

# ST. JAMES THE LESS AND ST. HELEN

CATHOLIC CHURCH, COLCHESTER

WITH MERSEA, MILE END AND MONKWICK

1 PARISH, 4 CHURCHES, 1 COMMUNITY



St James the Less & St Helen

Parish Priest:  
Assistant Priest:

Mgr. Christopher Brooks  
Fr. Philip Okoli

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St James the Less and St Helen RC Church, Colchester

## TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (B)

<b>Saturday 24<sup>th</sup></b>	<i>Monkwick</i>	5.00 pm	Ints: Jerome Raju
<b>Sunday 25<sup>th</sup></b>	<i>Church</i>	8.00 am	Private Intention
	<i>Church</i>	10.30 am	Colin Taylor RIP
	<i>Church</i>	2.00 pm	Polish Mass
	<i>Church</i>	6.30 pm	Dec. Mem. Mulcahy, Quigley+ Murray families
	<i>West Mersea</i>	8.30 am	Parishioners
	<i>Mile End</i>	9.30 am	Private Intention
<b>Monday 26<sup>th</sup></b>			<b>Feria</b>
	<i>Church</i>	9.30 am	Canon John Bloomfield
<b>Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup></b>			<b>St Monica</b>
	<i>Church</i>	9.30 am	Ints: Marco Baby
<b>Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup></b>			<b>St Augustine, Bp, D</b>
	<i>Church</i>	9.30 am	Private Intention (SF)
<b>Thursday 29<sup>th</sup></b>			<b>The Passion of St John the Baptist</b>
	<i>Church</i>	9.30 am	Private Intention (NK + A)
<b>Friday 30<sup>th</sup></b>			<b>Feria</b>
	<i>Church</i>	9.30 am	Thanksgiving (SF)
<b>Saturday 31<sup>st</sup></b>			<b>Memorial of the Blessed Virgin Mary</b>
	<i>Church</i>	9.30 am	Ints: Iwona Borow

## TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (B)

<b>Saturday 31<sup>st</sup></b>	<i>Monkwick</i>	5.00 pm	Pravin, Raymond, Andre, Jean RIP
<b>Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> September</b>	<i>Church</i>	8.00 am	Private Intention
	<i>Church</i>	10.30 am	Loudimer Firmanes RIP
	<i>Church</i>	2.00 pm	Polish Mass
	<i>Church</i>	4.00 pm	Filipino Mass
	<i>Church</i>	6.30 pm	Beverley Powell RIP
	<i>West Mersea</i>	8.30 am	Parishioners
	<i>Mile End</i>	9.30 am	Private Intention

- ❖ For Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals, please email or contact our parish office.
- ❖ Baptism Godparents: A Godparent must be fully initiated in the Catholic Church. This means they have received the Sacraments of Baptism, Eucharist, and Confirmation. You only need one Godparent.
- ❖ Marriage Preparation: Please be aware that 6 months' notice of intention for Marriage is required especially if marrying outside the Parish. Couples who are planning to get married should contact us **at least 6 months** in advance. Thank you.
- ❖ Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) Saturdays after 9.30am Mass (Priory Street) and after 5.00pm Mass (Monkwick).
- ❖ Mass Intentions. Envelopes are available in Church Porch and are situated either side of Church entrance, please complete envelope & drop through presbytery door.

- **Cardinal Bourne Hall Enquiries/Bookings:** [colchester@brcdt.org](mailto:colchester@brcdt.org)
- **SVP (St Vincent de Paul Society):** Tel: 07493 439427/email: [colchestersvp@gmail.com](mailto:colchestersvp@gmail.com)
- **KNIGHTS OF SAINT COLUMBA:** George Johnson (BEM, Grand Knight) 07476 781885; George Benedict (Membership Officer) 07834 725890; email: [george.johnson@ksc.org.uk](mailto:george.johnson@ksc.org.uk)



Please check out our Facebook page for all the latest Parish/Diocese/Vatican news, Clergy/Church photos/videos. Please remember to **like** and **follow** our page!

TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (B)  
WEEK COMMENCING 25<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 2024

We come to the last part of John Chapter 6. Many disciples find it extremely difficult to accept Jesus' teaching about his body and blood. And this teaching causes many to turn away, unable to grasp the spiritual truth He is offering. He is left with his disciples only. And he turns to them and asks them 'what about you, do you want to go away too?'. And Peter answered 'Lord, who shall we go to? You have the message of eternal life, and we believe, and we know that you are the only one of God.' Peter's response is an affirmation of his deep faith and trust in Jesus. A statement that came straight from his heart. Despite the difficulty of Jesus' teachings, Peter recognizes that there is no alternative to Christ. This passage invites us to reflect on our faith in the Holy Eucharist – the real presence and on some challenging truths that Jesus offers. It calls us to trust in Him, even when understanding falters.

*Fr. Philip*

**PLEASE SEE MASS SCHEDULE FOR ALL CHANGES**

<b>DAILY (Mon-Fri)</b>	Rosary/Divine Mercy	<b>at 8.45 am</b>
<b>DAILY</b>	Morning Prayer	<b>at 9.15 am</b>
<b>CHRISTIAN MEDITATION</b>	Wednesdays (Cardinal Bourne Hall)	<b>at 8.00 pm</b>
<b>LEGION OF MARY</b>	Fridays (Cardinal Bourne Hall)	<b>at 7.30 pm</b>



**THE POPE'S INTENTIONS FOR AUGUST: *For political leaders.***  
*We pray that political leaders be at the service of their own people, working for integral human development and for the common good, especially caring for the poor and those who have lost their jobs.*

**PRAYER FOR WORLD PEACE.** Lord, we ask for your divine intervention and peace to prevail in Ukraine, Palestine and in every land wounded by war. We pray for all those suffering or afraid, that you will be close to them and protect them. We ask that you guide leaders and nations to work toward lasting peace and stability around the world. *Amen*



**MARRIAGE MATTERS:** (Joshua 24: 1-2, 15-18 Ephesians 5: 21-32 John6: 60-69) ***Making decisions: being open and honest.*** The word 'submit' used in Ephesians today, raises many hackles in our equality sensitive society. 'Submit' does not mean obey. In fact the passage begins by saying we husbands and wives should submit ourselves to one other. In this context 'submit' is about choosing to relate openly and honestly with each other. Open, honest and trust-filled communication brings about intimacy.

**PRAYERS FOR THE SICK:** We continue to pray for those parishioners we know who are sick and housebound especially Margaret Hawkins, Valerie Thurston, Jimmy Clarin, Grace McCartney, Diana Irven, Mrs. Maureen McKenna, Ron & Margaret Griffin, Peter Wyatt, Elizabeth Pace, Hilda Morah, Jason Christopher McLean, Nicollas and Adam Campbell-Vencarto, Maureen R. We also pray for all persons who are ill or are in need.



**RECENTLY DECEASED:** Please pray for the repose of the soul of Joan Slade who has recently passed away. The Parish community offers Joans family and friends our condolences and the assurance of our prayers at this most difficult time. Joan's funeral service will be on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> September at 11.30am.

**BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP:** When we lose someone we have loved, a relationship where we felt safe, or a job where we felt fulfilled, we are left with grief that affects us emotionally and spiritually. Working together with two neighbouring parishes, we offer opportunities for support at a time of bereavement and loss: Group support at St Teresa's, Lexden and St. John Payne's Greenstead and one to one help in St James the Less, Priory St. The leaders are trained and experienced and are or have been part of St Helena's Hospice Counselling and Emotional Support Team. More details on Notice Board, website and Facebook.

**MARY'S MEALS APPEAL (SCHOOL + FOOD = HOPE):** Please consider donating your leftover foreign currency to Mary's meals. Envelopes are available in the Church Porch, simply fill the envelope with your leftover foreign currency; UK coins and notes that are no longer legal tender and hand your sealed envelope into the Presbytery. Your kindness will help provide nutritious school meals to children living in some of the World's poorest countries and give desperately hungry children hope for the future.

**LEGION OF MARY:** The Legion of Mary invites parishioners aged 18 and older to join our weekly prayer meetings which will be held in Cardinal Bourne Hall **every Friday at 7.30pm** offering a dedicated time for fellowship and growth. Membership in the Legion does not require specific skills or advanced spirituality. Please do join us in a meeting.

**NEW MASS BOOKS FOR THE CHURCH (Year C, Part 1):** We are gradually having to replace all the parishioners' Mass books (*these are the Mass books on each of the benches in Church*). Parishioners may like to take this opportunity to sponsor new books on a smaller scale than the Lectionaries as each Mass book costs £5.95 (we will need a minimum of 300 books to cover all Parish Churches). If you would like to donate towards the Church Mass books, then please contact the parish office or put your donation in an envelope marked New Mass books. However big or small your donation it all helps! Our thanks to those who have donated so far.

**BUCKINGHAM PALACE STATE ROOMS + WESTMINSTER CATHEDRAL DAY TRIP:** Organised by St Teresa's, Lexden. Please let us know if you are interested in going to Buckingham Palace + Westminster Cathedral on **Friday 20<sup>th</sup> September 2024**. The full cost for both the Palace Ticket and coach seat are £60.00 per person. The coach will be leaving from St Teresa's Church Lexden CO3 9BE at 9am, with return from London about 4pm. Please contact the St Teresa's church office or Catherine Offord at 07971052441 to book your place on this trip.



**CUPPA CLUB:** We meet **every Thursday from 10.00am to 11.30am** in the Hall.  
**SUNDAY COFFEE MORNING** after 10.30am Mass in Cardinal Bourne Hall.

**BRENTWOOD DIOCESAN ALTAR SERVERS' MASS** is scheduled for **2pm on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> September 2024**, at Brentwood Cathedral of St. Mary & St. Helen.

**WALSINGHAM HOUSE 40<sup>TH</sup> AND 60<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY MASS, 12noon on 31<sup>st</sup> August** at Walsingham House at Abbotswick, Navestockside, CM14 5SH. Mass will be celebrated by Bishop Alan; please bring lunch and enjoy an afternoon at the beautiful Diocesan retreat house especially for young people, just outside Brentwood. Everyone is welcome – if you have ever been on retreat to Walsingham House, or helped as a teacher, catechist or youth leader, then do come to this very special Anniversary celebration. Mass will be offered for Fr Pat Sammon, RIP, who did so much to develop Walsingham House. More information at [www.bcys.net](http://www.bcys.net).

**"ADOREMUS" FESTIVAL, OSCOTT COLLEGE, BIRMINGHAM on Sat 14<sup>th</sup> SEPT;** The "Adoremus" National Eucharistic Congress and Pilgrimage is taking place with representatives from dioceses across England and Wales. There is no charge for the coach but you will need to bring a packed lunch. If you would like to attend please contact the Diocesan Co-ordinator, Father Dan Mason at: [frdanmason@brcdt.org](mailto:frdanmason@brcdt.org)

**BBQ AND MASS FOR YOUNG ADULTS:** Our Lady Immaculate, Chelmsford, **Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> September**. If you are 18+ and have left school, then you are very welcome to join a group of young adults for a BBQ from 3pm with Mass at 7pm, at Our Lady Immaculate Church in Chelmsford. No need to book, simply come along to meet other young adult Catholics and find out more about upcoming events just for you!

**INSPIRE, NURTURE AND ACCOMPANY YOUNG PEOPLE ON THE EDGE OF EAST LONDON.** The parishes in the Romford Parish Partnership are recruiting a **Parish Partnership Youth Coordinator**. Salary £30,000/year, closing date 10<sup>th</sup> September 2024, start date no later than January 2025. This is a new role, with amazing potential to bring young people into leadership in the Church. Full details: <https://www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/diocese/working-for-us/>

**WALSINGHAM HOUSE RETREAT MANAGER:** Walsingham House at Abbotswick, the youth retreat centre for the Diocese of Brentwood, are seeking to appoint a Retreat Manager. For more info please see: <https://bcys.net/news/vacancies/> Closing date is Friday 30<sup>th</sup> August.

**CHURCH CLEANING TEAM:** Monday 26/08/24: **Team 2 / Monday 02/09/24: Team 3**  
**COFFEE MORNING ROTA:** 25/08/24: SVP / 01/09/24: Matthew + Mariamma