

ST. JAMES THE LESS AND ST. HELEN

CATHOLIC CHURCH, COLCHESTER

175 YEARS ~ 1837 - 2012

WITH MERSEA, MILE END AND MONKWICK



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BIRTHDAY OF ST JOHN THE BAPTIST [B] June 24th 2012

One of the oldest Christian celebrations, the Birth of St John the Baptist, who was made holy in his mother's womb, marks a turning point in the year. Exactly six months from the Nativity of Christ, this solemnity, together with that of Christmas, give a Christian meaning to the summer and winter solstice. After the birth of the Baptist, the sun declines. *"He must grow greater, I must grow smaller"* (Jn 3:30). After the birth of Christ, the light again begins to grow. The cosmic symbolism of the Church Year carries a message: it shows us that all of nature is involved in the history of salvation. When our Lord assumed human flesh, he did so at a certain point in time. All of time, and all the stars, now wheel around him, the spiritual Sun.

In the Orthodox Church, John is known as the Forerunner, and his icons often portray a winged man wildly dressed. (The four Evangelists are also sometimes shown with wings, even in the West). John is pictured and venerated as a kind of Angel, because the word "angel" means "messenger" and John was one of these – the last and greatest of the prophets of the Old Testament, calling Israel to repentance, and the Herald of the New. As the Baptiser, leading the people through the waters, he was a new Noah. In the spirit and power of Elijah he preached the judgement of God and made the crooked ways straight for the Lord's coming. As the Friend of the Bridegroom, he recognised and welcomed his Lord with the same joy he felt in the womb when the Mother of God came close.

by courtesy of 'Magnificat'

EVENTS THIS WEEK **Please see Mass Schedule for ALL changes**

Wednesday 27th June 7:00pm SVP Meeting Crypt

DAILY Morning Prayer 8:15am; Rosary/Divine Mercy 8:35am
PRAYER GROUP: Mondays at 8pm Crypt [see below]
MEDITATION GROUP: Tuesdays at 8pm Crypt

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK: Please remember in your prayers, Mrs Elizabeth Akpoyoware, June Bickersteth, Frank Campbell, Nancy Drummond, Kitty Foley, Charlie George, Maurice Highfield, Peter Irven, Maria Mahy, Pat Maloney, Cara Maude, Paula Nash, Leah Patterson, Sabina Rhatigan, Hector Silva, Maria Soutar, Tim Young.

RECENTLY DECEASED: Please pray for the repose of the souls of George Michael Fleetwood, Fr John Gallagher, Fr Robert Mortimer-Anderson, Bridie Murphy, Denise Mussett and Anne Templeton who have recently departed. May they rest in peace. Michael Fleetwood's Requiem Mass will be 2nd July – 11am at Mersea, Bridie Murphy's Requiem Mass will be 2nd July – 11am at Priory Street. Denise Mussett's funeral will be 4th July at 2pm at Priory Street. Anne Templeton's funeral will be at St Theresa's Lexden, Tuesday 26th June at 2:45pm.

MRS E WALKER: Message from Caroline - There will be an interment service for the remains of Mrs E Walker (Lucy) at Colchester Crematorium, Mersea Road on Friday 6th July at 11am. Please feel free to attend if you knew Mum, you will be welcome. The family would also like to thank everyone for their past and continuing support.

FEAST OF SS PETER & PAUL – HOLYDAY OF OBLIGATION: There will be a Vigil Mass on Thursday at 7:30pm West Mersea, followed by Masses on the day at Priory Street at 9:15am, 12:15pm and 7:30pm.

BAPTISM THIS WEEKEND: Sarah Raied Ajaj - May god bless this child and congratulations to her family.

MERSEA NEWS: Many thanks to Margaret Williams for hosting our June coffee morning and although it was another wet day, her guests had a most enjoyable morning.

MERCY ASSOCIATES: Next meeting is Monday 25th June at 7:30pm at Christ Church Court. Tel: 763049.

MONKWICK NEWS: St Theodore's invites you to a Bring and Buy coffee morning on Saturday 30th June from 10am - 12 noon. Hostess: Christine Brown, 3 Adelaide Drive, Birch Glen. All welcome.

ST JOHN'S ABBEY GATEHOUSE: Will be open this Sunday 24th for the patronal feast day of the Abbey from 2:00pm – 4:00pm. Evening Prayer at 4pm.

FRIENDS OF PERU: Zumba – 7th July 3:30pm at St Benedicts. For all ages. Come and have some fun or just watch. Tickets £5. Refreshments, raffle and Peruvian craft on sale. Contact Claudia (instructor) on 07714 986 590.

KSC: are looking for unwanted bunting, for a Strawberry Tea event to be held in the CBH Hall Priory Street, on **Saturday 21st July in the afternoon** for Senior Citizens, also helpers would be welcome. **KSC CYCLE EVENT:** Owing to lack of response for the cycle event on the 30th June, the KSC have cancelled their involvement.

SECOND COLLECTION: This weekend at all Masses for the Society of St Vincent de Paul.

BRADWELL PILGRIMAGE: Saturday 7th July 11:00am – 3:30pm. Please see posters at the back of church.

INVOCATION FESTIVAL: 6th-8th July in Birmingham; is an amazing weekend of speakers, prayer, reflection and celebration for those who want to have time and space to discern God's call in their life. It is open to men and women aged 18 – 35. For more information look at www.invocation.org.uk or contact Fr Dominic, Vocations Director, 01268 281732 or frdominic@brentwoodvocations.org.

PARISH AGM: Sunday, 8th July at 7:30pm in the Hall. **Any items for the agenda, please speak to Fr Tony or Mark Lee.**

PARISH BARBEQUE: Saturday 18th August 3 – 5pm: the feast of St Helen. **Please note** the change of date from the 14th July.

PASTORAL MUSIC DAY: With Marty Haugen on 30th June 10am - 4pm at Brentwood Cathedral Parish Hall. This day is open to Catechists, Teachers, Singers and Instrumentalists. Full details on poster.

EVANGELIUM CONFERENCE 2012: A weekend for young Catholic adults. **August 3rd to 5th** at the Oratory School, Reading. A chance to deepen your faith, to mix with other Catholic young adults and to join in prayer, the sacraments and Adoration. This year we welcome as special guest the Apostolic Nuncio to the Court of St James, the Most Reverend Excellency Antonio Mennini. Excellent speakers and opportunities for discussion. For more information and booking details: www.evangelium.co.uk or check out the posters at the back of church.

QUIRE CONCERT: St Theresa's Lexden – Saturday 30th June – 7:30pm. Celebrating the work of Thomas Dorsey, Mahalia Jackson, Yolanda Adam and many others. Tickets: £10, £8 (concessions), £16 (family). Available on the door or from Mann's Music. Tel: 01206 572 783 tickets@quire.org

SVP PILGRIMAGE TO WALSINGHAM: on Sunday 1st July £12 per person. Please phone Judy on 0797 040 8707 to book your place on the Coach, **which will leave East Hill at 9am. There are still a few seats left.**

CHURCH CLEANERS: Thursday 28th June – Team 5

BIRTHDAY OF ST JOHN THE BAPTIST – June 24th 2012

Saturday June 23rd	9:15 am	Intentions: Ann McCarthy & Mrs Rose Better
	6:15 pm	Christina Mooney RIP
Sunday June 24th	8:00 am	Clelia Mellone RIP
	10:30 am	Intentions: Philip & Alice White
	6:30 pm	Reginald Hammond RIP
	8:30 am	John Kelley RIP
<i>West Mersea</i>	9:15 am	Parishioners
<i>Mile End</i>	10:15 am	Joan Boyden RIP [DBH]
<i>Monkwick</i>		

Monday 25th	<i>Feria</i>		
	<i>Church</i>	7:30 am	Intentions: Peter John Rule
	<i>Church</i>	9:15 am	Patrick & Mary English RIP
Tuesday 26th	<i>Feria</i>		
	<i>Church</i>	9:15 am	George Michael Fleetwood RIP
Wednesday 27th	<i>Feria</i>		
	<i>Church</i>	7:30 am	Br Mark Thelen LC
	<i>NB Church</i>	9:15am	Holy Souls RIP
Thursday 28th	<i>St Irenaeus</i>		
	<i>Church</i>	9:15 am	Deceased Clergy
WEST MERSEA		7:30 pm	VIGIL MASS OF SS PETER & PAUL

Friday 29th	<i>SS PETER & PAUL – HOLYDAY OF OBLIGATION</i>		
	<i>Church</i>	9:15 am	In thanksgiving
	<i>Hospital</i>	12:00 pm	Fr John Gallagher RIP
	<i>Church</i>	12:15 pm	Special Intention: Henley
	<i>Church</i>	7:30 pm	D/Rels: Herbert & Richards Families RIP
Saturday 30th	<i>Feria</i>		
	<i>Church</i>	9:15 am	Int: Ann McCarthy & Mrs Rose Better

THIRTEENTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR – July 1st 2012

Saturday June 30th	6:15 pm	In thanksgiving – Dolamore Family
Sunday July 1st	8:00 am	Cecil & Nellie Palmer RIP
	10:30 am	Sr Pascal RIP
	6:30 pm	Intentions: Margaret Scammel
	8:30 am	Parishioners
	9:15 am	Arthur Stammers RIP
<i>West Mersea</i>	10:15 am	Joan Boyden RIP [JW]
<i>Mile End</i>		
<i>Monkwick</i>		

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 Head: Mrs J Santinelli [549222]

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

Cardinal Bourne Hall 07980 438195 cb.hall@btinternet.com

The Brentwood Diocesan Trust – Registered Charity No. 234092