

TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (C)			
Saturday 27th	Monkwick	5.00 pm	Thanksgiving
Sunday 28th	Church	8.00 am	Raymond Brady RIP
	Church	10.30 am	Ray Nock RIP
	Church	2.00 pm	Polish Mass
	Church	6.30 pm	Parishioners
	West Mersea	8.30 am	Guy & Bridget Wynter 40th Wedding Anniversary
	Mile End	9.30 am	Private Intention
Monday 29th			Ss Michael, Gabriel and Raphael, Archangels
	Church	9.30 am	Anniversary: Charlie Pirie RIP
Tuesday 30th			St Jerome, Pr, D
	Church	9.30 am	Tony Meril Kumar Thomas RIP
Wednesday 1st October			St Thérèse of the child Jesus, v, D
	Church	9.30 am	Glaser & Kock Families RIP
Thursday 2nd			The Holy Guardian Angels
	Church	9.30 am	Ints: Lisa Julie Huffey + Family
Friday 3rd			Feria
	Church	9.30 am	Chachy Joseph RIP
Saturday 4th			St Francis of Assisi
	Church	9.30 am	Carole Conway, Gary Williams RIP
TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (C)			
Saturday 4th	Monkwick	5.00 pm	Roger Kemp RIP
Sunday 5th	Church	8.00 am	Ints: Jerome Raju
	Church	10.30 am	Ints: Lucy Lukose (Thanksgiving)
	Church	2.00 pm	Polish Mass
	Church	4.00 pm	Filipino Mass
	Church	6.30 pm	Private Intention
	West Mersea	8.30 am	Parishioners
	Mile End	9.30 am	Maureen Price RIP

- ❖ For Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals, please email or contact our parish office.
- ❖ Baptism Godparents: A Godparent must be fully initiated in the Catholic Church. This means they have received the Sacraments of Baptism, Eucharist, and Confirmation. You only need one Godparent.
- ❖ Marriage Preparation: Please be aware that 6 months' notice of intention for Marriage is required especially if marrying outside the Parish. Thank you.
- ❖ Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) Saturdays after 9.30am Mass (Priory Street) to 10.30am; after 5.00pm Mass at Monkwick; And by appointment.
- ❖ Church Loop System: serves all the seats in the centre Nave but not the aisles + chancel.
- ❖ Mass Intentions. Envelopes are available in Church Porch and are situated either side of Church entrance, please complete envelope & drop through presbytery door.

- **Cardinal Bourne Hall Enquiries/Bookings:** colchester@brcdt.org
- **SVP (St Vincent de Paul Society):** Tel: 07493 439427/email: colchestersvp@gmail.com



- * **CUPPA CLUB:** We meet **every Thursday from 10.00am to 11.30am** in the Hall.
- * **SUNDAY COFFEE MORNING** after 10.30am Mass in Cardinal Bourne Hall.



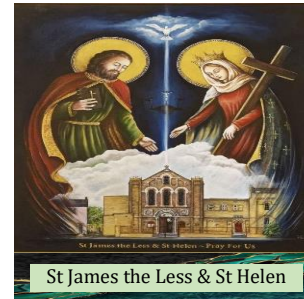
Please check out our Facebook page for all the latest Parish/Diocese/Vatican News/ Clergy + Church photos/videos. Please remember to like and follow our page!

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:

Fr. Philip Okoli
Fr Gervase K. Moo CSSP

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Website: www.stjamesthelessandsthelen.org



St James the Less and St Helen RC Church, Colchester

TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (C)
WEEK COMMENCING 28TH SEPTEMBER 2025

Following on from last week ("*You cannot be the slave of both God and Money*"), we see a practical illustration of what it means. The division between the rich and the poor was very striking at the time of Jesus: popular understanding, however, said that to be rich was a blessing from God. Jesus reminds people that riches carry their own responsibility - the duty to notice the poor man, especially when he lies at your gate. In this parable, Jesus is subtly attacking the people's lack of acceptance of the teaching of the Prophets ("They have Moses and the prophets.... etc."), but they obviously haven't listened to them. The twist in the last line is powerful: ".... they will not be convinced even if someone should rise from the dead". Since our world still sees a division between rich and poor, how true those words have become! May we be inspired by the Holy Mass this weekend to exhibit compassion and generosity.

Fr Gervase

PLEASE SEE MASS SCHEDULE FOR ALL CHANGES

DAILY (Mon-Fri)	Rosary/Divine Mercy	at 8.40 am
DAILY	Morning Prayer	at 9.15 am
CHRISTIAN MEDITATION	Wednesdays (Cardinal Bourne Hall)	at 8.00 pm
LEGION OF MARY	Fridays (Cardinal Bourne Hall)	at 7.30 pm



THE POPE'S INTENTIONS FOR OCTOBER: *For collaboration between different religious traditions:* Let us pray that believers in different religious traditions might work together to defend and promote peace, justice, and human fraternity.

PRAYER FOR WORLD PEACE. Around the world lives are being ripped apart, childhoods extinguished, and basic human dignity discarded, amidst the cruelty and degradations of war. Lord, we ask for your divine intervention and peace to prevail in Ukraine, Palestine, Israel, Iran, Yemen and Sudan. We pray for all those suffering or afraid that you will be close to them and protect them. We ask that you guide leaders and nations to work toward lasting peace and stability around the world. *Amen*



PRAYERS FOR THE SICK: We continue to pray for those parishioners we know who are sick and housebound especially Jimmy Clarin, Edwina Pastor, J Brian Critchley, Ron & Margaret Griffin, Margaret Hawkins, Valerie Thurston, Grace McCartney, Diana Irven, Mrs. Maureen McKenna, Peter Wyatt, Hilda Morah, Nicollas and Adam Campbell-Vencarto. We also pray for all people who are ill or are in need.

MARRIAGE MATTERS: (Amos 6:1, 4-7; 1 Tim 6:11-16; Luke 16:19-31) ***Beware of complacency and compensating.*** Today we are warned about being complacent. Too often, we think everything is fine in our lives and then we realise we've drifted apart and feel isolated from our spouse; the atmosphere is strained; it is lonely in bed. The danger is to compensate with activities outside our marriage instead of sitting down, holding hands and getting back together again.



DIOCESAN 2nd COLLECTION: After all Masses next weekend (5th October) a 2nd collection will be taken for CAFOD. Please donate to our Family Fast Day parish collection to share God's abundant gifts with our global neighbours as they find lasting solutions to poverty and climate challenges. Your generosity offers "*signs of hope*" in this Jubilee Year, helping build more water tanks in communities like Waré's in Ethiopia where women have to walk for hours to get water.

UPCOMING DIOCESAN 2nd COLLECTIONS: World Mission Day (*Missio*) on 19th October; Prisoner's Sunday (PACT) on 26th October.

PARISH WEBSITE: There appears to be an issue with opening the parish newsletter on the website (mainly apple devices). The website developer is looking into this and hopes to be able to resolve this issue shortly.

OUR LADY OF WALSINGHAM STATUE: If you would like to host the statue at your home and pray the Rosary for a week. please contact Gemma – Tel: 01206 844751 or email olwstatue2024@gmail.com

SVP (St Vincent De Paul Society): We are always on the lookout for people who are passionate about making a difference by supporting our local community! Join now to meet new people and be part of a friendly team, whilst spending quality time away from work or a busy lifestyle. If you want to play a part in helping others, then we want to hear from you, to volunteer please email colchestersvp@gmail.com

ST. THOMAS MORE SCHOOL [ADMISSIONS FOR 2026/2027]: (Local Authority Closing Date 15/01/26). The signing of the "***Certificate of Catholic Practice***" forms will take place in the Church Crypt on the following dates: -

NOVEMBER 2025	DECEMBER 2025
Tuesday 11/11/25 at 11.15am – 1.00pm	Saturday 06/12/25 at 11.15am – 12.00pm
Saturday 15/11/25 at 11.15am – 12.00pm	
Saturday 22/11/25 at 11.15am – 12.00pm	

There is no need to make an appointment as parents/guardians and the child (with Baptism Certificate) applying to St Thomas, will be seen on a 1st come, 1st served basis

WEDNESDAY FILM CLUB: The next film screening, "*The Way*" (a film about a grieving man's experience of the Camino de Santiago) is on **Wednesday 1st October**. The next screening of ***The Chosen*** (S2/ Ep 5+6) is on **Wednesday 8th October** Starting at 12:30pm. All welcome! Please note that Children must be accompanied by an adult. There a list of upcoming films & The Chosen on the church noticeboard

MISSIO BOXES: Full red Missio boxes can be dropped into the Presbytery and emptied boxes can be collected from there. Thank you.

SPUC: Are calling on all Parishes across the country to join the fightback and raise awareness of their work. SPUC are determined as ever to **defeat abortion and assisted suicide** and believe they can do this by mobilising adequate pro-life support. They urgently need to build critical mass of people necessary to effect real and lasting protection for unborn children and those at end of life. Please complete online <https://spuc.org.uk/join-the-fightback>

SAINT ÓSCAR ROMERO: Archbishop John Wilson (Archbishop of Southwark), will be giving a Talk and power-point Presentation on Saint Óscar Romero, in the Cathedral Parish Hall on **Wednesday 8th October at 7.30pm**. Archbishop John has made a special study of St Oscar Romero, and it is a great honour and privilege to invite him to our Cathedral Parish and Diocese for this talk.

BRENTWOOD CATHOLIC YOUTH SERVICE – YOUTH GATHER, 25th – 26th October. Youth Gather is a weekend of faith, fun and friendship – with speakers, workshops, prayer and outdoor activities, meeting friends old and new, and all while sharing in and celebrating our Catholic faith. There will be coaches offering transport from around the Diocese included in the cost, as well as all meals, cabin accommodation and activities. This event is for year 9 and above. Apply now at www.bcys.net/events

BRENTWOOD CATHOLIC YOUTH SERVICE – JUBILEE YOUTH MASS: On **Thursday 2nd October**, Youth Mass will be celebrated with Bishop Alan at Brentwood Cathedral, following a talk from the Donal Walsh #livelife foundation starting from 6:30pm. All young people around the Diocese are very welcome to join – there is no need to book, but please do let us know if you'd like to bring a group. Get in touch at info@bcys.net for more information.

CELEBRATING SIXTY YEARS OF THE SECOND VATICAN COUNCIL: An edited recording of the study day entitled 'Vatican II and its Popes', marking sixty years since the closure of the Council, is now available from the home page of www.whatgoodnews.org. The day was given by Fr Adrian Graffy, parish priest of Gidea Park on September 20th. Unfortunately, the second study day, planned for Saturday 11th October, 'From Vatican II to a Synodal Church', has had to be cancelled due to the sickness of the speaker, Dr Peter de Mey, Vice-Dean for International Relations at Leuven.

CHURCH CLEANING TEAM: Monday 29/09/25: **Team 4** / Friday 10/10/25: **Team 5**
COFFEE MORNING ROTA: 28/09/25: African Community / 05/10/25: Diane & Adrian