

FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (B)

Saturday 3rd	<i>Monkwick</i>	5.00 pm	Peter Kerrins RIP
Sunday 4th	<i>Church</i>	8.00 am	Private Intention
	<i>Church</i>	10.30 am	Ints: Una Nagle + Family
	<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>	9.30 am	Thanksgiving (Delivery)

Monday 5th			St Agatha, v, M
	<i>Church</i>	9.30 am	P. J. Kurian RIP

Tuesday 6th			St Paul Miki and Comps, Mm
	<i>Church</i>	9.30 am	Holy Souls in Purgatory
	<i>Church</i>	11.30 am	FUNERAL SERVICE: Gloria Vicary RIP

Wednesday 7th			Feria
	<i>Church</i>	9.30 am	Frederick, Elizabeth + Angelo Lucas

Thursday 8th	Day of Prayer for victims of Trafficking		St Josephina Bakhita, v
	<i>Church</i>	9.30 am	Mrs Ann Henry RIP

Friday 9th			Feria
	<i>Church</i>	9.30 am	Deceased Relatives of Betts Family

Saturday 10th			St Scholastica, v
	<i>Church</i>	9.30 am	Noreen Downes RIP

SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (B) World day for the Sick, and Day of Prayer for the Unemployed

Saturday 10th	<i>Monkwick</i>	5.00 pm	Giovanni + Eugenia Dinech RIP
Sunday 11th	<i>Church</i>	8.00 am	Ints: Jimmy Clarin
	<i>Church</i>	10.30 am	Anniversary: Oksana Zakhleniuk RIP
	<i>Church</i>	2.00 pm	Polish Mass
	<i>Church</i>	6.30 pm	Private Intention
	<i>West Mersea</i>	8.30 am	Parishioners
	<i>Mile End</i>	9.30 am	Theo & Ria Tinneveld RIP

- ❖ 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.
- ❖ Colchester General Hospital: If you would like to arrange for a priest to visit a Catholic relative in hospital, please contact the presbytery direct on (01206 866317).

- **Cardinal Bourne Hall Enquiries/Bookings:** colchester@brodt.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:

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Fr. Philip Okoli

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St James the Less and St Helen RC Church, Colchester

FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (B)

Week commencing 4th February 2024

Job, the person referred to in the first reading of today, is a broken, depressed and shattered man. He lost all his cattle and donkeys, which were carried off by invaders. His sheep were devoured by fire and so were the shepherds. The Chaldeans made off with his camels and killed his servants. A house collapsed on his sons and daughters while they were at a meal together and later on, he himself was stricken with malignant ulcers from head to foot. In his great misery, he calls out to the Lord. He laments about how unbearable life has become. He feels he just has months of delusion and nights of grief. Many of us can identify with the brokenness of Job. For we ourselves, at some stage of our lives, have experienced such brokenness in one form or another in different areas of our lives. We experience the brokenness of our bodies. We have had sicknesses, dashed hopes and dreams, disappointments, failure, heartbreaks and so on. However, the gospel of today assures us that we still have the healing power of Jesus at work in us today. Just like Job, we shall keep experiencing the healing hand of Jesus in our broken 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 FEBRUARY For the terminally ill. We pray that those with a terminal illness, and their families, receive the necessary physical and spiritual care and accompaniment.

PRAYER FOR PEACE IN PALESTINE, ISRAEL & UKRAINE. We pray for the people of all war torn countries, for all those suffering or afraid, that you will be close to them and protect them. We pray for world leaders, for compassion, strength, and wisdom to guide their choices. We pray for the laying down of all weapons.



MARRIAGE MATTERS: (Job 7:1-4, 6-7 1 Corinthians 9:16-19, 22-23 Mark 1:29-39) ***Making the time to talk and to listen.*** As married couples we need time to grow in knowledge and understanding of each other. This week let us make time when we are not tired, to talk together, to share what's happened in the day, our thoughts and feelings, the things that worry us or make us happy. Perhaps we can also plan a regular celebration of our love.

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.

DIOCESAN 2nd COLLECTION: After all Masses this weekend a collection will be taken for for Lourdes Sick + Helpers Pilgrim fund. The proceeds of this collection are used to fund Doctors + Nurses on the pilgrimage, as well as to provide assistance for individuals who are facing financial hardship, especially those with medical needs so they can attend too.

BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP: When we lose someone we have loved, a relationship where we felt safe, or a job where we felt fulfilled, we are left with grief that affects us emotionally and spiritually. Working together with two neighbouring parishes, we offer opportunities for support at a time of bereavement and loss: **Group support** at St Teresa's, Lexden and St. John Payne's Greenstead and **one to one help** in St James the Less, Priory St. The leaders are trained and experienced and are, or have been part of St Helena's Hospice Counselling and Emotional Support Team. More details on Notice Board, website and Facebook.

ASH WEDNESDAY (14th FEBRUARY): This marks the beginning of Lent, a time of fasting that has been kept almost since the time of the Apostles. We will have 3 Masses at 9.30am, 12.15pm & 7.30pm with "ashing" (optional).

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.



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

CHURCH CANDLE STANDS: Please note that only the candles supplied in containers below each Candle stand are to be used – Please do not bring and light your own candles!

BRENTWOOD DIOCESAN DIRECTORY 2024: The last 2 remaining copies of the directory available in the Church porch.

'WALK WITH ME' Booklets (LENT EDITION): These are available for sale in the church

BRENTWOOD CATHEDRAL LENTEN TALKS:

A series of 4 talks on the recent Synod on Synodality, which took place in Rome last October, has been organised for the Holy Lenten season this year. We have managed to secure 4 speakers who were participants at the Synod.

- Fr Timothy Radcliffe OP, (Wednesday 21st February 2024) who was appointed by the Pope as the Guest Preacher and Spiritual Director for the whole Synod;
- The Revd Dr Jan Nowotnik (Wednesday 28th February 2024) Director of Mission for the Bishops' Conference, and its National Ecumenical Officer;
- Mr Austen Ivereigh (Wednesday 6th March 2024) Catholic Journalist, Biographer of Pope Francis; Writer, speaker on contemporary Church affairs and
- Bishop Nicholas Hudson (Wednesday 13th March 2024) Auxiliary Bishop of Westminster, (former Rector of the Ven English College, Rome), appointed delegate at the Synod last October.

All the Talks will take place at Brentwood Cathedral at 7.30pm. Considering the Bishop's Pastoral Letter recently this will be a wonderful opportunity to learn about the Synod on Synodality, and this invitation is open to the whole Diocese.

VOCATIONS: The next "Enquirers' Evening" for those considering or interested in a vocation to the priesthood is on Tuesday 6th February at Brentwood Cathedral .The speaker will be Deacon Matúš Meleg who is training for the priesthood for our Diocese. For further information please contact Fr Mark Swires vocprom@dioceseofbrentwood.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. Or see the poster in Church porch/facebook. Please take a prayer card from Church porch.

GODSPELL: On Wednesday 14th February, Thursday 15th February & Friday 16th February, St Benedict's College will be putting on a performance of "Godspell" to an evening audience. Tickets for the show are £5 each and can be purchased via ParentPay for all those who have children who attend St Benedict's. If not, please contact t.fusi@stbenedicts.essex.sch.uk to inquire about purchasing tickets. The drama and music department have worked tirelessly alongside an absolutely brilliant group of young people who have worked their socks off to deliver this wonderful show to the community. *"We hope to see you there!"*

GOOD COUNSEL NETWORK: On Saturday 10th January, the Vigil of the Feast Our Lady of Lourdes, please pray and fast for the end of abortion in this Country. Through God's grace we have seen thousands of Mothers in our counselling centre continue their pregnancies in very difficult circumstances. Please help us to help save lives with your prayers, fasting and support. www.GoodCounselNetwork.com

DIOCESAN SCHOOL VACANCIES (Positions and links below): -

- Headteacher – St Patrick's Primary School, Collier Row
Deadline for applications: 12:00 (noon), Monday 12th February 2024
- Headteacher – St Thomas More Primary School, Saffron Walden
Deadline for applications: 12:00 (noon), Monday 26th February 2024
- Headteacher – St Joseph's Primary School, Harwich
Deadline for applications: 12:00 (noon), Wednesday 28th February 2024

CHURCH CLEANING TEAM: Monday 05/02/24: **Team 2** / Monday 12/02/24: **Team 3**
COFFEE MORNING: 04/02/24: Yolande + 1 / 11/02/24: SVP