

ST. JAMES THE LESS AND ST. HELEN

CATHOLIC CHURCH, COLCHESTER

WITH MERSEA, MILE END AND MONKWICK



HOLY YEAR OF MERCY

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SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME [C]

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SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME [C]		
Saturday January 16th	6:15 pm	Douglas and David RIP
Sunday December 17th	8:00 am	Elaine Proudfoot RIP
	10:30 am	For Nigeria
	4:00 pm	Polish Mass
	6:30 pm	Bridget Frawley RIP
<i>West Mersea</i>	8:30 am	Henry Johnson RIP
<i>Mile End</i>	9:15 am	Derrick Foley RIP
<i>Monkwick</i>	10:15 am	Parishioners
Monday 18th	Feria	
	<i>Church</i>	9:15 am Intentions: The Reeves Family
Tuesday 19th	Feria	
	<i>Church</i>	9:15 am Walter Lazell RIP
Wednesday 20th	Feria [or St Hilary, Bp. D]	
	<i>Church</i>	9:15 am John and Julie O'Connor RIP
	<i>Church</i>	12:15 pm Mrs Bridie Foley RIP
	<i>Church</i>	4:30 pm Reception of Coffin
Thursday 21st	St Agnes, V, M	
	<i>Church</i>	9:15 am Frederick, Elizabeth & Angelo Lucas RIP
	<i>Church</i>	11:00 am REQUIEM – Jadwiga [Julie] Pauk RIP
Friday 22nd	Feria	
	<i>Church</i>	9:15 am Rev. Richard Allen RIP
Saturday 23rd	Feria	
	<i>Church</i>	9:15 am Stephen Hilton RIP

THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME [C]		
Saturday January 23rd	6:15 pm	Sean Keenan RIP
Sunday January 24th	8:00 am	Intentions; Mr & Mrs Mathew
	10:30 am	Intentions: Sykes Family
	2:00 pm	Polish Mass
	6:30 pm	Nula Finnerty RIP
<i>West Mersea</i>	8:30 am	Parishioners
<i>Mile End</i>	9:15 am	Rosa Foley RIP
<i>Monkwick</i>	10:15 am	Celestine Bugeza RIP

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: Saturday 9:45-10:30am; 5:30-6pm
SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE: At least six months notice is required

My dear friends,

Our Gospel today is the Wedding Feast at Cana. We find this in John's Gospel, Chapter 2. At the moment, we are thinking of the beginning Our Lord's public life. Cana was his first miracle or sign when he changed the water into wine. "He let his glory be seen and his disciples believed in him". John 2:11.

It is significant that Our Lord works this miracle during the course of the wedding. It emphasises the blessing of the Sacrament of Marriage when a couple invite Jesus to their wedding, as it were, by living his commandment of love in this wonderful vocation. The plentiful wine is a sign of the new and everlasting life Christ shares with us.

We notice the presence of Our Lady interceding for the wedding couple and pointing out the predicament they were in. Mary intercedes for us and points us to Christ who alone can satisfy our deepest needs. Her advice to all God's people is uttered in this Gospel event: "do whatever he tells you". This reminds us that during the Holy Year of Mercy we invoke Our Lady in the beautiful title, Mother of Mercy.

*Hail Holy Queen, Mother of Mercy,
Hail our life, our sweetness and our hope.
To thee do we cry,
poor banished children of Eve,
To thee do we send up our sighs,
mourning and weeping in this vale of tears.
Turn then most gracious Advocate,
thine eyes of mercy towards us,*

*and after this our exile,
show unto us the Blessed fruit of thy womb, Jesus.
O clement, O loving, O sweet Virgin Mary.*

*Pray for us, O Holy Mother of God,
that we may be made worthy
of the promises of Christ.*

Thank you for all your prayers and kindness during the past few weeks. May God bless you all, Fr Tony.

Please see Mass Schedule for ANY changes

SUNDAYS:	Divine Mercy followed by Rosary	3pm
DAILY:	Morning Prayer 8:15am; Rosary/Divine Mercy	8:35am
MEDITATION GROUP:	Tuesdays – Crypt	8pm

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK: Please remember in your prayers; Percy Abrahams, Pat Banks, Brian Bagioni, June Bickersteth, Margaret Griffin, Jim Harvey, John Harvey, Bert Hewitt, David Hill, Jan Holden, Ronald Jay, Julie Jefferies, Athene Jones, Pat Keene, Marie Kent, Patrick King, John Lawlor, Peter Ledgley, Joanne Leon, Mirella Leonardi, Doreen Lowe, Marie Lyons, Jean Mansell, Mary-Ann Martin, Cara Maude, David Mercus, David Merryman, Byron Miller, Margaret Norman, Charles Norman, Anne Renwick, Leah Patterson, Jordi Fleix Pujol, Ronald Quijano, Stephen Rhatigan, Chris Sands, Margaret Scammell, Maureen Sheeran, Aimée Stammers, Fiona Stephenson, Filomena Velasquez, Mary Wallace, Patricia Wiltshire, Tony White, Dorsey Young.

FR PAUL DYNAN: is now back in his parish at Stanford-le-Hope. He is grateful for all your prayers, but please don't stop.

BAPTISM TODAY: We welcome Matthew Mears into the church family through the Sacrament of Baptism at the 10:30 Mass today.

SECOND COLLECTION THIS WEEKEND : At all Masses this weekend there will be a second collection for SPUC [the Society for the Protection of Unborn Children].

WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY: Runs from the 18th to 25th January.

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING: Takes place this Thursday, 21st January, at 7:30pm in the Presbytery.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION : The Parish First Holy Communion Programme starts this week with Parents' Meetings and sessions with the children. Please collect an Information Pack available at the back of church and Mass Centres. Parents - first meeting in the Crypt in Priory Street, 7:30pm-9:00pm Thursday 21st January. Children gather for the first time in the Cardinal Bourne Hall, Priory Street (next to the church), 10:00am - 12:00noon Saturday 23rd January.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY: Please note that the offering in the Crypt during the 10:30am Mass is for children of school years Reception to Year 3. Children should not be accompanied by parents or older siblings without prior agreement with the catechists. For younger children, there is a pre-school liturgy in the Cardinal Bourne Hall where parents are welcome. Children who have made their First Holy Communion should attend Mass with their family in church.

ERRATUM: The funeral of Maurice Highfield is at **11a.m.** on Friday, 29th January.

PRIORY STREET THEATRE GROUP: proudly present their annual pantomime A Fairy Tale Adventure in the Cardinal Bourne Hall, Priory street on Friday 22nd at 7.30 pm and Saturday 23rd January 2016 at 3pm and 7.30 pm. Tickets are £5 for Adults and £2.50 for concessions. For further information please contact Lesley 01206 512310.

ESSEX RECUSANT SOCIETY: The next meeting is on 23rd January at 2:30pm at The Grange, 93 Queens Road, Brentwood. Dr Carmen Mangion of Birkbeck College, University of London, will speak on "The English Catholic "modern girl" and religious life, 1940's – 1960's.

FILMS FOR FAITH: will resume on Monday, 25th January at 7pm, with a second showing on Wednesday 27th, at 1:30pm. The DVD this time will be "Jesus of Nazareth", shown in 4 episodes at fortnightly intervals. All are welcome. Refreshments will be provided.

VACANCY AT ST BENEDICT'S COLLEGE: *Learning Support Assistant* – 28 hours per week Monday to Friday. Closing date 25.1.16. Contact ajones@stbenedicts.essex.sch.uk Applications only accepted on the College application form, addressed to the Principal.

MASS IN HONOUR OF OUR LADY OF LOURDES: : On Sunday 7 February at 3 pm, Bishop Alan will celebrate Mass at Brentwood Cathedral in honour of Our Lady of Lourdes, the Patroness of our diocese and all who are ill. Join the Bishop to pray for our diocese, anyone who is ill and if you have a devotion to the shrine of Our Lady at Lourdes. This Mass is a wonderful opportunity to thank Our Lady for graces received at the shrine or should you be planning to make a pilgrimage.

THANK YOU FROM THE "FRIENDS OF PERU": to everyone who kindly supported us during 2015. Our fund raising events and sale of craft and recycled cards enables us to send £3,174 to the Mission in Peru. A note to our regular "Beetle Drive" supporters – unfortunately we are unable to hold the event this year.

OLD PALMS: Please hand back your palms from last year, either at the back of church or via the diplomatic bags. We shall burn them ready for Ash Wednesday, February 10th.

RECENT SECOND COLLECTIONS: Though your generosity we raised £789 for the National Youth Day collection and a total of £1035 for the Aid to the Church in Need Appeal. Thank you.

CHRISTMAS MARKET, CURRY NIGHT AND PRIZE DRAW: £3002 was the total profit of these fund raising activities for our Parish. With grateful thanks to everyone who participated in any way.

NEWSLETTER: Please note that the deadline for items to be included in the Parish Newsletter is 5pm Tuesday of the preceding week.

CAN YOU SPARE AN HOUR A MONTH TO CLEAN YOUR CHURCH: **Reliable and committed** volunteers **URGENTLY REQUIRED** to help with cleaning the Church. Please contact Helena on 01206 794636 [mornings before mid-day]. **CLEANERS' ROTA:** Thursday, January 21st – **Team 3.**

CARDINAL BOURNE HALL: To book: cb.hall@btinternet.com 07758 805263