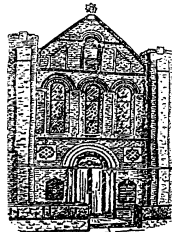


ST. JAMES THE LESS AND ST. HELEN

CATHOLIC CHURCH, COLCHESTER

With

MERSEA, MILE END AND MONKWICK



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THE SECOND SUNDAY OF THE YEAR [B] January 15th 2012

White Flower Appeal 2012

This year SPUC is focusing on the protection of school children from sexually explicit materials. This pro-Life movement is known for its sterling work against abortion and when you think about it the connection is obvious. Explicit sex education, to quote their material, "primes children for teenage sexual relations". When that happens, abortion is available – without parents knowing - when things "go wrong". The Christian family is the domestic Church, and this government policy is an attack on it. Please take the time to inform yourselves about these dangers to our children and, if nothing else, pray for their innocence and the protection of the family.

The public was "softened up" for the *Abortion Act* of 1967 by plenty of hard cases (which as we know make bad law) and a sustained media campaign. The same is happening today with euthanasia and assisted suicide. SPUC are active in this area too. Tony Bland, the Hillsborough disaster victim left severely brain-damaged and fed through a tube, was one such "hard case". This challenge involved the withdrawal of "artificial nutrition and hydration" – in other words denying the patient food and water through a tube. The Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith in August 2007 gave an authoritative answer to a specific question on this topic: "A patient in a *permanent vegetative state* is a person with fundamental human dignity and must, therefore, receive ordinary and proportionate care which includes, in principle, the administration of water and food even by artificial means". Bl

John Paul II was a testimony in his final days to genuine dignity in suffering. Never cease praying for those who are about to pass from this life to the next. Alison Davis is the national coordinator of the "No Less Human" group within SPUC and has an inspiring story of living with disability, including resisting the temptation to commit suicide. There are many fronts to this battle for life and you will find some literature at the rear of the church to inform you, including her story. We all have a duty to form our consciences according to the teaching of the Church. We must in particular pray for health workers so that they are prepared when the challenges come. Let's support the work of SPUC in promoting the culture of life.

Life is precious because it is a gift from God and we are made in the image and likeness of our Creator. Our bodies are not our own but are temples of the Holy Spirit. We receive into these bodies the Bread of Life, the Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity of Our Blessed Lord, every time we come to Communion. Let us defend, indeed proclaim, the infinite value of human life from conception to natural death. Let's support SPUC to this end.

Fr Neil Brett

DAILY Morning Prayer 8.15am; Rosary/Divine Mercy 8.35am (Wed 11:15am]

PRAYER GROUP

Mondays at 8pm Crypt

MEDITATION GROUP:

Tuesdays at 8pm Crypt

EVENTS THIS WEEK

Please see Mass Schedule for ANY changes

Wednesday 18 th	6:45pm	Scripture Group	Crypt
"	PM 1 of 2	WRAP sessions	CBH
Thursday 19 th	7:30pm	RCIA	Crypt
Saturday 21 st	10am-12pm	FHC Programme	Hall and Crypt
Sunday 22 nd	8pm	Evangelium	Crypt

SICK: Please remember in your prayers Joan Boyden, Frank Campbell, Alan Doleman, Nancy Drummond, Kitty Foley, Charlie George, Maurice Highfield, Pat Maloney, Cara Maude, Bridie Murphy, Paula Nash, Leah Patterson, Sabina Rhatigan, Hector Silva, Maria Soutar, Patricia Whitney, Tim Young.

100 CLUB: You will have the opportunity to renew subscriptions after each Mass in Priory Street this weekend and the 22nd January.

WHITE FLOWER APPEAL [SPUC]; There will be a second collection for the Society for the Protection of Unborn Children after all Masses today.

RECENTLY DECEASED: Please pray for the repose of the soul of Maureen Allen who has died. May she rest in peace. Her funeral has yet to be arranged.

PRIORY STREET THEATRE GROUP: present their annual pantomime *Mother Goose*. In the Cardinal Bourne Hall, Priory Street of Friday 20th January at 7.30 pm. and Saturday 21st January at 3.00 pm and 7.30 pm. Tickets: Adults £5.00; Children and concessions: £2.50. For more information

please contact Lesley on 01206 512310.

WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY: Next Sunday there will be a visiting preacher at the 10:30 Mass – Rev Catherine Bowstead; Fr Neil will be preaching at Morning Prayer at St Peter's, North Hill.

NEXT BAPTISMAL COURSE FOR NEWBORNS UP TO AGE 6: *Friday, 27th January 2012 and Friday, 3rd February 2012 in the Crypt from 7:30pm to 9pm.* Both sessions must be attended: entry to the Crypt is via the Church.

FRIENDS OF PERU – BEETLE DRIVE: An evening of family fun on Saturday, 28th January, at 7:30pm in the Cardinal Bourne Hall. Raffle and refreshments. Tickets; Adults £3.50; children £2.50. Please contact Nora on 503410 if you would like to book.

ST JAMES THE LESS & ST HELEN HAS TALENT: Acts are required for this fundraising activity. Age groups; up to 10 years; 11-15; 15-18; 18plus. This fun event will take place on Sat 4th February at 7pm, in the Cardinal Bourne Hall to raise money to send some young parishioners to Lourdes with BCYS. Contact Theresa Higgins 523501 for details. Cost £5 per person. Food will be provided.

A QUESTION OF FAITH: An evening of questions on living the Catholic faith to be held at St Monica's Church, De Vere Lane, Wivenhoe CO7 9AU on Thursday 9 February 2012 from 7.30 - 9.30 p.m. Refreshments are provided and there is no charge. All are welcome. Further details from the Commission for Evangelisation and Formation on 01277 265289, the parish on 01206 302485 or email CEF@dioceseofbrentwood.org

ST JOSEPH'S: Volunteers please to form a committee to help put the running of the church on a more formal footing. Please pass your name to either Fr Tony, or your Finance Committee rep, Ken Chapman. The date of the re-arranged first meeting will be announced in due course. In the meantime, you still have plenty of time to volunteer!

WELCOMERS NEEDED AT PRIORY STREET: New volunteers are required for this important Ministry. If you are interested, please contact Paul on 852728.

PARISH FOOTBALL TEAM: - Danny Ferdinand reporting: "We beat Ipswich based Hope Church 4-1 last Saturday. The team was trailing 1-0 but we smashed in 4 goals before half -time. Despite playing with only 10 men in the second half, (Chris de Souza picked up an injury towards the end of the first half and we had no substitutes!) we kept them at bay and our recent good form continues".

CHURCH CLEANING: SATURDAY January 21st – Team 6

CAR PARKING IN PRIORY ST: There is an overnight 50p charge from 6pm to 8am daily. Sunday all day: 50p. Pay 50p; avoid fine of £50! Due to bad

signage etc., several parishioners have already been caught out.

LITURGY FOR THE SECOND SUNDAY OF THE YEAR [B]

[Peace Day] - January 15th 2012

Saturday January 14th	6:15 pm	Intentions: Rhatigan family
Sunday January 15th	8:00 am	Kate Beale RIP
	10:30 am	Selwyn Caldeira RIP
	4:00 pm	POLISH MASS
	6:30 pm	D/Rels Herbert & Richards Families RIP
<i>West Mersea</i>	8:30 am	Parishioners
<i>Mile End</i>	9:15 am	Ints: Ria and Ben Stekelenburg
<i>Mile End</i>	5:00 pm	FILIPINO MASS
<i>Monkwick</i>	10:15am	Katarzyna Hlkywiak RIP

Monday 16th	Feria	
	<i>Church</i>	7:30 am Intentions: John, May and Family
	<i>Church</i>	9:15 am Matthew Nwadike RIP

Tuesday 17th	St Anthony, Ab	
	<i>Church</i>	9:15 am Special Intention {JH}

OCTAVE OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY

Wednesday 18th	Feria	
	<i>Church</i>	7:30 am Intentions: Patricia Grace Whitney
	<i>Church</i>	12 :15 pm Frederick, Elizabeth&Angelo Lucas RIP

Thursday 19th	Feria	
	<i>Church</i>	9.15 am Intentions: Mrs T Matiz

Friday 20th	Feria	
	<i>Church</i>	9:15 am John and Julie O'Connor RIP
	<i>Church</i>	6:30 pm Intentions: Margaut and Amanda

Saturday 21st	Feria	
	<i>Church</i>	9:15 am Canon John Bloomfield RIP

LITURGY FOR THE THIRD SUNDAY OF THE YEAR [B]

22ND January 2012

Saturday January 21st	6:15 pm	Mr and Mrs Milford RIP
Sunday January 22nd	8:00 am	Bridget Frawley RIP
	10:30am	Simon Monk RIP
	6:30 pm	Parishioners
<i>West Mersea</i>	8:30 am	Terry McGeary RIP
<i>Mile End</i>	9:15 am	Rosa Foley RIP
<i>Monkwick</i>	10:15am	Celestine Tighe 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*

SCHOOLS *St Thomas More* Head: Bridget Harris [865722]
St Benedict's Acting: Head: Peter Johnson [549222]

www.marriagecare.org.uk or 0800 389 3801. www.brentwoodvocations.org

The Brentwood Diocesan Trust – Registered Charity No. 234092