

THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (C)

Saturday 25th	Monkwick	5.00 pm	Mrs Joyce Wrobel RIP
Sunday 26th	Church	8.00 am	Jackie Wilmot RIP
	Church	10.30 am	Rosanna Porter RIP
	Church	2.00 pm	Polish Mass
	Church	6.30 pm	Terzy Oziadek
	West Mersea	8.30 am	Private Intention
	Mile End	9.30 am	Pauline Onojobi Thanksgiving
Monday 27th			Feria
	Church	9.30 am	Anniversary: Mr. T. M. Sebastian RIP
	Church	11.00 am	Funeral Mass: Adrian Stephen Koval RIP
Tuesday 28th			SS SIMON AND JUDE, App
	Church	9.30 am	Michael & Bridget Brady RIP
Wednesday 29th			Feria
	Church	9.30 am	Alphonse & Moira Knapp RIP
Thursday 30th			Feria
	Church	9.30 am	Mrs Joyce Wrobel RIP
Friday 31st			Feria
	Church	9.30 am	John Okoli RIP
Saturday 1st November 2025			Memorial of the Blessed Virgin Mary
	Church	9.30 am	Alphonse & Moira Knapp RIP
			ALL SAINTS (C)
Saturday 1st	Monkwick	5.00 pm	Ints: Ernest Ngwoke + Family
Sunday 2nd	Church	8.00 am	Christine Nock RIP
	Church	10.30 am	Deceased Members of Legionaries of Mary
	Church	2.00 pm	Polish Mass
	Church	4.00 pm	Filipino Mass
	Church	6.30 pm	Maria Latocz
	West Mersea	8.30 am	Padraig Garvey RIP
	Mile End	9.30 am	Parishioners



- ❖ 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



- * **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



St James the Less & St Helen

Parish Priest:
Assistant Priest:

Fr. Philip Okoli
Fr Gervase K. Moo CSSp

Address: 51 Priory Street, Colchester, Essex, CO1 2QB
Tel: 01206 866317
E-Mail: colchester@brcdt.org
Website: www.stjamesthelessandsthelen.org



St James the Less and St Helen RC Church, Colchester

THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (C) Week Commencing 26th October 2025

In today's Gospel, Jesus contrasts two men who come to the temple to pray. The Pharisee stands tall, listing his good deeds and comparing himself to others. His prayer is really a speech about himself. The tax collector, on the other hand, stands at a distance, unable even to raise his eyes. He simply whispers, "*God, be merciful to me, a sinner.*" Jesus tells us that it was the humble man, not the proud one, who went home at peace with God. This parable speaks directly to our daily lives. It reminds us that pride can quietly grow in our hearts: when we judge others, when we think our prayers or service make us better, or when we approach God with a sense of entitlement. The Gospel teaches us that God listens not to the loudest voice but to the sincerest heart. True prayer begins with recognizing who God is and who we are. When we come before Him in humility, God lifts us up, forgives us, and fills us with grace.

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.

† NOVEMBER IS THE MONTH OF HOLY SOULS. During this month, prayers and Masses are said for the Faithful Departed. *November Altar Lists of dead & Envelopes* are available in the Church Porch. Please put the names of your deceased family and friends on the list and place this in the envelope along with your donation and either hand the envelope to a priest or drop the envelope through the presbytery letterbox.

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: (Eccles 35:12-14,16-19; 2 Tim 4:6-8,16-18; Luke 18:9-14) ***Piercing the clouds with our humble prayers.*** 'The humble man's prayers pierce the clouds.' That is why Jesus said the prayers of the repentant tax collector won God's favour, and why the judgmental attitudes of the Pharisees didn't. There is a bit of the Pharisee in all of us; humility is knowing the truth about ourselves. Proud people deceive themselves; let us grow in humility together.



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.



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 next year entries. Please write clearly in block capitals so we can read them.

DIOCESAN 2nd COLLECTIONS: After all masses this weekend, a collection will be taken for Pact in respect of Prisoners Sunday. Prisoners' Sunday is the National Day of Prayer and action for prisoners and their dependents as marked by the Catholic Church and across the Christian denominations. It is a day to direct our thoughts and prayers to prisoners, their families and children. Prisoners' Sunday is the time to reflect on how we as individuals, as a Church and as a community are serving those affected by imprisonment. Prisoners' families, prisoners and people with previous convictions often find themselves on the margins of society due to the social stigma associated with imprisonment. They are often forgotten or come lower down on the list of causes to 'hold a hand out to'. But the gospel of *Matthew 25: 36* reminds us of our duties towards them: *"I was in Prison and you came to me"*.

UPCOMING DIOCESAN 2nd COLLECTIONS: World Day of the Poor on 16th November.

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

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

ST BENEDICT'S CATHOLIC COLLEGE: Please note that a Certificate of Catholic practice is not required if you have you have the Baptism and/or First Holy Communion certificates for the child applying to the college.



WEDNESDAY FILM CLUB: The next screening of ***The Chosen*** is on **Wednesday 5th November** Starting at 12:30pm. There is a list of upcoming films/dates incl. The Chosen on the church noticeboard. All welcome!

JOSIE'S KITCHEN: Josie is looking for donations of various items to make her Food + Care packages for the Homeless at Christmas. If you can spare any of the following items: - For Care Packages: general toiletries: shower gels, shampoo, deodorants + body sprays, toothpaste, razors, shaving foam, Socks, scarfs, hats + gloves; For Food Packages: Cup-a-soups, sachets of coffee drinks, hot chocolate, long life milk. Tins of ready meals e.g. Chilli-con-carne, casserole, minced beef, baked beans, tuna, corned beef or ham, tinned potatoes, tinned vegetables, tinned fruit + puddings, custard powder, mini boxes of cereal, pot noodles, crisps, biscuits, small multipack snacks. These items make a big difference to their lives and show them that they are cared for in our community. Please drop your Donations into the Presbytery. Thank you for your continued generosity and support. *"God loves those who find joy in giving"* John Paul II

ST JOHN PAYNE (GREENSTEAD ART GROUP) invites you to an exhibition of their work on Saturday 1st November from 11:00 to 14:00 in the church hall. Refreshments will be available. Cards, decorations and other work will be for sale, together with a 'Bath Tombola'.

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>

CANONESSES OF THE HOLY SEPULCHRE: We are celebrating the Annual Mass for our deceased relatives and friends, in particular those buried in our cemetery, on Saturday 1st November at 2pm at New Hall in the School Chapel. The Mass will be followed by visits to the cemetery for those who wish, and tea. All welcome. For purposes of catering and printing, please let us know if you will be with us by emailing crssuk@canonesses.co.uk



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, Iran, Yemen and Sudan. We pray for all those suffering or afraid that you will be close to them and protect them. *Amen*

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

STANDING ORDERS & GIFT AID: Gift Aid & Standing Order forms are available in Church

CHURCH CLEANING TEAM: Monday 27/10/25: **Team 3** / Monday 03/11/25: **Team 4**

COFFEE MORNING ROTA: 26/10/25: Yolande + 1 / 02/11/25: SVP