

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

Monday 6th			Feria
	Church	9.30 am	Int: Denis McCarthy

Tuesday 7th			Our Lady of the Rosary
	Church	9.30 am	Peter Jones RIP

Wednesday 8th			St Osyth, Rel
	Church	9.30 am	Int: Dony Thomas- Thanksgiving

Thursday 9th			ST JOHN HENRY NEWMAN, Pr
	Church	9.30 am	Bridget Ann Irvine RIP

Friday 10th			Feria
	Church	9.30 am	Mrs Marcarey Fernandes

Saturday 11th			Memorial of the Blessed Virgin Mary
	Church	9.30 am	Carole Conway + Gary Williams RIP

TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (C)			
Saturday 11th	Monkwick	5.00 pm	Fr Chris Retirement
Sunday 12th	Church	8.00 am	Mr. Varghese RIP
	Church	10.30 am	John Farrell RIP
	Church	2.00 pm	Polish Mass
	Church	6.30 pm	Int: Ndubueze Emmanuel Okeke
	West Mersea	8.30 am	Parishioners
	Mile End	9.30 am	Private Intention

- ❖ 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.



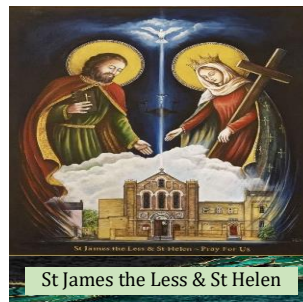
Please check out our Facebook page for all the latest Parish/Diocese/Vatican News/ Clergy + Church photos/videos. Please remember to like and follow our page!

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-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (C)
WEEK COMMENCING 5TH OCTOBER 2025

In this Sunday's Gospel, the apostles ask Jesus, *"Increase our faith!"* They feel, as we often do, that their faith is insufficient. But Jesus reminds them that even faith as small as a mustard seed can accomplish great things. True faith is measured not by its volume, but by its quality of trust, believing God is at work even when progress seems invisible. St. Augustine said, *"Faith is to believe what you do not see; the reward of faith is to see what you believe."* This journey of trust in God's promises continues even in darkness. We may not see immediate results, but God remains faithful. This emphasizes faith's indispensable role in our journey. It is the very ground on which we walk, the lens through which we perceive God's hand in our daily lives. Without it, we risk sliding into discouragement. But with it, even as little as a mustard seed, we find the strength to take the next step. And in that trust, we are reminded that God is ever faithful.

Fr Philip

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 Irvén, 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: (Hab 1: 2-3, 2: 2-4; 2 Tim 1: 6-8, 13-14; Luke 17: 5-10) **Guard our love.** Today St. Paul reminds us "you have been entrusted to look after something precious, guard it with the help of the Holy Spirit who lives in us". For us this means we are the guardians of each other! We live that out by always striving to be tender lovers, gentle and kindly friends, and courageous, loyal supporters of each other.



DIOCESAN 2nd COLLECTION: After all Masses this weekend 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.

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



SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION AND FIRST HOLY COMMUNION: Registration forms are available in the church porch (*by the entrance doors*). Please complete a form for each eligible child + post completed forms through presbytery door **by 31st December**. Any forms received after this date will be added to the year after. Please write clearly in block capitals so we can read them.



SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION: The Registration forms are in the church porch by the entrance doors. Please complete forms and post through presbytery door **by 30th November**. Any forms received after this date will be added to the next year entries. Please write clearly in block capitals so we can read them.

NEXT RCIA COURSE (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults): Journey in Faith or RCIA is the process developed by the Catholic Church for those who are interested in finding out more about the Catholic Faith, teachings and practices with a view to becoming Catholics, or for those who have a background in the Catholic Faith but who have not yet been confirmed, or for anyone who wants to refresh their knowledge of the Catholic Faith. **An initial meeting will be held on Monday 6th October at 7.00pm in the Crypt and will continue at 7pm each Monday thereafter.**

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



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

WEDNESDAY FILM CLUB: The next screening of *The Chosen* (S2/ Ep 5+6) is on **Wednesday 8th October** Starting at 12:30pm. There is a list of upcoming films/dates incl. The Chosen on the church noticeboard. All welcome! Please note that Children must be accompanied by an adult.

CARITAS: All parishioners are invited to join Caritas Brentwood on **Thursday, 6th November 2025**, for an evening with the Santa Marta Group to explore and discuss 'What is Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking?'. To find out more and register, please go to: <https://caritas-sm-25.eventbrite.co.uk>

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

ST JOHN VIANNEY CATHOLIC CHURCH DINNER & DANCE: on **Saturday 18 October** at the Forest Row Centre, 241 Lodge Lane, Romford RM5 2LD. Doors open at 5pm, dinner will be served at 6.30pm. The evening will include music, dancing, a raffle, an auction, good food and wine, all for £50 adults, £25 under 16s. Everyone always has a great time at this annual event. For tickets, which must be bought in advance (for catering purposes), please phone Francis on 07950 657777."

GIFT AID: Please consider gift aiding your offertory donations. Information can be found on the Parish website. Parish Registration Forms with attached Gift Aid Declaration forms can be found in the Church porch along with standing order forms. Every £1.00 you donate to the Church is worth £1.25 when you Gift Aid it, at No Extra Cost to You.

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

CHURCH CLEANING TEAM: Friday 10/10/25: **Team 5**/ Thursday 16/10/25: **Team 1**

COFFEE MORNING ROTA: 05/10/25: Diane & Adrian / 12/10/25: The O'Sullivans