

THIRTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A)

Saturday 4th	<i>Monkwick</i>	5.00 pm	November Dead List
Sunday 5th	<i>Church</i>	8.00 am	Bridget Joyce RIP
	<i>Church</i>	10.30 am	Ann Bridget Lambourn RIP
	<i>Church</i>	2.00 pm	Polish Mass
	<i>Church</i>	4.00 pm	Filipino Mass
	<i>Church</i>	6.30 pm	Private Intention
	<i>West Mersea</i>	8.30 am	Parishioners
	<i>Mile End</i>	9.30 am	Ints: Yadi Khodverdi

Monday 6th			Feria
	<i>Church</i>	9.30 am	Ints: Mr Aubrey Patrick Lyons

Tuesday 7th			Feria
	<i>Church</i>	9.30 am	John Smallwood RIP

Wednesday 8th			Feria
	<i>Church</i>	9.30 am	Deceased Relatives of the Betts Family

Thursday 9th			DEDICATION OF THE LATERAN BASILICA
	<i>Church</i>	9.30 am	Linda RIP

Friday 10th			St Leo the Great, P, D
	<i>Church</i>	9.30 am	Holy Souls (M.T)

Saturday 11th			St Martin of Tours, Bp
	<i>Church</i>	9.30 am	John + Olive Crawford RIP

THIRTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A) Remembrance Sunday

Saturday 11th	<i>Monkwick</i>	5.00 pm	November Dead List
Sunday 12th	<i>Church</i>	8.00 am	Mary Jose Vadakepeedika RIP
	<i>Church</i>	10.30 am	Ints: Marion Jomy
	<i>Church</i>	2.00 pm	Polish Mass
	<i>Church</i>	6.30 pm	Private Intention
	<i>West Mersea</i>	8.30 am	Parishioners
	<i>Mile End</i>	9.30 am	Michael + Bridget Brady RIP

- ❖ 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).
- ❖ For Sacrament of First Holy Communion. Please see poster in Church porch for details.
- ❖ Mass Intentions. Envelopes are available in Church Porch and are situated either side of Church entrance, A suggested minimum stipend is £10 per Mass.
- ❖ Colchester General Hospital: If you would like to arrange for a priest to visit a Catholic relative in hospital, please contact the presbytery direct on (01206 866317).

SUNDAY COFFEE MORNING: Anyone who has half-an-hour to spare after Mass is most welcome to stay for coffee and biscuits after 10.30am Mass on Sundays. All welcome.

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

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

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. Philip Okoli

Address: 51 Priory Street, Colchester, Essex, CO1 2QB

Tel: 01206 866317

E-Mail : colchester@brcdt.org

Website: www.stjamesthelessandsthelen.org



St James the Less and St Helen RC Church, Colchester

THIRTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A)

World Day of the Poor

Week Commencing 5th November 2023



The first reading this Sunday, from Malachi, doesn't pull punches. The Lord, speaking through the prophet, castigates the priests in Jerusalem who were slow in rebuilding the temple and therefore reinstating worship of God. What about priests today in the Catholic church? A parish is a juridical person, that is, treated at law as being a person with corresponding rights and duties; the parish priest is the flesh-and-blood person who acts on behalf of the juridical person. I am reminded here of the title taken by one of the greatest Popes in history, Pope St. Gregory the Great, who described himself as, 'Servant of the servants of God' (a title taken by most Popes since), where the 'servants of God' are of course the laity. Parish priests need to avoid behaving in the opposite way, treating the parishioners as their servants, otherwise Malachi's words will apply to them also.

Fr. Chris

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



THE POPE'S INTENTIONS FOR NOVEMBER: *For the Pope.* We pray for the Holy Father; as he fulfills his mission, may he continue to accompany the flock entrusted to him, with the help of the Holy Spirit.

PRAYER FOR PEACE IN PALESTINE, ISRAEL & UKRAINE. We pray for the people of all worn torn countries, for all those suffering or afraid, that you will be close to them and protect them. We pray for world leaders, for compassion, strength, and wisdom to guide their choices and for the laying down of all weapons.



† NOVEMBER IS THE MONTH OF HOLY SOULS. During this month, prayers and Masses are said for the Faithful Departed. *November Altar Lists of dead & Envelopes* are available in the Church Porch. Please put the names of your deceased family and friends on the list and place this in the envelope along with your donation and either hand the envelope to a priest or drop the envelope through the presbytery letterbox.

MARRIAGE MATTERS: (Mal 1:14 – 2:2, 8-10 1 Thess 2:7-9, 13 Matt 23:1-12) ***Do we both work hard and devotedly?*** We cannot avoid being challenged by the devotion, protection and love given to the followers of Jesus by St Paul and his companions. Can we say with equal certainty that in living our vows and commitments, we work as hard and devotedly? Yet this is what we married couples are called to strive for in our relationship with each other.

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK: We continue to pray for those parishioners we know who are sick and housebound especially Margaret Brookes, Diana Irvén, Mrs. Maureen McKenna, Joyce Wrobel, Ron & Margaret Griffin, Peter Wyatt, Elizabeth Pace, Jason McLean, Hilda Morah, Nicollas and Adam Campbell-Vencarto, Maureen R. We continue to pray for all persons who are ill or are in need.

2nd COLLECTION: After all Masses this weekend there will be a 2nd collection taken for World Day of the Poor. This year's theme is ***"Do not turn your face away from any of the poor, and God's face will not be turned away from you."*** (As per previous years we will split the proceeds of this collection between the SVP & Josie's Kitchen, both of whom play such a vital role in our Parish with assisting those in need).

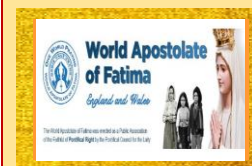
ST. THOMAS MORE SCHOOL [ADMISSIONS FOR 2024/2025]: (Local Authority Closing Date 15/01/24). The signing of the ***"Certificate of Catholic Practice"*** forms will take place in the Church Crypt on the following dates: -

Saturday 04/11/23 at 11.15am-12.15pm	Thursday 30/11/23 at 3.15pm-4.15pm
Saturday 09/12/23 at 11.15am-12.15pm	Monday 11/12/23 at 3.15pm -4.15pm

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 1st come, 1st served basis.

REFRESH YOUR PRAYER LIFE: Session 3: Devotional Prayer- the Rosary (Jane Fleetwood). Please come and hear Jane, share your experience of this prayer and participate in the discussion - Saturday 11th November at 3.00pm in Cardinal Bourne Hall. All Welcome.

DAY OF MERCY: On **Friday 8th December 2023**, the Church will be open all day with Mass at 9.30am followed by Exposition & Confession all day; to finish with Benediction at 9.00pm. Please do try to attend at some point during the day.



NATIONAL PILGRIM VIRGIN STATUE (NPVS) OF OUR LADY OF FATIMA AND RELICS OF SAINTS JACINTA & FRANCISCO: On 13 October 1917, God worked a spectacular miracle of the sun in Fatima, Portugal to prove that our Blessed Lady was appearing to the three little shepherd children, Jacinta, Francisco and Lucia, with an important message for our time. This miracle was witnessed by some 70,000 people including government officials and newspaper reporters, all of whom testified that it actually happened. **On 11th + 12th NOVEMBER 2023 the World Apostolate of Fatima, England and Wales is bringing the National Pilgrim Virgin Statue to our Parish**, as approved by Bishop Alan. This beautiful statue of Our Lady of Fatima was blessed by Pope St Paul VI and given to our country by the Bishop of Fatima in 1968 to commemorate the Golden Jubilee of the apparitions and to make known the important message of Fatima. Pope St John Paul II said the Fatima message *"is the true Gospel of Christ presented anew to our generation... Let us receive the light that comes from Fatima, let us be guided by Mary."* All are invited and encouraged to come and see this beautiful National Pilgrim Virgin Statue of Our Lady of Fatima, with the Relics of Saints Jacinta and Francisco.

REPOSITORY: The Repository now has a selection of boxed sets and single Christmas Cards & 2024 Diaries available for sale in the Church Porch along with a new selection of Mass Intention cards. All monies to go into Repository Box. Thank you.

SAVE THE DATE! CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION ON SATURDAY 2nd DECEMBER 2023 in Cardinal Bourne Hall from 11.00am to 3.00pm. There will be lots to see and do. Please see poster in church porch and on facebook. All Welcome!

JOSIE'S KITCHEN: Josie is looking for donations of various items to make her care packages for the Homeless at Christmas. If you can spare any of the following items: - shower gels, shampoo, deodorants, toothpaste, razors, shaving foam, Cup-a-soups, sachets of coffee drinks, hot chocolate, long life milk. Tins of ready meals e.g. Chilli-con-carne, casserole, minced beef, tinned potatoes, tinned puddings, crisps, biscuits, small multipack snacks. These items make a big difference to their lives and show them that they are cared for in our community. Please drop your Donations into the Presbytery. Thank you for your continued generosity and support.

ST JOHN PAYNE ART EXHIBITION: (Church Hall, Blackthorn Avenue, CO4 3QD). Please join us on Saturday 18th November from 12.30pm for an exhibition of our work with a chance to buy paintings, cards, candles, decorations etc. Free refreshments will be served. We look forward to seeing you!



CUPPA CLUB: We meet **every Thursday from 10.00am to 11.30am** in the Hall.

KSC CHRISTMAS FOOD DRIVE: Christmas is a busy time of year for everyone – particularly for those most in need. This year we are asking for your help to spread a little joy, by donating Christmas food items & Advent Calendars for the Colchester Foodbank. Please bring your donation to your regular Mass on the 18th & 19th of November and leave them at the back of the Church. The KSC will then collect and get them to the Foodbank and community larders in the city to help those most in need.

TREE OF ANGELS (BCCS): This November, Brentwood Catholic Children's Society is pleased to re-launch their virtual **Tree of Angels**, which will allow you to light up a symbolic angel on a virtual Christmas tree in memory of a loved one who has died while donating to the work of BCCS. <https://www.bccs.org.uk/christmas/tree-angels/>

CHURCH CLEANING TEAM: Thursday 09/11/23: Team 1 / Monday 13/11/23: Team 2
COFFEE MORNING: 05/11/23: Matthew & Mariamma /12/11/23: African Community