

ST. JAMES THE LESS AND ST. HELEN

CATHOLIC CHURCH, COLCHESTER

WITH MERSEA, MILE END AND MONKWICK

1 PARISH, 4 CHURCHES, 1 COMMUNITY

TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A)

Saturday 7th	<i>Monkwick</i>	5.00 pm	Eric & Jean Coote RIP
Sunday 8th	<i>Church</i>	8.00 am	Ints: Mary Bulalague
	<i>Church</i>	10.30 am	Parishioners
	<i>Church</i>	2.00 pm	Polish Mass
	<i>Church</i>	6.30 pm	Private Intention
	<i>West Mersea</i>	8.30 am	Elizabeth Ward RIP
	<i>Mile End</i>	9.30 am	Dec. Mem. Larkin Family
Monday 9th			St John Henry Newman, Pr
	<i>Church</i>	9.30 am	Mrs Eethamma Joseph RIP
Tuesday 10th			Feria
	<i>Church</i>	9.30 am	Holy Souls
Wednesday 11th			Feria
	<i>Church</i>	9.30 am	Private Intention (SF)
Thursday 12th			Ss Ethelburga, Hildelithe & Cuthberga, Rel
	<i>Church</i>	9.30 am	Ints: J.F.
Friday 13th			Feria
	<i>Church</i>	9.30 am	Ints Donor (MC)
Saturday 14th			Memorial of the Blessed Virgin Mary
	<i>Church</i>	9.30 am	Thanksgiving for Jose Paul recovery

TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A)

Saturday 14^h	<i>Monkwick</i>	5.00 pm	Robert Bradshaw RIP
Sunday 15th	<i>Church</i>	8.00 am	Bridie Markham RIP
	<i>Church</i>	10.30 am	James, Mary + John Galvin RIP
	<i>Church</i>	2.00 pm	Polish Mass
	<i>Church</i>	6.30 pm	Ints: Mary Bulalague
	<i>West Mersea</i>	8.30 am	Parishioners
	<i>Mile End</i>	9.30 am	Private Intention

- ❖ 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.

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.

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



Parish Priest:
Assistant Priest:

Mgr. Christopher Brooks
Fr. Philip Okoli

Address: 51 Priory Street, Colchester, Essex, CO1 2QB
Tel: 01206 866317
E-Mail: colchester@brcdt.org
Website: www.stjamesthelessandsthelen.org
 St James the Less and St Helen RC Church, Colchester

TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A)
Week Commencing 8th October 2023

The first reading and Gospel today could be considered very stern, both are real warnings that disciples need to 'produce fruit' otherwise they will be rejected. We need to take these warnings seriously. How, then, can we know if we are truly fruitful, what signs are there, if any? The second reading gives us a clue. It is a joyful passage, as St. Paul's letter to the Philippians is as a whole. He writes about purity, truth, nobility, honour, peace; elsewhere he expands on the fruits of the Holy Spirit as love, joy, peace, patience, kindness etc. Can we genuinely see these in our own lives because if so I believe we can say we are 'producing fruit'. We aren't necessarily grade A, perhaps we might be seen as wonky, imperfect as some supermarkets grade their fruit, nevertheless let's persevere and God will make us perfect in due time.

Fr. Chris

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: (Isaiah 5:1-7 Phil 4:6-9 Matt 21:33-43) **Loving and honouring each other and the Lord.** When you married you took each other *for better, for worse*. God experienced the 'worse' when his 'bride', the Jewish people, rejected him by worshipping other gods. The 'worse' for you may be when your spouse mocks your beliefs. Have you shared your hurt, let them know your pain? Remember, though, that God has loved the 'worst' in you.

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK: We continue to pray for those parishioners we know who are sick and housebound especially 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 Roger Kemp & 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. Funeral details are to be advised for Elizabeth & Roger.

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.

NEXT 2ND COLLECTION: A 2nd collection will be taken for Prisoner's Sunday (Pact) on 15th October. Pacts work helps to provide a bridge of support, keeping families together, reducing reoffending and creating safer prisons. Prisoners Sunday is the Church's national day of prayer and action in support of prisoners and their families, and the work of Pact.

UPCOMING 2ND COLLECTION: Missio for World Mission Day on 22nd October 2023.

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.

DAY OF MERCY: On Friday 8th December 2023, 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.

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.

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. **The Parent and Candidate meeting will take place on Sunday 8th October at 4pm-5.30pm in the church crypt.**

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION: Registration is now open for all children who are currently in years 3 and 4. Please send the following details via email to fhcstjamescolchester@gmail.com Child's Full Name - Child's D.O.B. - Name of the school your child attends. The dates of the next course will be sent out upon receipt of your registration. However, please 'save the date' of the Parents' Meeting will be Saturday 10th February 2024 which ALL PARENTS will be required to attend to complete the registration process for your child to attend the Reconciliation & First Holy Communion Courses.

SAVE THE DATE! Christmas Celebration on Saturday 2nd December 2023 in Cardinal Bourne Hall from 11.00am to 3.30pm.

QUIZ NIGHT (Knights of St Columba): The KSC wishes to welcome you to a quiz night. Filled with lots of fun with friends, there will be a buffet, with tea & coffee and chance to win prizes on the raffle. Teams of 6-8 people but don't worry as there is always a spot on a team for you. £5 per person entry on the night at the cardinal Bourne hall on the 14th October start time is 7:30pm doors open at 7:00pm. Please bring your friends & family, as it really is a fun night.

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.

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

CLEANER REQUIRED - ST THOMAS MORE'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL: Our lovely cleaner is leaving us for full time employment and we are desperate to replace her. We are looking for someone for 2 hours per day - Monday – Friday 3.30-5.30. Term time only @ £10.98 per hour, starting Monday 30th October. If you are interested, or know someone who might like to join our friendly team please contact the school for more details on 01206 865722

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 8th; 15th; 22nd; and 29th of October. All welcome.

LEXDEN PARISH: 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.

CHURCH CLEANING TEAM: Monday 09/10/23: Team 2 / Monday 16/10/23: Team 3
COFFEE MORNING: 08/01/23: The O'Sullivan's / 15/01/23: Peggy & Anne