

ST. JAMES THE LESS AND ST. HELEN

CATHOLIC CHURCH, COLCHESTER

WITH MERSEA, MILE END AND MONKWICK

1 PARISH, 4 CHURCHES, 1 COMMUNITY



Parish Priest: Mgr. Christopher Brooks
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 St James the Less and St Helen RC Church, Colchester

EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME ^(B)

Saturday 31st	Church	6.15 pm	Thanksgiving + Private Intention
Sunday 1st August	Church	8.00 am	Private Intention
	Church	10.30 am	Finbar Nagle RIP
	Church	2.00 pm	Polish Mass
	Church	4.00 pm	Filipino Mass
	Church	6.30 pm	Dec. Mem. Zepeda Faria Family
	West Mersea	8.30 am	Parishioners
	Mile End	9.15 am	Private Intention
	Monkwick	10.15 am	John Mauger RIP

Monday 2nd			Feria
	Church	9.30 am	Kathleen Shock RIP
Tuesday 3rd			Feria
	Church	9.30 am	Daniel, Florence + Danny Farrell RIP
Wednesday 4th			St John Mary Vianney, Pr
	Church	12.15 pm	Ints: A. Harley
Thursday 5th			Feria
	Church	9.30 am	Margaretta Wright
Friday 6th			TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD
	Church	9.30 am	Andrea L'Esperance RIP
Saturday 7th			Memorial of the Blessed Virgin Mary
	Church	9.30 am	Ints: Angelina Sonan

NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME ^(B)

Saturday 7th	Church	6.15 pm	Teresa Gray RIP
Sunday 8th	Church	8.00 am	Vera Kennedy RIP
	Church	10.30 am	Private Intention
	Church	2.00 pm	Polish Mass
	Church	3.30 pm	African Mass
	Church	6.30 pm	Canon John Bloomfield
	West Mersea	8.30 am	Keith Nichol RIP
	Mile End	9.15 am	Parishioners
	Monkwick	10.15 am	Robert Bradshaw RIP

- ❖ For Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals, please email or contact our parish office.
- ❖ Visiting for the Sacrament of the Sick is possible, under certain circumstances.
- ❖ Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) Saturdays after 10am Mass and 5.30pm-6.00pm
- ❖ Mass Intentions. These can be posted through the presbytery letterbox and they will be published in the newsletter (available on the parish website or via Facebook).
- ❖ If you are self-isolating and would like to speak to a priest or have any worries, please contact us at the Presbytery on 01206 866317 and we will try to help you.

LIVE STREAM: The Live Streaming of Masses is currently suspended

Please check out our Facebook page for Live Stream Masses and all the latest Parish/Diocese/Vatican news, Clergy/Church photos/videos. Please remember to [like](#) & [follow](#) our page!

In the passage from Ephesians today we find a phrase which may well surprise us, 'Your mind must be renewed...'. Isn't our religion one of love? Yes, but remember that Jesus asks us to love God with all our heart, soul, mind and strength; the whole person. One way of approaching the 'renewal of mind' is to reflect upon the apparently widespread occurrence of fake news, conspiracy theories and the like on social media. These would be described as errors in thinking by those who are able to see them clearly, while those who accept them as true will often hold to them tenaciously; erroneous actions will generally flow from erroneous ideas. Indeed, we all can misunderstand situations, comments, actions etc. because we are imperfect. This calls for humility, and the courage to admit mistakes, which opens us up to growth; or, as St. Paul goes on to write, we can live in, 'the goodness and holiness of the truth'. It's not so much a matter of factual knowledge (which is the longest river in the world....) but a call to live in goodness, to become good ourselves; holiness is wholeness.

Fr. Chris

PLEASE SEE MASS SCHEDULE FOR ALL CHANGES

DAILY	Morning Prayer at 9.15 _{am}	All Temporarily suspended
DAILY	Rosary/Divine Mercy	
	Rosary/Divine Mercy	
2 nd SUNDAY MONTHLY	Eucharistic Adoration	
CHRISTIAN MEDITATION	Tuesdays in Crypt (8.00 _{pm})	



THE POPE'S INTENTIONS FOR AUGUST: The Church

Let us pray for the Church, that she may receive from the Holy Spirit the grace and strength to reform herself in the light of the Gospel.

Dear Parishioners and Friends,

Relaxation of Covid restrictions: There will no longer be restrictions on group sizes for attending communal worship. Our collective challenge, as restrictions are lifting, is to make sure we all continue to keep ourselves and others as safe as possible. Please note the following changes that will be implemented:-

- There will be an expectation that face coverings are worn in the Church, as per the advice of the Government (*unless, of course, a person is exempt from doing so*).
- As Social distancing rules have changed there will no longer be Church Stewards at Mass guiding people to their seats, this means that people now have the option of choosing where they wish to sit.
- We will retain a section of the church roped off for those who wish to maintain the 2-metre social distancing.
- Weekday Masses have returned to their normal time of 9.30_{am} with Morning Prayer at 9.15_{am}.
- Entrance to Church will be via the main door (no one way system needed)
- The side door will remain open for ventilation and can be used for exiting if wished.
- Communion will remain under one kind.
- Sign of peace will remain not physical
- For the time being there will be no singing at Mass
- We will continue to supply hand sanitiser stations at entrance and side door.
- An Offertory Collection box will be situated at side door; the donation station in church porch is also useable
- There will be no restrictions on the number allowed to attend Funerals, Baptisms and Weddings

Anyone displaying symptoms of Covid-19, or who has reason to believe that they have been in contact with someone who has, should not attend church or volunteer in any capacity until they have received medical advice that it is safe to do so.

MARRIAGE MATTERS: (1 Exodus 16:2-4, 12-15 Ephesians 4:17, 20-24 John 6:24-35). Jesus will give us courage and strength. The readings today focus very much on God's love and care for each of us. Our relationship at times can be challenged by something like a serious physical or mental illness, making it very hard to communicate. At such times, if we dig deep, we will find the trust we have in Jesus. This can pull us through together.

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK: We continue to pray for those parishioners we know who are sick and housebound especially Elizabeth Pace, Hilda Morah, Nicollas and Adam Campbell-Vencarto, Valerie Thurston, Jimmy Clarin, Jim Lynas. We pray for all persons who have contracted Covid-19 and their families.

RECENTLY DECEASED: Please pray for the repose of the souls of Maureen Gray and Randolph Wright who have recently passed away. May they rest in peace. We pray for the comfort of their respective bereaved family and friends. Maureen's funeral will be held at St Cedds on 12th August at 12.00_{pm} and Randolph's will be held here on 27th August at 11.00_{am}.

THE SVP WELCOME YOU TO A TEA PARTY ON SATURDAY 21ST AUGUST 2.30-5 PM.

Book your tickets now as numbers will be limited. All profits will go to the church and SVP to help families and individuals in need. Afternoon Tea to include sandwiches, scones, and cake with unlimited tea! Tickets can be preordered using our email: colchestersvp@gmail.com or leave a message on our mobile: 07493 439427. Some tickets available following weekend masses. Amazing raffle prizes! Tickets: Adults £5; Children under 12 £2.50; Family (x2 Adults + x2 Children) £12.00. We look forward to seeing you.

PARISH BBQ: Our thanks to everyone who helped to organise and run this event making it such a special day – It was a great success and enjoyed by everyone who joined us. Also our gratitude to those who donated Raffle prizes and all who attended. Some Photo's taken during the day are on our Facebook page. Thank you.

BCCS RELAY 100: Parishioner Mark Healy is taking part in the BCCS Relay 100, which is organised by Brentwood Catholic Children's Society; Mark plans to run 3 legs in total. You can sponsor Mark via the link. [Virgin Money Giving | Relay 100](#)

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION: The Certificates are ready for all children who celebrated their special day with Fr Chris and Fr Paschal this year. Collection is from the Presbytery.

CYCLING FOR CHARITY ("Pedalling through the Pandemic"). Fr Dominic Howarth, a priest of the Diocese, has been cycling for many months, heading towards 5,000km – and he now has just 500km to go. He is raising money for the Brentwood Catholic Children's Society, Walsingham House, HCPT Easter Lourdes Group 709, and Help Refugees. For more info or to donate <https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/frdominic5000at50>, Thank you.

MEMORIAL MASS FOR FR TOM JORDAN. On 5th August, 6.30_{pm}. On the first Anniversary of Fr Tom's death, Mass will be offered for him at St Edward the Confessor, Romford. Those who knew Fr Tom are warmly invited to attend. The Mass will also be Livestreamed via <https://stream.seccomgroup.com/channel/st-edward>

THE CRY OF CREATION – A STUDY DAY ON LAUDATO SI: As the United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP 26), to be held in Glasgow in November, draws nearer, and at a time of unprecedented danger for the world, the 2015 encyclical of Pope Francis, Laudato si', on care for our 'common home', could not be more relevant. Fr Ashley Beck, priest of the archdiocese of Southwark and associate professor at St Mary's University, Twickenham specialising in Catholic Social Teaching, will explore its contents and explain its crucial relevance. To access this free live event go to www.whatgoodnews.org – the event is scheduled for 11.00 to 12.30 BST on Saturday 4th September. No registration is needed. The talks will be available subsequently on the same website.

LIVING LAUDATO SI': Online Retreat on 15th – 18th October 2021. Open to all, this retreat will help personal prayer and reflection, and parish action, on the critical issue of care for God's creation. Bishop Alan will open the retreat, which will be led by expert speakers. For more information see the poster at the back of church or email laudatosi@dioceseofbrentwood.org

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.

PARISH FINANCES: If you wish to make an offering/donation this can be done in various ways:

- By dropping envelope through Presbytery door (please write on envelope Mass Offering or Parish Maintenance) or in the Donation Basket situated at Church entrance & Exit
- Diocesan Online Donation platform (where donations can also be gift aided):-
St. James the Less & St. Helen <https://www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/donations?parish=colchester>
St. Cedd & St. Gregory: <https://www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/donations?parish=colchester-b>
St. Theodore of Canterbury: <https://www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/donations?parish=colchester-d>

Everything that happens in our parish is only possible with your support. Thank you