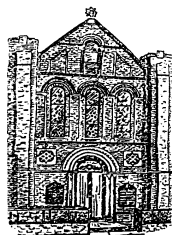


ST. JAMES THE LESS AND ST. HELEN

CATHOLIC CHURCH, COLCHESTER

With

MERSEA, MILE END AND MONKWICK



Fr Anthony McKentey

Fr Neil Brett

Fr Philip Willenbrock

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www.stjamesthelessandsthelen.org

MARY, MOTHER OF GOD January 1st 2012

My dear friends

A very happy New Year to you all!

On this first weekend of 2012 we celebrate the feast of Mary, the Mother of God and ask her help and protection as we embark on a new year. 2012 will be a very special year for our country as we celebrate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee and host the Olympic Games.

In the newspapers they sometimes itemise centenaries and anniversaries that will occur during the year. In our parish we will celebrate the 175th anniversary of St James the Less and St Helen in Priory Street which was opened in 1837. It is also 50 years since the opening of St Cedd and St Gregory, Mersea, in 1962. So we will have many reasons to celebrate this coming year.

Our parish church's foundation stone was laid on the 3rd March 1837. We will have a concert on Saturday evening, 3rd March, given by the Colchester Chamber Choir at 8pm and on the feast of St James, which he shares with St Philip, we will have a Mass of Thanksgiving when the Bishop and former priests will concelebrate on Thursday, 3rd May, at 7:30pm. There will be other events during the year.

May God bless all our days, during this special year of grace.

Fr Tony McKentey

DAILY Morning Prayer 8.15am; Rosary/Divine Mercy 8.35am (Wed 11:15am]

PRAYER GROUP Next Meeting – 9th January See below
MEDITATION GROUP: Tuesdays, 8pm in the Crypt See below

EVENTS THIS WEEK

Please see Mass Schedule for ANY changes

Wednesday 4 th January	7pm	SVP Meeting	Crypt
Saturday 7 th	10am-12pm	FHC Programme	CBH
Sunday 8 th	8pm	Evangelium	Crypt

SICK: Please remember in your prayers Maureen Allen, June Bickersteth, Joan Boyden, Frank Campbell, Alan Doleman, Nancy Drummond, Kitty Foley, Charlie George, Maurice Highfield, Pat Maloney, Cara Maude, Bridie Murphy, Paula Nash, Leah Patterson, Sabina Rhatigan, Hector Silva, Maria Soutar, Tony White, Tim Young.

RECENTLY DECEASED: The funeral of the late Patrick McHugh will take place at Priory Street on Tuesday, 3rd January at 12:45pm.

MEDITATION GROUP: The Group next meet this Tuesday, 3rd January, at 8pm in the Crypt.

SVP: The next Meeting is scheduled for this Wednesday, 4th January, at 7pm.

POLISH EVENING: On **Saturday, 7 January 2012 at 5.30 p.m.** in the Cardinal Bourne Hall the Polish Catholic parish community will enjoy an evening of poetry and traditional Polish Christmas carolling. It will be performed by a group of actors from the Silesia Theatre in Katowice, Poland. Although most of the songs and poems we will be listening to are in Polish there will be some in English too, so everyone is welcome to come.

ACCOMMODATION REQUIRED: We need to **accommodate the actors**, who are coming as volunteers. If anyone would be able to help and invite one nice girl, and/or one young man to be their guest for 3 nights, please call Irena on 07402 833437. Thank you.

SECOND COLLECTION: **Next weekend, 8th/9th January**, there will be a second collection for Childcare [Brentwood Catholic Children's Society]. These funds support a vital service to children and their families in difficulties in our Diocese. They work in all parishes, not least our own. Please give generously.

EVANGELIUM: Will re-commence on Sunday 8th January in the Crypt after

evening Mass.

PRAYER GROUP: The next Prayer Group Meeting takes place on Monday, 9th January at 8pm in the Crypt.

MERCY ASSOCIATES: meet next on Monday 9 January at 7.30 pm at Christ Church Court (tel. 763049).

SCRIPTURE COURSE: Will re-commence on Wednesday, January 11th in the Crypt between 6:45pm and 8:45pm.

PRIEST REFERENCE FORMS FOR ST THOMAS MORE SCHOOL: Fr Tony will be available at the Presbytery to sign the Priest Reference Forms for new applications to St Thomas More School on the following dates: *THURSDAY, 26TH JANUARY AND FRIDAY 27TH JANUARY BETWEEN 4PM & 6PM.* To book an appointment on either of those afternoons, please ring the Parish Office on a Monday, Wednesday or Friday.

NEXT BAPTISMAL COURSE: All baptisms in this parish are arranged during Courses which are held approximately four times a year and the next Course has been fixed for *Friday, 27th January 2012 and Friday, 3rd February 2012 in the Crypt from 7:30pm to 9pm.* There is no need to make an appointment, just turn up – but – both sessions must be attended. Entry to the Crypt is via the Church.

WINTER RESERVE ACCOMMODATION PROJECT [WRAP]: Volunteers are needed again this winter to be available when the Night Shelter is full. A minimum of 2 volunteers will be sleeping alongside a maximum of 6 homeless people in the Cardinal Bourne Hall for 1 night. From 18-25 January and 1-8 February 2012. Call Pernille Petersen on 549885 for full details.

GREENSTEAD PARISH – PILGRIMAGE TO ROME/FLORENCE JUNE 2012: In the first week of June next year - 2nd to 9th June 2012 [Half Term week] Greenstead parish are organising an eight day Pilgrimage to Rome and Florence. The approximate cost: £1500 “all-in”. For **full** details, please contact 870460 or Gene Horgan on 07939 086034.

CATHOLIC PAPERS: Over time, the number of Catholic papers has been reduced because they are not being purchased [read, but not necessarily purchased]. However, there has still been a weekly surplus so the delivery has been cancelled with effect from the New Year. You may order direct from newsagents; on line – www.totalcatholic.com ; CatholicHerald.co.uk ; www.rpbooks.co.uk or via an annual subscription.

CHURCH CLEANING: Thursday January 5th – Team 4.

MOVING?: Please let the Parish office know – inside *OR* outside the parish.
Newly arrived? Please complete a registration form [in the porch on the left hand side table].

For inclusions to the Parish website: admin@stjamesthelessandsthelen.org

LITURGY FOR MARY, MOTHER OF GOD

January 1st 2012

Saturday December 31st	6:15 pm	Intentions: Iris Jay
Sunday January 1st 2012	8:00 am	John Lowe RIP
	10:30 am	Alison Clarke RIP
	6:30 pm	Phyllis, Cora and Deirdre RIP
<i>West Mersea</i>	8:30 am	Matt, Eddie and Pat Hogan
<i>Mile End</i>	9:15 am	D/Rels: Knapp & Gibbons Families
<i>Monkwick</i>	10:15am	Parishioners

Monday 2nd *Ss Basil the Great & Gregory Nazianzen, Bpp, Dd*

Bank	<i>N.B. Church</i>	8:00 am	Intentions: Fr Thomas Coffey
Holiday	<i>N.B. Church</i>	10:00 am	Intentions: Mary O'Connell

Tuesday 3rd *Feria of Christmastide*

<i>Church</i>	9:15 am	Phyllis Kavenagh RIP
<i>Church</i>	12:45 pm	REQUIEM – PATRICK McHUGH RIP

Wednesday 4th *Feria of Christmastide*

<i>Church</i>	7:30 am	Canon John Bloomfield RIP
<i>Church</i>	12 :15 pm	Mr P I Abraham RIP

Thursday 5th *Feria of Christmastide*

<i>Church</i>	9.15 am	Intentions: Fr Thomas Coffey
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Friday 6th *Feria of Christmastide*

<i>Church</i>	9:15 am	Mary Sebastian RIP
<i>Church</i>	6:30 pm	Michael McInerney RIP

Saturday 7th *Feria of Christmastide*

<i>Church</i>	9:15 am	Matthew Ifeanyi Nwadike RIP
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LITURGY FOR THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD [HOLYDAY OF OBLIGATION]

8th January 2012

Saturday January 7th	6:15 pm	Barbara and Alwyn Staines RIP
Sunday January 8th	8:00 am	Selwyn Caldeira RIP
	10:30am	Frederick, Elizabeth & Angelo Lucas RIP
	2:00pm	POLISH MASS
	5:00pm	HOLY HOUR
	6:30 pm	Matthew Ifeanyi Nwadike RIP
<i>West Mersea</i>	8:30 am	Matt, Eddie & Pat Hogan
<i>Mile End</i>	9:15 am	Parishioners
<i>Monkwick</i>	10:15am	Celestine Tighe RIP

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

The Brentwood Diocesan Trust – Registered Charity No. 234092