

# ST. JAMES THE LESS AND ST. HELEN

## CATHOLIC CHURCH, COLCHESTER

### WITH MERSEA, MILE END AND MONKWICK

1 PARISH, 4 CHURCHES, 1 COMMUNITY



Parish Priest:  
Assistant Priest:

Mgr. Christopher Brooks  
Fr. Paschal Uche

Address: 51 Priory Street, Colchester, Essex, CO1 2QB  
Tel: 01206 866317  
E-Mail: [colchester@brcdt.org](mailto:colchester@brcdt.org)  
Website: [www.stjamesthelessandsthelen.org](http://www.stjamesthelessandsthelen.org)  
f St James the Less and St Helen RC Church, Colchester

#### FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER (A)

<b>Saturday 29<sup>th</sup></b>	<i>Monkwick</i>	5.00 pm	John Dolamore RIP
<b>Sunday 30<sup>th</sup></b>	<i>Church</i>	8.00 am	Private Intentions
	<i>Church</i>	10.30 am	Novena Rowe RIP
	<i>Church</i>	2.00 pm	Polish Mass
	<i>Church</i>	6.30 pm	Private Intentions
	<i>West Mersea</i>	8.30 am	Parishioners
	<i>Mile End</i>	9.30 am	Kathleen + Victor Payne RIP
<b>Monday 1<sup>st</sup> May</b>			<b>Feria</b>
	<i>Church</i>	9.30 am	Sally Widman RIP
<b>Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup></b>			<b>St Athanasius, Bp, D</b>
	<i>Church</i>	9.30 am	Cyril Farrell RIP
<b>Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup></b>			<b>SS PHILIP and JAMES, App</b>
	<i>Church</i>	9.30 am	Mark Hollis RIP
<b>Thursday 4<sup>th</sup></b>			<b>THE ENGLISH MARTYRS</b>
	<i>Church</i>	9.30 am	Ints: Bridget + Dave Long
<b>Friday 28<sup>th</sup></b>			<b>Feria</b>
	<i>Church</i>	9.30 am	Ints: Marco
<b>Saturday 5<sup>th</sup></b>			<b>St John Payne, Pr, M</b>
	<i>Church</i>	9.30 am	Ints: Bridie Lawlor
			<b>FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER (A)</b>
<b>Saturday 5<sup>th</sup></b>	<i>Monkwick</i>	5.00 pm	Victoria-Carmen Dinech RIP
<b>Sunday 6<sup>th</sup></b>	<i>Church</i>	8.00 am	Nelly Coyle RIP
	<i>Church</i>	10.30 am	Frederick, Elizabeth + Angelo Lucas
	<i>Church</i>	2.00 pm	Polish Mass
	<i>Church</i>	4.00 pm	Filipino Mass
	<i>Church</i>	6.30 pm	Private Intention
	<i>West Mersea</i>	8.30 am	Private Intention
	<i>Mile End</i>	9.30 am	Parishioners



**FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER (A)**  
**World Day of Prayer for Vocations**  
Week Commencing 30<sup>th</sup> April 2023

On the fourth Sunday of Easter we think of the Resurrected Christ as our good Shepherd and typically we pray for vocations asking God to send more Shepherds to care for his flock. Christ is the ultimate Shepherd and guardian of our souls, the Pope is his vicar, Bishops and priests exercise ministry in his name and with his authority. Sometimes some people perceive the Church as imposing limits and restrictions on human freedom. Why does the Church not bless same sex couples, allow abortion and euthanasia many ask. The image of a shepherd reminds us that all of the teaching and practice of the Church are to keep the faithful safe, in reality it is not the laws of the church but sin that enslaves constricts and limits our freedom. God wants to lead us to graze in the green pastures of his friendship. Here our hearts find true rest, peace and joy. It is for this reason the Bishop as the chief Shepherd in a Diocese is given a crozier at his ordination with the following words; "Take this staff as a sign of your pastoral office: keep watch over the whole flock in which the Holy Spirit has appointed you to shepherd the Church of God." The Rod to fight off the attack of the enemy and a hook shaped top symbolising how he gathers the flock. Let us pray for Bishop Alan and pray for more men to become priests, faithful and good Shepherds.

*Fr. Paschal*

- ❖ For Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals, please email or contact our parish office.
- ❖ Marriage Preparation: Please be aware that 6 months' notice of intention for Marriage is required especially if marrying outside the Parish. Couples who are planning to get married should contact us **at least 6 months** in advance. Thank you.
- ❖ Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) Saturdays after 9.30am Mass (Priory Street) and after 5.00pm Mass (Monkwick).
- ❖ Mass Intentions. Envelopes are available in Church Porch and are situated either side of Church entrance, please complete envelope & drop through presbytery door. A suggested minimum stipend is £10 per Mass. The Mass Intention will be published in the newsletter (available on the parish website or via Facebook or collection from Church).

- **Cardinal Bourne Hall Enquiries/Bookings:** [colchester@brcdt.org](mailto:colchester@brcdt.org)
- **SVP (St Vincent de Paul Society):** Tel: 07493 439427/email: [colchestersvp@gmail.com](mailto:colchestersvp@gmail.com)



**Please check out our Facebook page for all the latest Parish/Diocese/Vatican news, Clergy/Church photos/videos. Please remember to like & follow our page**

## PLEASE SEE MASS SCHEDULE FOR ALL CHANGES

<b>DAILY (Mon-Fri)</b>	Rosary/Divine Mercy	<b>at 8.45 am</b>
<b>DAILY</b>	Morning Prayer	<b>at 9.15 am</b>
<b>CHRISTIAN MEDITATION</b>	Wednesdays (Cardinal Bourne Hall)	<b>at 8.00 pm</b>
<b>ADORATION &amp; PRAYER</b>	Thursdays	<b>at 7.30 pm</b>



**THE POPE'S INTENTIONS FOR MAY: *For church movements and groups.*** We pray that Church movements and groups may rediscover their mission of evangelization each day, placing their own charisms at the service of needs in the world.

**MARRIAGE MATTERS:** (Acts 2:14, 36-41 1 Peter 2:20-25 John 10:1-10) **Feeding your sheep.** John 10:10 describes us as 'sheep'. God watches over and feeds us with his Word, and in the Eucharist. With God's help we have created a few more sheep, so we pray for His help, read books, use the internet to protect our children from the harm done by the 'media' and many of today 'addictions'. That's being good shepherds.

**PRAYERS FOR THE SICK:** We continue to pray for those parishioners we know who are sick and housebound especially Mrs. Maureen McKenna, Joyce Wrobel, Ron & Margaret Griffin, Peter Wyatt, Elizabeth Pace, Hilda Morah, Nicollas and Adam Campbell-Vencarto, Jim Lynas, Maureen R. We continue to pray for all persons who are ill or are in need.

**DIOCESAN SECOND COLLECTION:** Today is Good Shepherd Sunday (*World Day of Prayer for Vocations*). Please pray for vocations to the priesthood for our diocese and for those currently training for the priesthood. We ask that you pray for the priests who have ministered to you throughout your life, both living and dead. The second collection taken today supports the education and formation of our seminarians.

**DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO WALSINGHAM ON SATURDAY 27<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2023:** Join Bishop Alan and other parishes around the Diocese of Brentwood in Walsingham. We will celebrate Mass at the Basilica before walking the Holy Mile to the grounds of Walsingham Abbey to celebrate Vespers and Benediction on the site of the Holy House. There will be transport for those unable to walk the Holy mile. Please bring a packed lunch with you on the day. If you would like to go, please add your name to the coach seat reservation list in church porch with how many seats you would like to reserve.

**SAVE THE DATE:** Fr Chris' Ruby Jubilee of Ordination, Mass on **23<sup>rd</sup> July 2023 at 4.30pm** and celebration afterwards. Further details to follow in due course.

**FREE, FAITHFUL AND FRUITFUL:** A talk on marital love, natural family planning and a flourishing family on **Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> June** in Cardinal Bourne Hall. Guest speaker Fr Matthew and his wife Dr. Lucy. Join us for two 30-minute talks at **1.30pm-3.30pm** (concluding with Q&A) and a glass of wine whilst the children are entertained in an adjacent room. Contact Julia 07854296437.

**MASS FOR THE ALTAR SERVERS OF THE DIOCESE OF BRENTWOOD:** The forthcoming mass for the altar servers of the diocese of Brentwood, with The Right Reverend Alan Williams Bishop of Brentwood will take place on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> June 2023 at 2:00pm at the Cathedral Church of St Mary & St Helen, Brentwood.

**GIFT AID SUBSCRIBERS:** Please can you collect your new box sets from the church porch.

**MARRIAGE & FAMILY LIFE:** Bishop Alan will be celebrating the annual Mass of Thanksgiving for Marriage and Family Life in the Cathedral on **Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> July at 3.00pm**, followed by a reception in the hall. If you are recently married or preparing for marriage or celebrating a significant wedding anniversary, please let Fr Chris know that you would like to attend this event.

**JOSIE'S KITCHEN:** If you have any unwanted trainers in good condition, please consider donating these to Josie for her homeless "boys and girls." *Men's Sizes: 9 to 11; Women's Sizes 5 to 7. Please drop these into Presbytery and we will ensure that they are passed on to those who need them.* Thank you.



**SVP CUPPA CLUB:** We meet **every Thursday from 10.00am to 11.30am** in the Hall. This is an opportunity to relax and catch up with others from the local community. We are always pleased to see a new face and offer a warm welcome to newcomers!

**THE PRIESTS' CHARITY CONCERT:** Brentwood Catholic Children's Society is delighted to announce that the Northern Irish classical singing trio '**The Priests**' will be performing a second charity concert on Friday 30<sup>th</sup> June 2023 at the Brentwood Cathedral at 7.30pm. All tickets can be purchased directly through Eventbrite and are £30 per person plus booking fee: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/528414691567> We expect this to be a sell-out event and would urge you to book early in order to avoid disappointment. It promises to be a great evening of entertainment. For full details [www.bccs.org.uk/get-involved/events/](http://www.bccs.org.uk/get-involved/events/)

**GIDEA PARK STUDY DAY ON POPE BENEDICT AND THE LITURGY:** On **Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> May, from 11am to 1pm**, Fr Vincent Twomey SVD, student and friend of Pope Benedict XVI, will speak on 'The Liturgical Vision of Pope Benedict'. The event will not be in person but live streamed from Ireland on [www.whatgoodnews.org](http://www.whatgoodnews.org). Fr Twomey has recently produced 'The Dynamics of Liturgy: Joseph Ratzinger's Theology of Liturgy', published by Ignatius Press. Further details of the event are to be found on the attached flyer and on the website [www.whatgoodnews.org](http://www.whatgoodnews.org) A recording of the study day will be made available subsequently on the website.

**THE THRESHOLDS OF HOPE EASTER TALKS** will explore what it means to have an intimate friendship with Christ. They will take place on Wednesdays 10<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> of May at St Francis of Assisi, Stratford, E15 1NS from 7.30 - 9.00pm. The first talk, "*Calling on the name of Jesus*," will be given by Fr Martin Boland, the Dean of Brentwood Cathedral. All very welcome.

**JOB VACANCY: HOSPITALITY MANAGER AT WALSINGHAM HOUSE AT ABBOTSWICK.** Walsingham House are seeking to appoint a friendly, reliable and trustworthy Hospitality Manager. The postholder will be responsible for welcoming groups wishing to use the retreat centre, being a point of contact and managing the practicalities of the day. For more information please see [www.bcys.net](http://www.bcys.net) or email Claire Bailey for more information ([clairebailey@brcdt.org](mailto:clairebailey@brcdt.org)) The closing date for applications is midday on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> May 2023.

**JOB VACANCY: BRENTWOOD CATHOLIC CHILDREN'S SOCIETY** is looking for a Fundraising and Partnerships Manager to join their team. This is an excellent opportunity for an enthusiastic and motivated individual to gain valuable experience in fundraising for an established and expanding charity. Read the full [Job Description and Person Specification](http://www.bccs.org.uk/who-we-are/work-us/) at <http://www.bccs.org.uk/who-we-are/work-us/> Applications should be returned to Julie Abbott, Head of Voluntary Income at [jabbott@bccs.org.uk](mailto:jabbott@bccs.org.uk) before the application deadline of Friday 12<sup>th</sup> May at midday.

**GIFT AID:** Please consider gift aiding your offertory donations. Information can be found on the Parish website. Gift Aid Declaration forms available in the Church porch. Every £1.00 you donate to the Church is worth £1.25 when you Gift Aid it, at No Extra Cost to You.

**NEW TO THE PARISH?** Then please complete one of our Parish Registration forms, which can be found in the porch at the back of the church.

**CHURCH CLEANING TEAM:** Monday 01/05/23: **Team 2/** Monday 08/04/23: **Team 3**  
**CBH COFFEE MORNING:** 30/04/23: **African Community/** 07/05/23: **Diane & Adrian**  
The new Rotas for Church Cleaning & Coffee Morning are available in Church Porch.