

ST. JAMES THE LESS AND ST. HELEN CATHOLIC CHURCH, COLCHESTER

With MERSEA, MILE END AND MONKWICK



St. James the Less & St. Helen

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TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD [A]

Saturday August 5 th	6:15 pm	Intentions: Virgilio Family
Sunday August 6 th	8:00 am	Intentions of Andrew
	10:30 am	Parishioners
	2:00 pm	Polish Mass
	4:00 pm	Filipino Mass
	6:30 pm	Melody Jeantet RIP
West Mersea	8:30 am	Holy Souls RIP
Mile End	9:15 am	John Kidney RIP
Monkwick	10:15 am	Lesley Hawken RIP

Monday 7th **Feria**
Church 9:30 am Ints: Tom and Annika Gilmore

Tuesday 8th **St Dominic, Pr**
Church 9:30 am Frederick, Elizabeth & Angelo Lucas RIP

Wednesday 9th **ST TERESA BENEDICTA OF THE CROSS, V,M.**
Church 12:15 pm Andrea L'Esperance RIP

Thursday 10th **ST LAWRENCE, DEACON, M Feast**
Church 9:30 am Mary McGinley RIP
Church 11:00 am **REQUIEM – Kasia Mosconi RIP**

Friday 11th **St Clare, V**
Church 9:30 am Ints: Noellette L'Esperance

Saturday 12th **Feria**
Church 9:30 am Ronnie Hammond RIP [FOP]

NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME [A]

Saturday August 12 th	6:15 pm	Derek Harvey RIP
Sunday August 13 th	8:00 am	D/Rels: O'Grady Family RIP
	10:30 am	Netta Caldeira RIP
	2:00 pm	Fatima Procession/Polish Mass
	6:30 pm	Gwen Russell RIP
West Mersea	8:30 am	Parishioners
Mile End	9:15 am	Holy Souls RIP
Monkwick	10:15 am	D/Rels: Wright/Wrobel Families RIP

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: Saturday 9:45-10:30am; 5:30-6pm
SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE: At least six months notice is required

TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD [A]

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Dear friends

In my priestly religious journey, I encounter a lot of ups and downs. Many times I find myself at the point of telling you "fool"; why stay, better go home and find a job and build your own home or even a family. These are the moments when I am really struggling to meet the demands of seminary and religious life. But I was reminded by a friend and he exclaimed to me once, "remember your first days in the seminary". I stop and think and told myself yes those were my glorious days indeed.

But as my days go on turning into months and years, I still go back to that day when for the first time I stood at the gate of the seminary, to remind me of my glorious days full of happiness and contentment. And this makes me feel alright.

In the Gospel today, Jesus allows Peter, James and John to have a glorious moment. Something that they never forgot as long as they lived. Jesus, showed them that in him the prophesy of Elijah and the law of Moses was fulfilled. He did this before their eyes, not to attract and have more disciples, but to give them hope for the glorious moment at the end of their journey. Why? Because we know that the road Jesus is leading them to travel is not the easy one. He knew that this experience for them as disciples would never be a bed of roses but a lasting journey of faith, especially when one is in the here and now.

My first days in the seminary were like a honeymoon. People were nice, the food good; I study, eat, play and have a bit of house cleaning. Unfortunately that was just on the first phase....many more came thereafter, and the rest is history.

Yes, all of these faded away, but my friends when I look back to what I promised myself the moment I entered the gate of the seminary, I said "this is it". That is why I kept that in my heart until now. A promise I need to honour and keep forever.

Lastly, you too can experience the same in whatever walk of life you are in. Just remember, everything is temporary on this earth; our glorious days are still to come. Keep your faith alive.

Indeed, life is short, and very often Christians are surrounded by the darkness of sorrow and sufferings but never give up. We are promised by Jesus of the glorious days to come if we remain with him. Amen.

Fr Alex, rcj

Please see Mass Schedule for ALL changes

SUNDAYS: Divine Mercy and Rosary Following 8am Mass
CHRISTIAN MEDITATION Tuesdays – Crypt 8:00pm
DAILY: Morning Prayer 8:30am; Rosary/Divine Mercy 8:50am
FILMS FOR FAITH: Please see below

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK: Please remember in your prayers; Percy Abrahams, John Ashdown-Hill, Pat Banks, Frank Campbell, Nicollas and Adam Campbell-Vencarto, Vicky Culham, Cosette Devaux, John Disley, Margaret Doorish, Margaret Griffin, Jim Harvey, John Harvey, Jan Holden, Julie Jefferies, Pat Keene, Roger Kemp, Marie Kent, Patrick King, Peter Ledgley, Nathanael Lee, Joanne Leon, Doreen Lowe, Marie Lyons, Canon Anthony McKentey, Jean Mansell, Mary-Ann Martin, Cara Maude, David Merryman, Byron Miller, Amadine Morgan, Margaret Norman, Charles Norman, Anne Renwick, Leah Patterson, Ronald Quijano, Maureen Sheeran, Christine Staines, Filomena Velasquez, Mary Wallace, Brea Ward, Patricia Wiltshire, Tony White.

THANKSGIVING MASS FOR FR TONY: This will take place on his last Sunday with us – 10th September at 6:30pm, followed the social get-together in the Hall.

MEETING PRIOR TO FR TONY'S FAREWELL PARTY: Fr Alex will chair this meeting, to include those members of the Parish Council able to attend, on August 12th in the Crypt at 7:30pm.

BAPTISMS THIS WEEKEND: We welcome into the Church through the Sacrament of Baptism **Arthur Nicolls, Alfie Joy and Coral Campbell.** God bless these children and congratulations to their families

RECENTLY DECEASED: Please pray for the repose of the soul of Kasia Mosconi and Irma Knowles who have recently died. May they rest in peace and we pray for the comfort of their bereaved families. Kasia's funeral takes place

here on Thursday at 11am.

STEWARDS OF THE GOSPEL: On Monday a document setting out in draft a vision and strategy to take the Diocese forward will be published at www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/news/ Hard copies to share and read will follow.

THANK YOU: From Margaret Wheeler to all who attended her coffee morning or helped in any way. £225 was raised for Church Funds.

Lourdes, Summer 2017 – turn your computer on, and enjoy the “virtual pilgrimage.” Video clips of 2-10 minutes capture the flavour of the recent Diocesan pilgrimage, You can find these via www.bcys.net or search “Virtual Pilgrimage – Lourdes 2017” on YouTube.

World Youth Day, Panama, January 2019. If you will be in year 12, or aged 17-27, in January 2019, then join the BCYS group travelling to Costa Rica and Panama for an encounter with 2 million young people from all over the world, and the Pope. This is a “once in a lifetime” experience; an amazing opportunity to discover and celebrate faith in Latin America. Visit www.bcys.net or email frdominic@dioceseofbrentwood.org by 15th September 2017.

FATIMA PROCESSION/MASS IN POLISH/ENGLISH: Takes place next Sunday, 13th August, at 2pm.

PARISH FAMILY BARBECUE: On Saturday 19th August from 2:30pm until 5pm. Good food, tea, coffee, soft drinks and a raffle. Entry: Adults £6 and children [5-12 years] £3. Tickets available from Frances and Norah.

FILMS FOR FAITH: On 6th September we start an 8 week Course on the Catholic Faith called “Chosen”. It is designed to deepen our relationship with God. Each session is approximately 90 minutes long and uses DVDs and printed material. All are welcome and refreshments will be provided.

NEXT BAPTISM COURSE: The next baptism Course for newborns up to age six will take place on the 14th and 21st September here in the Crypt from 7:30-9pm. No appointment is necessary but both Sessions must be attended. The dates of the baptisms will be arranged during the Course.

ST BENEDICT'S CATHOLIC COLLEGE: Open Evening Wednesday 27th September 2017. From 6pm – 8:30pm. Visit www.stbenedicts.essex.sch.uk for full details.

PARISH COUNCIL AGM: Will take place on Sunday, October 15th at 7:30pm in the Cardinal Bourne Hall.

CARDINAL BOURNE HALL BOOKINGS: cb.hall@btinternet.com 07758 805263

CHURCH CLEANERS' ROTA: August 10th – Team 1.