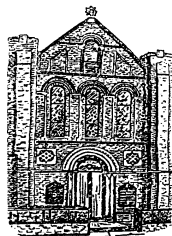


ST. JAMES THE LESS AND ST. HELEN

CATHOLIC CHURCH, COLCHESTER

WITH

MERSEA, MILE END AND MONKWICK



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SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR

July 24th 2011

My dear friends,

Three Holy Women to Inspire us

The Catholic Church sees **Mary Magdalen**, whose feast we celebrated this week, the “sinner” of Luke 7 who wiped the feet of Jesus and the sister of Martha and Lazarus as one person. She is a symbol of forgiveness. The one who is forgiven much loves much and she is privileged to be a first witness to the Resurrection. Our world has replaced morality with subjective “values” and seems unable to forgive. When we are tempted to think like that, remember the Magdalen.

Last week I venerated at the tomb of St **Monica**. Her prayers and persistence helped convert her pagan husband, Patritius. Her mother’s tears and prayers played a large part in the conversion of her son. Augustine had a “partner” by whom he had a child and he fell for Manichæism which claimed to be a synthesis of all religions. Monica must have felt he was lost to her, but she persevered. She lived to see him convert and reform his way of life. In our age we seem to have lost the ability to pass on the Faith. Let’s take heart from St Monica and pray to her for our children. “Our mission doesn’t finish with their birth: we want also to conceive them for life eternal.”

St **Bridget** of Sweden, yesterday’s saint, is called the Patroness of Failures. God gave her the task of founding a new Order, but she was called to Rome before the abbey was finished. She was called to bring the Popes back from Avignon, and failed. She didn’t make peace between France and England, another tough task, and she died in Rome far from home. She reminds us that Our Lord, hanging on the Cross, was a failure. Yet today, the Order she founded is flourishing and the nuns’ distinctive veil can be seen in such disparate part of the world as Maryvale, Birmingham and the Piazza Farnese in Rome. Doing God’s will is its own measure of success.

Fr Neil Brett

DAILY: Morning Prayer 8:15am; Rosary/Divine Mercy 8:35am. [Wed. 11:15am]
PRAYER GROUP [Not 25th July] Mondays @ 8pm in the Crypt
MEDITATION GROUP: Tuesdays @ 8pm in the Crypt
EXPOSITION Saturdays at 9:45-10:30am

EVENTS THIS WEEK

[Please check Mass Schedule for any changes]

Sunday 24 th July	11:30am “Friends” Meeting	CBH	See below
“ “ “	3:30pm KSC Strawberry Tea	“	“
Monday 25 th July	NO PRAYER GROUP THIS WEEK		
Wednesday 27 th	7:00pm SVP Meeting		Crypt
Friday 29 th	12 noon Hospital Mass		See below

SICK: Please remember in your prayers May Banks, June Bickersteth, Joan Boyden, Frank Campbell, Nancy Drummond, Charlie George, Maurice Highfield, Cara Maude, Bridie Murphy, Paula Nash, Casiano Pasumbal, Leah Patterson, Hector Silva, Ellen Woodley.

BAPTISMS TODAY: **Elijah Collins.** God bless this child and congratulations to his family.

CONGRATULATIONS: to Chinwe and Georgios married here on Friday.

RECENTLY DECEASED: Please pray for the repose of the soul of John Lorimer who has recently died. John’s funeral takes place here tomorrow, Monday 25th July at 10:30am. Please also remember in your prayers the late Rev. Canon Richard Smith, Senior Chaplain at Colchester Hospital. His funeral is also tomorrow at 10am at St James the Great, East Hill. The funeral of Patrick Quinlivan has been arranged for Tuesday, 26th July, here at 12:30pm. May they rest in peace.

FRIENDS OF ST JAMES THE LESS & ST HELEN: As mentioned in last week’s Newsletter, the launch meeting takes place today, July 24th, after 10.30 Mass in the bar area at the rear of the Hall. The first event will be the “**English Heritage Open Days**” on the weekend of September 10-11. Volunteers are needed to host visitors to Priory Street for this event - please contact Jennie Guthrie-Stevens on 07758292394 or via the presbytery.

KSC STRAWBERRY TEA: Today, 24th July. at 3:30pm for 4pm the Knights of St Columba are laying on a strawberry tea for the senior citizens of the Parish in the Cardinal Bourne Hall, Priory Street. If you haven’t already, please ring Ron on 797850 or 795715 if you are attending.

THANK YOU: From the KSC. Their sponsored walk for CHILDCARE [Brentwood Catholic Children’s Society] raised £1200! **APOLOGIES** also for Lottery tickets for BEEF. They ran out of books due to high demand.

CHOIR SUMMER BREAK: Due to circumstances beyond control, this Sunday will be the last Sunday for choir until the 11th September. ***There will be a rehearsal on the 25th August which will be solely for practice of the new Mass music starting in September.*** This will obviously be for the choir, organist and anyone interested from the Mass Centres. Any problems or queries on the above, please contact Tim and Lesley on 01206 512310 or email lesley9oxfordroad@ntlworld.com

HOSPITAL MASS: The monthly Mass at Colchester Hospital Chapel was cancelled for July because of a conflict in the diary. Fr Ignatius has come to the rescue and has agreed to say Mass in Polish this Friday the 29th at the usual time of 12 noon. [The Chapel is adjacent to Wivenhoe Ward]. *This is a rare opportunity for those Poles working in the hospital to come to a Polish Mass, so please do let as many as possible know.* If you are able to give Fr Ignatius a lift either to and/or from the Hospital, please let Diana know.

MISSION APPEAL 6TH/7TH AUGUST: This year's Mission Appeal will be held in the Parish on this weekend on behalf of St Martin's Missions – a Dominican Order. Fr Simon and Fr Iranaeus between them will be preaching at all Masses.

EVANGELIUM CONFERENCE: It is still possible to book places at the [Evangelium Conference](#) taking place at the Oratory School near Reading, 5th – 7th August 2011, for young adults (18-35). Price: £95 (full board). Further information from Fr Neil or Email: evangeliumproject@gmail.com

DOMESTIC ABUSE AWARENESS DAY- St Augustine of Canterbury, Springfield Chelmsford, CM1 6GQ. 9:30a.m —1.00 pm **Saturday, 17th September 2011.** A day to learn more about Domestic Abuse and the resources available to help everyone affected by it. Mass followed by input from Frank Maguire (Former Director of Brentwood Catholic Children's Society) Bernadette McCaffrey—(Marriage Care) and Phil Butcher—(Diocesan Family Life Coordinator) For more info or to book a place contact p.maccaffrey@talk21.com or familylife@dioceseofbrentwood.org or phone 01277 265252.

SION COMMUNITY WEEKEND RETREAT: The Sion Community [Sawyers Hall Lane, Brentwood] is organising a weekend retreat from 6pm Friday 21st Oct to Sunday 23rd October 2011. Theme: 'Walking in the Spirit' - A look at the gifts of the Holy Spirit. The weekend will be a mixture of teachings and workshops and is an opportunity to spend time away with the Lord. Cost: £95 residential, £65 non-residential. **Book early as we have limited places.** [Hence this early notification]. For more information, please call 01277 215011 or e-mail admin@sioncommunity.org.uk allegra@sioncommunity.org.uk

MOVING?: If you are moving, please let the parish office know. If you are newly arrived, please complete a registration form, which are in the porch. For inclusions on the parish website: admin@stjamesthelessandsthelen.org

CLEANING TEAM ROTA: Thursday, JULY 28th. Team 1.
LITURGY FOR THE SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR [A]
24th July 2011

Saturday July 23rd 6:15 pm Joe Mooney RIP [A]
Sunday July 24th 8:00 am Rita Beckmann RIP
10:30 am Intentions: Margaret Hilton
6:30 pm Intentions: Cynthia de la Cruz
Mersea 8:30 am Parishioners
Mile End 9:15 am Intentions: Mele-Anna
Monkwick 10:15 am Malachy Martin RIP [A]

Monday 25th **St James, Ap**
Church 7:30 am Ints: Elizabeth Deakin & Family
Church 9:15 am David Ngeh RIP
Church 10:30 am **REQUIEM – JOHN LORIMER RIP**
Tuesday 26th **St Joachim and Anne, Parents of the BVM**
Church 9:15 am Intentions: Samantha Hume
Church 12:30 pm **REQUIEM – PATRICK QUINLIVAN RIP**
Wednesday 27th **Feria**
Church 7:30 am Thomas Brett RIP
Church 12:15 pm Dec. Rels: Philip & Alice White
Church 4:00 pm **WEDDING REHEARSAL**
Thursday 28th **Feria**
Church 7:30 pm Nandyara Birck RIP
Church 9:15 am Christie Sullivan RIP
Friday 29th **St Martha**
Church 9:15 am Phil Treby Rip [A]
[Polish] *CGHChapel* 12:00 pm Rev. Canon Richard Smith RIP
Church 1:30 pm **WEDDING – LISA AND ADAM**
Church 6:30 pm Silvina de Britto RIP
Saturday 30th **Feria**
Church 9:15 am Xavier Swampillai&Marie Bastiampillai RIP

LITURGY FOR THE EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR [A]
Day for Life - 31st July 2011

Saturday July 30th 6:15 pm Bartholomew & Sarah Hourihan RIP
Sunday July 31st 8:00 am Canon John Bloomfield RIP
10:30am Julia Lacey RIP
6:30 pm Holy Souls RIP
West Mersea 8:30 am Intention: Mrs Knowles
Mile End 9:15 am Alfredo Sagnella RIP
Monkwick 10:15am Parishioners

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

