

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER (c)				
Saturday 3 rd	Monkwick	5.00 pm	John & Eugenia Dimech RIP	
Sunday 4 th	Church	8.00 am	Bridie + Mary Markham RIP	
	Church	10.30 am	Parishioners	
	Church	2.00 pm	Polish Mass	
	Church	4.00 pm	Filipino Mass	
	Church	6.30 pm	Pope Francis RIP	
	West Mersea	8.30 am	Ian Maynard RIP	
	Mile End	9.30 am	Private Intention	
Monday 5 th			Monday after Third Sunday of Easter	
	Church	9.30 am	Frederick, Elizabeth + Angelo Lucas	
Tuesday 6 th			St John Payne, Pr, M	
	Church	9.30 am	Thanksgiving (DP)	
Wednesday 7 th			Wednesday after Third Sunday of Easter	
	Church	9.30 am	Wedding Anniversary	
Thursday 8 th			Thursday after Third Sunday of Easter	
	Church	9.30 am	Maria Latacz RIP	
Friday 9 th			Friday after Third Sunday of Easter	
	Church	9.30 am	Chachy Joseph RIP	
Saturday 10 th			Saturday after Third Sunday of Easter	
	Church	9.30 am	Jacob Thomas + Mary Jacob RIP	
FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER (c) World Day of Prayer for Vocations				
Saturday 10 th	Monkwick	5.00 pm	Private Intention (S.F)	
Sunday 11 th	Church	8.00 am	Athene Jones RIP	
	Church	10.30 am	Harry Calvert RIP	
	Church	2.00 pm	Polish Mass	
	Church	6.30 pm	Private Intention	
	West Mersea	8.30 am	Private Intention	
	Mile End	9.30 am	Parishioners	
<div><div><div>❖</div><div>For Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals, please email or contact our parish office.</div></div><div><div>❖</div><div>Baptism Godparents: 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.</div></div><div><div>❖</div><div>Marriage Preparation: Please be aware that <u>6 months' notice</u> of intention for Marriage is required especially if marrying outside the Parish. Thank you.</div></div><div><div>❖</div><div>Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) Saturdays after 9.30am Mass (Priory Street) to 10.30am; after 5.00pm Mass at Monkwick; And by appointment.</div></div><div><div>❖</div><div>Church Loop System: Please note that the Church loop system serves all the seats in the centre Nave but not the aisles or the chancel.</div></div><div><div>❖</div><div>Mass Intentions. Envelopes are available in Church Porch; Suggested Stipend £10 a mass.</div></div></div>				
<div><div><div>➤</div><div>Cardinal Bourne Hall Enquiries/Bookings: colchester@brcdt.org</div></div><div><div>➤</div><div>SVP (St Vincent de Paul Society): Tel: 07493 439427/email: colchestersvp@gmail.com</div></div></div>				
<div><div></div><div>CUPPA CLUB: We meet every Thursday from 10.00am to 11.30am in the Hall. SUNDAY COFFEE MORNING after 10.30am Mass in Cardinal Bourne Hall.</div></div>				
<div><div></div><div>Please check out our Facebook page for all the latest Parish/Diocese/Vatican News/ Clergy + Church photos/videos. Please remember to like and follow our page!</div></div>				

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:
Assistant Priest:

Mgr. Christopher Brooks
Fr. Philip Okoli

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St James the Less and St Helen RC Church, Colchester

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER ^(c)

Week Commencing 4th May 2025

One of the most moving moments in the Gospel occurs when Jesus, after breakfast on the shore, turns to Peter and asks: *"Do you love me?"* Not once, but three times. Peter must have felt the weight of his past. He had denied Jesus three times and now he is given the chance to affirm his love. But this is not simply about guilt or shame. It is about healing. Jesus is not trying to accuse Peter of his failure; He is restoring him. Each time Peter says, *"Yes, Lord, you know I love you,"* Jesus responds with a mission: *"feed my lambs... tend my sheep... feed my sheep."* Love for Christ must bear fruit. It must be expressed in care for others. Jesus does not need perfect people. He calls wounded, flawed people like Peter, and like us and asks one thing: Do you love me? If we do, He sends us to serve. Today, let that question echo in your heart. Do you love Him? Then show it — not only in words, but in how you live.

Fr Philip

PLEASE SEE MASS SCHEDULE FOR ALL CHANGES

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
LEGION OF MARY	Fridays (Cardinal Bourne Hall)	at 7.30 pm



THE POPE'S INTENTIONS FOR MAY: *For working conditions.*
Let us pray that through work, each person might find fulfilment, families might be sustained in dignity, and that society might be humanized.

POPE FRANCIS RIP: We continue to pray for the repose of the soul of Pope Francis.

ONLINE BOOK OF CONDOLENCE: The Bishops Conference has set up an online book of condolence for Pope Francis.
<https://popefrancistributes.com/>

CONCLAVE: The cardinals will gather in the Sistine Chapel at the Vatican beginning on 7th May to discern and elect the next pope. We ask the Holy Spirit to be present with them, to illuminate them in their discernment, and to guide them to elect the Vicar of Christ that Our Lord has chosen for us.

MARRIAGE MATTERS: (Acts 5:27-32, 40-41; Revelation 5:11-14; John 21:1-19) *Things change, miracles happen:* Today's Scripture speaks into the heart of our marriage relationship. When Jesus comes into Peter's life and work, just as He comes into ours, things change, 'miracles' happen: He invites, serves and asks profound questions: "*do you love me?*". He challenges: "*feed... look after...*". Peter found forgiveness and a commissioning; so can we when responding to His call: "*follow me*".

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK: We continue to pray for those parishioners we know who are sick and housebound especially Edwina Pastor, Jimmy Clarin J Brian Critchley, Ron & Margaret Griffin, Margaret Hawkins, Valerie Thurston, Grace McCartney, Diana Iven, Mrs. Maureen McKenna, Peter Wyatt, Hilda Morah, Jason Christopher McLean, Nicollas and Adam Campbell-Vencarto. We also pray for all people who are ill or are in need.

† RECENTLY DECEASED: Please pray for the repose of the souls of Anthony George (Tony) Weekes and Michael Christopher (Mick) Lavelle who have both recently passed away. The parish community offers Tony's and Mick's family and friends our condolences and the assurance of our prayers at this most difficult time. Tony's funeral service will be at St Cedds, Mersea on Monday 2nd June at 12.30pm. Mick's funeral service will be at St James the Less & St Helen on Friday 6th June at 1.45pm.

NEXT SECOND COLLECTION: The Fourth Sunday of Easter is known as **Vocations Sunday (Good Shepherd Sunday)** and is marked as the World Day of Prayer for Vocations. The purpose of this day is to fulfil Jesus' instruction to "*Pray the Lord of the harvest to send labourers into his harvest*" (Matthew 9:38). While appreciating all vocations, the Church concentrates her attention on raising up shepherds for God's people - vocations to Holy Orders (the priesthood and diaconate) and to the religious life - while encouraging all who are discerning their vocation to pray more earnestly that they may hear and respond to God's call. There will be a 2nd collection taken for Promotion of Vocations on 11th May 2025.

REPOSITORY: There is a good selection of Rosaries, Mass intention cards and assorted items available for sale in the Repository (church porch).

OUR LADY OF FATIMA: The next Procession is on **Tuesday 13th May at 6.30pm** followed by mass in Polish + Rosary.



2025 Year of Jubilee - Pilgrims of Hope: Pope Francis has declared that 2025 will be a year of Jubilee. A Jubilee happens every 25 years and is a special opportunity for coming closer to Our Lord Jesus Christ. The Church grants special graces called Plenary Indulgences during the Jubilee Year. These graces can be for your own soul or the Holy Souls in purgatory. **Our Lady of Light Church, Clacton on Sea**, has been designated as a Sacred Place of Pilgrimage for the Jubilee Year. Full details of all services are available at: <https://ourladyoflight.uk/>

MARRIAGE & FAMILY LIFE: Bishop Alan will be celebrating the annual Mass of Thanksgiving for Marriage and Family Life in the Cathedral on **Saturday 21st June 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.

ROSARY CRUSADE 2025: The Knights of St Columba will be praying the Rosary at St Joseph's church on Sunday 11th May after 9.30am Mass; and Sunday 18th May at St James the Less & St Helen after 10.30am Mass. All are welcome to join them.

OUR LADY OF WALSINGHAM STATUE: If you would like to host the statue at your home and pray the Rosary for a week. please contact Gemma – Tel: 01206 844751 or email olwstatue2024@gmail.com



WEDNESDAY FILM GROUP: The next screening (*classic musical comedy from the Fifties*) will be on **Wednesday 7th May** commencing at 12.00pm in Cardinal Bourne Hall. All are welcome.

KNIGHTS OF ST JOSEPH: The Knights of St Joseph are a new, modern, and locally based Catholic Fraternal order who will serve as a vital support system within our Parish, undertaking various charitable activities and community services. If you would like to join or find out more information, please see the poster in Church Porch.

THE ACTS OF THE APOSTLES: Throughout the Easter period we read each day in the Liturgy from the Acts of the Apostles. Talks by Fr Adrian Graffy, parish priest of Gidea Park, are available on www.whatgoodnews.org Please go to 'Faith Talks' and scroll down to 'Acts of the Apostles' and 'Paul in Acts'.

BRENTWOOD CATHOLIC YOUTH SERVICE – MONTHLY YOUTH MASS: Each month, on the first Thursday, the BCYS invite young people, Youth Groups, Confirmation Groups and School Groups to celebrate Mass together with other young Catholics from all around the Diocese. The evening begins at 6pm with pizza and refreshments in the Parish Hall, followed by around an hour of input before celebrating Mass together at 7:30pm. The whole evening finishes around 8:30pm. There is no need to book and no cost for this - please feel very welcome to come along and simply find out more about the BCYS and what they offer!

A MOMENT OF UNITY & PRAYER FOR PEACE: Tuesday 20th May at 12pm (noon) at Temple Church, Temple, London EC4Y 7BB. There will also be a livestream broadcast with the Co-Cathedral of the Most Holy name in Jerusalem. All are welcome to attend, please register at www.friendsoftheholylanland.org.uk/temple25.

DIOCESE VACANCIES: There are a range of vacancies for staff in our parish schools across the diocese. Please find further information by following this link <https://www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/departments/education/vacancies/school-vacancies/>

GIFT- AID SUBSCRIBERS: Please collect your new box sets from the church porch.

CHURCH CLEANING TEAM: Monday 05/05/25: **Team 3** / Monday 12/05/25: **Team 4**
COFFEE MORNING ROTA: 04/05/25: Matthew + Mariamma / 11/05/25: African Community