

THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH [B] Feast

Saturday December 30th	6:15 pm	Jadwiga Pauk RIP
Sunday December 31st	8:00 am	John Lowe RIP
	10:30 am	Margaret Wheeler RIP
	2:00 pm	Polish Mass
	6:30 pm	Thanksgiving & Intentions [Norton]
<i>West Mersea</i>	8:30 am	Anthony Brookes RIP
<i>Mile End</i>	9:15 am	Intentions: Kathleen Payne
<i>Monkwick</i>	10:15 am	Parishioners

2018

Monday, January 1st
N.B. TIME Church 10:00 am **MARY, MOTHER OF GOD, Solemnity**
 Margaret Wheeler RIP

Tuesday, 2nd
Church **9:30 am** **Ss Basil & Gregory**
 Canon Anthony McKentey RIP

Wednesday, 3rd
Church **12:15 pm** **Feria of Christmastide**
 Ints: Catherine & John O'Grady

Thursday, 4th
Church **9:30 am** **Feria of Christmastide**
 Ints: John and May Coffey

Friday, 5th
Church **9:30 am** **Feria of Christmastide**
 Canon Thomas Clarke RIP

Saturday, 6th
Church **9:30 am** **Feria of Christmastide**
 Frederick, Elizabeth & Angelo Lucas RIP

EPIPHANY OF THE LORD – HOLYDAY OF OBLIGATION

Solemnity

Saturday, January 6th	6:15 pm	Haldura Gudrunsdottir
Sunday, January 7th	8:00 am	Parishioners
	10:30 am	Mary Sebastian RIP
	2:00 pm	Polish Mass
	4:00 pm	Filipino Mass
	6:30 pm	Maria Adelaide Antonio Alfama RIP
<i>West Mersea</i>	8:30 am	Chris George
<i>Mile End</i>	9:15 am	Intentions; John Brady
<i>Monkwick</i>	10:15 am	Celestine Tighe RIP

ST. JAMES THE LESS AND ST. HELEN
CATHOLIC CHURCH, COLCHESTER

WITH MERSEA, MILE END AND MONKWICK



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God is eternal not subject to time, whereas mankind is presently very much in time. At Christmas we celebrate the Word made flesh, the moment when God enters into this world of time. It is instructive to reflect on how Jesus interacts with time. In the first place, his birth was at the right time, in God's plans; Bethlehem nearly 2,000 years ago wasn't accidental. We don't know exactly how old Jesus was when he died on the Cross, which strikes us with our obsession with time as odd; perhaps something to learn there? We do know that the majority of Jesus' time on earth was spent in obscurity, which is again a contrast with our culture of public 'stars'. Those silent years in Nazareth, we can infer, were passed as a member of a family and engaged in routine, humdrum daily life. God seems to be telling us that it is precisely in the ordinary that we can become most ourselves, interacting with other family members and friends in a simple way. We can also note that it would have been St. Joseph he would first have called, 'Abba'; who would have taught him to be a skilled craftsman; taken him to the synagogue, etc. Fr. Chris

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 ALL CHANGES

[N.B. Mass on Bank Holiday Monday 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: Details to follow

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK: Please remember in your prayers; Percy Abrahams, John Ashdown-Hill, Pat Banks, Nicollas and Adam Campbell-Vencarto, Vicky Culham, Cosette Devaux, John Disley, Teresa Emoli, Jim Harvey, John Harvey, Jan Holden, Julie Jefferies, Pat Keene, Roger Kemp, Marie Kent, Patrick King, Peter Ledgley, Nathanael Lee, Joanne Leon, Doreen Lowe, Marie Lyons, Bernadette McLean, Jean Mansell, Mary-Ann Martin, Cara Maude, David Merryman, Byron Miller, Amadine Morgan, Margaret Norman, Charles Norman, Elizabeth Pace, Anne Renwick, Leah Patterson, Ronald Quijano, Christine Staines, Filomena Velasquez, Mary Wallace, Brea Ward, Alice White, Patricia Wiltshire.

THANK YOU: For the very generous donation of £500 received from our Filipino Community.

THANK YOU: My thanks for your generosity by way of the Clergy Christmas Collection; to all of you who, in any way, made our Christmas celebrations run so smoothly, and also to those parishioners who came together for the preparation and celebration of Canon Tony's funeral Mass. Fr Chris

CANON ANTHONY McKENTY RIP: Maureen and Philip are most grateful to everyone who attended and participated in the Requiem Mass at Priory Street; we were overwhelmed by the number present. A sincere thank you for all the prayers and support during Father Tony's illness and for the messages of sympathy and Mass cards. A loving brother & much loved Priest.

BRENTWOOD CATHOLIC CHILDREN'S SOCIETY: This special collection continues in order to aid the splendid work done by the Society with families in our Diocese who are struggling with difficult situations.

MILE END COFFEE MORNINGS: The first one of 2018 is next Sunday, 7th January, in the Dog & Pheasant p.h. following Mass at St Joseph's at 9:15am.

RECENTLY DECEASED: Please pray for the repose of the souls of Stephen Allen and Frank Campbell who have recently died. May they rest in peace and we pray for the comfort of their bereaved families. The funeral of Stephen Allen will take place at Colchester Crematorium on 17th January 2018 at 1:15pm. The funeral of Frank Campbell has yet to be arranged.

ST THOMAS MORE ADMISSIONS FOR 2018/19: *[Council closing dates for admissions is 15.01.18].* As some parents were unable to attend the earlier dates, another two dates have been set for when Fr Chris and Fr Alex will be signing the Certificates of Practice:

Sunday 7.1.18 – 3:30pm – 4pm in the Crypt

Tuesday 9.1.18 – 7pm – 7.30pm in the Crypt

There is no need to make an appointment as parents will be seen on a first come, first served basis. *Entrance to the Crypt is via the Church.*

RCIA GROUP: Recommences on Thursday, January 11th, in the Crypt between 7pm-8:30pm.

VACANCY – DIOCESAN FINANCE OFFICE: Bookkeeper (Sage Accounts experience essential) required to support the Finance Office at Cathedral House, Brentwood. The role is part-time, working two days a week (14 hours). If you – or any of your family or friends – are interested in this role, please first contact finance-recruitment@dioceseofbrentwood.org for a copy of the 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 and attributes of the role as per the job description and person specification. Closing date for CVs/applications is *Friday 12th January 2018*. Interviews week commencing 22nd January 2018.

BIBLE STUDY GROUP: Recommences on Wednesday, January 17th, in the Crypt between 10am – 12pm

Advertisement on behalf of the Medaille Trust: Vacancy – Diocesan Representatives to carry out the work of the Medaille Trust in Brentwood. Do you want to be part of the Church's fight against Modern Slavery? Could you help us raise awareness of Human Trafficking in our midst? Want to be part of a growing Catholic charity? We are now looking for Diocesan Representatives with good people skills, the ability to make presentations in schools and churches, plus sympathy with a charity such as ours. It is an enjoyable and flexible people-facing fundraising role that would suit a range of individuals. For an application pack, please visit the website www.medaille-trust.org.uk, or e-mail recruitment@medaille-trust.org.uk.

THE NEXT BAPTISM COURSE: All enquiries regarding the next Baptism Course are to be emailed to Fr Chris at colchester@dioceseofbrentwood.org

DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES 2018: Advance notice of the date of the 2018 Diocesan Pilgrimage: 23rd-28th July 2018. Further information to follow.

CARDINAL BOURNE HALL BOOKINGS: cb.hall@btinternet.com 07758 805263

CHURCH CLEANERS' ROTA: Thursday January 4th – Team 2.