

ST. JAMES THE LESS AND ST. HELEN

CATHOLIC CHURCH, COLCHESTER

WITH MERSEA, MILE END AND MONKWICK

1 PARISH, 4 CHURCHES, 1 COMMUNITY

TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A)

| | | | |
|---|-------------|----------|--|
| Saturday 29th | Church | 6.15 pm | Pamela Mansfield RIP |
| Sunday 30th | Church | 8.00 am | Private Intention |
| | Church | 10:30 am | Colin Taylor RIP |
| | Church | 2.00 pm | Polish Mass |
| | Church | 6.30 pm | |
| | West Mersea | 8:30 am | Private Intention |
| | Monkwick | 10:15 am | Parishioners |
| Monday 31st | | | Feria |
| | Church | 10.00 am | Mary & John McGinley RIP |
| Tuesday 1st September | | | St Sebbi, King of the East Saxons |
| | Church | 10.00 am | Marcelina (Sally) Widman RIP |
| Wednesday 2nd | | | Feria |
| | Church | 10.00 am | Ints: Neil & Peter Rush |
| Thursday 3rd | | | ST GREGORY THE GREAT, P, D |
| | Church | 10.00 am | Frederick, Elizabeth + Angelo Lucas |
| Friday 4th | | | Feria |
| | Church | 10.00 am | Mrs. Chachy Joseph RIP |
| Saturday 5th | | | Feria |
| | Church | 10.00 am | Edward John Caldeira RIP |

TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A)

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|--------------------------------|-------------|----------|----------------------------|
| Saturday 5th | Church | 6.15 pm | John Hynes RIP |
| Sunday 6th | Church | 8.00 am | Donor's Intention (Baby) |
| | Church | 10:30 am | Private Intention |
| | Church | 2.00 pm | Polish Mass |
| | Church | 6.30 pm | Donor's Intention (Colyer) |
| | West Mersea | 8:30 am | Athol Brown RIP |
| | Monkwick | 10:15 am | Parishioners |

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)

SUNDAY MASS OBLIGATION: Do Catholics have to go to Mass on Sunday? In ordinary times, the answer would be: yes, we are obliged to keep the Sabbath holy by participating in Sunday Mass. However, during this health crisis the obligation has been lifted. Therefore, you might like to consider coming to a weekday Mass instead; this is a quieter celebration that allows for ample social distancing.

- ❖ 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 restrictions due to virus.



St James the Less & St Helen

Parish Priest:
Assistant Priest:
Assistant Priest:
Assistant Priest:

Mgr. Christopher Brooks
Fr. Nixon Gomes
Fr. Philip Willenbrock
Fr. Adrian Lowe

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 St James the Less and St Helen RC Church, Colchester

TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A)

WEEK COMMENCING 30TH AUGUST 2020 - PARISH MASS BOOK PAGE

A big 'thank you' to everyone for your kindness and generosity. When I arrived in Colchester, I was overwhelmed by its splendour, rich history (the first city in Britain). Meeting people from all walks of life and varied experiences made my stay a memorable one. Looking from that perspective everyone has a story to tell. In the early days of the Pandemic, I wondered, how will the housebound parishioners (care homes) face the lockdown? It surprised me. Patiently keep to the basics of Life. Thank God for each new day. Keep in touch with family and friends (phone). Pray at home and help where possible. The sacramental preparation created avenues to give an answer to the question posed by Jesus to St. Peter. "**Who do people say the Son of Man is?**" The answer is ongoing until as such a time that we can say with definite clarity. "You are the Christ, the Son of the Living God". Please pray for me as I prepare to take responsibility of a new Parish at Witham. May God bless you in your endeavours and may Mary continue to intercede for your needs. Jesus, Mary & Joseph pray for us.

Fr Nixon

PLEASE SEE MASS SCHEDULE FOR ALL CHANGES

| | | |
|--------------------------------|---|----------------------------------|
| DAILY | Morning Prayer | 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}) | |

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 HOLY FATHER'S INTENTIONS FOR AUGUST: *The Maritime World.* We pray for all those who work and live from the sea, among them sailors, fishermen and their families.

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK: We continue to pray for those parishioners we know who are sick and housebound especially, John Sales, Tony Dixon, Nicollas and Adam Campbell-Vencarto, Elizabeth Pace, Hilda Morah. 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 Edward (Eddie) Caldeira, and Atholl Edward Colin Brown who have recently passed away. May they rest in peace. We pray for the comfort of their respective bereaved family and friends. Atholl's graveside service will take place on 11th September at Colchester Cemetery. We await details for Eddie's funeral service.

FR NIXON GOMES: This weekend there will be a leaving collection for Fr Nixon - if anyone wishes to contribute there will be a basket in Church. Alternatively, you can pop a card/envelope through Presbytery door (please mark front of envelope with Fr Nixon's leaving collection) Thank you.

MARRIAGE MATTERS: (Jer 20:7-9 Romans 12:1-2 Matt 16:21-27) ***The 'sign' of growth is change.***

St Paul urges us to think of God's mercy and change the way we behave so that the will of God is visible in us. As husbands and wives, we can help each other in this endeavour, so that a renewed and deeper love is revealed in our relationship and, in turn, reflected out to our family, friends and community.

CLERGY MOVES

FR NIXON GOMES: This coming week we will see the departure of Fr Nixon. We are sorry to see him go and thank him for all he has done as Assistant Priest in this Parish. We wish him the very best in his new role as Parish Priest at Witham.

FR ADRIAN LOWE: Also departing this week is Fr Adrian, who will be moving to Wanstead Parish as Assistant Priest. We thank him for his ministry in our Parish and wish him success.

FR PASCHAL UCHE: Will be joining our Parish next week as Assistant Priest. Please pray for him as he takes up this position, and that he will help our parish to grow in faith and in numbers!

We wish all our Priests every success and happiness in their new parishes, and we kindly request that you please keep all the Priests of the Diocese in your prayers at this time.

MERSEA NEWS: Mass Bookings will continue at Mersea in order to control numbers attending. Please use the following links for masses over the next 3 weekends: -

Sunday 6th September @ 8.30_{am} [Booking Form](#)

Sunday 13th September @ 8.30_{am} [Booking Form](#)

Sunday 20th September @ 8.30_{am} [Booking Form](#)

SVP (St Vincent de Paul Society): The SVP are here to provide help for our local community. As schools prepare to reopen in September we are aware that some families are struggling with the cost of necessities such as uniforms etc. If this is you or anyone you know, please contact us and we will see what help we are able to provide. Tel: 07493 439427 or email: colchestersvp@gmail.com

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

VACANCY: Person required for paid position of Parish and Chaplaincy Assistant to assist in Brightlingsea with Wivenhoe parish and University of Essex Chaplaincy. 8 hours per week. Timing of work can be negotiated. If you – or any family / friends – are interested, please first contact Fr Mark Swires – email Brightlingsea@dioceseofbrentwood.org for a job description and person specification. You should then send in your CV, with a covering letter demonstrating how your experience and skills match the essential requirements of the role. Closing date for CVs is 3/9/20.

CARDINAL BOURNE HALL: The hall is closed and all group activity suspended until further notice.
