

TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A)			World Mission Sunday
Saturday 17th	Monkwick	5.00 pm	Mary McGilloway RIP
Sunday 18th	Church	8.00 am	Alphonse Knapp RIP
	Church	10.30 am	James, Mary, John Galvin RIP
	Church	2.00 pm	Polish Mass
	Church	6.30 pm	Parishioners
	West Mersea	8.30 am	Pat Linscott RIP (D+J Hopgood)
	Mile End	9.30 am	Bryn Smart RIP
Monday 19th			Feria
	Church	9.30 am	Ints: Healing for Vicky
Tuesday 20th			Feria
	Church	9.30 am	Ints: Mary Gallego
	Church	11.30 am	Funeral Service: Bernard Michael Walsh RIP
Wednesday 21st			Feria
	Church	9.30 am	Ginette Pesin RIP
Thursday 22nd			Feria
	Church	9.30 am	Ints: Birthday Thanksgiving (Osembe Peter)
Friday 23rd			Feria
	Church	9.30 am	Ints: Fr Philip (V.Q)
Saturday 24th			Memorial of the Blessed Virgin Mary
	Church	9.30 am	Mrs Joyce Wrobel RIP
THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A)			
Saturday 24th	Monkwick	5.00 pm	3 rd Anniversary: Roger Kemp RIP (Mary F)
Sunday 25th	Church	8.00 am	Ints: Family Thanksgiving + Health (Ushi Family)
	Church	10.30 am	Mary Awne RIP
	Church	2.00 pm	Polish Mass
	Church	6.30 pm	Private Intention
	West Mersea	8.30 am	Parishioners
	Mile End	9.30 am	Ints: Richard Wilden

Next Filipino Mass on Sunday 1st November at 4.00pm.

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

- **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

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St James the Less and St Helen RC Church, Colchester

TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A)

World Mission Sunday

Week Commencing 18th October 2026

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ, it is important to always remember that everyone on this earth belongs to God. All are made in his image. Therefore, it is right that all men and women, 'from the rising to the setting of the sun', should know the God to whom they belong. The only desire of our God is that all should know and love him and find in him the fulfilment that they seek. Even a pagan king like Cyrus is used to further this knowledge of God - just as Jesus uses Caesar's head to make the point again: all belong to God, and the mission of all who acknowledge that belonging is to help others to find it. This is exactly what we see Paul, Silvanus and Timothy doing, as they write to the people of Thessalonica. to whom they carried the Good News of Jesus Christ. Peace be with you.

Fr Gervase

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}
LECTIO DIVINA- In Church Crypt	1 st Wednesday of Month - 4 th November	at 10.15_{am}



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.

BISHOP TIMOTHY MENEZES IS TO BE NEW BISHOP OF BRENTWOOD:

Bishop Timothy, until now an Auxiliary Bishop in the Archdiocese of Birmingham, has been appointed by Pope Leo to succeed Bishop Alan Williams SM. Bishop Timothy's Mass of Episcopal Installation as the eighth Bishop of Brentwood will take place at the Cathedral Church of St Mary and St Helen, Brentwood, on Thursday, 3rd December, the memorial of St Francis Xavier. Bishop Alan Williams SM has given dedicated service in Brentwood and good wishes and prayers go with him to new pastures.



MESSAGE FROM FR PHILIP: Beloved friends, thank you from the depth of my heart for making my 50th birthday so memorable. Your prayers, kind words, cards, gifts and thoughtful gestures have truly touched me. It is a true blessing to walk this journey of faith with such a wonderful church family. May God bless each of you abundantly and grant you countless reasons to celebrate. God bless you all

† 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 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.



DIOCESAN 2nd COLLECTION: Today, parishes worldwide celebrate World Mission Sunday. By supporting Missio – the Pope's charity for world mission – we stand united as God's global family, in prayer, solidarity and action. The Holy Father has chosen the theme '**One in Christ, united in mission**' to celebrate 100 years of World Mission Sunday and encourages us to unite with missionaries as they strive to reach out with God's love to communities in need. Please pray for the work of mission and give what you can to this vital collection. A 2nd collection will be taken at all Masses this weekend.

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: -

NOVEMBER 2026	DECEMBER 2026
Tuesday 10/11/26 at 11.15 _{am} – 1.00 _{pm}	Saturday 05/12/26 at 11.15 _{am} – 12.00 _{pm}
Saturday 14/11/26 at 11.15 _{am} – 12.00 _{pm}	

GIFT AID AWARENESS DRIVE: A gift aid awareness drive will be held this weekend in all Mass Centre's- this is a wonderful opportunity to learn more about how Gift Aid can help parishes maximise the support they receive from parishioner donations at no extra cost.

NEXT 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.



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 4.00_{pm} 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.

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

KNIGHTS OF SAINT COLUMBA COUNCIL 270: Meetings take place on 1st Tuesday of the Month in the Fr. Saurin Hall at St Teresa's Lexden. 7:30_{pm} Rosary for an 8_{pm} Meeting.

KNIGHTS OF ST COLUMBA YOUTH COMPETITIONS: Nativity painting and Crib Photography competition are now live. Entries from ages 4 years and up. Cash prizes for winning entries and the young persons parish. Please submit any entries by Friday 18th December. For further details, including entry criteria see the poster in the porch & Parish Facebook page or please email grand-knight-council270@ksc.org.uk

VACANCY – ST BENEDICTS CATHOLIC COLLEGE *Higher Level Teacher Assistant (HLTA):* We are seeking a dynamic and highly IT-literate Higher Level Teaching Assistant to join our dedicated team. The successful candidate will play a key role in supporting students through tailored interventions in subject areas such as English, Maths, and Social Communication, and will be instrumental in customising digital and physical learning resources to meet individual learning needs. For further info www.stbenedicts.essex.sch.uk.

PRAYER FOR WORLD PEACE: Lord, we ask for your divine intervention and for peace to prevail in all war-torn countries, we pray for all people whose lives have been torn apart by emergencies and help for all those who are facing or recovering in countries that have suffered natural disasters. 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 & stability around the world. *Amen*



CHURCH CLEANING: Monday 12/10/26: Team 3 / Monday 19/10/26: Team 4
COFFEE MORNING: 11/10/26: African Community / 18/10/26: Diane + Adrian