at <https://bcys.net/events/pentecost/>

**MASS FOR HOLY COMMUNION CHILDREN AND THEIR FAMILIES** Corpus Christi, Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> June at 10.30<sub>am</sub>. With a special message from Bishop Alan, and music recorded before lockdown from children's choirs across the Diocese, this Mass will be celebrated as a children's Mass, with simplified readings, and intercessions recorded by Holy Communion children. The Mass will be offered for the children and their families. On both YouTube and Instagram we are BrentwoodCYS, and more details of the Mass are at <https://bcys.net/events/corpuschristi/>

**MARY'S MEALS:** Mary's Meals founder, Magnus MacFarlane-Barrow, has recorded a special message for parishioners regarding their mission to feed hungry children around the world. [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h9e\\_zhu98HY&feature=youtu.be](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h9e_zhu98HY&feature=youtu.be)

**SUPPORTING MARRIED COUPLES:** If you are experiencing difficulties in your marriage, whether due to the additional stresses cause by the coronavirus crisis or other reasons, help is available. Marriage Care is currently offering remote counselling, or you might find the Smart Loving Breakthrough course helpful. Visit [marriagecare.org.uk](http://marriagecare.org.uk) or [smartloving.org/breakthrough](http://smartloving.org/breakthrough). Please don't leave it too late to get help.

**BCCS:** The particular emotional and mental health needs of children should not be overlooked, and **Brentwood Catholic Children's Society** continues to provide vital support in these areas. Information on the current arrangements can be found at <https://www.bccs.org.uk/who-we-are/coronavirus-update>

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➤ **SVP (St Vincent de Paul Society):** Tel: 07493 439427 or email: [colchestersvp@gmail.com](mailto:colchestersvp@gmail.com)

➤ **CARDINAL BOURNE HALL BOOKINGS:** email: [cb.hall@btinternet.com](mailto:cb.hall@btinternet.com)

or Tel: 07758 805263 [*answerphone only* – please leave a message with name + contact number.

The hall is closed and all group activity suspended until further notice.

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