

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER (B)

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS

Saturday 24th	Church	6.15 pm	David Shaw RIP
Sunday 25th <i>Live Streamed</i>	Church	8.00 am	Parishioners
	Church	10.30 am	Hugh Pat Robinson
	Church	2.00 pm	Polish Mass
	Church	6.30 pm	Ints: Bridie Lohan
	West Mersea	8.30 am	Private Intention
	Monkwick	10.15 am	Olive Hewitt RIP

Monday 26th FERIA

<i>Live Streamed</i>	Church	10.00 am	Marcelina (Sally) Widman RIP
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Tuesday 27th FERIA

	Church	10.00 am	Thomas + Bridget Lohan RIP
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Wednesday 28th FERIA

<i>Live Streamed</i>	Church	10.00 am	Anniv: Ronald Payot
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Thursday 29th St CATHERINE OF SIENA, V, D

<i>Live Streamed</i>	Church	10.00 am	Dec. Fam. Members (De Mello)
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Friday 30th FERIA

<i>Live Streamed</i>	Church	10.00 am	Mr. & Mrs. Mathew RIP
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Saturday 1st May St Joseph The Worker DAY OF PRAYER FOR HUMAN WORK

<i>Live Streamed</i>	Church	10.00 am	Mr. A. K. George RIP
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FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER (B)

Saturday 1st <i>Live Streamed</i>	Church	6.15 pm	Rod Hume RIP
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Sunday 2nd	Church	8.00 am	Private Intentions
	Church	10.30 am	Like McGloin RIP
	Church	2.00 pm	Polish Mass
	Church	6.30 pm	Ints: A. Harley
	West Mersea	8.30 am	Parishioners

	Monkwick	10.15 am	Olive Hewitt RIP
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FACE MASKS. 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 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, 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 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: 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

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER (B)

World day of Prayer for Vocations

Week Commencing 25th APRIL 2021



In my experience finding your vocation twins with discovering your greatest treasure. Put another way, when we have found that for which we would give our life, then we have found that which truly gives us life. In Sundays Gospel Jesus tells us He is the good shepherd who has laid down His life for His sheep. Interestingly, this statement comes directly after Jesus has just healed a blind man. The context suggests that he wants us to see and believe and that believing he wants us to have life and life to the full. Yes, He has come to lead us the blind, broken, helpless sheep in to the full sight and light of eternal life. Christ's death and resurrection protects us from danger and procures for us a path to eternal life. It reveals to us what we mean to Him, we in turn are moved to follow him with new faith, new hope and new love. Our vocation is love; the perfect union with God who is love. Through faith, our vocation is discovered as we come to know how much we are loved and valued. Through hope that vocation is nourished in times of prayer and through the sacraments. Finally, through Love that vocation is lived out in marriage, the single life, religious life and Holy Orders. Oh, lord help me to see that Christ the lamb has been sacrificed to save the sheep, and with you as my treasure and my shepherd there is nothing I shall want.

Fr. Paschal

PLEASE SEE MASS SCHEDULE FOR ALL CHANGES

DAILY	Morning Prayer at 9.45am	All Temporarily suspended
DAILY	Rosary/Divine Mercy	
	Rosary/Divine Mercy	
2 nd SUNDAY MONTHLY	Eucharistic Adoration	
CHRISTIAN MEDITATION	Tuesdays in Crypt (8.00pm)	



THE POPE'S INTENTIONS FOR APRIL: Fundamental Rights. We pray for those who risk their lives while fighting for fundamental rights under dictatorships, authoritarian regimes and even in democracies in crisis.

MARRIAGE MATTERS: (Acts of the Apostles 4:8-12 1 John 3:1-2 John 10:11-18) ***We lay down our lives, we go beyond.*** Couples can relate to the notion of 'shepherding' with regards to their children: "I know my own and my own know me". Even in crowds, our children will recognise our voices and we theirs. Also, just as Jesus spoke today of 'laying down His life', when marrying, we made a solemn vow to lay down our lives for one another.

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 John Dolamore, Elizabeth Pace, Hilda Morah, Nicollas and Adam Campbell-Vencarto, Valerie Thurston, Joan Jeal, Jimmy Clarin. We pray for all persons who have contracted Covid-19 and their families.

RECENTLY DECEASED: Please pray for the repose of the soul of Salvatore Morreale who has recently passed away, may he rest in peace. The parish community offers his family and friends our condolences and the assurance of our prayers at this most difficult time. Salvatore's funeral details are to be advised.

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:
Sunday 2nd May: [Booking Form](#) **Sunday 9th May:** [Booking Form](#) **Sunday 16th May:** [Booking Form](#)

DIOCESAN 2nd COLLECTION: A 2nd collection will be taken at all Masses this weekend for the promotion of Vocations and training of Priests in our Diocese. God calls each of us to serve him in some particular way so it is important for us to promote a culture of vocations within the church. Please pray for our current seminarians as they journey towards priesthood. A Collection Box will be situated beside exit of church. Thank you for your prayers and generosity.

ANNUAL MIGRANTS' MASS: In the Year of St Joseph, and in honour of St Joseph the Worker, the London dioceses of Southwark, Westminster and Brentwood will celebrate the 16th Annual Mass for Migrants on Saturday 1st May at 11.20am. The Mass will be celebrated by Bishop Paul McAleenan and live-streamed from St. William of York Roman Catholic Church, Forest Hill. Although we cannot welcome the faithful in person this year, this lively online service will still celebrate the significant contribution made by migrants to life of our dioceses. Livestream the Mass at: <https://actionnetwork.org/events/migrants-mass>

POPE FRANCIS AND THE CULTURE OF ENCOUNTER: On Saturday 15th May from 11am - 12.30pm Dr. Austen Ivereigh, biographer of Pope Francis, will lead a Gidea Park live stream study day on the theme 'The Culture of Encounter.' Dr. Ivereigh will explore the importance of the Abu Dhabi declaration, the Amazon Synod, the recent encyclical on fraternity *Fratelli Tutti*, and the March 2021 visit of Pope Francis to Iraq. To access this free live stream event simply go to www.whatgoodnews.org and follow the instructions found there.

ST BENEDICT'S CATHOLIC COLLEGE RE CHAPLAINCY WORKER: We are looking to appoint a practising Catholic, who as a chaplaincy worker will further develop and enhance the spiritual, liturgical and prayer life of the college. The successful candidate must be a practising Roman Catholic committed to supporting the inclusive Catholic nature of the college and spiritual journey of the members of its community. For further details about the role, please contact Mrs. Jo Santinelli, Principal on 01206 549222 and for further details about the college, please go to our website www.stbenedicts.essex.sch.uk. The closing date for applications is midday on Monday 7th June 2021 and interviews will be held w/b 21st June 2021.

ST THOMAS MORE'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL - CLEANER REQUIRED: Our lovely cleaner is leaving us for full time employment and we are desperate to replace her. We are looking for someone for 2 hours per day, Mon– Fri 3.30-5.30pm @ £9.62 per hour (Term time only), starting Monday 17th May. If you are interested, or know someone who might like to join our friendly team please contact the school for more details on 01206 865722

GIFT AID ENVELOPES: The new sets of envelopes are now available for collection from the Church Porch. Box sets are laid out in alphabetical order. Thank you.

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. 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