

ST. JAMES THE LESS AND ST. HELEN

CATHOLIC CHURCH, COLCHESTER

WITH MERSEA, MILE END AND MONKWICK

1 PARISH, 4 CHURCHES, 1 COMMUNITY



Parish Priest:
Assistant Priest:
Assistant Priest:

Mgr. Christopher Brooks
Fr. Paschal Uche
Fr. Philip Willenbrock

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St James the Less and St Helen RC Church, Colchester

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT (B)

Saturday 27th	Church	6.15 pm	Jan Holden RIP
Sunday 28th <small>Live Streamed</small>	Church	8.00 am	7 th Anniversary: Mrs. Margaret Barker RIP
	Church	10.30 am	Private Intentions
	Church	2.00 pm	Polish Mass
	Church	6.30 pm	Holy Souls
	West Mersea	8.30 am	Violet Woollatt RIP
	Monkwick	10.15 am	Parishioners

Monday 1st SAINT DAVID, Ap

Live Streamed Church 10.00 am Mary O'Keeffe

Tuesday 2nd Church 10.00 am Brendan Burke RIP

Wednesday 3rd Church 10.00 am Cathy Irvine RIP

Thursday 4th Church 10.00 am Madeline Smith RIP

Friday 5th Church 10.00 am Alice Reid RIP

Saturday 6th Church 10.00 am Thanksgiving (SF)

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT (B)

Saturday 7th Church 6.15 pm Rose Donovan RIP

Sunday 8th Live Streamed Church 8.00 am Private Intention

Church 10.30 am Patrick Kehoe RIP

Church 2.00 pm Polish Mass

Church 6.30 pm Holy Souls

West Mersea 8.30 am Parishioners

Monkwick 10.15 am Brendan Burke 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 11yrs)

- ❖ 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.

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT (B)

Week Commencing 28TH FEBRUARY 2021



A film trailer or book blurb, captures and dispenses something of the drama to be enjoyed. It's not the whole story, but it is a glimpse of the glory. The transfiguration is a glimpse of Christ's glory, a foretaste of our eternal destiny! 6 days after Jesus tells his disciples about his impending suffering and death, He banishes their sadness for gladness taking his inner circle Peter, James and John up mount Tabor he is transfigured. Christ's clothes become a dazzling white, Moses and Elijah show up and the voice of God can be heard saying, "*This is my son listen to him.*" As we continue to journey through the desert of Lent (and lockdown) The Church gives us this gospel as a taster of the glory to come. Although the disciples will leave Jesus during the passion, when the time came this scene would be a reminder of Christ's promise, Christ's presence and Christ's glorious power. In our own lives, we too need an encounter with Christ that transforms what we see and how we see. May the transfiguration be the trailer that reminds us of the glory to come. Be encouraged. God is for us, with us and in us. In every circumstance, he is the hope of Glory.

Fr .Paschal

LIVE STREAM: DAILY MASSES AND A SUNDAY MASS
(Weekdays 10am, please see Schedule for Sunday Live Stream Mass Time)

St James the Less and St Helen RC Church, Colchester

PLEASE SEE MASS SCHEDULE FOR ALL CHANGES

DAILY	Morning Prayer at 9.45am	All Temporarily suspended
DAILY	Rosary/Divine Mercy	
SUNDAYS:	Rosary/Divine Mercy	
2 nd SUNDAY MONTHLY	Eucharistic Adoration	
CHRISTIAN MEDITATION	Tuesdays in Crypt (8.00 _{pm})	

**THE POPE'S INTENTIONS FOR FEBRUARY: Violence Against Women**

We pray for women who are victims of violence, that they may be protected by society and have their sufferings considered and heeded.

MARRIAGE MATTERS: (Genesis 9:8-15 1 Peter 3:18-22 Mark 1:12-15) *We hunger for closeness* 'Wilderness' can be a reality in our marriage relationship at times, a kind of 'desert experience': hungering for a gentle touch or return of the closeness in our relationship. Yet, we can look back on such times and recognise the Spirit was at work. God's grace was in our yearning, calling us to choose life and turn away from self-indulgence.

Dear Parishioners and Friends,

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 which remain in place in order to promote a COVID 19 safe environment :-

- ◆ Churches will open 15 minutes before start of Mass
- ◆ Facemasks must be worn when entering all places of worship (unless medically exempt)
- ◆ 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 Church) and that you wear it so that it covers both your mouth and nose.
- ◆ Social distancing must be maintained at all times within Church.
- ◆ An Offertory Collection box will be situated at entrance 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 Church Stewards in attendance at each Mass and the Church will be cleaned after each Service in readiness for the next Mass to be held.
- ◆ No mingling with other people you do not live with after Mass outside the Church.

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.

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK: We continue to pray for those parishioners we know who are sick and housebound especially John Dolamore, Elizabeth Pace, Hilda Morah, Nicollas and Adam Campbell-Vencarto, Valerie Thurston, Joan Jeal, Jimmy Clarin, Rosie Burnside-Fitch. We pray for all persons who have contracted Covid-19 and their families.

'WALK WITH ME' Booklets (LENT EDITION): Last few remaining in church porch at £1 a copy.

RECENTLY DECEASED: Please pray for the repose of the soul of Jan Holden who died recently. Her funeral Mass will take place at St James Priory Street, 12noon on March the 17th followed by the burial at East Bergholt. Also Teresa Sales Details of her funeral will follow soon.

MERSEA NEWS: Please use the following links for reserving seats at Mass (right click booking form and open hyperlink) alternatively, links for booking forms are on website under mass times: Sunday 7th March [Mersea Booking Form](#) Sunday 14th March [Mersea Booking Form](#)

STATIONS OF THE CROSS: This will take place in the church every Friday of Lent at 3_{pm} (This will also be live streamed for those physically unable to attend). For the Polish Community this will be here every Tuesday at 6.30_{pm}.

VACANCY AT SIR WILLIAM PETRE ALMSHOUSES, INGATESTONE

A vacancy has arisen at the Almshouses situated along the High St in Ingatestone. The Almshouse is a one-bedroom property. Candidates must be over 50 years and in need. Preference may be given to Roman Catholics. Applicants please contact Mike Falcone, Trustee, Ginge Petre Trust on tel 07935 959388

DIOCESAN DIRECTORIES: still available £2.80 per copy + **2021 Diaries** are now free!

BEACON HOUSE During the lockdown we have provided support to those living on their own or in care homes and continued to provide food for the homeless through Beacon House. Please let us know if you or anyone you know needs our help and we will do our best to respond. Our contact details: 24 Crouch St, Colchester CO3 3ES 01206 761960

STUDY DAY (*Learning From Covid*): Sr Gemma Simmonds CJ of Margaret Beaufort Institute, Cambridge, will lead a livestreamed study day on Saturday 6th March from 11_{am}, on the topic '*Learning from Covid: church, state and a better future*'. The study day is organised by Gidea Park parish. Free access to the live event will be available on www.whatgoodnews.org and a recording subsequently on the same website.

BCYS SPONSORED SLEEPOUT 2021: Find out what it really feels like to be sleeping rough at this time of year, whilst helping to support local homelessness charities and the BCYS by asking friends and family to sponsor you to spend the night in your own gardens, with just a sleeping bag and mat or cardboard boxes - no tents allowed, whatever the weather! The event will be led from Walsingham House at Abbotswick, with a virtual Mass at 11_{pm} info https://bcys.net/events/sleepout2021/?fbclid=IwAR1YdlhEFzqXpCzPpnylgKAZ6g_wUhgvgw5c3J7WMM1y21qfN_GhM2_XcA2A

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. 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