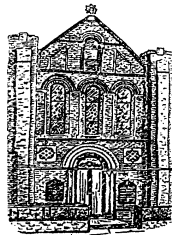


# ST. JAMES THE LESS AND ST. HELEN

CATHOLIC CHURCH, COLCHESTER

175 YEARS ~ 1837 - 2012

WITH MERSEA, MILE END AND MONKWICK



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**SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR [B]**

**July 29<sup>th</sup> 2012**

My Dear Friends

This weekend we celebrate a *Day for Life*. This is an initiative of Blessed John Paul which he encouraged in his magnificent encyclical *Evangelium Vitae*. That title translates of course, as the *Gospel of Life*. He was a pope who enjoyed life to the full: we have pictures of him skiing and kayaking, camping in the woods and picnicking with young people of his diocese. To enjoy the physical dimension of life is a good thing, but even in the Olympics we will go beyond the purely material. There will be stories, for example, of human virtue, perhaps in overcoming great disadvantages. In the Paralympics these will be particularly powerful. In the second paragraph of his encyclical the Holy Father widens our horizons still further and insists on a supernatural dimension to life:

*"Man is called to a fullness of life which far exceeds the dimensions of his earthly existence, because it consists in sharing the very life of God. The loftiness of this supernatural vocation reveals the greatness and the inestimable value of human life even in its temporal phase. Life in time, in fact, is the fundamental condition, the initial stage and an integral part of the entire unified process of human existence."*

To share in the life of God! That is our calling. Our hopes reach to the skies. But note that this does not mean that we are detached from this "temporal phase". Our Lord was taken up into heaven in His earthly body. That is our hope too. We respect the body as the temple of the Holy Spirit, the necessary

companion of our soul.

Death is the separation of soul from body, and at the resurrection our souls and bodies will be reunited (whether to eternal damnation or eternal bliss is our decision here and now). As one passes through Stratford on the way to Liverpool Street Station, the gleaming stadia on the right symbolise the hopes of so many. In these arenas there will be roars of encouragement and fraternal signs of consolation. Let's pray that on the left side of the tracks, in the dusty streets of Newham, where the struggles are rather more mundane but no less dramatic, some of those virtues will take effect. One place to start would be a nondescript building on the Romford Road. Within its walls hope is dashed, death triumphs over life and there is precious little solidarity of any kind. This is the BPAS abortion centre. Those who enter that arena are overcome with despair. May God grant them a glimpse of the skies, the inestimable value of human life and the courage to turn around and choose Life. May we encourage them with our prayers and practical support.

Fr Neil Brett

<b>DAILY</b>	<b>Morning Prayer 8:15am; Rosary/Divine Mercy 8:35am</b>
<b>PRAYER GROUP:</b>	<b>Mondays at 8pm Crypt</b>
<b>MEDITATION GROUP:</b>	<b>Tuesdays at 8pm Crypt</b>

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

**RECENTLY DECEASED:** Please pray for the repose of the souls of Michael Greenan, Rosalind Cheesman (sister of Valerie Thurston) and Michelina Mussi who has died in Italy. May they rest in peace. Holy Mass for Mrs Mussi at St James and St Helen will be at midday this Monday 30<sup>th</sup> July.

**BAPTISM THIS WEEKEND: Michael Mukada.** May God bless this child and congratulations to his family.

**SECOND COLLECTIONS:** The collection for Day for Life as previously advertised will not now take place. Next week there will be a collection for the Missionary Society of St Columban (see below)

**COLUMBAN FATHERS MISSION APPEAL: Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> – Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> August.** We welcome to our parish Fr Pat O'Beirne and Fr Tom Ryan from the Missionary Society of St Columban. During the weekend, they will be saying Mass throughout the parish and making their annual appeal. The Columban missionary work of evangelisation includes outreach to poor and marginalized peoples, building bridges between faiths and cultures and support emerging local Churches. They currently have missions in China, Chile, Fiji, Hong Kong, Japan, Korea, Peru, Pakistan, the Philippines and Taiwan.

**MERSEA NEWS:** Our next coffee morning will be at the home of Margaret Brookes on 14th August, details to follow later.

**CHAPLAINCY WORKER:** St Benedict's Catholic College is seeking a practicing Catholic for this one-year post. 37 hours per week spanning 41 working weeks in the year. The actual salary range is: £15,009-£17,056. Application forms (which must be used) are available from Mrs Karen Gregory on 01206 549222 or [admin@stbenedicts.essex.sch.uk](mailto:admin@stbenedicts.essex.sch.uk) The closing date for applications is Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> of August.

**MARRIAGE CARE:** Marriage Care Ilford Centre are looking for suitable volunteers (male or female) to be trained as Marriage Preparation Providers / Counsellors / FOCCUS Facilitators. For further information, contact Glenda Spencer on 020 8590 7775.

**PARISH BARBEQUE:** Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> August 3 – 5pm: the feast of St Helen. Adults £5.00, Children 3 -10 yrs. £3. More information to follow shortly.

**NIGHTFEVER LONDON:** is an initiative hosted by St Patrick's Catholic Church, Soho Square. The next one starts on the 5<sup>th</sup> until the 10<sup>th</sup> of August. There will be Mass at 6.00pm in the church followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament until 10.00pm. Confession will be available during that time. That part of London will be thronged by visitors to the Olympics and volunteers will be going out to invite them in. If you'd like to take part, even volunteer, the link is: [www.nightfever-online.org](http://www.nightfever-online.org) Posters in the porch. If nothing else, please pray!

**DIOCESAN VOCATIONS DISCERNMENT GROUP: Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> August. Open to all men and women aged 17 – 30.** If you are reflecting on where and who God is calling you to be and you want gentle company and conversation with others. Guided by Fr Dominic Howarth and Sr Anne Spielberg OSU. Includes a fish and chip supper, and a time of quiet prayer and Adoration, as well as a chance for discussion and questions. For full details, contact [frdominic@brentwoodvocations.org](mailto:frdominic@brentwoodvocations.org) or call 01268 281732.

**PERPETUAL ADORATION AT THE OLYMPICS:** For those visiting, Perpetual Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will take place around the Olympic park throughout the Games

**IN ANTICIPATION OF THE YEAR OF FAITH:** On **Thursday September 13th** there will be a trip to **Newman's Oxford**. We will visit some of the places which are closely associated with him. These will include St Mary's (subject to restoration work) where he became vicar in 1828, and Littlemore, where he was received into the Church in 1845. Further details available from Fr Neil. **In preparation:** On **Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> of September** at 7.30 there will be an introduction to Newman's life and work in Oxford. Details to follow.

**CHURCH CLEANERS: Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> August – Team 4.**

**ALTAR SERVERS: This Sunday 10:30am Mass – Team B.  
Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> August – Team A**

## SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR – DAY FOR LIFE

July 29<sup>th</sup> 2012

<b>Saturday July 28<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>6:15 pm</b>	Margaret O'Driscoll & Donal Gilley RIP
<i>Mile End</i>	<b>6:00 pm</b>	<b>KERALA MASS</b>
<b>Sunday July 29<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>8:00 am</b>	Phil Treby RIP
	<b>10:30 am</b>	Colin Taylor RIP
	<b>6:30 pm</b>	Frederick, Elizabeth & Angelo Lucas RIP
<i>West Mersea</i>	<b>8:30 am</b>	Parishioners
<i>Mile End</i>	<b>9:15 am</b>	Alfredo Sagnella RIP
<i>Monkwick</i>	<b>10:15 am</b>	In Thanksgiving
<b>Monday 30<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Feria</b>	
	<i>Church</i> <b>7:30 am</b>	Intentions: Higgins Family
	<i>Church</i> <b>9:15 am</b>	Intentions: Win Tierney
	<i>Church</i> <b>12:00 pm</b>	MEMORIAL MASS <b>Michelina Mussi RIP</b>
<b>Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>St Ignatius Loyola</b>	
	<i>Church</i> <b>9:15 am</b>	Intentions: Maria Saunders
<b>Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>St Alphonsus Liguori</b>	
	<i>Church</i> <b>7:30 am</b>	Frederick, Elizabeth & Angelo Lucas RIP
	<i>Church</i> <b>12:15 pm</b>	Intentions: Philip White
<b>Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup></b>	<b>Feria</b>	
	<i>Church</i> <b>9:15 am</b>	Intentions: Mrs T & Family
<b>Friday 3<sup>rd</sup></b>	<b>Feria</b>	
	<i>Church</i> <b>9:15 am</b>	Colin Walker RIP
	<b>NB</b>	No evening Mass
<b>Saturday 4<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>St John Mary Vianney (Curé d'Ars)</b>	
	<i>Church</i> <b>9:15 am</b>	D/Rels: Hebert & Richards Families

## EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR

5<sup>th</sup> August 2012

<b>Saturday August 4<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>6:15 pm</b>	Stephen Mooney RIP
<b>Sunday August 5<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>8:00 am</b>	Margaret Wright RIP
	<b>10:30 am</b>	Sarah McCabe RIP
	<b>6:30 pm</b>	Roger & Andrew Hayes RIP
<i>West Mersea</i>	<b>8:30 am</b>	Matt, Eddie & Pat Hogan RIP
<i>Mile End</i>	<b>9:15 am</b>	Parishioners
<i>Monkwick</i>	<b>10:15 am</b>	Joan Boyden RIP [CAB]

**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](http://www.marriagecare.org.uk) or 0800 389 3801. [www.brentwoodvocations.org](http://www.brentwoodvocations.org)

*Cardinal Bourne Hall* 07980 438195 [cb.hall@btinternet.com](mailto:cb.hall@btinternet.com)

The Brentwood Diocesan Trust – Registered Charity No. 234092

