

ST. JAMES THE LESS AND ST. HELEN

CATHOLIC CHURCH, COLCHESTER

WITH MERSEA, MILE END AND MONKWICK

1 PARISH, 4 CHURCHES, 1 COMMUNITY

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME ^(B)

Saturday 24th	Church	6.15 pm	Kathy Doyle RIP
Sunday 25th	Church	8.00 am	Canon John Bloomfield
	Church	10.30 am	Parishioners
	Church	2.00 pm	Polish Mass
	Church	6.30 pm	Geoffrey Barry New RIP
	West Mersea	8.30 am	Private Intention
	Monkwick	10.15 am	Robert Bradshaw RIP
Monday 26th			Ss Joachim & Anne, Parents of the BVM
	Church	9.30 am	Mr. Anand Nair RIP
Tuesday 27th			Feria
	Church	9.30 am	Frederick, Elizabeth + Angelo Lucas
Wednesday 28th			Feria
	Church	12.15 pm	Ints: Richard Ian
Thursday 29th			St Martha
	Church	9.30 am	Phil Treby RIP
Friday 30th			Feria
	Church	9.30 am	Sisenando + Rosario De Jesus RIP
Saturday 31st			St Ignatius of Loyola, Pr
Live Stream	Church	9.30 am	Xavier Swampillai + Marie Bastianpillia RIP

EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME ^(B)

Saturday 31st	Church	6.15 pm	Thanksgiving + Private Intention
Sunday 1st August	Church	8.00 am	Private Intention
	Church	10.30 am	Finbar Nagle RIP
	Church	2.00 pm	Polish Mass
	Church	4.00 pm	Filipino Mass
	Church	6.30 pm	Dec. Mem. Zepeda Faria Family
	West Mersea	8.30 am	Parishioners
	Mile End	9.15 am	Private Intention
	Monkwick	10.15 am	John Mauger RIP

- ❖ 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)
(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: 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



SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME ^(B)

Week Commencing 25th July 2021

My response to generous hospitality is always to gladly eat what is put in front of me. Yes, I like good food but I also recognise the time and effort put in to cooking a meal is a sign of people's kindness! To use Fr Chris' word last week I believe that our gestures of hospitality are *symbolic*; they bring together the truth in our hearts to the work of our hands. They say I love you, I thank you, I am glad you are here. In a certain sense, they are sacramental, an outward sign of an inward truth. Our outward hunger for money, power, pleasure fame or food can also speak to us of a deeper hunger a hunger to be spiritually fed, to know and be known to love and be loved. The Gospel today is not about empty stomachs or outward power rather it is a demonstration of the power of Christ's love. In Christ's presence our minds, bodies and souls are fed! In the sacraments, outward signs instituted by Christ confer real grace to our souls for the sake of our salvation. Jesus comes to heal the painful wounds of sin by baptism and confession, to strengthen the life of grace in confirmation and feed our deepest hunger for love and intimacy in the Eucharist. As we feed our bodies at today's BBQ may we be even more eager to feed our souls through prayer and by coming to the sacraments with great frequency, sincerity, humility and hunger so that we too will be spiritually filled to overflowing with plenty left over to share with others.

Fr. Paschal

PLEASE SEE MASS SCHEDULE FOR ALL CHANGES

DAILY	Morning Prayer at 9.15 _{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 JULY: Social Friendship

We pray that, in social, economic and political situations of conflict, we may be courageous and passionate architects of dialogue and friendship.

Dear Parishioners and Friends,

Relaxation of Covid restrictions: There will no longer be restrictions on group sizes for attending communal worship. Our collective challenge, as restrictions are lifting, is to make sure we all continue to keep ourselves and others as safe as possible. As you know The Bishops' Conference liaises with the government regarding guidelines/requirements for churches and has done so throughout the pandemic. The latest guidance, which touches on so many areas, has only just arrived. Some things may change in the coming weeks: Please note the following changes that will be implemented:-

- ◆ There will be an expectation that face coverings are worn in the Church, as per the advice of the Government (*unless, of course, a person is exempt from doing so*).
- ◆ As Social distancing rules have changed there will no longer be Church Stewards at Mass guiding people to their seats, this means that people now have the option of choosing where they wish to sit.
- ◆ We will retain a section of the church roped off for those who wish to maintain the 2-metre social distancing.
- ◆ Weekday Masses will return to their normal time of 9.30_{am} from 26th July with Morning Prayer at 9.15_{am}.
- ◆ Entrance to Church will be via the main door (no one way system needed)
- ◆ The side door will remain open for ventilation and can be used for exiting if wished.
- ◆ Communion will remain under one kind.
- ◆ Sign of peace will remain not physical
- ◆ For the time being there will be no singing at Mass
- ◆ We will continue to supply hand sanitiser stations at entrance and side door.
- ◆ An Offertory Collection box will be situated at side door; the donation station in church porch is also useable
- ◆ There will be no restrictions on the number allowed to attend Funerals, Baptisms and Weddings

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.

MARRIAGE MATTERS: (Kings 4:42-44 Ephesians 4:1-6 John 6:1-15) **Selflessness in giving.** The readings recount God's continuing faithfulness to His people, and their response. Elisha's story is the forerunner to Jesus feeding at least five thousand on a few loaves and fishes. Such providence reminds us of our faithful God who gives, and gives, and then gives again. Do I do this, do we, to each other? In His strength, we can.

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.

PARISH BBQ TODAY: We will be hosting the annual Parish **BBQ today** after the 10.30_{am} Mass until 4_{pm}. This is a chance to catch up with friends old and new whilst enjoying delicious food hot off the grill! There will be a Raffle, Entertainment from Parish groups and the chance to find out about the various Ministry roles with the opportunity to join if interested. We would be happy to accept donations for Raffle prizes and will need volunteers on the day to help set up and manage the event. Please contact Frances on 369568 if you are able to assist on the day. Everyone welcome to this special event!

TODAY IS WORLD DAY FOR GRANDPARENTS AND THE ELDERLY 2021: Pope Francis has given it the theme: "*I am with you always*" from the Gospel of Matthew [28.30]. The Holy Father reminds us that we should cherish the elderly and recognize that there is no retirement age from the work of proclaiming the Gospel and handing down traditions to grandchildren. Please remember all our elderly and all grandparents in your prayers.

BCCS RELAY 100: Parishioner Mark Healy is taking part in the BCCS Relay 100, which is organised by Brentwood Catholic Children's Society; Mark plans to run 3 legs in total. On 07/08/21 (leg 79) starts at St Joseph's then onto St James the less, St John Payne, University of Essex Chapel and finally St Monica's Wivenhoe (8 miles). On 15/08/21 he is running (leg 76) from Our Lady of Heaven, Harwich to St Mary & St. Michael, Mistley and finally on 22/08/21 (leg 75) from Sacred Heart and St Francis, Frinton to Our Lady Queen of heaven, Harwich (13.2miles) Please lend your support and encouragement to Mark as he takes on this challenge. You can sponsor Mark via the link. <https://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/fundraiser-display/showROFundraiserPage?userUrl=Relay100&isTeam=true>

BCYS: "LOURDES AT YOUR LOCAL": Colchester Deanery, Tuesday 27th July. We would like to invite all Parishes in the Deanery to join the Brentwood Catholic Youth Service on Tuesday 27th July at 11_{am}, for a "*Lourdes at your Local*" Mass at Our Lady of Light, Clacton-on-Sea. Mass will be presided by Bishop Alan, with Anointing of the Sick. Further details and a full itinerary on website www.bcys.net/events

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION: The Certificates are ready all those children who celebrated their special day with Fr Chris (i.e. those who made their First Holy Communion on 8th May + 5th June 2021). Collection is from the Presbytery.

THE CRY OF CREATION – A STUDY DAY ON LAUDATO SI: As the United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP 26), to be held in Glasgow in November, draws nearer, and at a time of unprecedented danger for the world, the 2015 encyclical of Pope Francis, *Laudato si'*, on care for our 'common home', could not be more relevant. Fr Ashley Beck, priest of the archdiocese of Southwark and associate professor at St Mary's University, Twickenham specialising in Catholic Social Teaching, will explore its contents and explain its crucial relevance. To access this free live event go to www.whatgoodnews.org – the event is scheduled for **11.00 to 12.30 BST on Saturday 4th September**. No registration is needed. The talks will be available subsequently on the same website.

LIVING LAUDATO SI': Online Retreat on 15th – 18th October 2021. Open to all, this retreat will help personal prayer and reflection, and parish action, on the critical issue of care for God's creation. Bishop Alan will open the retreat, which will be led by expert speakers. For more information see the poster at the back of church or email laudatosi@dioceseofbrentwood.org

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