

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT (A)

Sunday 12th	<i>Monkwick</i>	5.00 pm	George Farrell RIP
	<i>Church</i>	8.00 am	Michael Delaney RIP
	<i>Church</i>	10.30 am	Phyllis Bannister RIP
	<i>Church</i>	2.00 pm	Polish Mass
	<i>Church</i>	6.30 pm	Parishioners
	<i>West Mersea</i>	8.30 am	Private Intention (M)
	<i>Mile End</i>	9.30 am	Private Intention
Monday 13th			Feria
	<i>Church</i>	9.30 am	Frederick, Elizabeth + Angelo Lucas
Tuesday 14th			Feria
	<i>Church</i>	9.30 am	Angela Roche RIP
	<i>Church</i>	6.30 pm	POLISH STATIONS OF THE CROSS
Wednesday 15th			Feria
	<i>Church</i>	9.30 am	Anniversary: Roman Cavrilor RIP
Thursday 16th			Feria
	<i>Church</i>	9.30 am	Mike Taylor RIP
Friday 17th			SAINT PATRICK, Bp, Patron of Ireland
	<i>Church</i>	9.30 am	Delia Baker RIP
	<i>Church</i>	12.30 pm	STATIONS OF THE CROSS
Saturday 18th			Feria
	<i>Church</i>	9.30 am	Ints: The Cooney Family
FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT (A) 'Laetare' Sunday			
Sunday 19th	<i>Monkwick</i>	5.00 pm	George Farrell RIP
	<i>Church</i>	8.00 am	Parishioners
	<i>Church</i>	10.30 am	Thanksgiving (JJ)
	<i>Church</i>	2.00 pm	Polish Mass
	<i>Church</i>	6.30 pm	Private Intention (AC)
	<i>West Mersea</i>	8.30 am	Private Intention
	<i>Mile End</i>	9.30 am	Private Intention (m)

- ❖ 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).

- **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

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:

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Fr. Paschal Uche

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St James the Less and St Helen RC Church, Colchester



THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT (A)

Week Commencing 12th March 2023

It's a hot day, you have been walking miles, sweating buckets and now your throat and mouth are as parched as the ground beneath your feet, the dehydration is dire what you would do for a cool drink! Thirst is something we have all experienced. It exists both in our bodies and in the depths of our souls. In the today's Gospel the woman at the well encounters Jesus who reminds her that she has a bodily thirst that points to a deeper spiritual thirst. The thirst is deeper than this human well and consequently cannot be filled by any earthly water or wealth. In fact it goes further, as it has been fittingly said, wealth is like sea water the more we have the thirstier we become. The Catechism says that our thirst is real! Jesus first thirsts for us and that the cause of our thirst is a symptom Gods deeper thirst for us. Yes, we can take this thirst to different wells, but ultimately God has put in us a thirst that only he can satisfy. Lent is a time in the desert when we subdue the material thirst for things to awaken the deeper thirst of the spirit for God who alone can satisfy the deepest thirst of our hearts.

Fr. Paschal

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 MARCH: *For Victims Of Abuse*

We pray for those who have suffered harm from members of the Church; may they find within the Church herself a concrete response to their pain and suffering.

MARRIAGE MATTERS: (Exodus 17:3-7 Romans 5:1-2, 5-8 John 4:5-15, 19-26, 39-42) **Find our 'living water'.** Jesus' message to the woman at the well reminds us of His first miracle at Cana where He changed water into wine. Today, He promises us "living water where we will never be thirsty again...a spring inside...welling up to eternal life". When His grace is poured into us, into our marriages, it can overflow, strengthening us, reaching out to others.

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

PARISH MEETING: A meeting will take place **26th March at 2.30pm** in Cardinal Bourne Hall. This meeting is in reference to the Bishops Pastoral Letter (*please click on link to read*) https://www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/wp-content/uploads/2023/02/Pastoral-Letter-for-6th-Sunday-of-Ordinary-Time-11-12-February-2023_.pdf **All are invited** to attend so we can discuss as a Parish how we can work together in partnership in *Shaping our Future*.

LENT DAY OF MERCY: On **Friday 31st March 2023**, the Church will be open all day with Mass at 9.30am; Stations of the Cross at 12.30pm & 7.30pm; Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Confession all Day; Benediction at 8.45pm. Please do try to attend at some point during the day.

REPOSITORY: There is a selection of St Patrick Day cards for sale in Church porch as well as a selection of books on the Season of Lent – All sales money to go in Repository Box.

COLCHESTER YOUTH MASS: We would like to invite all young people to the Colchester Youth Mass on **Thursday 16th March at 5:00pm**. The Mass will be celebrated in the Chapel at St. Benedict's Catholic College in Colchester. The readings, bidding prayers, altar serving and music will all be led by young people, with Fr Paschal celebrating the Mass. Afterwards, there will be free refreshments and an opportunity to meet and socialise with other young people from around the Deanery.

MISSIO MAGAZINES FOR SPRING 2023 are available free in the church porch.

NEW PUBLICATION: Paul Severn, *An Empurpled Son of Freshwater: Bernard Ward, First Bishop of Brentwood*, a booklet published by the Isle of Wight Catholic History Society to mark the Centenary of the Catholic Parish of Totland Bay, Isle of Wight. The Ward family was prominent on the island and this booklet (22 pages, illustrated) tells the story of Rt. Rev. Bernard Ward, the prominent historian, educationalist and the first Bishop of Brentwood. Further details are available from Peter Clarke, 72 Mayfield Road, Ryde, Isle of Wight PO33 3PR e-mail: jow-chs@outlook.com

LENT MASS READINGS: All the readings for the Masses of Lent, with a short commentary by Fr Adrian Graffy, can be found on: www.whatgoodnews.org Click on 'Scripture Readings' and then 'Lent Readings'.



ST PATRICKS DAY CELEBRATION in Cardinal Bourne Hall on **Saturday 18th March 2023 from 7.30pm-10.30pm**. This fun evening will provide a buffet with Vegan & Vegetarian options, tea & coffee (BYO alcohol). Live Entertainment with dancing from the McGann School of Dancing (*back by popular demand*) and music from Steve Williams. Also Singalongs and don't forget to wear your dancing shoes! There will be a prize raffle (*donations accepted*). All nationalities welcome to this fun evening, please book early to assist catering. Tickets £15 per person, Children 5-12yrs - £5.00. To reserve your tickets, please contact Frances 369568 or Nora 503410

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 and enjoy a warm space with a cuppa. We are always pleased to see a new face and offer a warm welcome to newcomers!

THE PRIESTS' CHARITY CONCERT: Brentwood Catholic Children's Society are delighted to announce that the Northern Irish classical singing trio '**The Priests**' have agreed to hold a second charity concert for us on **Friday 30th June 2023** at Brentwood Cathedral at 7.30pm. All tickets can be purchased directly through Eventbrite and are £30 per person plus booking fee: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/528414691567> We expect this to be a sell-out event. Full details are available on our website: www.bccs.org.uk/get-involved/events/

CARITAS Diocese of Brentwood is inviting people from the night of **March 31st 2023 (9pm)** to the morning of April 1st (8:30am), to join this year's **Sponsored Sleepout** in one of our four locations; **Lexden**, Forest Gate, Hornchurch, and Southend. The Sleepout will assist in raising awareness and money to help our local homeless charities and the Brentwood Catholic Youth Service. All info can be found at www.caritasbrentwood.org/sleepout.

BRENTWOOD CATHOLIC CHILDREN'S SOCIETY is inviting parishioners across the Diocese to join in with their annual '**Relay 100**' community event this May and June. This initiative is an opportunity to remind our community about the work we do, to reach families who may need our support and to raise some funds through sponsored walks, runs or cycles. We are looking for 100 individuals or groups to complete a 'leg' of our relay around the diocese; we have routes of varying distances so there is something to suit all abilities. Can you help us? To find out more, please contact Damian Dillon: ddillon@bccs.org.uk / 07912 308000 or visit <https://www.bccs.org.uk/get-involved/events/> and click on 'Relay 100 Sponsored Walks' to read more about this event.

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/>. Alternatively, you can call 07762-965947 to reserve a place.

TURKEY-SYRIA EARTHQUAKE APPEAL: Both Caritas and CAFOD (*In partnership with DEC*) are fundraising to support those who have been affected by the devastating earthquakes. To donate to the appeal, please use this link to support your chosen charity <https://www.caritasbrentwood.org/news/earthquakes/>

UKRAINIAN EMERGENCY WINTER APPEAL: To donate funds **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

CHURCH CLEANING TEAM: Monday 13/03/23: **Team 3** / Monday 20/03/23: **Team 4**
CBH COFFEE MORNING: 12/03/23: **African Community** / 19/03/23: **Diane & Adrian**