

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT [B]

Saturday December 20th	6:15 pm	Angela Udall RIP
Sunday December 21st	8:00 am	Geoffrey & Beatrice Foley RIP
	10:30 am	Jim Kennedy RIP
	4:00 pm	POLISH MASS
	6:30 pm	
West Mersea	8:30 am	Parishioners
Mile End	9:15 am	Mr Derrick Foley RIP
Monkwick	10:15 am	
Monday 22nd	Feria	
	Church 7:30 am	
	Church 9:15 am	Ints: Fr James Hawes
Tuesday 23rd	Feria	
	Church 9:15 am	
Wednesday 24th	(Morning) Feria	
	Church 7:30 am	Derek Harvey RIP
	Church 9:15 am	
	(Evening) THE BIRTH OF JESUS CHRIST THE LORD	
	Church 6:00 pm	Canon Thomas Clarke RIP
	Midnight	Parishioners
Monkwick	8:00 pm	Czeslaw (Jon) Wrobel RIP
Monkwick	Midnight	Midnight Mass (Polish)
Thursday 25th	CHRISTMAS DAY (Holyday of Obligation)	
	Church 8:00 am	Des Fuller RIP
	Church 10:30 am	Parishioners
	Church 2:00 pm	POLISH MASS
West Mersea	9:00 am	Joan Donnelly RIP [J&DH]
Mile End	9:15 am	
Friday 26th	ST STEPHEN, The First Martyr	
	Church 8:00 am	
	Church 10:00 am	Ints: Maura & Frank
	Church 2:00 pm	POLISH MASS
Saturday 27th	ST JOHN, Ap, Evangelist	
	Church 9:15 am	Frederick, Elizabeth & Angelo Lucas RIP
Mile End	6:00 pm	KERALA MASS

THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH [B]

Saturday December 27th	6:15 pm	Vara Austin RIP
Sunday December 28th	8:00 am	John Lowe RIP
	10:30 am	Chris Ely RIP
	2:00 pm	POLISH MASS
	4:00 pm	FILIPINO MASS
	6:30 pm	Melody Mullins-Jeantet RIP
West Mersea	8:30 am	John Cawley RIP
Mile End	9:15 am	Rose Foley RIP
Monkwick	10:15 am	Parishioners

ST. JAMES THE LESS AND ST. HELEN

CATHOLIC CHURCH, COLCHESTER

WITH MERSEA, MILE END AND MONKWICK



Fr Anthony McKentey

Fr Neil Brett

Fr Philip Willenbrock

51 Priory Street, Colchester, Essex, CO1 2QB

Tel: 01206 866317

E-Mail colchester@dioceseofbrentwood.org

www.stjamesthelessandsthelen.org

**FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT [B]
(Expectant Mothers)**

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My dear friends

In these last days of Advent, we hear of the immediate events leading to the birth of Jesus. Today we hear St Luke's account of The Annunciation, when Mary hearing the Angel's message – gave her yes or *Fiat* to God's plan that she should be Mother of the Saviour. We proclaim today and especially through this Christmas time; "*Hail, Full of Grace, the Lord is with you*". We your priests look forward to celebrating the Feast of Christmas with you all. Whether you are here in the parish of elsewhere, we hope you have a joyful celebration of the great feast. Within the newsletter are all the times of the Christmas services.

A very happy Christmas to you all.

Fr Tony McKentey

Fr Neil Brett

Fr Philip Willenbrock

Prayer before the Crib

"Heavenly Father, as we wonder and hesitate like the Shepherds of Bethlehem, fill our hearts with joy as we recognize in this helpless Babe the revelation of your love, and the radiant vision of your glory. Filled with wonder at the nearness of our God in Mary's newborn Child, may we now offer Him our praise, worship and thanksgiving, and give Him the love and loyalty of our hearts."

CHRISTMAS VIGIL MASS: During the 6pm Family Vigil Mass on Christmas Eve we would encourage the children to come dressed in Nativity costume - we are looking to fill the church with Marys, Josephs, Donkeys, Angels, Innkeepers and characters of all kinds to add to our celebration. [Please hold off the King costumes until Sunday 4th January ...] Thank you.

BRENTWOOD CATHOLIC CHILDREN'S SOCIETY: A children's collection will be offered up during the 6pm Vigil Mass to be added to the Crib Collection. During the remaining days of Advent - children, young and old, are asked to save their change and wrap as presents to be brought forward during Mass (minimal use of Sellotape please) Thank you.

Please see Mass Schedule for ANY changes

SUNDAYS:	Divine Mercy followed by Rosary
3pm	
DAILY:	Morning Prayer 8:15am; Rosary/Divine Mercy
8:35am	
EVENING PRAYER:	Fridays at 6pm Church
PRAYER GROUP:	Mondays at 7:45pm Crypt
MEDITATION GROUP:	Tuesdays at 8pm Crypt
SCRIPTURE GROUP:	Wednesdays at 6:45pm [Term time only] Crypt

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK (new entries are in bold type): Please remember in your prayers; Pat Banks, June Bickersteth, Grace Blanchette, Frank Campbell, Karl Collins, Olive Crawford, Lynne-Michelle Denton, Nancy Drummond, Fr Paul Dynan, Charlie George, Bill Graves, Bert Hewitt, Norah Hewitt, Maurice Highfield, David Hill, Theresa Hogan, Ronald Jay, **Mary Jose**, Pat Keene, Patrick King, John Lawlor, Peter Ledgley, Mirella Leonardi, Doreen Lowe, Marie Lyons, Jean Mansell, Mary-Ann Martin, Cara Maude, David Merryman, Byron Miller, Margaret Norman, Anne Renwick, Leah Patterson, Elaine Proudfoot, Ronald Quijano, Stephen and Sabina Rhatigan, Catherine Spicer, Arthur Urquhart, Filomena Velasquez, Patricia Wiltshire, Tony White, Dorcey Young.

RECENTLY DECEASED: Please pray for the repose of the soul of Joan Donnelly of 85 East Road West Mersea, Lydia Nourbakhsh-Rizi and Carol Sandford. Mrs Nourbakhsh-Rizi's Requiem Mass will be on Monday 29th December at 2:30pm. May they rest in peace.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM: This weekend we welcome into the church through the Sacrament of Baptism: Frederick Fadojutimi, Juliana Soliven. God bless these children and congratulations to their families.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO HAVE YOUR CHILD BAPTISED? The next Baptism course will be Friday February 6th & 13th in the Crypt from 7:30pm – 9pm. There is no need to make an appointment but both sessions must be attended. Entry to the Crypt is via the Church. [This course is for new-borns up to age 6]

CHRISTMAS OFFERING: The Offertory Collection at all the Christmas Masses is, by tradition, the parishioners' personal gift to the Clergy. In this parish, Fr Tony and Fr Neil are the beneficiaries, since this collection forms the main part of their personal annual income. Thank you.

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS: A very big thank you from the Flower Team at Priory St for the generous donation of £500.89

ST THOMAS MORE'S PRIMARY SCHOOL 2015-16 INTAKE: Any parent wishing to apply for a place at St Thomas More's School must complete a Supplementary Information Form (SIF) in addition to the Local Authority Application Form. SIFs are available to download on the school's website www.stthomasmores.co.uk or by contacting the office on 01206 865722.

ST THOMAS MORE'S PRIEST REFERENCE FORMS: The school will be sending out the Priest reference forms in January. Fr Tony will be available to sign the forms on Thursday 29th and Friday 30th January from 4pm – 6pm. Please make contact through the church office to book your appointment time. If your child was not baptised here, please bring a copy of the Baptismal Certificate. **Forms should be completed - ready to sign.**

CHRISTIAN CHRISTMAS CARDS & DIARIES: are available in the repository in Priory Street. A small number of Advent calendars are also in stock. Why not give a good book at Christmas? Some carefully selected and attractive ones are available for different ages.

NINE LESSONS AND CAROLS AT BRENTWOOD CATHEDRAL: on Sunday 21st December at 4.00 pm led by Bishop Alan. This is a beautiful service of music, readings and prayer to which everyone in the diocese is welcome. If you would like to prepare for Christmas in a really special way this year, then please come along.

FILIPINO MASS: There will be a Filipino Mass at Priory St on Sunday 29th December at 4pm.

DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES: Brochures available from the back of church for this pilgrimage that runs from 26th – 31st July 2015.

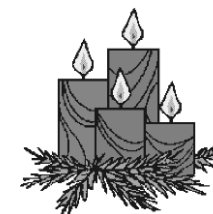
CHRISTMAS MASSES

Christmas Eve, Wednesday 24th December

<i>Priory Street</i>	18:00	Vigil Mass especially for families
<i>Monkwick</i>	20:00	Vigil Mass preceded by Carols at 19:30
<i>Priory Street</i>	24:00	Midnight Mass preceded by Carols at 23:30

Christmas Day, Thursday 25th December

<i>Priory Street</i>	08:00	Christmas Dawn Mass
	10:30	Christmas Day Mass
<i>Mersea</i>	09:00	Christmas Dawn Mass preceded by Carols at 08:30
<i>Mile End</i>	09:15	Christmas Day Mass preceded



by Carols at 09:00