

## SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER <sup>(B)</sup>

<b>Saturday 8<sup>th</sup></b>	Church	6.15 pm	Michael + Anne O'Reilly RIP
<b>Sunday 9<sup>th</sup></b>	<i>Live Streamed</i> Church	8.00 am	Parishioners
	Church	10.30 am	Private Intention (M.B)
	Church	2.00 pm	Polish Mass
	Church	6.30 pm	Charlie Horman RIP
	West Mersea	8.30 am	Private Intentions
	Monkwick	10.15 am	Olive Hewitt RIP
<b>Monday 10<sup>th</sup></b>			<b>Feria</b>
<i>Live Streamed</i>	Church	10.00 am	Frederick, Elizabeth + Angelo Lucas
<b>Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup></b>			<b>Feria</b>
	Church	10.00 am	Ints: A. Harley
<b>Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup></b>			<b>St John Houghton, Pr, M</b>
<i>Live Streamed</i>	Church	10.00 am	Noel L'Esperance
	West Mersea	7.30 pm	Patricia Lloyd RIP
<b>Thursday 13<sup>th</sup></b>			<b>THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD</b> HOLYDAY OF OBLIGATION
<i>Live Streamed</i>	Church	10.00 am	Private Intentions (B.J.)
	Church	12.15 pm	V. Rev Canon Joseph Whitfield
	Church	7.30 pm	Michael + Ellen Kate Conlon RIP
<b>Friday 14<sup>th</sup></b>			<b>ST MATTHIAS, Ap</b>
Private Service	Monkwick	9.45 am	<b>FUNERAL MASS:</b> Olive May Hewitt RIP
<i>Live Streamed</i>	Church	10.00 am	Sarah McGloin RIP
<b>Saturday 15<sup>th</sup></b>			<b>Feria</b>
<i>Live Streamed</i>	Church	10.00 am	Dec. Mem/ Zepeda Fario Fam


## SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER <sup>(B)</sup>

<b>Saturday 15<sup>th</sup></b>	Church	6.15 pm	Holy Souls
<b>Sunday 16<sup>th</sup></b>	Church	8.00 am	Private Intention
	Church	10.30 am	Ints: Obiageri Egeolu
	Church	2.00 pm	Polish Mass
	Church	6.30 pm	John Dolamore RIP
	West Mersea	8.30 am	John Dolamore RIP
<i>Live Streamed</i>	Monkwick	10.15 am	Parishioners

**FACEMASKS.** 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 email or 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 STREAM: DAILY MASSES AND A SUNDAY MASS  
(Weekdays 10am, please see Schedule for Sunday Live Stream Mass Time)

 St James the Less and St Helen RC Church, Colchester

# 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

## SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER <sup>(B)</sup>

### WORLD COMMUNICATIONS DAY

Week Commencing 9<sup>th</sup> May 2021

This Sunday St John tells us GOD IS LOVE! Wow! This is beautiful to hear and even better to believe, but what is love? We have a parishioner who regularly knocks on the door for a cup of coffee, after profusely thanking us he then finishes with the words love you Father! But what does he mean? What is love? The Eurodance artist Haddaway 1993 hit song was called what is love. When asked about it he said well "I meant that 'what is love' needs to be defined by everyone by his own definition. It's unique and individual." That sounds nice but truthfully, it says nothing. If love is whatever we make it, then the statement God is love means nothing. So, what is love? St Thomas Aquinas defines it as a choice to will the good of the other for the sake of the other. Not necessarily an action that makes us feel good but a concrete decision that brings about the others good. Not in a cold duty disconnected sense but in a heartfelt and life giving way. God is a personal God he has made a real heartfelt choice for our eternal good. He first loved us and whilst we were still sinners he gave us his best gift, his own life, in and through his Son Jesus Christ. God is actively, concerned for our life, our growth and our eternal good. Our part is to remain in him by keeping his commandments and then his joy will be in us and our joy complete. Let's love Him with our lives. God Bless!!

Fr. Paschal

**PLEASE SEE MASS SCHEDULE FOR ALL CHANGES**

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



**THE POPE'S INTENTIONS FOR MAY: *The World of Finance***

Let us pray that those in charge of finance will work with governments to regulate the financial sphere and protect citizens from its dangers.

**MARRIAGE MATTERS:** (Acts of the Apostles 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48 1 John 4:7-10 15:9-17) ***Called to reflect God's love.*** "Love one another as I have loved you". With these words, Jesus spells out God's plan for marriage. As husband and wife we are called each day to give our lives to each other as completely as we are able. From today let us decide to reflect this 'sign' of God's love to our children, our family and our friends.

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.
- No mingling with other people you do not live with after Mass outside the Church.

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

**GIFT AID ENVELOPES:** available for collection from the Church Porch. Thank you.

**VOLUNTEER CHURCH STEWARDS.** We require a volunteer Steward for Reception into Church 27th May at 4.00<sub>pm</sub>. **Please contact the Presbytery if you are able to assist. Thank you.**

**MERSEA NEWS:** Please use the following links for reserving seats at Mass (right click booking form and open hyperlink) alternatively, links for booking forms are on website under mass times: **Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> May:** [Booking Form](#)

**BIBLE STUDY ON GOSPEL OF ST JOHN** this course ended on Friday.

**FAITH FOR THE FAMILY:** This will be a friendly interactive discussion with Fr Paschal on each Sundays Gospel readings and will start on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> May at 5<sub>pm</sub> (via Zoom) and then every Monday. It would be great if all family members (all ages) could drop by, you don't have to commit to weekly! If interested in participating please email for info and the zoom link [colchester@dioceseofbrentwood.org](mailto:colchester@dioceseofbrentwood.org) We hope to see you there.

**DIOCESAN 2<sup>nd</sup> COLLECTION:** After all Masses this weekend there will be a collection for World Communication Day. The theme for the 2021 celebration is "Come and see: Communicating, encountering people as and where they are". A collection basket will be situated near the exit of the church.

**FIRST HOLY COMMUNION CHILDREN:** Final dates below for last year's candidates to complete their Holy Communion course and make their Holy Communion: -

- **Session 3:** Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> May 2021 from 2-5<sub>pm</sub> in Cardinal Bourne Hall;  
1<sup>st</sup> Holy Communion Mass - Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> June @ 12.30<sub>pm</sub> (Arrival in Church 12.15<sub>pm</sub>)
- **Session 4:** Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> June 2021 from 2-5<sub>pm</sub> in Cardinal Bourne Hall;  
1<sup>st</sup> Holy Communion Mass - Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> June @ 12.30<sub>pm</sub> (Arrival in Church 12.15<sub>pm</sub>)

Please call the Presbytery office On 01206 866317 to reserve your child's place and advise which Session they can attend (first come/first served basis). **Please note that we require volunteers to act as Stewards to assist (this can be Parents). Thank you.**

**SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION:** Last year's candidates will be making their confirmation at 4<sub>pm</sub> on 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2021 and they have been completing the confirmation course via zoom with Fr Paschal at 2<sub>pm</sub> each Saturday. If your child started the course last year and you have not been attended these meetings, please email for info and link [colchester@dioceseofbrentwood.org](mailto:colchester@dioceseofbrentwood.org)

**DIOCESAN VIRTUAL PILGRIMAGE TO WALSINGHAM ( Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> May):** Bishop Alan will lead a virtual pilgrimage from the Basilica of Our Lady of Walsingham, which we can join using the Shrine's live-streaming service via their website [www.walsingham.org.uk](http://www.walsingham.org.uk) or their YouTube channel 'Walsingham Catholic TV'

**POPE FRANCIS** has invited Catholics and 30 Marian Shrines around the world, including the Shrine at Walsingham, to dedicate the month of May to a marathon of prayer for an end to the Covid-19 pandemic. For links to all the shrines and the dates they will be streaming the Rosary please see this link <https://www.vaticannews.va/en/church/news/2021-05/shrines-around-the-world-linked-for-recitation-of-the-rosary.html>

**PARISH FINANCES:** 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 or Parish Maintenance) or in the Donation Basket situated at Church entrance & Exit
- 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. 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**



Please check out our Facebook page for Live Stream Masses and all the latest Parish/Diocese/Vatican news, Clergy/Church photos/videos. Please remember to like & follow our