

PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD (A)			
Saturday 28th	Monkwick	5.00 pm	Mrs Chinaelo Anolue RIP
Sunday 29th	Church	8.00 am	Ints: Christopher Brown + Family
	Church	10.30 am	Guy Wynter RIP
	Church	2.00 pm	Polish Mass
	Church	6.30 pm	Private Intention
	West Mersea	8.30 am	Parishioners
	Mile End	9.30 am	Private Intention
Monday 30th			Monday of Holy Week
Mass + Confessions	Church	9.30 am	Mrs Chinaelo Anolue RIP
	Church	12.30 pm	Funeral Mass: Mirella Leonardi RIP
Tuesday 31st			Tuesday of Holy Week
	Church	9.30 am	Mrs Theresa RIP
	Church	12.15 pm	Funeral Mass: Iolanda Anzalone RIP
	Church	5.30 pm	Polish Confessions
	Church	6.00 pm	Polish Stations of the Cross
Wednesday 1st April	Spy Wednesday		Wednesday of Holy Week
Please note Mass time!	Church	8.30 am	Ints: Pauline Rook
Thursday 2nd	Maundy Thursday		Thursday of Holy Week
	Church	9.30 am	Office of Reading & Morning Prayer
	Monkwick	7.00 pm	Polish Paschal Triduum
Mass of the Lord's Supper	Church	8.00 pm	Parishioners
Friday 3rd	Good Friday		FRIDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD
	Church	9.30 am	Office of Reading & Morning Prayer
	Church	10.30 am	Children's Stations of the Cross
	Church	12.00 pm	Stations of the Cross
	Monkwick	2.30 pm	Polish Stations + 3pm Passion of the Lord
	Church	3.00 pm	Liturgy of the Passion of the Lord
	Mile End	7.00 pm	Stations of the Cross
Saturday 4th			HOLY SATURDAY
	Church	9.30 am	Office of Reading & Morning Prayer
	Church	1.00 pm	Polish Food Blessing
	Monkwick	8.00 pm	Polish Paschal Triduum
EASTER SUNDAY (A)			
Saturday 4th	Monkwick	5.00 pm	Chris Wyer RIP
Sunday 5th	Church	8.00 am	Guy Wynter RIP
	Church	10.30 am	Parishioners
	Church	12.00 pm	Polish Mass
	Church	4.00 pm	Filipino Mass
	Church	6.30 pm	Int: Colin Ffloyd-Thurgood
	West Mersea	8.30 am	Private Intention
	Mile End	9.30 am	Private Intention

❖ Church Loop System: Please note that the Church loop system serves all the seats in the centre Nave but not the aisles or the chancel.

➤ **Cardinal Bourne Hall Enquiries/Bookings:** colchester@brcdt.org



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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 Moo

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St James the Less and St Helen RC Church, Colchester



PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD (A)

Week Commencing 29th March 2026

Walking with Christ to Easter. With the triumphant entry of Jesus, we begin Holy Week, the most sacred days of the Church's year. Together we have journeyed through Lent, praying more, making sacrifices, and reflecting on God's mercy and our need for Him. Now we arrive at the heart of our faith. We are invited to walk these final steps with Jesus Christ Himself. This week draws us close to the Lord: from the crowds' joyful "Hosanna," through betrayal and the agony of the Cross, to the silence of the tomb, and finally to the glory of the empty tomb on Easter Sunday. Each liturgy is a true encounter with Christ. The readings, processions, the washing of feet, the veneration of the Cross, and the Easter Vigil with its fire and baptisms invite us to meet Him personally. Let us take an active part in these sacred days. Listen with open hearts. Allow the gestures, silences, songs, and prayers to speak to you. Walk with Christ in His suffering, so as to share in His resurrection joy. Wishing you and your loved ones a blessed Holy Week and a joyful Easter.

Fr Philip

PLEASE SEE MASS SCHEDULE FOR ALL CHANGES

DAILY (Mon-Fri)	Rosary/Divine Mercy	at 8.45 am
DAILY	Morning Prayer	at 9.15 am
CHRISTIAN MEDITATION	Wednesdays (Cardinal Bourne Hall)	at 8.00 pm



THE POPE'S INTENTIONS FOR APRIL: *FOR PRIESTS IN CRISIS*

Let us pray for priests going through moments of crisis in their vocation, that they may find the accompaniment they need and that communities may support them with understanding and prayer.

MARRIAGE MATTERS: (Isaiah 50:4-7; Philippians 2:6-11; Matthew 26:14-27, 66) Challenged when we witness how others love. St Paul recognises the amazing humility of Jesus who accepts death on the cross out of love for God and us. We wonder and are challenged by the joy of a friend who daily visits his wife who has dementia; in his great love he feeds her, puts her to bed each evening, prays with her. Could we love like this?

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.



RECENTLY DECEASED: Please pray for the repose of the souls of Angelo Sancassani, Christine Rosina Wyer who have all recently passed away. The parish community offers Angelo's + Christine's, family and friends our condolences and the assurance of our prayers at this most difficult time. Christine's funeral service will be at St Theodore Church on Thursday 9th April at 12.15pm. Angelo's funeral details are to be advised. May they rest in peace and rise in glory.

EASTER COLLECTION: The Offertory Collection at all the Easter Masses next Sunday is by tradition, the parishioners' personal gift to the Clergy. In this Parish, Fr Philip and Fr Gervase are the beneficiaries, since this collection forms part of their personal annual income. Thank you.

2nd COLLECTIONS: The annual collection for the SVP is on Maundy Thursday (2nd April), and on Good Friday (3rd April) there will be a collection for Holy places for the upkeep of the places in the Holy Land. Thank you.

SOUP & A ROLL: There will be homemade soup and a roll in the hall after 10.30am mass today (Palm Sunday). This is in aid of our 3 young people who will be going to Lourdes this year. Please email or sign the form at the back of the church. We kindly ask that you support them on this fundraiser.

DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO WALSINGHAM: On Saturday 23rd May 2026: Join Bishop Alan and other parishes around the Diocese of Brentwood in Walsingham. We will celebrate Mass at the Basilica before walking the Holy Mile to the grounds of Walsingham Abbey to celebrate Vespers and Benediction on the site of the Holy House. If you would like to come and to reserve a seat on the coach, please add your name to the list in church porch - Coach Tickets will cost £23.00 per seat and this is **payable in advance!**

INTERNATIONAL DAY: This will take place **Sunday 12th April 2026** in Cardinal Bourne Hall (organised by the SVP). The event will be celebrating Easter around the World. If you would like to bake or bring foods from your country of origin, please contact Tel: 07493 439427/email: colchestersvp@gmail.com and advise. Everyone welcome!

EASTER FUNDAY: This **Easter Monday, 6th April, 10am to 2pm**, - See poster in church.

EASTER SUNDAY (A)

Saturday 4th	<i>Monkwick</i>	5.00 pm	Chris Wyer RIP
Sunday 5th	<i>Church</i>	8.00 am	Guy Wynter RIP
	<i>Church</i>	10.30 am	Parishioners
	<i>Church</i>	12.00 pm	Polish Mass
	<i>Church</i>	4.00 pm	Filipino Mass
	<i>Church</i>	6.30 pm	Int: Colin Ffloyd-Thurgood
	<i>West Mersea</i>	8.30 am	Private Intention
	<i>Mile End</i>	9.30 am	Private Intention
Monday 6th	<i>Church</i>	10.00 am	Monday within the Octave of Easter
	<i>Church</i>	12.00 pm	Ints: Fr Paschal Uche
			Polish Mass
Tuesday 7th	<i>Church</i>	9.30 am	Tuesday within the Octave of Easter
			Mr. Albert & Mrs Sheila Sheppey RIP
Wednesday 8th	<i>Church</i>	9.30 am	Wednesday within the Octave of Easter
			Evalina Casimir RIP
Thursday 9th	<i>Church</i>	9.30 am	Thursday within the Octave of Easter
			Mrs Joyce Wroble RIP
Friday 10th	<i>Church</i>	9.30 am	Friday within the Octave of Easter
			Luke Brennan RIP
Saturday 11th	<i>Church</i>	9.30 am	Saturday within the Octave of Easter
			Carole Conway + Garry Williams RIP
SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER (A) Divine Mercy Sunday			
Saturday 11th	<i>Monkwick</i>	5.00 pm	Ray O'Neill RIP
Sunday 12th	<i>Church</i>	8.00 am	Private Intention
	<i>Church</i>	10.30 am	In Thanksgiving for all Parish volunteers
	<i>Church</i>	2.00 pm	Polish Mass
	<i>Church</i>	6.30 pm	Birthday Ints: Donat, Dominica, Rafal
	<i>West Mersea</i>	8.30 am	Private Intention
	<i>Mile End</i>	9.30 am	Bernard Wilson RIP
THERE WILL BE NO NEWSLETTER NEXT WEEK - ALL MASS TIMES ARE LISTED ABOVE.			

We wish each parishioner a very happy and blessed Easter and we extend a warm welcome to any visitors who are with us.
May the blessings of God be with you and your loved ones always.

Happy Easter

GIFT-AID SUBSCRIBERS: Please can you collect your new box sets from the church porch. Box sets are laid out in alphabetical order. Thank you for your generosity over the last year(s).

NEW MASS BOOKS FOR THE CHURCH (Year A, Part 2): We are gradually having to replace all the parishioners' Mass books (*these are the Mass books on each of the benches in Church*). Parishioners may like to take this opportunity to sponsor new books as each Mass book costs £5.95 (*we will need a minimum of 300 books to cover all Parish Churches*). If you would like to donate towards the Church Mass books, then please contact the parish office or put your donation in an envelope marked New Mass books. However big or small your donation, it all helps! **Our thanks to those who have kindly donated so far.**

CHURCH CLEANING: Fri 03/04/26: **Team 5**/Thurs 09/04/26: **Team 1**/Mon 13/04/26: **Team 2**
COFFEE MORNING: 29/03/26: African Community/ 05/04/26: Diane + Adrian / 12/04/26: The O'Sullivan's