

## SECOND SUNDAY AFTER THE NATIVITY (B)

<b>Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup></b>	Church	6.15 pm	Ints: Michael Andrews
<b>Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup></b>	Church	8.00 am	Private Intention
<b>Live Streamed</b>	Church	9.15 am	Ints: Maureen + Peter Ahern + Family
	Church	10.30 am	Ints: Una + Fenton Nagle + Family
	Church	2.00 pm	Polish Mass
	Church	6.30 pm	Parishioners
	West Mersea	8.30 am	Private Intention
	Monkwick	10.15 am	Bernie Hegarty RIP

<b>Monday 4<sup>th</sup></b>			<b>Feria of Christmastide</b>
	Church	10.00 am	Dec. Mem. of Murray Family

<b>Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup></b>			<b>Feria of Christmastide</b>
	Church	10.00 am	Pace + Angus Families
	West Mersea	7.30 pm	Holy Souls

<b>Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup></b>			<b>THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD</b>
	Church	10.00 am	Dec. Mem. Of Zepeda Farias Family
	Church	12.15 pm	Margaret Whelan RIP
	Church	7.30 pm	Ella Weston RIP

<b>Thursday 7<sup>th</sup></b>			<b>Feria of Christmastide</b>
	Church	10.00 am	Ints: Derek Fordham

<b>Friday 8<sup>th</sup></b>			<b>Feria of Christmastide</b>
	Church	10.00 am	Ints: Weston Family

<b>Saturday 9<sup>th</sup></b>			<b>Feria of Christmastide</b>
	Church	10.00 am	Mrs. Chachy Joseph


### THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD (B)

<b>Saturday 9<sup>th</sup></b>	Church	6.15 pm	Holy Souls
<b>Sunday 10<sup>th</sup></b>	Church	8.00 am	Private Intention
	Church	9.15 am	Parishioners
	Church	10.30 am	Close friends of F.G.
	Church	2.00 pm	Polish Mass
	Church	6.30 pm	Frederick, Elizabeth + Angelo Lucas
	West Mersea	8.30 am	Private Intention
<b>Live Streamed</b>	Monkwick	10.15 am	Mrs. Celestine Tighe RIP

**FACE MASKS.** It is now a legal requirement that facemasks or coverings are worn when entering all places of worship (unless you are medically exempt or under 11yrs)

- ❖ For Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals, please 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 STREAMING OF MASSES:** Sundays  St James the Less and St Helen RC Church, Colchester

 Please check out our Facebook page for all the latest Parish/Diocese/Vatican news/ Clergy photos/videos, Reflections from Fr Paschal. Please remember to like and 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



Parish Priest: Mgr. Christopher Brooks  
 Assistant Priest: Fr. Paschal Uche  
 Assistant Priest: Fr. Philip Willenbrock

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

## SECOND SUNDAY AFTER THE NATIVITY (B)

Week Commencing 3<sup>rd</sup> JANUARY 2021

Happy New Year! Like the latest news of approved vaccines, we begin the new year with buoyant positive enthusiasm. A word which itself comes from the root “*en theos*” In God. Dear friends, there can be no better place to begin, continue and end our journey of life than in God. The Gospel today tells us that in the beginning was the Word the Word was with God and the Word was God. That same Word became flesh and dwelt amongst us as we celebrate at Christmas, and unwrap throughout the year. The Word has come to dwell with us in time, so that to those who accept him, and believe in his name, received power to become the children of God and dwell with him for all eternity. Of all the resolutions we could make this January, none is more reasonable, profitable or practical than setting a goal to fall more in love with God. We do this principally through prayer, study and charity. I leave you with these words from the Spanish Jesuit priest Pedro Arrupe (1907-1991). *“Nothing is more practical than finding God, that is, than falling in love in a quite absolute, final way. What you are in love with, what seizes your imagination will affect everything. It will decide what will get you out of bed in the mornings, what you will do with your evenings, how you spend your weekends, what you read, who you know, what breaks your heart, And what amazes you with joy and gratitude. Fall in love, stay in love, and it will decide everything.”*

Happy New Year!

Fr. Paschal

**PLEASE SEE MASS SCHEDULE FOR ALL CHANGES**

DAILY	Morning Prayer at 9.45 <sup>am</sup>	<b>All Temporarily suspended</b>
DAILY	Rosary/Divine Mercy	
SUNDAYS:	Rosary/Divine Mercy	
2 <sup>nd</sup> SUNDAY MONTHLY	Eucharistic Adoration	
CHRISTIAN MEDITATION	Tuesdays in Crypt (8.00 <sup>pm</sup> )	

**THE POPE'S INTENTIONS FOR JANUARY: HUMAN FRATERNITY.** May the Lord give us the grace to live in full fellowship with our brothers and sisters of other religions, praying for one another, open to all.

Dear Parishioners and Friends,

Despite all the restrictions, let us be thankful that we can once again gather together, despite social distancing, as God's people. Please note the following norms which remain in place in order to promote a COVID 19 safe environment :-

- Churches will open 15 minutes before start of Mass
- Facemasks must be worn when entering all places of worship (unless medically exempt)
- Entrance to Church will be via the main door, exit by the side door
- Hand sanitiser is available at entrance and exit, though you may bring your own
- It will be essential that people sit where they are asked and do not move from there
- The use of face covering/mask in Church is now mandatory (please don't forget yours when attending Church) and that you wear it so that it covers both your mouth and nose.
- Social distancing must be maintained at all times within Church.
- An Offertory Collection box will be situated at entrance and exit; the donation station is also useable
- No touching of Statues or Images in Church
- Toilets will be closed except for genuine emergencies.
- We are still required to have Church Stewards in attendance at each Mass and the Church will be cleaned after each Service in readiness for the next Mass to be held.

**THE PARISH STEWARDS ARE HERE TO HELP AND DIRECT YOU TO YOUR SEAT(S), PLEASE BE POLITE TO THEM AS THEY CAN ASK YOU TO LEAVE THE CHURCH IF YOU DO NOT COMPLY WITH PRESENT GOVERNMENT AND DIOCESAN REGULATIONS.**

*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.*

**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, Joan Jeal, Jimmy Clarin. We pray for all persons who have contracted Covid-19 and their families.

**RECENTLY DECEASED:** Please pray for the repose of the soul of Ella Teresa Weston and Antonetta (k/a: Toni) Foley who have recently passed away. May they rest in peace. We pray for the comfort of their respective bereaved family and friends. Ella's funeral will take place at Lexden on 12<sup>th</sup> January. Toni's funeral will take place here on 22<sup>nd</sup> January at 12.30<sup>pm</sup>.

**CHRISTMAS CRIB COLLECTION IN AID OF THE BRENTWOOD CATHOLIC CHILDREN'S SOCIETY:** In accordance with Diocesan policy, our Crib will remain in place until the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord [February 2<sup>nd</sup>] and these offerings will go to the (BCCS) Brentwood Catholic Children's Society.

**MERSEA NEWS:** Mass Bookings will continue at Mersea in order to control numbers attending. Please use the following links for masses over the next 2 weekends (right click booking form and open hyperlink) alternatively, links for booking forms are on website under mass times: - Vigil Mass on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> January at 7.30<sup>pm</sup> is [Mersea Vigil Booking Form](#) Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> January [Mersea Booking Form](#) Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> January [Mersea Booking Form](#)

**ST. THOMAS MORE SCHOOL [ADMISSIONS FOR 2021/2022]:** (Local Authority Closing Date 15/01/21). The final date for signing of the "**Certificates of Practice**" will take place in the church porch on **Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2021 at 11.15<sup>am</sup> – 12.15<sup>pm</sup>.**

There is no need to make an appointment as both parents (or guardians) and the child applying to St Thomas, will be seen on a 1<sup>st</sup> come, 1<sup>st</sup> served basis (Baptism Cert for child to be shown to Clergy). Only 1 family at a time in the Church porch. Please maintain social distance guidelines whilst standing outside church.

**STEWARDS NEEDED!** We need Stewards to cover the following Masses: - Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> January at 12.15<sup>pm</sup> + 7.30<sup>pm</sup> Masses and Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> January at 12.30<sup>pm</sup> for Funeral Mass. Please contact the Presbytery if you are can volunteer 01206 866317. Thank you.

**DIOCESAN DIRECTORIES** are on sale at the back of the church. These are very useful as they contain the liturgical calendar for the church year and information about all parts of the Diocese including Diocesan contact details, parishes, schools, prayer groups and other organisations and societies. Priced at £2.80 per copy (money to go in "**Repository**" Box in church porch). **REPOSITORY:** 2021 Diaries still available in Church Porch.

**MISSION TODAY: 2021 Calendars** are available on the table in church porch; Please take a free copy of calendar and/ or Mission Today Magazine.

**DIOCESAN 2<sup>nd</sup> COLLECTION:** There will be a 2<sup>nd</sup> collection for World Peace Day (Pax Christi) on 17<sup>th</sup> January 2021. Pope Francis Message on World Peace Day 2021 is '**Culture of Care as a Path to Peace**'. A collection basket will be situated at the exit of church if attending Mass in Church alternatively, an envelope can be posted through Presbytery letterbox (please mark envelope as World Peace Day donation). Please give what you can to enable Pax Christi to continue their vital work throughout the World.

**AUSTEN IVEREIGH LIVESTREAM EVENT:** On Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> January from 11<sup>am</sup> until 12.30<sup>pm</sup>, Dr. Austen Ivereigh will speak about the book he recently co-authored with Pope Francis. '**Let us Dream**' presents the Pope's vision for the post-pandemic future. To access this livestream event please go to [www.sspilford.org.uk](http://www.sspilford.org.uk) and click on live stream remote services. Questions for Austen may be emailed beforehand to [adriangraffy@dioceseofbrentwood.org](mailto:adriangraffy@dioceseofbrentwood.org)

**PARISH FINANCES:** We thank you in advance for the offering that you give today. 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)
- Donation baskets are situated at entrance and exit of church
- Setting up a regular gift by Standing Order, (please contact Presbytery office for form).
- The Donation Station (in Church porch)
- 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. Joseph, Mile End: <https://www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/donations?parish=colchester-c>  
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**

**SVP (St Vincent de Paul Society): SVP:** If you know of someone who is lonely, housebound or simply in need of a friend, please contact us, using the details below. If you would like to join us, the details of our next meeting are at the back of the church, along with a collection box. Tel: 07493 439427 or email: [colchestersvp@gmail.com](mailto:colchestersvp@gmail.com)