

# ST. JAMES THE LESS AND ST. HELEN

CATHOLIC CHURCH, COLCHESTER

WITH MERSEA, MILE END AND MONKWICK

1 PARISH, 4 CHURCHES, 1 COMMUNITY



Parish Priest:  
Assistant Priest:

Mgr. Christopher Brooks  
Fr. Paschal Uche

**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 OF ADVENT (A)			
<b>Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup></b>	<i>Monkwick</i>	5.00 pm	Eugene Horgan RIP
<b>Sunday 4<sup>th</sup></b>	<i>Church</i>	8.00 am	Maureen O'Connell RIP
	<i>Church</i>	10.30 am	Parishioners
	<i>Church</i>	2.00 pm	Polish Mass
	<i>Church</i>	4.00 pm	Filipino Mass
	<i>Church</i>	5.30 pm	Exposition; 6.00pm Evening Prayer +Benediction
	<i>Church</i>	6.30 pm	Martyn Tawn RIP
	<i>West Mersea</i>	8.30 am	William Healy RIP
	<i>Mile End</i>	9.30 am	Private Intention
<b>Monday 5<sup>th</sup></b>			<b>Feria</b>
	<i>Church</i>	9.30 am	Anne Sears RIP
	<i>Church</i>	12.30 pm	<b>Funeral Mass:</b> Monique Buckingham RIP
<b>Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup></b>			<b>Feria</b>
	<i>Church</i>	9.30 am	Mr. MJM Thalanany
<b>Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup></b>			<b>St Ambrose, Bp, D</b>
	<i>Church</i>	9.30 am	Giovanni Mandonico RIP
	<i>Church</i>	10.30 am	<b>Funeral Mass:</b> Violet Dorothy Golding RIP
<b>Thursday 8<sup>th</sup></b>			<b>THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY</b>
	<i>Church</i>	* 8.00 am	Giuseppe Caldera RIP
<b>Friday 9<sup>th</sup></b>			<b>Feria</b>
	<i>Church</i>	9.30 am	Canon Anthony McKentey RIP
<b>Saturday 10<sup>th</sup></b>			<b>Memorial of the Blessed Virgin Mary</b>
	<i>Church</i>	9.30 am	Thomas Frank Harrison
<b>THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT (A)</b> <span style="background-color: #f0f0f0;">'Gaudete' Sunday</span>			
<b>Saturday 10<sup>th</sup></b>	<i>Monkwick</i>	5.00 pm	Margaret Hicks RIP
<b>Sunday 11<sup>th</sup></b>	<i>Church</i>	8.00 am	Maureen O'Connell RIP
	<i>Church</i>	10.30 am	Michael + Ellen Kate Conlon RIP
	<i>Church</i>	2.00 pm	Polish Mass
	<i>Church</i>	5.30 pm	Exposition; 6.00pm Evening Prayer +Benediction
	<i>Church</i>	6.30 pm	Private Intention
	<i>West Mersea</i>	8.30 am	Holy Souls
	<i>Mile End</i>	9.30 am	Parishioners



**SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT (A)**

Week commencing 4<sup>th</sup> December 2022

This Sunday's readings have a lot to say about justice. One aspect of justice, or better injustice, which seems to endure is the inequality between rich and poor. The Popes have written much about this and tried to take practical steps, encouraging the faithful to do so as well. One fundamental consideration is that every human being is made in the image and likeness of God, especially in their immortal soul. This can be seen as the foundation of human dignity, though marred by sin. Hence, every person can justifiably expect food, clothing, shelter and also dignified work and a reasonable education. We live in a relatively rich country and one associated danger we all face, myself included, is basing our expectations of a standard of living on that wealth e.g. for many years a TV has been considered an essential item in the UK. A huge topic of course, I've left a lot unsaid.

Fr. Chris

- ❖ 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).

**\* PLEASE NOTE MASS ON THURSDAY MORNING WILL BE AT 8.00AM AND NOT 9.30AM**



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

**PLEASE SEE MASS SCHEDULE FOR ALL CHANGES**

<b>DAILY (Mon-Fri)</b>	Rosary/Divine Mercy	<b>at 8.45 am</b>
<b>DAILY</b>	Morning Prayer	<b>at 9.15 am</b>
<b>CHRISTIAN MEDITATION</b>	Wednesdays (Cardinal Bourne Hall)	<b>at 8.00 pm</b>
<b>ADORATION &amp; PRAYER</b>	Thursdays	<b>at 7.30 pm</b>

**We pray for the people of Ukraine, for peace and the laying down of weapons.**



**THE POPE'S INTENTIONS FOR DECEMBER: Volunteer Not-for-Profit Organizations.** We pray that volunteer non-profit organizations committed to human development find people dedicated to the common good and ceaselessly seek out new paths to international cooperation.

**ADVENT EVENING PRAYER:** Each Sunday Evening of Advent (04/12/22 + 11/12/22 + 18/12/22) at St James the Less & St Helen we will be holding Exposition at 5.30pm, Evening Prayer at 6.00pm followed by Benediction. This is a chance to spend a short while each week in stillness, contemplation, and community.

**MARRIAGE MATTERS:** (Isaiah 11:1-10 Romans 15:4-9 Matthew 3:1-12) **Advent – a new beginning for us?** Today, Isaiah talks about trust and Matthew focuses on forgiveness. Advent is the opportunity to discover new ways to help our partner to trust us and to share themselves. Our prayer can be that we drop our defences, become more vulnerable and have the courage to open ourselves to be able to really listen, to share and to change.

**PRAYERS FOR THE SICK:** We continue to pray for those parishioners we know who are sick and housebound especially Ron Griffin, Mike Taylor, Darline + Peter Wyatt, Elizabeth Pace, Hilda Morah, Nicollas and Adam Campbell-Vencarto, Jim Lynas, Maureen R. We continue to pray for all persons who are ill or are in need and for those who have recently died.

**CANON ANTHONY MCKENTY RIP:** The 9<sup>th</sup> December is the 5<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Fr Anthony (Tony) McKenty, Parish Priest of St James the Less and St Helen (2009-2017). Hear with favor our prayers, which we humbly offer, O Lord, for the salvation of the soul of Fr Tony, your servant and Priest that he, who devoted a faithful ministry to your name, may rejoice in the perpetual company of your Saints.

**FIRST HOLY COMMUNION CHILDREN RE CHRISTMAS NATIVITY MASS:** We always do the nativity at the 6.00pm mass on Christmas eve and it's done by the children who made or are making their first holy communion this year. It would be lovely to have as many of you as possible, to act and to read. The first meeting will be held after the 10.30am mass on Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> December in Cardinal Bourne Hall. If your child is interested, could you drop me an email to [stressedclaire45@gmail.com](mailto:stressedclaire45@gmail.com), so I have some idea of numbers. Thank you.

**FIRST HOLY COMMUNION – SPRING 2023 :** The next First Holy Communion classes will start in the spring term 2023. Please send the following information to [fncstjamescolchester@gmail.com](mailto:fncstjamescolchester@gmail.com) to register your interest.

♦ Child's Name	♦ Name of School Attended
♦ Parents' Name(s)	♦ School Year Group

You will be contacted via email with further information. Thank you.

**BRENTWOOD DIOCESAN DIRECTORY 2023:** available at £2.95 per book. Please leave money in Repository box on wall in Church Porch. Thank you.

**REPOSITORY:** Christmas Cards, Diaries & Calendars are now available for sale in the Church Porch. All monies to go in Repository Box.

**SAVE THE DATE! CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION ON SATURDAY 17<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2022**

**IN CARDINAL BOURNE HALL** from 11am to 3.30pm. There will be lots to see and do; Christmas Card making for children, Fr Christmas, Hot Chestnut Stall, Baked good stalls, Bar & Gift Tombolas, Tabletop sale (£10 per table – book early to reserve your table!) Raffle, Refreshments will be served (*Tea, Coffee, Soft Drinks, and Mulled Wine*), assorted live and recorded music, All Day Breakfast & Baked potatoes in Crypt. From 4-5.30pm Children's film – from 6-8pm Carol Service in Church. **We would be grateful for any donations which will be collected on the following dates: -**

**13/11/22: (Drinks Tombola/Raffle)** Bottles of wine, spirits, beer, soft drinks, cans etc.,  
**20/11/22:** Unwanted gifts, new toiletries, Scarves, Perfume, Trinkets  
**27/11/22:** Non perishable goods suitable for hamper, cakes, biscuits, chocolates, Sweets  
**04/12/22:** Gifts for Raffle

**ST. THOMAS MORE SCHOOL [ADMISSIONS FOR 2023/2024]:** (Local Authority Closing Date 15/01/23). The signing of the **"Certificate of Catholic Practice"** forms will take place in the Church Crypt/Presbytery on the following dates: -

**Friday 16/12/22 at 10.30am-11.30am (Pres) | Thursday 12/01/23 at 4.30pm-5.30pm (Crypt)**

There is no need to make an appointment as parents/guardians and the child (with Baptism Certificate) applying to St Thomas, will be seen on a 1<sup>st</sup> come, 1<sup>st</sup> served basis.

**SVP CUPPA CLUB:** This takes place every Thursday. The SVP will be having a **CHRISTMAS SPECIAL** on **Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> December 10am to 12.30pm**. Please bring a dish if you like. Mulled drinks, snacks, music etc.

**FILIPINO SIMBANG GABI MASSES:** These will take place on the following dates at 8pm: Friday 16<sup>th</sup> Dec (Mile End), Monday 19<sup>th</sup> Dec and Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> Dec at Priory Street.

**POLISH ADVENT MASSES (Rorate):** These will take place on Thursdays at 6.30pm on the following dates: - 1<sup>st</sup> December, 15<sup>th</sup> December and 22<sup>nd</sup> December.

**LOST & FOUND PROPERTY BOX:** Are you missing anything?? Please check if it has been left in the *lost & found* property box in church porch. Any items not collected before Christmas will be donated to those in need. Thank you.

**THE CANONESSES OF THE HOLY SEPULCHRE:** The Trustees of the Charity are looking for a part-time Nurse who will work either for a full day every Tuesday or on Tuesday mornings only. The post will be based at Howe Close in Colchester and their role will be to offer health advice and support to a Community of 11 older Religious Sisters. For more info & to request an application form email [crssuk@canonesses.co.uk](mailto:crssuk@canonesses.co.uk) closing date 20/12/22. Shortlisting will be on the 01/01/23 & interviews on 11/01/23.

**FREE JESSE TREE BOOKLET FOR FAMILIES:** The Jesse Tree is a wonderful resource for families to prepare for Christmas during Advent, telling the story of God's unfolding plan of salvation through the ancestors of Jesus Christ. A free, printable Jesse Tree booklet containing daily short scripture passages, simple reflections and prayers, as well as tree ornaments are available for all families in the Diocese of Brentwood by following this link: [www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/departments/marriage-family-life/family-life/](http://www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/departments/marriage-family-life/family-life/)

**PILGRIMAGE TO MEDJUGORGE:** St Teresa of Lisieux, Lixden have organised a Pilgrimage to Medjugorge 4<sup>th</sup> May 2023 (7 Nights). There are several places still available for details, please see poster in church porch or on our Facebook page.

- **Cardinal Bourne Hall Enquiries/Bookings:** [colchester@dioceseofbrentwood.org](mailto:colchester@dioceseofbrentwood.org)
- **SVP (St Vincent de Paul Society):** Tel: 07493 439427/email: [colchestersvp@gmail.com](mailto:colchestersvp@gmail.com)

**CHURCH CLEANING TEAM:** Monday 12/12/22: **Team 2** / Monday 19/12/22: **Team 3**  
**CBH COFFEE MORNING:** 04/12/22: **African Community/** 11/12/22: **Diane + Adrian**