

ALL SAINTS (A)					
Saturday 31st	Monkwick	5.00 pm	1 st Anniversary: Mary Davies RIP (Grace M)		
Sunday 1st November	Church	8.00 am	Parishioners		
	Church	10.30 am	Melissa (Nee Kelly) RIP (F. Galvin)		
	Church	2.00 pm	Polish Mass		
	Church	4.00 pm	Filipino Mass		
	Church	6.30 pm	Private Intention		
	West Mersea	8.30 am	Canon John Bloomfield		
	Mile End	9.30 am	Ints: Pauline, Theresa, Gladys Onojobi		



Monday 2nd	Commemoration of all the faithful departed ALL SOULS' DAY				
	Church	9.30 am	Mary McGilloway RIP		
	Church	7.30 pm	Deceased Parishioners		
	West Mersea	7.30 pm	Mrs Joyce Wrobel RIP		



Tuesday 3rd	Church	9.30 am	Feria Alphonse + Moira Knapp RIP		
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Wednesday 4th	Church	9.30 am	St Charles Borromeo, Bp Ken Evans RIP		
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Thursday 5th	Church	9.30 am	Feria Yadi Khodaverdi RIP		
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Friday 6th	Church	9.30 am	Feria Sidney Finch Castell + Rose Jane Castell		
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Saturday 7th	Church	9.30 am	Memorial of the Blessed Virgin Mary Ints: Frances + Family		
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THIRTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A) Remembrance Sunday

Saturday 7th	Monkwick	5.00 pm	Susan Everitt RIP		
Sunday 8th	Church	8.00 am	Deceased Relatives of Betts Family		



	Church	10.30 am	Ann Doble RIP		
	Church	2.00 pm	Polish Mass		
	Church	6.30 pm	Private Intention		
	West Mersea	8.30 am	Deceased Parishioners		
	Mile End	9.30 am	Thanksgiving: Pauline, Theresa, Gladys		

COMMISSIONING OF THE NEW EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION will take place on Sunday 1st November 2026

- ❖ 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. At least one parent should be a practising Catholic (*sight of a copy of baptism certificate may be required*)
- ❖ 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.
- ❖ Please note that the Church loop system serves all the seats in the centre Nave

- **Cardinal Bourne Hall Enquiries/Bookings:** colchester@brcdt.org
- **SVP (St Vincent de Paul Society):** email: colchestersvp@gmail.com
- **KSC (COLCHESTER270):** Tel: 07476781885/Email grand-knight-council270@ksc.org.uk

 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 Moo

Address: 51 Priory Street, Colchester, Essex, CO1 2QB
Tel: 01206 866317
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Website: www.stjamesthelessandsthelen.org



St James the Less and St Helen RC Church, Colchester



ALL SAINTS (A)

Week Commencing 1st November 2026

Dear brothers and sisters, the faithful who have died before us are now radiant in the presence of God in heaven. They are radiant because their robes have been washed in the blood of the Lamb who is our redeemer. Before the final judgement all those who have been faithful will be given a seal on their forehead as the Jews sealed their doorposts on Passover night. In addition, St John asks us to think of the love which God has lavished on us – a love which allows us to be called the sons and daughters of God and therefore grants us a place in heaven with God. This means that anybody who thinks of this would automatically try to purify themselves and try to live up to this great gift and grace. Christ's tremendous blueprint for Christian living – the Beatitudes from the Sermon on the Mount – which has the power to transform our world but only if people live out that teaching in their lives. That is the message for today's feast because the saints did live out the Beatitudes and did recognise and appreciate the great love which God lavished on them and so lived their lives in such a way that people could see the love of God in their midst. As a result, the saints – who were living, breathing human beings like each and every one of us – now enjoy the beatific vision in the eternal kingdom. Peace be with you.

Fr Gervase

PLEASE SEE MASS SCHEDULE FOR ALL CHANGES

DAILY (Mon-Fri)	Rosary/Divine Mercy	at 8.45am
DAILY	Morning Prayer	at 9.15am
CHRISTIAN MEDITATION	Wednesdays (Cardinal Bourne Hall)	at 8.00pm
LECTIO DIVINA- In Church Crypt	1 st Wednesday of Month - 4 th November	at 10.15am



THE POPE'S INTENTIONS FOR OCTOBER: *For mental health ministry.* Let us pray that mental health ministry be established throughout the Church, helping to overcome the stigma and discrimination of persons with mental illnesses.

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.



MARRIAGE MATTERS: (Apocalypse 7:2-4; 9-14 1 John 3:1-3 Matthew 5:1-12) *We too may go through tough times.* Today's Gospel tells us that it is not only when we are strong that we live out God's plan for our marriage. Sometimes, when we are weak, our Sacramental way of life is mainly using our energy to minister to each other. A lot of joy can be found when we walk down a difficult road together.

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK: We continue to pray for those parishioners we know who are sick and housebound especially Helen Treby, Nora Mascurine, Denise McCarthy, Margaret E, Margaret Brooks, 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, Sean Brennan, Nicollas & Adam Campbell-Vencarto. We also pray for all people who are ill or are in need of our prayers.

RECENTLY DECEASED: Please pray for the repose of the soul of Catherin Ann Doble (k/a Ann), Jeremy Francis O'Keefe, Christine Mary Brown who have all recently passed away. The parish community offers Ann's family and friends our condolences and the assurance of our prayers at this most difficult time.

- Ann's service will take place at Colchester Crematorium on Wednesday 4th November at 3.15pm.
- Jeremy's service will take place at Colchester Crematorium on Tuesday 10th November at 11.30am
- Christine's service will take place at Colchester Crematorium on Friday 13th November at 11.30am.

May they all rest in peace

- **NEXT DIOCESE 2ND COLLECTIONS:** 15/11/26 - World Day of the Poor; 22/11/26 - World Youth Sunday.
- **MISSIO APPEAL:** A Missio appeal will take place on 14th + 15th & 21st + 22nd November
- **ANNUAL MISSION APPEAL (THE SPIRITAN'S):** The annual Mission Appeal will take place on 29/10/26.

NEW MASS BOOKS FOR THE CHURCH (Year B, Part 1): 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 350 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 is - it all helps towards these costs! Thank you.

SAVE THE DATE! DAY OF MERCY: On Friday 11th December 2026, 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'S SCHOOL [ADMISSIONS FOR 2027/2028]: (Local Authority Closing Date 15/01/27). The signing of the "*Certificate of Catholic Practice*" forms will take place in the Church Crypt on the following dates: - (**Please note the time change for Tuesday 10/11/26 which is now later*).

NOVEMBER 2026	DECEMBER 2026
* Tuesday 10/11/26 at 3.45pm – 5.45pm	Saturday 05/12/26 at 11.15am – 12.00pm
Saturday 14/11/26 at 11.15am – 12.00pm	



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. **3 Volunteers needed to assist on this course, please speak to Fr Philip.**



SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION: The Registration forms are now situated in the church porch by the entrance doors (*Please write clearly in block capitals so we can read them*). Parents evening will take place on **Sunday 13th December at 4.00pm** and the course will commence in January 2027 for those who have registered. Please remember to take your child's Baptism certificate to the parents meeting. Please post completed forms through presbytery door before Parents Meeting.

2026 FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PHOTO'S: These will be available for collection from the Church Crypt after the 10.30am Mass on 1st November. For those who have not paid for their Photo order please remember to bring your photo money with you.

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: - Care Packages: general toiletries: shower gels, shampoo, deodorants + body sprays, toothpaste, razors, shaving foam, Thermal underwear, socks, scarfs, hats + gloves; 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



CUPPA CLUB SPECIAL: Thursday 12th November from 10.30am-11.15am Come and listen to a talk and slideshow from Patrick (Pat) de Burca "*Flying as an RAF Navigator before GPS*". All welcome. Tea, coffee and biscuits.

POLISH ADVENT MASSES (Rorate): These will take place at **6.30pm** on the following **Tuesdays** in December: 1st, 8th, 15th, at Priory Street.

ASSISTANT TO THE CHANCERY AND TRIBUNAL OFFICES: We are looking for an organised and reliable person to join our team as an assistant within the Chancery and Tribunal Offices part time. The role will be to provide administrative and practical support to help to ensure the continued smooth running of the offices. [Trib & Chan Asst new role 2026 FINAL](#)

CHURCH CLEANING: Thursday 05/11/26: **Team 1** / Monday 09/11/26: **Team 2** /

Monday 16/11/26: **Team 3** / Monday 23/11/26: **Team 4** / 04/12/26: **Team 5**

COFFEE MORNING: 01/11/26: Peggy & Anne / 08/11/26: Yolande + 1 / 15/11/26: SVP/

22/11/26: Matthew + Mariamma / 29/11/26: African Community Group