

# 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

Address: 51 Priory Street, Colchester, Essex, CO1 2QB  
Tel: 01206 866317  
E-Mail: [colchester@dioceseofbrentwood.org](mailto:colchester@dioceseofbrentwood.org)  
Website: [www.stjamesthelessandsthelen.org](http://www.stjamesthelessandsthelen.org)  
St James the Less and St Helen RC Church, Colchester

## TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A)

<b>Saturday 26<sup>th</sup></b>	Church	6.15 pm	Joe Parkinson RIP
<b>Sunday 27<sup>th</sup></b>	Church	8.00 am	Parishioners
	Church	10:30 am	Paddy Murrin RIP
	Church	2.00 pm	Polish Mass
	Church	6.30 pm	Margaret O'Sullivan RIP
	West Mersea	8:30 am	Private Intention
Monkwick	10:15 am	Atholl Brown RIP	
<b>Monday 28<sup>th</sup></b>			<b>Feria</b>
	Church	10.00 am	Tony Dixon RIP
<b>Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup></b>			<b>SS Michael, Gabriel &amp; Raphael, Archangels</b>
	Church	10.00 am	Marcelina (Sally) Widman RIP
<b>Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup></b>			<b>St Jerome, Pr, D</b>
	Church	10.00 am	Ints: Rosaleen Collins
<b>Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> October</b>			<b>St Therese of the Child Jesus (Lisieux), V,D</b>
	Church	10.00 am	Ivan + Anna Norfolk RIP
<b>Friday 2<sup>nd</sup></b>			<b>The Holy Guardian Angels</b> Harvest Fast Day
	Monkwick	9.30 am	Reception into Church: Anthony Dixon RIP
	Church	10.00 am	Mrs. Chachy Joseph RIP
	Monkwick	11.00 am	Funeral Service: Anthony Dixon RIP
<b>Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup></b>			<b>Blessed Virgin Mary</b>
	Church	10.00 am	Ronald Jay RIP

## TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A)

<b>Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup></b>	Church	6.15 pm	Tony Dixon RIP
<b>Sunday 4<sup>th</sup></b>	Church	8.00 am	D. I. (Pastor)
	Church	10:30 am	Anniv: Thomas Alexander MacKinlay
	Church	2.00 pm	Polish Mass
	Church	6.30 pm	Parishioners
	West Mersea	8:30 am	Private Intention
Monkwick	10:15 am	Joseph Hawken RIP	

**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 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.
- ❖ 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.

**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, subject to hospital

**TWENTY- SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A)**  
WEEK COMMENCING 27<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2020 - PARISH MASS BOOK PAGE

Hello Parishioners,

I am so excited to preach again this weekend! I am continually finding that God's word is like a mirror (James 1:23) if you look hard enough you will see yourself! This week I see myself in the first reading with the people of Ezekiel's time. Their cry is, "*God you are not fair!*" Sometimes looking at a world filled with injustice and sufferings we may also be tempted to think that "*God, you are not fair.*"

Well let's slow down and think about that. If God were to strictly give us what is *fair* what is just no one would survive, (Psalm 130:3) If in strict justice he were to weigh our sins against his infinite goodness and love we would all weigh in short.

But fear not. In the second reading St Paul shows us how in the cross of Christ, God is both completely just towards sin and compassionately merciful towards sinners. He takes on all the weight of sin and gives out all the weight of his love and mercy. In light of such love we owe God our whole, enduring and heartfelt yes. A yes like Mary that makes us both receivers and givers of his love. A yes that amidst the darkness of this world helps us to see that *God is not fair, he is more than fair, he is outrageously merciful!*

Fr Paschal

**PLEASE SEE MASS SCHEDULE FOR ALL CHANGES**

DAILY	Morning Prayer	<b>All Temporarily suspended</b>
DAILY	Rosary/Divine Mercy	
SUNDAYS:	Rosary/Divine Mercy	
2 <sup>nd</sup> SUNDAY MONTHLY	Eucharistic Adoration	
CHRISTIAN MEDITATION	Tuesdays in Crypt (8.00 <sub>pm</sub> )	

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 SEPTEMBER: *Respect for the Planet's Resources.*** We pray that the planet's resources will not be plundered, but shared in a just and respectful manner.

**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 John Sales and Ivan Norfolk who have all recently passed away. May they rest in peace. John's funeral service will be held on 15<sup>th</sup> October at 12.00<sub>pm</sub> and Ivan's funeral service will be held on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> October at 12.00<sub>pm</sub>; We pray for the comfort of their respective bereaved family and friends.

**READERS:** As there is no Readers rota in force now - can volunteers please arrive early and make it known to stewards/clergy that they would like to read. Readers are to sit in first row as directed by Stewards. Thank you

**ALL PARISHIONERS:** Due to the Sunday morning masses approaching their restricted capacity, we are hoping to have an additional Sunday morning Mass at 9.15<sub>am</sub> each week at Priory Street, but this will only be possible with the assistance of additional volunteer Stewards/Cleaners. So far, only one volunteer has stepped forward to offer their help; it will not be possible to hold this Mass without more volunteers. Please contact the Presbytery office if you feel you could help. Our heartfelt thanks to all our existing volunteers who make each Mass possible in this Parish.

**MARRIAGE MATTERS:** (Ezek18: 25-28 Phil 2: 1-11 Matt 21: 28-32) **Maintain a common purpose**

Remember our courting days and the long, thrilling conversations we had about our future together. They were part of our falling in love and of establishing a common purpose in married life. St Paul reminds us of the mark of a Christian: "Be united in your convictions and your love, with a common purpose and a common mind."

**MERSEA NEWS:** Mass Bookings will continue at Mersea in order to control numbers attending. Please use the following links for masses over the next 5 weekends (right click booking form and open hyperlink) alternatively, links for booking form are on website under mass times: -

Sunday 4 <sup>th</sup> October	<a href="#">Booking Form</a>	Sunday 25 <sup>th</sup> October	<a href="#">Booking Form</a>
Sunday 11 <sup>th</sup> October	<a href="#">Booking Form</a>	Sunday 1 <sup>st</sup> November	<a href="#">Booking Form</a>
Sunday 18 <sup>th</sup> October	<a href="#">Booking Form</a>		

**EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS:** We would like to invite a Eucharistic Minister (from our existing team) to assist the priests with Holy Communion at our masses with larger attendances (i.e. 8<sub>am</sub> and 10.30<sub>am</sub> Sunday masses). On the day, please speak to the priest before mass if you would like to volunteer to assist for that service. Thank you.

**CAFOD'S FAMILY FAST DAY:** Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> October is Family Fast Day, this year Cafod is making a Rebuild Lives Coronavirus Appeal; **Survive-Rebuild-Heal.** Envelopes at entrance and exit. Please give what you can to help those less fortunate. Thank You.


**2<sup>nd</sup> COLLECTIONS:** A basket is at the church exit for your donations. CAFOD-04/10/20; Prisoner's Sunday-11/10/20; World Mission Sunday-18/10/20.

**PARISH FINANCES:** Some people have experienced financial hardship during the lockdown and face uncertain financial futures. Our parish has also experienced the challenge of much reduced finances, which is a serious concern. 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**

 Please check out our Facebook page for all the latest Parish/Diocese/Vatican news + photos Please remember to like our page

**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