

EASTER SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD (B)

Saturday 30th	Church	6.30 pm	Bridget Lloyd	Solemn Vigil of Easter
Sunday 31st	Church	8.00 am	Private Intention	
	Church	10.30 am	Ints: Monica, Adrian Galvin + Family	
	Church	2.00 pm	Polish Mass	
	Church	6.30 pm	Private Intention	
	West Mersea	8.30 am	Parishioners	
	Mile End	9.30 am	Paul Richard B. Brusola RIP	

Monday 1st April	Church	* 10.00am	Patrick Quinlivan RIP	Monday Within The Octave Of Easter
	Church	2.00 pm	Polish Mass	

Tuesday 2nd	Church	9.30 am	Holy Souls in Purgatory	Tuesday Within The Octave Of Easter
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Wednesday 3rd	Church	9.30 am	Ints: Charlie Sabin-Treby	Wednesday Within The Octave Of Easter
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Thursday 4th	Church	9.30 am	Frederick, Elizabeth + Angelo Lucas	Thursday Within The Octave Of Easter
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Friday 5th	Church	9.30 am	Bernard Kelly RIP	Friday Within The Octave Of Easter
	Church	7.00 pm	MASS: Pauline Okoli RIP	

Saturday 6th	Church	9.30 am	Noel L'Esperance RIP	Saturday Within The Octave Of Easter
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		SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER (B)		DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY
Saturday 6th	Church	5.00 pm	Mrs Pauline Okoli RIP	
Sunday 7th	Church	8.00 am	Private Intention	
	Church	10.30 am	Parishioners	
	Church	*12.15 pm	Polish Mass	
	Church	4.00 pm	Filipino Mass	
	Church	6.30 pm	Fr Neville McClement RIP	
	West Mersea	8.30 am	Michael Rush RIP	
	Mile End	9.30 am	Deceased Members Larkin Family	

- ❖ 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 entrance, please complete envelope & drop through presbytery door. A suggested stipend is £10 per Mass.

*** MASS ON EASTER MONDAY IS AT 10.00AM AND NOT 9.30AM**

***POLISH MASS ON SUNDAY 7TH APRIL IS AT 12.15PM AND NOT 2.00 PM**

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



ST. JAMES THE LESS AND ST. HELEN

CATHOLIC CHURCH, COLCHESTER

WITH MERSEA, MILE END AND MONKWICK

1 PARISH, 4 CHURCHES, 1 COMMUNITY



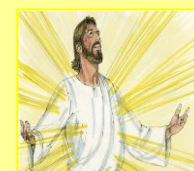
St James the Less & St Helen

Parish Priest: Mgr. Christopher Brooks
Assistant Priest: Fr. Philip Okoli

Address: 51 Priory Street, Colchester, Essex, CO1 2QB
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Website: www.stjamesthelessandsthelen.org



St James the Less and St Helen RC Church, Colchester

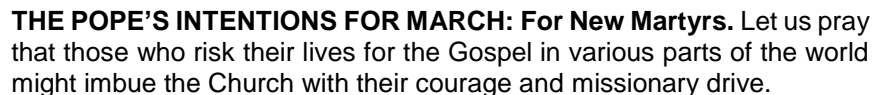


THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD (B)
(Easter Sunday)
Week commencing 31st March 2024

The Lord is risen, Alleluia!! We celebrate the risen Christ whose Resurrection is the basis our faith. Reflecting on the centrality of the Resurrection, St. Paul states *"if Christ has not been raised, our faith would have been without substance"*. Hence, the beautiful and most stupendous Liturgies of the last three days of the Holy Week. Let us rejoice in the triumph of light over darkness, of life over death. Let us embrace the hope that Easter brings, knowing that through Christ we are given new beginnings and endless possibilities. Remember the sacrifice He made for our salvation as you celebrate with your loved ones. May this Easter fill your hearts with joy, peace and the certainty of God's love for each and every one of us. With renewed faith, let us go forth to share the good news of Christ's Resurrection with our friends and family. Wishing you and your families a joy-filled Easter!

Fr. Philip

DAILY (Mon-Fri)	Rosary/Divine Mercy	at 8.45 am
DAILY	Morning Prayer	at 9.15 am
CHRISTIAN MEDITATION	Wednesdays (Cardinal Bourne Hall)	at 8.00 pm



MARRIAGE MATTERS: (Acts of the Apostles 10:34, 37-43 Colossians 3:1-4 John 20:1-9) ***A sign of new life.*** Today we celebrate the resurrection and new life in the Lord. In our marriage, we too rise to new life when we put each other first in all we do and say. Let us live openly, honestly and truthfully so that we become a 'sign' to our families that Jesus is alive in our married love.

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK: We continue to pray for those parishioners we know who are sick and housebound especially Jimmy Clarin, Jason Christopher McLean, Grace McCartney, Diana Irvn, Mrs. Maureen McKenna, Joyce Wrobel, Ron & Margaret Griffin, Peter Wyatt, Elizabeth Pace, Jason McLean, Hilda Morah, Nicollas and Adam Campbell-Vencarto, Maureen R. We also pray for all persons who are ill or are in need.

† RECENTLY DECEASED: Please pray for the repose of the souls of John Belson, Michael John Rush and Susan Boyle who have both recently passed away. The parish community offers John and Michael's family and friends our condolences and the assurance of our prayers at this most difficult time. We await details for John's funeral service. Michael's funeral service will be on Thursday 11th April at 3.15pm in Colchester Crematorium. Susan's funeral Mass is here on Thursday 11th April at 1.00pm. Details

EASTER COLLECTION: The Offertory Collection at all the Easter Masses next Sunday is by tradition, the parishioners' personal gift to the Clergy. In this Parish, Fr Chris and Fr Philip are the beneficiaries, since this collection forms the main part of their personal annual income. Thank you.

THANK YOU: Thanks to all the volunteers who have contributed generously with the preparation of the church. This includes welcomers, readers, altar servers, extraordinary ministers, organists, choir, counters, cleaners, floral group, altar linen, and everyone who has helped in the preparations for the Easter services. Thank you for your sharing your time, gifts and talents.

'BISHOP ALAN LISTENS' RESEARCH REPORT. To see the responses of hundreds of Catholics across our diocese and hear what Bishop Alan heard.
<https://www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/news/results-of-bishop-alan-listens-research-report/>

MASS FOR PAULINE OKOLI RIP: Fr Philip will be holding a Mass for his mother Pauline on **Friday 5th April** at St James the Less & St Helen Church at **7.00pm**. Please see poster in Church Porch/Facebook for bring a plate suggestions for reception in hall after Mass.

BAPTISMS: A Godparent must be fully initiated in the Catholic Church. This means they have received the Sacraments of Baptism, Eucharist and Confirmation. You only need one Godparent. It does not matter if they are male or female. If you choose two Godparents, traditionally a male and female that meet the requirements for Godparents. There is no provision for more than two godparents.

DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO WALSINGHAM – 25th MAY 2024: 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. If you would like to come, and wish to reserve a seat on the coach – please add your name to the Coach Seat Reservation list, which can be found on a clipboard in the Church Porch. A 53-seat coach will be picking up from East Hill near the corner of Priory Street at 07:45 for 8:00_{am} departure, with tickets at £17.00 per person, payable on the coach for those who have reserved seats. Please bring a packed lunch, as the cafeteria at Walsingham will be very busy

HOPE AND HEALING FUND: Friends of the Holy Land have set up a Hope & Healing on the Journey through Holy Week fund raising page to provide life-saving support to the 820 Christians trapped in Gaza as well as emergency financial aid to those most in need in Gaza <https://www.friendsoftheholylnd.org.uk/>

ACT NOW TO STOP DIY ABORTION UP TO BIRTH: Diana Johnson MP has tabled an amendment (New Clause 1) to the Government's Criminal Justice Bill, which is coming up for Report stage in Parliament in early March. This amendment seeks to change criminal law so that "no offence is committed by a woman acting in relation to her own pregnancy" at any gestation. This means that a woman who induced her abortion at home using pills (or any other method) at any stage of pregnancy, including just before natural birth, would commit no offence. This is dangerous for women and lethal for unborn babies. Please contact your MP urgently, asking them to oppose this extreme and barbaric proposal. You can do this using SPUC's easy to use webtool, at <https://www.spuc.org.uk/abortionamendments> Please pray for the defeat of this amendment, for protection of unborn babies, and help and comfort for mothers in need.

YOUTH 2000 LONDON RETREAT DAY: *Come and See.* Youth 2000 are running a retreat day for young adults (16-35) on 11th May at Sacred Heart Parish in Wimbledon. It is jam-packed one day event, where people come together as a community of young adults in prayer and friendship. The retreat is an invitation to come as you are, and to come and see who Jesus is and what He can do in your life. The cost £25 and more information can be found at: <https://www.youth2000.org/events/london2024>

CARITAS: Interested in the Catholic response to homelessness, welcoming refugees and migrants, assisting with the Cost of Living Crisis, or tackling the causes and effects of climate change? You are invited to the 2024 Caritas Brentwood Networking Day, Saturday 27th April, 10_{am} – 2.30_{pm}, at the St Edward the Confessor Church Hall, **Romford** (10-minute walk from Romford Station on the Elizabeth line, Bus routes from London are regular, parking is available but limited and a bike rack is also on site). This day is a chance to be sustained, share ideas and good practices with people from parishes across Essex and East London and hear about charities and resources available. Details and Registration (for free!) at www.caritasbrentwood.org/network

We wish each parishioner a very happy and blessed Easter and we extend a special welcome to any visitors who are with us today.

CHURCH CLEANING TEAM: Friday 05/04/24: Team 5 / Thursday 11/04/24: Team 1
COFFEE MORNING: 31/03/24: NO COFFEE MORNING/ 07/04/24: Matthew + Mariamma