

THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A) (Sunday of the Word of God)

Saturday 25th	Church	6.15 pm	Dominic McFadden RIP
Sunday 26th	Church	8:00 am	Kitty + Maurice Foley 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
	Mile End	9:15 am	Bill Barry RIP
	Monkwick	10:15 am	Celestine Tighe RIP

Monday 27th	Church	9.30 am	Feria Mr & Mrs Taylor + Fams
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Tuesday 28th	Church	9.30 am	St. Thomas Aquinas, Pr, D Ints: Miss D. O'Byrne + Fam
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Wednesday 29th	Church	9.30 am	Feria Ints: Mrs L. Price + Fams
<i>STM School Mass</i>	Church	12.15 pm	Conal McGiney + Maura O'Connell RIP

Thursday 30th	Church	9.30 am	Feria Anniv: Des Fuller
	Mile End	12.45 pm	FUNERAL MASS: Anne Hall RIP

Friday 31st	Church	9.30 am	St. John Bosco, Pr Mrs Margaret Power
<i>Colchester Hospital Mass</i>		12.00 pm	Ints: Catherine Wood

Saturday 1st February	Church	9.30 am	Feria Frederick, Elizabeth + Angelo Lucas
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Feast THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD (A) (World Day for Consecrated Life)

Saturday 1st	Church	6.15 pm	Ints: Christina Lambe
Sunday 2nd	Church	8:00 am	Ints: Moriarty Family
	Church	10:30 am	Private Intention
	Church	2.00 pm	Polish Mass
	Church	4.00 pm	Filipino Mass
	Church	6:30 pm	Miss Helen Wynter RIP
	West Mersea	8:30 am	Anthony Brookes RIP
	Mile End	9:15 am	Parishioners
	Monkwick	10:15 am	Wright + Wrobel Fams

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (confession): Saturday 9:45am -10:30am; 5:30pm -6.00pm
SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE: At least six months' notice is required
BAPTISM COURSE: www.stjamesthelessandsthelen.org under where a list of course dates are available

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, we can also arrange for a Eucharistic Minister to visit the patient so that they may receive Holy Communion if they do not require a priest visit or are long term in-patients.

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. Nixon Gomes
 Assistant Priest: Fr. Philip Willenbrock

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THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A)
WEEK COMMENCING: 26TH JANUARY 2020 - PARISH MASS BOOK PAGE 127

The readings this Sunday dwell on a favourite topic of Scripture, that Jesus is the light of the world. I find myself thinking of the Creed, where we acclaim the Second Person of the Trinity (the Word of God) as Light from Light and through whom all things were made. Then we can reflect on Genesis, where God creates through words i.e. the Word; and where first to be created is – light; and this light is before the sun and moon are created. All of which means that to properly begin to understand the universe we need to take, not the materialistic approach of science (though that has its uses certainly), but the path of wisdom, whereby we grasp that creation is a manifestation of the Word, though a pale reflection, just as created light is a pale reflection of uncreated Light from Light.

Fr. Chris

PLEASE SEE MASS SCHEDULE FOR ALL CHANGES

DAILY	Morning Prayer	9.15am
DAILY	Rosary/Divine Mercy	8:35am
SUNDAYS:	Rosary/Divine Mercy	<i>following</i> 8.00am Mass
2 nd SUNDAY MONTHLY	Eucharistic Adoration	5.00pm - 6.00pm
CHRISTIAN MEDITATION	Tuesdays in Crypt	8.00pm

THE HOLY FATHER'S INTENTIONS FOR JANUARY: *Promotion of World Peace.* We pray that Christians, followers of other religions, and all people of goodwill may promote peace and justice in the world.

MARRIAGE MATTERS: *God has a stake in our marriage.* Today, we see two aspects of God's plan for our marriage: '*... (I will make) their joy increase*' (Isaiah) and '*I will make you fishers of men*' (Matthew). God wants us to make our love for each other as close to Jesus' love for us as possible, that all whose lives we touch might experience how much God loves them.

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK: We continue to pray for those parishioners we know who are sick and housebound especially, Nicollas and Adam Campbell-Vencarto, Pat Keene, Venetia Hetherington, Elizabeth Pace, Hilda Morah. Valerie Thurston

CHRISTMAS CRIB COLLECTION IN AID OF THE BRENTWOOD CATHOLIC CHILDREN'S SOCIETY: In accordance with Diocesan policy, our Crib will remain in place until the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord [February 2nd] and these offerings will go to the (BCCS) Brentwood Catholic Children's Society.

NEXT BAPTISM COURSE: for new-borns and children up to age 6 yrs. will take place on **Friday 7th February 2020** here in the Crypt from 7:30pm-9.00pm (entrance to Crypt is via Church). No appointment is necessary and all baptism dates will be arranged during the 2nd session of course. [If you would like to present a child for Baptism aged 7 or older, please email the Parish Office].

WANTED – CATECHISTS: With young people preparing for sacraments of Initiation throughout the parish if you have ever wanted to know more, or are willing to share your faith with our young people please contact Hywel Edwards at Edwards.hywel@btinternet.com or after the 10:30am Mass. The numbers of children we can prepare is dependent on the availability of catechists to prepare them - so please don't be shy!

LANDINGS: Calling all active Catholics, if you would like to be involved with the Landings program that will be coming soon to this Parish. **Please see poster in church porch for details.**

The **SVP Cuppa Club** is running every Thursday morning from 10am to 12 noon in the Cardinal Bourne Hall. Come and enjoy a free tea/coffee and cake with friends. Newspapers, puzzles, games and craft. If you know anyone who would like to come but needs a lift, please get in touch, using the contact details below.

WEDNESDAY FILM GROUP: The next Film showing is on **Wednesday 5th February** with a **start time of 1.15pm** screening "*Courageous*". Everyone is most welcome. No Entrance fee just make a donation towards refreshments. Please see noticeboard in porch for future films and screening dates.

SVP: "turning concern into action". Do you have a spare hour or so in the week to visit someone who is lonely and housebound or to visit a care home? As the requests for our support have increased, we need people who are willing to give up their time to help others. What does membership of the SVP involve? Really as much or as little as you can offer – we are a friendly group who meet twice a month on a Monday evening. Some of us distribute food to the homeless while others carry out visits and make new friends.

COLCHESTER CATHOLIC HERITAGE GROUP: The next meeting of the group will be on Monday 27th January in the Crypt after morning mass. New members always welcome.

JOSIES KITCHEN: Josie is looking for volunteers to assist her with feeding the homeless on Mondays. If you have the time available and are looking to participate in a worthwhile cause, please speak to Josie either on Monday or Friday mornings in the hall or leave your contact details at the presbytery.

YEAR OF THE GOD WHO SPEAKS: The 3rd study day for the Year of the Word will be held at the Catholic Church of Christ the Eternal High Priest, Brentwood Road,,RM2 6DH on **Saturday 29th February at 10.30am**, Fr Victor Darlington, lecturer on John's Gospel at St John's Seminary, Womersley, will give two talks entitled 'John Among the Gospels',. The day will conclude at 3pm. Free admission, but please book by email to GPstudydays@gmail.com or by phone to 01708 449914.

THE ANNUAL LOURDES MASS will be celebrated at Brentwood Cathedral on Sunday 16th February at 3pm. This is an opportunity to give thanks for graces received in Lourdes and to seek prayers for the sick. During the Mass, the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick will be celebrated.

FRDOMINIC5000AT50: Fr Dominic is turning 50 in September, and to mark the moment he is solo cycling 5000km between now and then – all without leaving Walsingham House at Abbotswick! He is raising money for the BCCS, Help Refugees, HCPT and Walsingham House and all the details are at <https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/frdominic5000at50> where you can donate online. Or send cheques payable to "Fr D Howarth" to FrDominic5000at50, Walsingham House at Abbotswick, Navestock Side, Essex CM14 5SH.

YOUTH MASS: Wednesday 5th February 8pm at Brentwood Cathedral. Anyone age 14+ is very welcome; the February Mass includes a live interview with Rob Green, a former Campion pupil who – using his own resources – went to Greece last summer and worked in a refugee camp for a month. Hear his fascinating story, and be inspired about some unusual Lenten resolutions. More details www.bcys.net.

LENTEN REFLECTION AND REVISION RETREAT: Walsingham House at Abbotswick, **27th-29th March**. In school year 11-13? Struggling to find a quiet space to study for GCSEs, BTEC or A-levels? The weekend retreat will include reflective prayer, generous time for personal study, and relaxed social time, and will conclude with Mass. 8pm Friday 27th – 3pm Sunday 29th. Meals included. Cost £35.

DIOCESAN LOURDES PILGRIMAGE: Bishop Alan, supported by our Youth Service, will lead a pilgrimage to Lourdes from 26 - 31 July, flying from Southend Airport. This is a wonderful opportunity, including for the frail and those with needs, to pray at the Grotto, grow in faith, and enjoy the company of fellow pilgrims. Some brochures and booking forms are available in the parish or you can contact the tour operator, Tangney Tours, directly: www.tangney-tours.com/brentwood or 01732 886885

DIOCESAN DIRECTORIES copies are on sale at the back of the church. These are very useful as they contain the liturgical calendar for the church year and information about all parts of the Diocese including Diocesan contact details, parishes, schools, prayer groups and other organisations and societies. Priced at £2.80 per copy (money to go in "*Repository*" Box in church porch).

❖ **SVP (St Vincent de Paul Society):** Tel: 07493 439427 or email: colchestersvp@gmail.com
❖ **CARDINAL BOURNE HALL BOOKINGS:** email: cb.hall@btinternet.com
or Tel: 07758 805263 [*answerphone only*] – please leave a message with name + contact number

CHURCH CLEANERS' ROTA: Monday 27th January: **Team 1** (2020 Rota available in porch)