

THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME (C)			World Day of the Poor
Saturday 15th	Monkwick	5.00 pm	George Farrell RIP
Sunday 16th	Church	8.00 am	Holy Souls (November Dead List)
	Church	10.30 am	Anne De Smith RIP
	Church	2.00 pm	Polish Mass
	Church	6.30 pm	Parishioners
	West Mersea	8.30 am	Margaret Ashmore RIP
	Mile End	9.30 am	Private Intention
Monday 17th			Feria
	Church	9.30 am	Int: Dr Ijeoma Okoli
Tuesday 18th			Feria
	Church	9.30 am	William Pratley RIP
Wednesday 19th			Feria
	Church	9.30 am	Margaretta Wright
Thursday 20th			Feria
	Church	9.30 am	Mrs Joyce Wroble RIP
Friday 21st			The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary
	Church	9.30 am	Holy Souls in Purgatory
Saturday 22nd			St Cecilia, v, m
	Church	9.30 am	Debbie Shales, Carole Conway RIP
OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST THE KING (C) YOUTH SUNDAY			
Saturday 22nd	Monkwick	5.00 pm	Bridget Garry RIP
Sunday 23rd	Church	8.00 am	Mrs Mary McGuinness RIP
	Church	10.30 am	John Brogan RIP
	Church	2.00 pm	Polish Mass
	Church	6.30 pm	Esmerelda Jo RIP
	West Mersea	8.30 am	Mary Davis RIP
	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.

➤ **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.

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



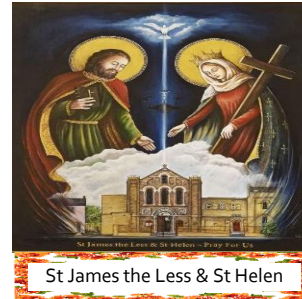
Please check out our Facebook page for all the latest Parish/Diocese/Vatican News/ Clergy + Church photos/videos. Please remember to like and follow our page!

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

THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (C)

World Day of the Poor

Week Commencing 16th November 2025

Dear friends as we approach the end of that part of Saint Luke's Gospel before the Passion narratives, and approach the end of the Church's year, our thoughts are turned towards the end of time and the Second Coming of the Lord – this will lead us into Advent in two weeks' time. Saint Luke's message is very distinctive: the Lord will come, but there is a lot to be lived through first. The coming of the Lord is not going to be a "quick fix" – we will have to live through (and endure) all the mess of human joy and suffering. The Lord is clear too that we have to be aware of the personal cost of belonging to him – think back to last week's readings, and the stories of religious persecution from every place and every age, even to this day. Even as this sounds gloomy and depressing, it is worth noting where the Gospel passage starts – in the material beauty of the Temple – and where it ends – something far more precious will be saved: our lives. Peace be with you. *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 NOVEMBER: *For the prevention of suicide. Let us pray that those who are struggling with suicidal thoughts might find the support, care and love they need in their community, and be open to the beauty of life.*

† NOVEMBER IS THE MONTH OF HOLY SOULS. During November, 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: (Revelation 7:2-4, 9-14; 1 John 3:1-3; Matthew 5:1-12) **Do we recognise our sanctity?** Are we married couples among the blessed? St Paul called the members of those churches he visited, saints; he also compared the union of husband and wife with that of Christ and the Church (Ephesians 5:22-33). Are we not 'poor in spirit...gentle...those who mourn...those who hunger and thirst for what is right...merciful...pure in heart and peacemakers' in our own relationship?



RECENTLY DECEASED: Please pray for the repose of the soul of Mary Davies who has recently passed away. Mary will be missed by so many in our parish for her sense of humor and endless volunteer work especially at Monkwick. The parish community offers Mary's sister Theresa, family and her many friends our condolences and the assurance of our prayers at this most difficult time. Mary's funeral service will take place at St Theodore of Canterbury Church, **Monkwick on Tuesday 25th November at 1.00pm.** May Mary Rest in Peace in God's loving care.



2nd COLLECTION: After all Masses this weekend a 2nd collection will be taken for **World Day of the Poor.** This year's theme is **"Ending social and institutional maltreatment by ensuring respect and effective support for families."** Please click on the link to read [Pope Francis Message 2025](#) (As per previous years we will split the proceeds of this collection between the SVP & Josie's Kitchen, both of whom play such a vital role in our Parish with assisting those in need).



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.



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.

SAVE THE DATE! DAY OF MERCY: On Friday 12th December 2025, the Church will be open all day with Exposition & Confession all day; to finish with Benediction. Further details to follow in due course. Please do try to attend at some point during the day.

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
Saturday 15/11/25 at 11.15am – 12.00pm	Saturday 06/12/25 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 the Baptism and/or First Holy Communion certificates for the child applying to the college.

POLISH ADVENT MASSES (Rorate): These will take place at **6.30am** on the following **Tuesdays** in December: 2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd at Priory Street.

'WALK WITH ME' Booklets (ADVENT EDITION): Advent Walk with Me booklets are available for sale at all Mass Centre's - please note that they have increased in price to £1.50 per booklet due to publisher printing costs. Please leave money in Repository Box.

UPCOMING 2ND COLLECTION: World Youth Sunday on 23rd November celebrates the young people of our Church. There will be a second collection taken after all masses to support the work of the Brentwood Catholic Youth Service, helping young people grow in faith through retreats, pilgrimages, and leadership opportunities.

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

WALSINGHAM HOUSE AT ABBOTSWICK – VOLUNTEER TEAM: Applications for WH Team 26/27 are now open! If you are about to leave school and unsure about what the next year might hold, think about applying for our volunteer team! Please contact Michael via email (michaelkearns@brcdt.org)

VACANCY AT ST TERESA'S SCHOOL FOR A CARETAKER: For further details, please visit: www.essexschoolsjobs.co.uk/Vacancies/Details.aspx?VacancyId=114472.



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

CHURCH CLEANING TEAM: Thursday 20/11/25: **Team 1** / Monday 24/11/25: **Team 2**
COFFEE MORNING ROTA: 16/11/25: African Community / 23/11/25: Diane + Adrian