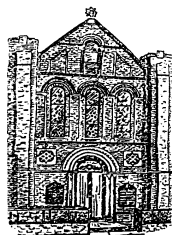


# ST. JAMES THE LESS AND ST. HELEN

CATHOLIC CHURCH, COLCHESTER

175 YEARS ~ 1837 - 2012

WITH MERSEA, MILE END AND MONKWICK



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## NINETEENTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR [B] August 12<sup>th</sup> 2012

My Dear Friends

The Solemnity of the Assumption falls on Wednesday of this week. The divinely revealed truth "that the Immaculate Mother of God, the ever-virgin Mary, on the completion of her earthly life, was assumed body and soul into heaven", was proclaimed by Pope Pius XII in 1950. Far from being something pulled out of the hat by pious souls desperately seeking some way to take their minds of post-war austerity, the "falling asleep" or Dormition of the Mother of God was established in the East by the sixth century. The 15<sup>th</sup> of August was celebrated as the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary by the eighth century. Indeed, even in the fifth century the 15<sup>th</sup> of August was celebrated as the Commemoration of the Mother of God. Veneration of Our Lady is no invention of the so-called "Dark Ages" to be pruned back by those Church archaeologists who have never read Newman's "Development of Christian Doctrine" and think that a thing is legitimate only if it can be carbon-dated to the first century AD.

Reading "Munificentissimus Deus", the encyclical which defines the dogma, one certainly feels the passage of time: the six decades since have been marked by a disastrous loss of love and respect for Our Mother.

(continued overleaf)

Pius XII speaks of the popular drive pushing the Church to define the dogma: "During the course of time such postulations and petitions did not decrease but rather grew continually in number and urgency. In this cause there were pious crusades of prayer." The faithful had seen the link between the dogma of the Immaculate Conception and the Assumption, illuminated by their instinctive love of her. "She, by an entirely unique privilege, completely overcame sin by her Immaculate Conception, and as a result she was not subject to the law of remaining in the corruption of the grave, and she did not have to wait until the end of time for the redemption of the body." (#6) Perhaps this is one of those dogmas God gives us in preparation for difficult times. In this regard it is similar to "Humanae Vitae" which clarified the perennial teaching of the Church in the area of sexual ethics just as dissent from Church teaching was gathering strength. Let us rekindle the love and fervour of those years before 1950. Queen conceived without Original Sin, pray for us. Queen assumed into Heaven, pray for us.

As last year, we will be joining with the Polish community in an indoor Procession and Mass of the Assumption, starting at 7.00pm on Wednesday. Next Sunday the Poles have invited us to join them at 4.00pm when the Mass will be **followed** by a Procession.

Fr Neil Brett

<b>DAILY PRAYER GROUP:</b>	<b>Morning Prayer 8:15am; Rosary/Divine Mercy 8:35am</b>
<b>MEDITATION GROUP:</b>	<b>Mondays at 8pm</b>
	<b>Tuesdays at 8pm</b>
	<b>Crypt</b>
	<b>Crypt</b>

### EVENTS THIS WEEK

*Please see Mass Schedule for ALL changes*

<b>Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>10:30am</b>	<b>Mersea Coffee Morning</b>
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**PRAYERS FOR THE SICK:** Please remember in your prayers, Mrs Elizabeth Akpoyoware, June Bickersteth, Frank Campbell, Rosaleen Campbell, Ian Cole, Nancy Drummond, Kitty Foley, Charlie George, Maurice Highfield, Maria Mahy, Pat Maloney, Cara Maude, Paula Nash, Leah Patterson, Elaine Proudfoot, Sabina Rhatigan, Hector Silva, Maria Soutar, Tony White.

**HOLYDAY OF OBLIGATION: The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary - This Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> August:** There will be a Vigil Mass at Mersea this Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> at 7:30pm with Masses on the day at Priory St at 7:30am, 9:15am and 12:15pm. There will be a joint Polish - English Mass starting with a procession at 7pm. On Sunday 19th the 4pm Polish Mass will be followed by procession.

**BAPTISMS THIS WEEKEND: Emily & Jack Utting and Tobe Gerard Okechukwu.** May God bless these children and congratulations to their families.

**MERSEA NEWS:** Our next coffee morning will be at the home of Margaret Brookes this Tuesday 14th August.

**100 CLUB – JULY DRAW:** And the winners are.... Vivienne & Michael Andrews [1<sup>st</sup>]; Kenneth Chapman [2<sup>nd</sup>] and George Johnson [3<sup>rd</sup>]. Congratulations to you all!

**A WORD OF THANKS FROM ALL THE COLUMBANS:** Our visits to the Parish of St. James the Less and St. Helen's together with Mersea, Mile End and Monkwick were very special occasions for both of us. We once again witnessed peoples' extraordinary generosity and genuine welcome for the ones 'coming in the name of the Lord'. It means so much to us. Our sincere thanks to all the Fathers for their hospitality and kindness throughout the visit. We truly appreciate your support for our Missions, particularly in these very trying economic times. It is not for us to reward you but, rather, the Lord. Let us continue to pray for each other and that we may grow in our concern for the spread of God's kingdom everywhere. With renewed gratitude to everyone from all the Columbans. May God bless you. Fraternaly, Frs. Tom Ryan & Pat O'Beirne.

**RIDE AND STRIDE:** Cyclists and walkers of all ages are invited to cycle or walk between as many local churches and chapels as possible on Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> September. Half the sponsor money goes to the Friends of Essex Churches Trust and half to our own church funds. See our poster in the porch. Please contact John Dolamore on 765 417 for a sponsor form and a list of local participating churches and chapels.

**PARISH BARBEQUE:** Next Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> August 3 – 5pm: the feast of St Helen. Adults £5.00, Children 3 -10 yrs. £3. Vegetarian options available. Tea, Coffee, soft drinks will be 50p; free for children. Tickets now available from Armando / Amy: 854 921 Nora: 503410 Francis: 369568.

**CHRISTMAS MARKET:** 1st meeting for planning – This Sunday 12th August in Cardinal Bourne Hall after 10:30am Mass. All welcome.

**BRENTWOOD CATHOLIC CHILDREN'S SOCIETY:** BCCS are looking for individuals to represent their parish (under 16's will need to be accompanied by an adult) to take part in 'Run for a Child'. This is a 5k run taking place on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> September at 7.00pm, Westley Heights Country Park, Basildon, with the support of Pitsea Running Club. To register your interest please contact Julie on 01268 784544 / [jabbott@bccs.org.uk](mailto:jabbott@bccs.org.uk) - Do something amazing and help us to continue our work supporting those children and families who turn to us for help - register today!

**ESSEX RECUSANT SOCIETY:** The next meeting of the Essex Recusant Society (Brentwood Diocesan Historical Society) will take place on Saturday 1st September 2012 at The Grange, 93, Queens Road, Brentwood at 2.30 pm. Dr. Leo Gooch, Hon. Secretary of the Catholic Record Society, will speak about 'Smuggling and Recusancy on the North Sea Coast'.

**CHURCH CLEANERS:** Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> August – Team 6.

**ALTAR SERVERS:** This Sunday 10:30am Mass – Team B.

**NINETEENTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR [B] - 12<sup>th</sup> August 2012**

**Saturday August 11<sup>th</sup>**

**6:15 pm** Lionel Wright RIP

**Sunday August 12<sup>th</sup>**

**8:00 am** In Thanksgiving [S&JC]

**10:30 am** Estrella Soriano RIP

**2:00 pm** **POLISH MASS**

**5:00 pm** **HOLY HOUR**

**6:30 pm** Private Intention

**8:30 am** Herbert Plater RIP

**9:15 am** Holy Souls

**10:15 am** Parishioners

*West Mersea*

*Mile End*

*Monkwick*

**Monday 13<sup>th</sup>**

**Feria**

*Church* **7:30 am** Bridie Murphy RIP [SVP]

*Church* **9:15 am** Intentions: Stammers Family [MM]

**Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup>**

**St Maximilian Kolbe, Pr, M**

*Church* **9:15 am** Clelia Mellone RIP [R&MG]

*West Mersea* **NB**

**7:30 pm** **VIGIL MASS OF THE ASSUMPTION**

**Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup>**

**THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY**

*Church* **7:30 am** Karl Rook RIP

*Church* **9:15 pm** Maureen Power RIP [BR]

*Church* **12:15 pm** Frederick, Elizabeth & Angelo Lucas RIP

*Church* **7:00 pm** **JOINT POLISH PROCESSION**

*Church* **7:30 pm** **JOINT POLISH MASS**

**Thursday 16<sup>th</sup>**

**Feria**

*Church* **9:15 am** Michael & Ellen Kate Conlon RIP

**Friday 17<sup>th</sup>**

**Feria**

*Church* **9:15 am** Private Intention

*Church* **1:30 pm** **WEDDING – Emily and Ciaran**

*Church* **6:30 pm** Private Intention

**Saturday 18<sup>th</sup>**

**ST HELENA, Patroness of the Borough of Colchester**

*Church* **9:15 am** Private Intention

**TWENTIETH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR [B] - 19<sup>th</sup> August 2012**

**Saturday August 18<sup>th</sup>**

**6:15 pm** Joan Boyden RIP [BB]

**Sunday August 19<sup>th</sup>**

**8:00 am** D/Rels: O'Grady Family

**10:30 am** Cicely Berry RIP

**4:00 pm** **JOINT POLISH MASS**

**5:00 pm** **JOINT POLISH PROCESSION**

**6:30 pm** Canon John Bloomfield RIP

*West Mersea*

**8:30 am** Parishioners

*Mile End*

**9:15 am** David Ballantine RIP

*Monkwick*

**10:15 am** B Bugeja RIP

**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION** *Saturday 9:45-10:30am and 5:30-6:00pm*

**SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM**

*Baptismal Courses arranged as per Newsletter*

**SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE**

*At least six months notice is required*

*Cardinal Bourne Hall 07980 438195 [cb.hall@btinternet.com](mailto:cb.hall@btinternet.com)  
The Brentwood Diocesan Trust – Registered Charity No. 234092*

