

# ST. JAMES THE LESS AND ST. HELEN CATHOLIC CHURCH, COLCHESTER

WITH MERSEA, MILE END AND MONKWICK



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## CHRISTMAS DAY – HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION

December 25<sup>th</sup> 2016 – Parish Mass Book pp 37-41

The Child is born for us, let us rejoice and be glad!

With joy in our hearts, we wish you all a very HAPPY CHRISTMAS. The day has finally come! It is indeed our great joy to welcome the Son of God born of the Blessed Virgin Mary in our midst. All nations and people of goodwill are glad for this great gift of love to us by the Father Almighty.

The Emmanuel, which means God-is-with-us, brings us the assurance of his divine presence in our lives in a continuous fashion, and therefore, we have all the reasons to be grateful and happy.

And so, our prayerful wish for all of you is PEACE that is rooted in the JOY of having Christ in your midst. May happiness be with you and your families and loved ones. May this season of giving and sharing bring you true peace, love and prosperity all through the year and, together, let us also share this spirit to our brothers and sisters, especially those who have none and nothing to celebrate with.

Happy Christmas to one and all!

*Fr Tony, Fr Alex and Fr Philip*

## BIRTH OF JESUS CHRIST THE LORD

**Saturday December 24<sup>th</sup>**  
6:00 pm Ronald Wheeler RIP  
Midnight Dec & living Members of Galvin Family  
10:30 am In Thanksgiving [Sykes Family] RIP  
Monkwick 8:00 pm Ints: Hawken Family  
Monkwick Midnight Polish Mass

## CHRISTMAS DAY HOLIDAY OF OBLIGATION

**Sunday December 25<sup>th</sup>**  
8:00 am The Chrysopolous Family RIP  
10:30 am Cecily Sim RIP and Agnes Chee RIP  
2:00 pm Polish Mass  
6:30 pm NO MASS  
West Mersea 9:00 am Ints: Margaret and Michael Norman  
Mile End 9:15 am Brian Baggiony RIP  
Monkwick 10:15 am NO MASS

**Monday 26<sup>th</sup>** **ST STEPHEN, The First Martyr** **Feast**

**N.B.**  
Church 10:00 am Tom Schofield RIP  
Church 11:30 am Filipino Mass  
Church 2:00 pm Polish Mass

**Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup>** **ST JOHN, Ap, Evangelist**  
Church 9:15 am Joseph Varkey RIP

**Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup>** **THE HOLY INNOCENTS, Mm** **Feast**  
Church 12:15 pm Canon Thomas Clarke RIP

**Thursday 29<sup>th</sup>** **ST THOMAS OF CANTERBURY, Bp, M** **National Feast**  
Church 9:15 am Parishioners

**Friday 30<sup>th</sup>** **THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH [A]** **Feast**  
**C.G.H**  
Church 9:15 am Jadwiga Pauk RIP  
Chapel 12:00 pm Ints: Staff and Patients

**Saturday 31<sup>st</sup>** **Seventh day within the Octave of Christmas**  
Church 9:15 am Patrick John Lyons RIP

## MARY, MOTHER OF GOD Solemnity

**Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> December** 6:15 pm Estelle Winton RIP  
**Sunday January 1<sup>st</sup> 2017** 8:00 am John Lowe RIP  
10:30 am Chris Byrne RIP  
2:00 pm Polish Mass  
6:30 pm Holy Souls RIP  
West Mersea 8:30 am Parishioners  
Mile End 9:15 am Deacon Yves Ferriere RIP  
Monkwick 10:15 am Carmen Bonnici RIP

**Please see Mass Schedule for ANY changes**

**N.B. Monday 26<sup>th</sup> December Mass at 10am; Friday 30<sup>th</sup> December Hospital Mass at 12 noon**

SUNDAYS: Divine Mercy and Rosary Following 8am Mass  
DAILY: Morning Prayer 8:15am; Rosary/Divine Mercy 8:35am  
MEDITATION GROUP: Tuesdays – Crypt 8:00 pm  
FILMS FOR FAITH: To be Advised

**PRAYERS FOR THE SICK:** Please remember in your prayers; Percy Abrahams, Pat Banks, Frank Campbell, Olive Crawford, Vicky Culham, Margaret Doorish, Margaret Griffin, Ronnie Hammond, Jim Harvey, John Harvey, David Hill, Jan Holden, Ronald Jay, Julie Jefferies, Pat Keene, Marie Kent, Patrick King, Kay Knight, John Lawlor, Peter Ledgley, Nathanael Lee, Joanne Leon, Doreen Lowe, Marie Lyons, Canon Anthony McKentey, Jean Mansell, Mary-Ann Martin, Cara Maude, David Merryman, Byron Miller, Amadine Morgan, Margaret Norman, Charles Norman, Anne Renwick, Leah Patterson, Ronald Quijano, Stephen Rhatigan, Chris Sands, Margaret Scammell, Maureen Sheeran, Fiona Stephenson, Filomena Velasquez, Mary Wallace, Patricia Wiltshire, Tony White,

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

**CHRISTMAS CRIB COLLECTION IN AID OF THE BRENTWOOD CATHOLIC CHILDREN'S SOCIETY :** In accordance with new Diocesan policy, our Crib will remain in place until the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord [February 2<sup>nd</sup>] and these offerings will go to the Brentwood Catholic Children's Society.

**FILIPINO COMMUNITY:** Christmas Filipino party is on December 26<sup>th</sup> from 1pm, following on from Mass at 11.30am.

**BAPTISM:** We welcome into the Church through the Sacrament of Baptism **Stacy Eririogu.** God bless this child and congratulations to her family.

**NEXT BAPTISM COURSE FOR NEWBORNS UP TO AGE 6:** Will take place on Friday, February 3<sup>rd</sup>, and Friday, February 10<sup>th</sup> in the Crypt from 7:30pm to 9pm. There is no need to make an appointment, **but both sessions** must be attended. Entry to the Crypt is via the Church.,

**THANK YOU FROM OUR FLOWER TEAMS:** Firstly, for two very generous anonymous donations totalling £325 at Priory Street, and for the very generous total of £80 at Mile End.

**RECENTLY DECEASED:** Please pray for the repose of the soul of baby Willow Charlton. May she rest in peace and we pray for the comfort of her bereaved family.

**FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PROGRAMME:** A programme for children in Year 3 and above will start in the New Year- an information pack is available after all Masses at the back of the church. Please take one per child. If you have any questions, please contact Hywel and Pam Edwards on 01206 867325.

**CONGRATULATIONS TO THE POLISH COMMUNITY:** who last weekend celebrated 50 years of the Polish Mass in Priory Street. There is a most beautiful banner in the Pieta Chapel to commemorate this anniversary which has images of St Stanislaus and St John Paul II on one side and St James and St Helen on the other.

**100 CLUB – CHRISTMAS DRAW WINNERS ARE:** Jane Fleetwood, Theresa Roberts, Vincent Jones, Valerie Quinlivan and Judith Cooper. Congratulations to one and all! [The monthly draw winners for December will be announced shortly].

**TIME TO VOLUNTEER WITH CAFOD?** CAFOD are looking for a volunteer who cares about global poverty, can work with children and young people and is able to travel to schools in the Colchester area to deliver a short presentation on an aspect of their work. You don't need to be a global expert or a trained teacher – CAFOD offer all their volunteers a full training programme, ongoing support and a wide range of exciting materials and resources to get you up and running. Contact Chris Driscoll at the CAFOD Volunteer Centre on 01277 218730 / 07776 493162 or email [brentwood@cafod.org.uk](mailto:brentwood@cafod.org.uk)

**ST THOMAS MORE'S PRIMARY SCHOOL 2017-8 INTAKE:** The final date for form signing will be on Monday, January 9<sup>th</sup> between 4pm-6pm. Please contact the Parish Office to book.

**PILGRIMAGE TO FATIMA & SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELA:** SUNDAY 28 MAY – SATURDAY 3 JUNE 2017 led by Fr Francis Coveney: £829 per person– based on a group of 40 pilgrims. 4 nights half board + 2 nights full board. Full services of a Tangney Tours courier. Full details/booking forms etc., from Gill Didino, Tangney Tours 01732 88 66 66.

**LOURDES PILGRIMAGE 2017:** Bishop Alan will lead our annual diocesan pilgrimage to Lourdes from 23 - 28 July. The cost per person - full board and flights - is £695. Booking information will appear very soon.

**CARDINAL BOURNE HALL BOOKINGS:** [cb.hall@btinternet.com](mailto:cb.hall@btinternet.com) 07758 805263

**CHURCH CLEANERS' ROTA:** Thursday, December 29<sup>th</sup> - Team 4.