

TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A)

Saturday 30th	Monkwick	5.00 pm	George Farrell RIP
Sunday 1st October	Church	8.00 am	Nigeria, Government & People
	Church	10.30 am	Cathleen, Lea + Jenny RIP
	Church	2.00 pm	Polish Mass
	Church	4.00 pm	Filipino Mass
	Church	6.30 pm	Ints: Mary Bulalague
	West Mersea	8.30 am	Parishioners
	Mile End	9.30 am	Private Intention
Monday 2nd			The Holy Guardian Angels
	Church	9.30 am	Christine Mary Lucas RIP
Tuesday 3rd			Feria
	Church	9.30 am	Margaret Murray
Wednesday 4th			St Francis of Assisi, Rel
	Church	9.30 am	Private Intention (SF)
Thursday 5th			Feria
	Church	9.30 am	Intention: J.F.
Friday 6th			Feria Harvest Fast Day
	Church	9.30 am	Marcelina + Belen De Jesus RIP
Saturday 7th			Our Lady of the Rosary
	Church	9.30 am	Ints: Noulhet + Family + All Sick People

TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A)

Saturday 7th	Monkwick	5.00 pm	Eric & Jean Coote RIP
Sunday 8th	Church	8.00 am	Ints: Mary Bulalague
	Church	10.30 am	Parishioners
	Church	2.00 pm	Polish Mass
	Church	6.30 pm	Private Intention
	West Mersea	8.30 am	Elizabeth Ward RIP
	Mile End	9.30 am	Dec. Mem. Larkin Family

- ❖ For Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals, please email or contact our parish office.
- ❖ Marriage Preparation: Please be aware that 6 months' notice of intention for Marriage is required especially if marrying outside the Parish. Couples who are planning to get married should contact us **at least 6 months** in advance. Thank you.
- ❖ Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) Saturdays after 9.30am Mass (Priory Street) and after 5.00pm Mass (Monkwick).
- ❖ Mass Intentions. Envelopes are available in Church Porch and are situated either side of Church entrance, A suggested minimum stipend is £10 per Mass.

- **Cardinal Bourne Hall Enquiries/Bookings:** colchester@brcdt.org
- **SVP (St Vincent de Paul Society):** Tel: 07493 439427/email: colchestersvp@gmail.com

NEW TO THE PARISH? Then please complete one of our Parish Registration forms, which can be found in the porch at the back of the church.



Please check out our Facebook page for all the latest Parish/Diocese/Vatican news, Clergy/Church photos/videos. Please remember to **like & 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:

Mgr. Christopher Brooks
Fr. Philip Okoli

Address: 51 Priory Street, Colchester, Essex, CO1 2QB

Tel: 01206 866317

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St James the Less and St Helen RC Church, Colchester

TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A)
Week Commencing 1st October 2023

In the Gospel today Jesus makes this statement that seems to give the thumbs up to tax collectors and prostitutes, *“tax collectors and prostitutes are entering the kingdom of God before you”*. He is actually wooing the sinner to conversion. The narrative of the two brothers illustrates how God delights in our change of heart. The first son declines his father's request out right, but he eventually changes his mind. Conversely, the second son says yes but fails to follow through. God's emphasis is not as much on how far we have strayed as on our faith in his boundless mercy. He says in the first reading, when a sinner renounces all his previous sins, he shall certainly live.

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
ADORATION & PRAYER	Thursdays	at 7.30 pm



THE POPE'S INTENTIONS FOR OCTOBER: For the Synod
We pray for the Church, that she may adopt listening and dialogue as a lifestyle at every level, and allow herself to be guided by the Holy Spirit towards the peripheries of the world.

MARRIAGE MATTERS: (Ezek18: 25-28 Phil 2: 1-11 Matt 21: 28-32) *Maintain a common purpose.*

Remember our courting days and the long, thrilling conversations we had about our future together. They were part of our falling in love and of establishing a common purpose in married life. St Paul reminds us of the mark of a Christian: *"Be united in your convictions and your love, with a common purpose and a common mind."*

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK: We continue to pray for those parishioners we know who are sick and housebound especially Roger Kemp, Margaret Brookes, Diana Irvén, Mrs. Maureen McKenna, Joyce Wrobel, Ron & Margaret Griffin, Peter Wyatt, Elizabeth Pace, Jason McLean, Hilda Morah, Nicollas and Adam Campbell-Vencarto, Maureen R. We continue to pray for all persons who are ill or are in need.

RECENTLY DECEASED: Please pray for the repose of the souls of Baby Henry Bartosz Szymiaszko and Elizabeth Ward who have both recently passed away. The parish community offers their respective families and friends our condolences and the assurance of our prayers at this most difficult time. Henry's funeral service will be at Colchester Crematorium on Friday 13th October at 10.00am. Elizabeth's funeral details are to be advised.

CAFOD FAMILY FAST DAY ON FRIDAY 6TH OCTOBER. We are asked to eat simply on that day and make a donation to CAFOD towards supporting families who struggle to get basic health care. You can read more at <https://cafod.org.uk>. Envelopes will be available at all Masses on the weekend of 1st October. Please return these with your donation on 7th/8th October. Thank you for your support. Please note that Gemma Our Parish Cafod representative will be giving talks over the next few weekends at all Mass Centre's.

MISSIO VOLUNTEER PARISH REPRESENTATIVE (Missio Red Boxes): We are currently looking for a volunteer to take on the role of the Missio representative for this Parish. For further details on this position, please speak to Fr Chris.

CONFIRMATION COURSE: If you would like your child to make their Sacrament of Confirmation, please register your interest to stjamesthelessconfirmation@hotmail.com with your child's name, age, school year and name of school attending. Please note that children must be 14yrs + at time of being confirmed on 28/02/24. There will be application forms in the church porch (*please complete a form once you have registered interest*). Completed forms can be emailed to above address or dropped through Presbytery door. Course details will be sent to you by email.

BETHLEHEM NATIVITY GROUP: Christian greetings and the Peace of our Lord be with you always. We would love to thank you for allowing our group to come to your church and sell religious articles, the result of which was very beneficial and rewarding for our needy Christian families. Which raised £2890.93. Your help is a great support for us, and for our Christian families in the Holy Land. We don't have a word to thank you and your parishioners, but to make sure that you are always in our prayers. If anyone has missed the carvings display, You can place an order online directly from them at www.tbng.co.uk

SUNDAY COFFEE MORNING: Anyone who has half-an-hour to spare after Mass is most welcome to stay for coffee and biscuits after 10.30am Mass on Sundays. This is a chance to catch up in the spirit of friendship and community. Everyone is warmly invited.

CHURCH CLEANING VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: keeping our place of worship glorious for The Lord. Volunteers are desperately needed to keep our church looking clean and welcoming. If you can spare 1-2 hours per month to help clean the Church and would like to become a "heavenly duster" or a "hoover angel" Or form a new team with friends, community groups. As the saying goes,...Many hands make light work. Please contact Linda in the Presbytery office (01206 866317) Thanks.

LEXDEN PARISH: OUR LADY IN THE MONTH OF OCTOBER: In this month of October, The Legion of Mary and The Knights of St. Columba invite all parishioners to join them in a Holy Hour every Sunday from 3-4pm in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel, Lexden Parish. We will worship our Lord and honour our Lady with rosary, meditation, songs and prayers. The dates are 1st Oct; 8th; 15th; 22nd; and 29th. All welcome.

FEAST OF OUR LADY OF FATIMA: To honour our Lady of Fatima, the Legion of Mary invite all parishioners to join them in a Holy Hour on Saturday 14th October from 12 -1pm at the Blessed Sacrament Chapel, Lexden Parish, with rosary, prayers, songs and meditation. This will be followed by food and drinks in the church hall including the showing of two short videos on the constitution of the Legion of Mary. Please join us, All welcome.

CANON PATRICK SAMMON RIP: SALE OF BOOKS AND CDS: Over the last few weeks the late Canon Patrick Sammon's extensive library and collection of CDs have been sorted by Father Stewart Foster, the Diocesan Archivist. Many of his theological books have been taken to a seminary so that future priests may benefit thereby. On the weekend of 21/22 October in Our Lady of Lourdes Parish Centre, Cambridge Park, Wanstead, London E11 2 PR (after all the Masses; Saturday 6.30pm, Sunday 9.30am, 11.30am & 6.30pm) there will be a sale of the remaining books and CDs. As well as being an appropriate way for those who knew Fr Pat to have a memento via books and CDs, £1 per item will be charged and the money raised will be sent to the Brentwood Diocesan Lourdes Pilgrimage Fund to assist those who wish to go to Lourdes but who might find the cost of the Diocesan Pilgrimage beyond their means. Fr Pat was the Director of the Diocesan Lourdes Pilgrimage for many years and did much to assist needy pilgrims.

THE GOOD COUNSEL BLACK TIE BALL will take place at 6pm Saturday 18th November 2023 in Kensington, London. Live Band. Silent Auction. London's Catholic Pro-Life Ball raising money to help save lives and change lives. Tickets £125 each. For bookings and enquiries email GCNball@gmail.com or telephone 07795205117.

ESCORTED PILGRIMAGE TO KNOCK SHRINE, Ireland, 16th October 2023. £699.00 per person sharing. Price incl. flight, all transfers, 4 nights' in Knock House Hotel with full board. All entertainment and excursions incl. Day trips to Westport, Ballintubber Abbey, Croagh Patrick, Fr. Peyton Centre & National Museum. Single supplement £150.00. Contact Patricia or Natali on 01268 762 278 or 07740 175557 or email knockpilgrimages@gmail.com.

THE DIVINE MERCY APOSTOLATE PILGRIMAGE TO THE SHRINE OF OUR LADY OF KNOCK, Co Mayo, November 9th to 14th to pray for the Holy Souls. Led by the Marian Fathers. Package includes: return flights by Aer Lingus from Heathrow, half board, 5 nights, accommodation in en-suite twin rooms, hand luggage (10 kg), all transfers and Airport Development fee. The Retreat will include daily Mass and Hour of Mercy and retreats at Glendalough and Kylemore Abbey. Cost £800. All welcome. Please call Millie on 07957594646 for more information.

CHURCH CLEANING TEAM: Thursday 05/10/23: **Team 1** / Monday 09/10/23: **Team 2**
COFFEE MORNING: 01/10/23: Diane + Adrian / 08/01/23: The O'Sullivan