

ST. JAMES THE LESS AND ST. HELEN

CATHOLIC CHURCH, COLCHESTER

WITH MERSEA, MILE END AND MONKWICK



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ASCENSION OF THE LORD [A]

May 28th 2017 – Parish Mass Book 272

This Sunday we are celebrating the solemnity of the Ascension which in simple term, we say, "the return of Jesus to his Father in heaven".

Our Lord Jesus, before this event happened, commissioned his disciples to preach the Gospel to all nations. But not only this, he also ordered them "to baptize in name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit." In short, evangelization is directed to the entire world. The text says "every creature"; what follows next, indicates that the Gospel message is to be preached to all the peoples of the earth.

You may ask why the Gospel first? Because this is the key to everything. To know, to love, and to serve God are basics in following Christ, which eventually will lead us to our salvation! I would like to add that those who believe, will be saved, while those who do not, will not be saved.

Now, Jesus is ascending to heaven body and soul. What is the challenge therefore for us? Are we just going to look at him with our eyes directed toward heaven and wait? Doing nothing? Or are we not called to do something worthwhile here and now while fulfilling our respective vocations.

Yes, brothers and sisters, Jesus laid down everything when he taught his disciples what they should do. To his disciples he taught them how to be evangelists, to be men of faith, to be fishers of men through words and actions, even to martyrdom. And now the challenge I believe is exactly the same for us. In and through the Church, Jesus wants us to continue his mission. We are the extended tough hands and feet of Jesus to our present generation and time. We are his body to continue to heal, to comfort, to forgive and to preach. Let's not waste this opportunity! Let's just do it!

Fr Alex, rcj

ASCENSION OF THE LORD [A] – HOLIDAY OF OBLIGATION

Saturday May 27 th	6:15 pm	Richard Lambe RIP
Sunday May 28 th	8:00 am	Johnny Emoli RIP [SF]
	10:30 am	Mairin Donnellan RIP
	2:00 pm	Polish Mass
	6:30 pm	Parishioners
West Mersea	8:30 am	Holy Souls RIP
Mile End	9:15 am	Intentions: Stammers Family
Monkwick	10:15 am	Celestine Tighe RIP

Monday 29th *Feria*
*BANK HOLIDAY Church *10:00 am Pat Lohan RIP

Tuesday 30th *THE VISITATION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY*
Church 9:30 am Jonathan Atkin RIP

Wednesday 31st *DEDICATION OF BRENTWOOD CATHEDRAL Solemnity*
Church 12:15 pm Michael Treby RIP
Church 7:30 pm Rosary [KSC]

Thursday June 1st *St Justin, M*
Church 9:30 am Henry Stewart RIP

Friday 2nd *Feria [or Ss Marcellinus and Peter, Mm]*
Church 9:30 am Tommie Lohan RIP

Saturday 3rd *St Charles Lwanga & Comps, Mm*
Church 9:30 am Frederick, Elizabeth & Angelo Lucas RIP

PENTECOST SUNDAY [A]

Saturday June 3 rd	6:15 pm	Eileen O'Halloran RIP
Sunday June 4 th	8:00 am	D/Rels: O'Reilly Family RIP
	10:30 am	In Thanksgiving – Dr J Sykes
	2:00 pm	Polish Mass
	6:30 pm	Holy Souls RIP
West Mersea	8:30 am	Joan Roberts RIP
Mile End	9:15 am	Intentions: Mauger Family
Monkwick	10:15 am	Parishioners

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: Saturday 9:45-10:30am; 5:30-6pm
SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE: At least six months notice is required-

Please see Mass Schedule for ANY changes
[This Monday is a Bank Holiday – Mass is at 10am]

SUNDAYS: Divine Mercy and Rosary Following 8am Mass
CHRISTIAN MEDITATION Tuesdays – Crypt 8:00pm
DAILY: Morning Prayer 8:30am; Rosary/Divine Mercy 8:50am
FILMS FOR FAITH: Please see below

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK: Please remember in your prayers; Percy Abrahams, Pat Banks, Antoinetta Caldeira, Frank Campbell, Nicollas and Adam Campbell-Vencarto, Vicky Culham, Margaret Doorish, Margaret Griffin, Jim Harvey, John Harvey, Jan Holden, Julie Jefferies, Pat Keene, Marie Kent, Patrick King, John Lawlor, Peter Ledgley, Nathanael Lee, Joanne Leon, Doreen Lowe, Marie Lyons, Canon Anthony McKentey, Jean Mansell, Mary-Ann Martin, Cara Maude, David Merryman, Byron Miller, Amadine Morgan, Margaret Norman, Charles Norman, Anne Renwick, Leah Patterson, Ronald Quijano, Maureen Sheeran, Christine Staines, Filomena Velasquez, Mary Wallace, Brea Ward, Patricia Wiltshire, Tony White.

SECOND COLLECTIONS: Please kindly note the following: Parish Development Fund will be taken up TODAY and the Sick Clergy Fund on the 11th June.

VOUCHERS FOR PARISH INTERNATIONAL DAY: Will be on sale after all Masses today - £5 per adult and £3 for children under 12 years.

BAPTISMS THIS WEEKEND: We welcome in the Church through the Sacrament of Baptism, Ivy Horwood [?].... and Theodore Shaw. God bless these children and congratulations to their families.

RECENTLY DECEASED: Please pray for the repose of the soul of Edward Ruddy who has recently died. May he rest in peace and we pray for the comfort of his bereaved family. His funeral has been arranged for the 30th May at Colchester Crematorium at 3:30pm.

FINAL KNIGHTS OF ST COLUMBA ROSARY CRUSADE: This Wednesday, 31st May, here at 7.30pm

MILE END COFFEE MORNING: Next Sunday, 4th June, after Mass at the Dog & Pheasant.

THE NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING: Will be held on Wednesday, 7th June at 7:30pm in the Crypt.

FILMS FOR FAITH: No film on the 31st May; The “Inn of the Sixth Happiness” will now be shown on the 21st June. The other showings in June are: “Collapse of Evolution/Catherine Labouré” on 14th June and “Thomas Becket” on the 28th June 1pm for 1:15pm start. Refreshments served. All are welcome.

VACANCY: Parish Catechetical Coordinator at Brentwood Cathedral. 35 hours per week. Full details can be downloaded: www.cathedral-brentwood.org/blog-2/catechetical/ Closing date for CVs/applications is Monday 19th June.

YOUTH POLL ON LIFE, FAITH AND VOCATIONAL DISCERNMENT: Would all our young people between 13-29 contribute their views to this poll at: <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/cathnews-synod-youth-poll>. It closes on **5 June 2017** and can be completed in less than half an hour. These resources will be used by the Bishops of England and Wales in a report to be sent to the Vatican ahead of the 2018 Synod on: ‘Youth, Faith and Vocational Discernment’.

DIOCESAN CENTENARY LECTURES, CATHEDRAL HALL, INGRAVE ROAD, BRENTWOOD, CM15 8AT: WEDNESDAYS AT 7.30pm: 7 June: Father Stewart Foster, Diocesan Archivist: ‘The Foundation & Early Years of the Diocese (1917-1951)’. 14 June: Canon Brian O’Shea, Parish Priest of Grays: ‘The Development of the Diocese (1951-1979)’. 21 June: Father Martin Boland, Dean of the Cathedral: ‘The Diocese Today – A Reflection’. 28 June: Dr Paul Doherty, Headmaster, Trinity Catholic High School, Woodford Green: ‘The Patron Saints of the Diocese of Brentwood’. Admission Free. Bookstall available.

GOD AND THE COSMOS: Brother Guy Consolmagno SJ, Director of the Vatican Observatory and ‘Tablet’ columnist, will lead a free study day entitled ‘God and the Cosmos’, on Saturday 10th June from 11am.- 3pm. at the Catholic Church of Christ the Eternal High Priest, Gidea Park, RM2 6DH. Tea and coffee will be provided, but please bring a packed lunch. Ample free parking is available at the church, which is three minutes’ walk from Gidea Park Station. Please book your place by email to GPstudydays@gmail.com or by phoning 01708 449914.

AYLESFORD PILGRIMAGE: The Knights of St. Columba, Colchester Council are organising their annual pilgrimage to Aylesford, Kent, site of the ancient 13th Century religious Order of Carmelites, and invite all parishioners to join them. Cost is £15 per person by coach which will leave Priory St. East Hill at 8.30 am on Sunday 11th June. Pick up also at Lucy Lane bus stop. Please bring a packed lunch. Please contact Michael Irvine on 01206 854803 or Stefan on 07948 148531 for further information and booking.

DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO WALSINGHAM 22ND JULY: A coach has been booked and will leave East Hill at 8:30am. Full details from Theresa Higgins on 01206 523501.

PARKING: .ADVANCE NOTICE: *The Parish Car Park will be closed totally on the 10th and 11th June. Please comply.*

CARDINAL BOURNE HALL BOOKINGS: cb.hall@btinternet.com 07758 805263
CHURCH CLEANERS’ ROTA: Thursday, June 1st – **TEAM 3.**