

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT (B)

Saturday 2nd	<i>Monkwick</i>	5.00 pm	Robert + Winfred Bradshaw RIP
Sunday 3rd	<i>Church</i>	8.00 am	Michael + Annie O'Reilly RIP
	<i>Church</i>	10.30 am	Thanksgiving for Anniversary (A. Fam)
	<i>Church</i>	2.00 pm	Polish Mass
	<i>Church</i>	4.00 pm	Filipino Mass
	<i>Church</i>	6.30 pm	Private Intention
	<i>West Mersea</i>	8.30 am	Parishioners
	<i>Mile End</i>	9.30am	Private Intention

Monday 4th **Monday of the Third Week of Lent**

Church 9.30 am Thanksgiving (HDD)

Tuesday 5th **Tuesday of the Third Week of Lent**

Church 9.30 am Lubomir Bellovic RIP

Church 6.30 pm **Polish Stations of the Cross**

Wednesday 6th **Wednesday of the Third Week of Lent**

Church 9.30 am Birgitta Linden RIP

Thursday 7th **Thursday of the Third Week of Lent**

Church * 9.00 am Anniversary: Tony Bairstow RIP

Friday 8th **Friday of the Third Week of Lent**

Church 9.30 am Anniversary: Eric Proudfoot RIP

Church 12.30 pm **Stations of the Cross**

Saturday 9th **Saturday of the Third Week of Lent**

Church 9.30 am William Christopher Grahame RIP

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT (B)

* Laetare' Sunday

Saturday 9th *Monkwick* 5.00 pm Ints: Grace McCartney

Sunday 10th *Church* 8.00 am Private Intention

Church 10.30 am Parishioners

Church 2.00 pm Polish Mass

Church 6.30 pm Private Intention

West Mersea 8.30 am Mrs. Pauline Okoli RIP

Mile End 9.30 am Thanksgiving (BA)

* Please Note Mass On Thursday 7th March Is At 9.00am And Not 9.30am!

- ❖ 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).
- ❖ 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.
- ❖ 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

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



Parish Priest:
Assistant Priest:

Mgr. Christopher Brooks
Fr. Philip Okoli

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St James the Less and St Helen RC Church, Colchester



THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT (B)

Week commencing 3rd March 2024

The gospel relates the account of Jesus cleansing the temple, a powerful demonstration of his authority and zeal for true worship. After clearing the Temple of the merchants and the moneychangers, John's Gospel tells us that the people asked for a sign of Jesus' authority to do such an audacious act. In response, Jesus predicted his death and Resurrection. Here we learn that the sign will be Jesus' passion, death, and Resurrection. During Lent, we reflect upon the meaning of this sign for us and for our world. We might take this opportunity to consider the quality of our prayer and worship. In our prayers, we seek to deepen our relationship with the person of Christ. In our worship with the community, we gather to experience anew the passion, death, and Resurrection of Jesus and its significance in our lives.

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 MARCH: For New Martyrs. Let us pray that those who risk their lives for the Gospel in various parts of the world might imbue the Church with their courage and missionary drive.

PRAYER FOR PEACE IN PALESTINE, ISRAEL & UKRAINE. God of hope and mercy, protect all who are in any form of danger; provide practical help to those in need; strengthen the weary, console the grieving, heal the suffering; and bless those engaged in disaster relief efforts with safety and courage. Amen.



MARRIAGE MATTERS: (Exodus 20:1-17 1Corinthians 1:22-25 John 2:13-25) *God's love is our strength.* Let us remind each other constantly that our marriage is as unique and as special to God today as it was when we first married. We are blessed with a love that transforms ordinary everyday events into something quite different and special. Our faults and weaknesses become our strengths if we strive to love one another as God loves us.

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

LENT DAY OF MERCY on **Friday 15th March 2024:** The Church will be open all day with Mass at 9.30am followed by Exposition & Confession all day; to finish with Benediction at 9.00pm. Please do try to attend at some point during the day.

MASS FOR PAULINE OKOLI RIP: Fr Philip will be holding a Mass for his mother Pauline on **Friday 5th April** at St James the Less & St Helen Church at **7.00pm**. All Parishioners are invited to attend and there will be a reception in Cardinal Bourne Hall afterwards. Parishioners are kindly asked to bring a plate of food and a list of suggested plates ideas are on a poster in the Church porch.

PLEASE JOIN GIFT AID. Parishioners! The gift aid team will be speaking to you at Priory Street and Mile End on today. They will explain how you can help our Parish by joining the Gift Aid Scheme.

DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO WALSINGHAM – 25th MAY 2024: 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 wish to reserve a seat on the coach – please add your name to the Coach Seat Reservation list which can be found on a clipboard in the Church Porch. A 53-seat coach will be picking up from East Hill near the corner of Priory Street at 07:45 for 8:00am departure, with tickets at £17.00 per person, payable on the coach for those who have reserved seats. Please bring a packed lunch, as the cafeteria at Walsingham will be very busy.



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.
CUPPA CLUB: We meet **every Thursday from 10.00am to 11.30am** in the Hall. Everyone is welcome.

REPOSITORY: There is a selection of St Patrick Day Cards; Easter Cards + Celebration of Confirmation cards for sale in Church porch.



ST PATRICKS' DAY - AFTERNOON TEA CELEBRATION in Cardinal Bourne Hall on **Sunday 17th March 2023** from **3.00pm-5.30pm**. Menu will include assorted sandwiches, cakes, scones with Tea, Coffee & Soft drinks available. Vegetarian, vegan & gluten free catered for by pre-order. Bring your own Alcohol. Entertainment provided by McGahan Lees Irish Dance Academy + Music by Steve Williams & a Raffle. Ticket prices Adults £17.00; 12-16yrs £8.50; 5-11yrs £4.00. Please contact Frances for tickets on 01206 5674258 or 07767146821

VACANCY: The Canonesses of the Holy Sepulchre are recruiting a couple/two adults to support the nine elderly sisters who live in the main house. The role is residential in a two-bedroom bungalow, adjacent to the main home in Colchester. Precise role and salary are dependent on the skills of the successful applicants. For further information please contact: crssuk@canonesses.co.uk

VOCATIONS: The next "Enquirers' Evening" for those considering or interested in a vocation to the priesthood is on Tuesday 5th March at Brentwood Cathedral. The speaker will be Deacon Frank Westcott. For further info please contact Fr Mark Swires: vocprom@brcdt.org

BRENTWOOD CATHEDRAL LENT LECTURES 2024: There will be four talks on the Synod on Synodality taking place at Brentwood Cathedral on Wednesdays 6th and 13th March at 7.30pm. Free entry. All welcome. Further details at: www.cathedral-brentwood.org

SJOG HOMES FOR UKRAINE MATCHING SERVICE: Caritas Social Action Network is an international Catholic charity with services for the vulnerable in the UK and Ireland. It is matching Ukrainian people displaced by war with people in the Catholic community who are willing to host them for 6 months. If you have room in your home, visit <https://sjog-homesforukraine.uk/> for more info. .

MISSIO MAGAZINES FOR SPRING 2024 are available free in the church porch.

CTS BOOKLETS: There are a good selection of booklets available for sale in the church porch, please leave monies in the CTS box. Thank you.

CONCERT FOR ST JOHN BOSCO CHILDREN'S CAMP: On **Saturday 13th April 2024** - New Windmill Hall, Upminster. **7:00 - 9:00pm**. Come and enjoy an exciting variety show of music and entertainment, to raise money for the camp, which provides holidays for over 100 children. Wine and refreshments included. Adult tickets £10; children £5. Bookings by phone: 07957382592. Online bookings and more details: www.boscocamp.co.uk/events

RIGHT TO LIFE: Ask your MP to support the abortion time limit reduction amendment Support an amendment to reduce our abortion time limit from 24 weeks to 22 weeks. Research indicates that a significant number of babies born at 22 or 23 weeks can now survive outside the womb, leaving a contradiction in our abortion law. Take action: Collect a postcard today from the church porch and post it to your MP urgently in support of this amendment!

THE VATICAN'S DICASTERY FOR EVANGELIZATION has just released "*Teach Us To Pray*", a guide book on prayer for Christians, as the Church prepares to celebrate the 2025 Jubilee.... Read all: <https://www.vaticannews.va/en/vatican-city/news/2024-02/dicastery-for-evangelization-offers-resource-for-year-of-prayer.html>

VOLUNTEER AT THE ST JOHN BOSCO CHILDREN'S CAMP; from 27th July – 3rd August help give 100 children a holiday. Helpers must be 18+, and the Camp will arrange for a DBS check, and appropriate training. To help at the Bosco Camp is a wonderful experience, and now is the time to apply. Details: www.boscocamp.co.uk

CHURCH CLEANING TEAM: Thursday 07/03/24: **Team 1/** Monday 11/03/24: **Team 2**
COFFEE MORNING: 03/03/24: Diane & Adrian / **10/03/24:** The O'Sullivans