

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
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St James the Less and St Helen RC Church, Colchester

THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A)

Saturday 24th	Church	6.15 pm	Canon John Bloomfield
Sunday 25th	Church	8.00 am	David Anthony Hill RIP
	Church	9.15 am	Michael + Bridget Brady RIP
	Church	10:30 am	Parishioners
	Church	2.00 pm	Polish Mass
	Church	6.30 pm	Private Intention
	West Mersea	8:30 am	Private Intention
	Monkwick	10:15 am	Tony Dixon RIP
Monday 26th			St Cedd Bp, Secondary Co-Patron of the Diocese
	Church	10.00 am	John (Jackie) Wilmott RIP
Tuesday 27th			Feria
	Church	10.00 am	Anniv: Mr. T. N. Sebastian
Wednesday 28th			SS Simon and Jude, App
	Church	10.00 am	Cecilia Uglow RIP
Thursday 29th			Feria
	Church	10.00 am	Ints: Florise Caute
Friday 30th			Feria
	Church	10.00 am	Holy Souls
Saturday 31st			Memorial of the Blessed Virgin Mary
	Church	10.00 am	Vicky Culham + Bernadette Coppini RIP

ALL SAINTS (A)

HOLIDAY OF OBLIGATION

Saturday 31st	Church	6.15 pm	Mr. John Edward Sales RIP
Sunday 1st November	Church	8.00 am	Michael + Annie O'Reilly RIP
	Church	9.15 am	Deceased Members of Lohan Family
	Church	10:30 am	Private Intention
	Church	2.00 pm	Polish Mass
	Church	6.30 pm	Private Intention
	West Mersea	8:30 am	Parishioners
	Monkwick	10:15 am	Tony Dixon RIP

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 3yrs)

There is no obligation for the faithful to attend Sunday Mass. You can attend Mass on any weekday.

- ❖ 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 morning or before evening mass.
- ❖ Mass Intentions. These can be posted through the presbytery letterbox and they will be published in the newsletter (available on the parish website).
- ❖ 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.

 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.

THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A)

WEEK COMMENCING 25TH OCTOBER 2020 - PARISH MASS BOOK PAGE

When we hear the word commandment, we may think of a strict parent or a firm school teacher instructing us to do something, a law we must follow or a restriction that ultimately limits our freedom.

However, Jesus tells us that the greatest commandment is not something alien or abstract to us. It does not inhibit or limit our freedom, on the contrary, the greatest commandment gives us our true freedom and joy! So, what is the commandment? Jesus commands us to fall in love, commit to love and stay in love with the one who is himself love.

We were made for love and without love we make no sense to ourselves. Whilst falling in love may seem the most natural of things to do, loving God and our neighbour requires supernatural grace.

The fifth century monk Pelagius believed that we could love God and our neighbour sufficiently with our own will power and so he tried so hard to impress God with his own efforts, harsh penances and strict regimes.

The Church had to correct him and taught that this fundamental commandment to love God and neighbour is impossible without the grace of God. As the opening prayer in Sunday's liturgy states "Lord make me love what you command so that I can merit what you promise." If God does not give us his grace then we will not find any joy, peace or freedom in loving God and neighbour. Rather we will experience this commandment as a frustrating work of the flesh, unable to bear the fruits of the spirit.

By frequent confession and reverent reception of holy communion we are made capable of keeping the greatest commandment and enjoying the greatest possible love.

Fr. Paschal

PLEASE SEE MASS SCHEDULE FOR ALL CHANGES

DAILY	Morning Prayer at 9.45am	Restarted Monday 12 th October
DAILY	Rosary/Divine Mercy	All Temporarily suspended
SUNDAYS:	Rosary/Divine Mercy	
2 nd SUNDAY MONTHLY	Eucharistic Adoration	
CHRISTIAN MEDITATION	Tuesdays in Crypt (8.00pm)	

Dear Parishioners and Friends,
Covid-19 still presents many challenges to us all. It can seem at times overwhelming but 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 in order to promote a COVID 19 safe environment :-

- ♦ Churches will open 20 minutes before start of Mass as it will take longer than normal to enter the church, please make allowances
- ♦ 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 mass) and that you wear it so that it covers both your mouth and nose.
- ♦ When chatting with people from outside your household (or bubble), before or after Mass, you must maintain social distancing. If you are wearing a mask, this means a minimum of one-metre distance. If you are not wearing a mask: two metres distance is essential.
- ♦ An Offertory Collection will be taken at each mass with 'collection bags' available on entry 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 stewards at every Mass and after the service; the church will be cleaned in readiness for the next Mass.

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.

THE POPE'S INTENTIONS FOR OCTOBER *The Laity's Mission in the Church*
We pray that by the virtue of baptism, the laity, especially women, may participate more in areas of responsibility in the Church.

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. We pray for all persons who have contracted Covid-19 and their families.

RECENTLY DECEASED: Please pray for the repose of the souls of Leslie MacDonald, Patricia Cawtheray and Mary (k/a Mollie) McLaren and Eva Read (*former sacristan at P. St*) who have all recently passed away. May they rest in peace. We pray for the comfort of their respective bereaved family and friends. Leslie's funeral mass will take place here on Monday 2nd November at 1.45pm; Mollie's funeral mass will take place here on 5th November at 2pm; Patricia's funeral mass will take place at St Cedds on 9th November at 11am; Eva's funeral will take place outside this parish.

REPOSITORY: A selection of 2021 Diaries are available for sale in the church porch (in the card stand). If purchasing please leave money in the Repository Box. Thank you.

HELP REQUIRED TO BUILD CHRISTMAS CRIB: This year we are hoping to have an outdoor Christmas nativity scene in the Church forecourt (*in front of the Church*) as well as the nativity scene/crib in the Lady Chapel inside Church. If anyone feels like they could help to build this, please can you contact Fr Chris on 01206 866317 or speak to him after mass. Let us make our Church a beacon of light for what has been for many parishioners a time of darkness and bring the true spirit of Christmas for all to enjoy - that the birth of Jesus 'is the reason for the season'!

MARRIAGE MATTERS: (Exodus 22:20-26 1 Thess 1:5-10 Matt 22:34-40) *How can I best love you today?*
In today's gospel, Jesus says love should be at the centre of our lives, so we must ask 'How can I best love my partner today?' To know how our partner experiences our love best, we need to explore together whether it is through compliments, special time together, presents or acts of service, or simple hugging and kissing.

2nd COLLECTION: The next 2nd collection is for World Day of the Poor on 15th November. The proceeds of this collection will be split between Josie's Kitchen and the SVP, both of whom play such a vital role in our Parish assisting the homeless and those in need.

MERSEA MASS: Mass Bookings will continue at Mersea in order to control numbers attending. Please use the following links for masses over the next 4 weekends (right click booking form and open hyperlink) alternatively, links for booking forms are on website under mass times: -
Sunday 1st November [Booking Form](#) Sunday 15th November [Booking Form](#)
Sunday 8th November [Booking Form](#) Sunday 22nd November [Booking Form](#)

NOVEMBER IS THE MONTH OF HOLY SOULS. During this month, prayers and Masses are said for the Faithful Departed. *November Altar Lists of dead & Envelopes* are available in the Church Porch. Please put the names of your deceased family and friends on the list and place this in the envelope along with your donation and either hand the envelope to a priest or drop the envelope through the presbytery letterbox.

CHURCH STEWARDS: Coming into the winter period we will require more volunteers willing to Steward our Masses in the event that any of our existing ones are ill. These Stewards will be on an as need basis. If you are able to assist, please contact the Presbytery office. Thank you.

EXPOSITION: after morning Mass on Saturday 31st October & each Saturday thereafter (½ hr).

MEMORIAL MASS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE WHO HAVE DIED. On Wednesday 4th November, the Youth Mass from the chapel at Walsingham House at Abbotswick, streamed at 8pm via Instagram, will commemorate young people who have died. You will find more details at www.bcys.net. If you would like the name of a young person to be read during the Mass, and a candle lit for them, please email frdominic@dioceseofbrentwood.org, before 2nd November.

PARISH FINANCES: We thank you in advance for the offering that you give today. 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)
- Donation baskets are situated at entrance and exit of church
- Setting up a regular gift by Standing Order, (please contact Presbytery office for form).
- The Donation Station (in Church porch)
- 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

CARDINAL BOURNE HALL: The hall is closed and all group activity suspended until further notice.
SVP (St Vincent de Paul Society): Tel: 07493 439427 or email: colchestersvp@gmail.com