

ST. JAMES THE LESS AND ST. HELEN

CATHOLIC CHURCH, COLCHESTER

WITH MERSEA, MILE END AND MONKWICK

1 PARISH, 4 CHURCHES, 1 COMMUNITY



Parish Priest:
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Fr. Paschal Uche

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St James the Less and St Helen RC Church, Colchester

SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A)

Week Commencing 12th February 2023

When you think of law what comes to mind? Order, restriction, rules? Perhaps it conjures up images of parents, school, church and governments telling us what to do and what not to do. Perhaps when you think of law there is a suspicion that Law limits our freedom, holds us down and locks us in. If that were the case then Jesus would be the ultimate captor and kill joy for in today's gospel he takes the commandments and raises the stakes to a higher standard. Does Jesus want to frustrate our freedom? Far from being an abductor of our joy, Jesus reveals that the law is like a mirror it shows us not only what we look like spiritually it reveals the root of our sadness and depression. In a word, sin. Jesus is not only the lawgiver showing us reality he is the life giver bestowing on us through prayer and the sacraments grace the remedy for our sin so that we can live a beautiful, joyful and free life in Christ.

Fr. Paschal

SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A)

Sunday 12th	Monkwick	5.00 pm	George-Maria Dimech RIP
	Church	8.00 am	Parishioners
	Church	10.30 am	12 th Anniversary: Oksana Zakhleniuk RIP
	Church	2.00 pm	Polish Mass
	Church	6.30 pm	Mick Rowley RIP
West Mersea		8.30 am	Private Intention
Mile End		9.30 am	Paul Richard Brusola RIP

Monday 13th		Feria	
	Church	9.30 am	C. T. Joseph RIP
Tuesday 14th		SS CYRIL Monk and METHODIUS, Bp	
	Church	9.30 am	Mrs. Margaret Barker RIP
Wednesday 15th		Feria	
	Church	9.30 am	K. M. John RIP
Thursday 16th		Feria	
	Church	9.30 am	Derry Donovan RIP
Friday 17th		Feria	
	Church	9.30 am	Silvino Amora RIP
Saturday 18th		Memorial of the Blessed Virgin Mary	
	Church	9.30 am	Beatrice, Mimi, Percy Ffloyd RIP

SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A) Day for the Unemployed

Sunday 19th	Monkwick	5.00 pm	George Farrell RIP
	Church	8.00 am	Michael Tunstead RIP
	Church	10.30 am	Frederick, Elizabeth + Angelo Lucas
	Church	2.00 pm	Polish Mass
	Church	6.30 pm	Mary Crowe RIP
West Mersea		8.30 am	Parishioners
Mile End		9.30 am	Private Intention

- ❖ 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).
- ❖ Mass Intentions. Envelopes are available in Church Porch and are situated either side of Church entrance, please complete envelope & drop through presbytery door. A suggested minimum stipend is £10 per Mass. The Mass Intention will be published in the newsletter (available on the parish website or via Facebook or collection from Church).
- ❖ 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).

- **Cardinal Bourne Hall Enquiries/Bookings:** colchester@dioceseofbrentwood.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

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
ADORATION & PRAYER	Thursdays	at 7.30 pm



THE POPE'S INTENTIONS FOR FEBRUARY: For parishes

We pray that parishes, placing communion at the centre, may increasingly become communities of faith, fraternity and welcome towards those most in need.



Almighty God, we pray for the people of Turkey and Syria, for the victims, the injured, and all those affected by the devastating earthquake. We pray for first-responders, and all those working tirelessly to rescue survivors from beneath the rubble. May God's peace sustain their efforts. We pray that the God of Life will comfort the grieving families and friends, and give them the strength and courage they need during this very difficult time. May God's love and compassion comfort them. Amen.

MARRIAGE MATTERS: (Ecclesiasticus 15:15-20 1 Cor 2:6-10 Matthew 5:17-37) **Making the right choices.** Choices! How difficult sometimes to make the right choices. What to eat today, how to save money, what clothes to wear, what we or our children need. For Christians, prayer and a set of Christian values influence the choices we make. Why not ask the Lord's help to decide what issue is uppermost for us today and dialogue about it?

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK: We continue to pray for those parishioners we know who are sick and housebound especially Joyce Wrobel, Ron Griffin, 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.

RECENTLY DECEASED: Please pray for the repose of the souls of Mike Taylor & Victoria Vigus who have both recently passed away. The parish community offers their respective family and friends our condolences and the assurance of our prayers at this most difficult time. Mike's funeral service will be at St James the Less & St Helen Church on Monday 27th February at 12 (Noon).

2nd COLLECTION: There will be a 2nd collection taken after all Masses today for Lourdes Sick & Helpers Fund. The proceeds of this collection are used to fund Doctors and Nurses on the pilgrimage, as well as to provide assistance for individuals who are facing financial hardship, especially those who have medical needs.

FLAME 2023: This event will be held on Saturday 4th March 2023 at OVO Arena, Wembley. There are still available tickets and places on the Coach if your teenager is interested in attending the event this year. This year's theme is *Rise up after the pandemic, Rise up as young Catholics, Rise up – as Mary did – for the surprising and beautiful adventure that is our Catholic faith.* Please speak to Fr Paschal for details and to book a place.

MONKWICK NEWS: Thank you to all the Monkwick parishioners who attended the Church Management Committee meeting last week and to all the new volunteers.

PALM CROSSES: We would be grateful if people could bring their old palm crosses back to us. A basket is situated in the Church Porch for collection of these. Thank you.

'WALK WITH ME' Booklets (LENT EDITION): These are available for sale in the church



SAVE THE DATE: St Patricks Day Celebration in Cardinal Bourne Hall on **Saturday 18th March 2023 from 7.30pm-10.30pm.** Details to follow in due course.

CALAIS LIGHT: Could you be a volunteer for the refugee charity **Calais Light**? We're recruiting NEW volunteers to support refugees in two N.Essex bridging hotels. Volunteer activities are open to anyone from chatting with refugees to playing board games, going for local walks, teaching English (spoken & written) and orienting them to life in the UK. **Volunteers can help weekly or fortnightly, to find out more please contact the Lead Volunteer, John Bradley at: johnbradley9255@gmail.com** If you are able to support financially, please donate via the website www.calaislight.com

QUIZ NIGHT (knights of Saint Columba): Taking place at St. Teresa's, Lexden, in the Parish hall. On **Saturday 25th February at 7:15pm for a 7:30pm start.** The finish time is envisaged to be 10pm. There will be refreshments and a raffle. This will be in aid of the KSC charitable causes. Families are more than welcome, with our special "Are you smarter than..." round returning. Tickets are £5 a person. Teams of up to 8. Please contact George Johnson on 07476781885 if you wish to reserve a table in advance.

THE CANONESSES OF THE HOLY SEPULCHRE invite you to join them for a talk by Bishop Guli Francis-Dehqani (Bishop of Chelmsford) entitled 'Listening to God' – an in-person event being held at New Hall School on Tuesday **21 March at 6.30 – 7.30pm.** All welcome. Refreshments from 6pm. For details and to reserve your place please go to: <https://canonesses.co.uk/event/do-you-hear-what-i-hear-listening-to-god/>



SVP CUPPA CLUB: We meet **every Thursday from 10.00am to 11.30am** in the Hall. This is an opportunity to relax and catch up with others from the local community. Why not Pop in or stay for the whole session and enjoy a warm space with a cuppa, biscuits, a chat, companionship, newspapers, puzzles, games & crafts, etc., all available. We are always pleased to see a new face and offer a warm welcome to newcomers!

LITTLE SAINTS TOTS GROUP (Parishioners Mother & Toddler Group): Every Wednesdays 8.50-11am (**Term time only**) in Cardinal Bourne Hall. Come along with your toddlers for them to play in a safe environment whilst parents can enjoy refreshments.

UKRAINIAN EMERGENCY WINTER APPEAL: Ukrainians remain resilient despite the circumstances of the war, but they are in the throes of a harsh winter. For that reason, a new Emergency Winter Appeal was launched to provide food packages for the most vulnerable on the frontlines and in recently liberated regions in East and South Ukraine, which is suffering from a severe humanitarian crisis. The cost of one food parcel, providing enough food for two people for a week costs approximately £16. Each package contains the basics (grains, flour, pasta, meat and fish preserves, oil, canned vegetables, sugar, tea coffee, biscuits, etc.) It is hoped that £160,000 can be raised allow the supply of 10,000 food parcels to those most in need and I ask that you and your parishioners will consider supporting this Emergency Winter Appeal. Funds can be remitted to: **Account Name: Ukrainian Catholic Church Central Fund Account Number: 20927317. Sort Code: 20-92-60** Or by cheques made payable to **Ukrainian Catholic Church** referencing *Winter Appeal* in both cases. The address for cheques is Ukrainian Catholic Church in Great Britain, 22 Binney Street, London, W1K 5BQ

BAPTISM, CONFIRMATION & FIRST HOLY COMMUNION CERTIFICATES: If your child has made these sacraments, Certificates can be collected from Presbytery.

CTS BOOKLETS: There are a good selection of booklets available for sale not loan in the church porch, please leave monies in the CTS box. Thank you.

CHURCH CLEANING TEAM: Monday 13/02/23: **Team 3** / Monday 20/02/23: **Team 4**
CBH COFFEE MORNING: 12/02/23: **Peggy & Anne** / 19/02/23: **Yolande + 1**