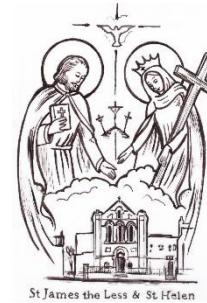


ST. JAMES THE LESS AND ST. HELEN

CATHOLIC CHURCH, COLCHESTER

WITH MERSEA, MILE END AND MONKWICK



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SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER [B]

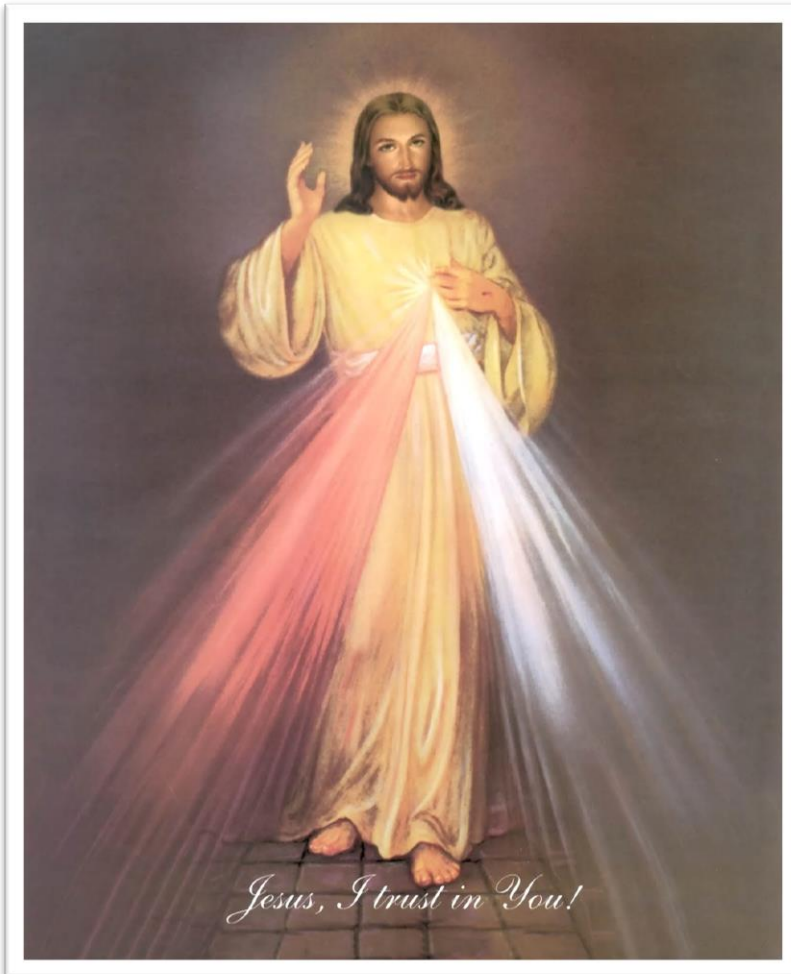
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My dear friends

On 22nd February 1931, Our Lord appeared to a Polish nun called Faustina Kowalska. His right hand was raised in blessing, and with his left hand he touched his white garment just over his heart. "From the opening of the garment at the breast", wrote the sister in her diary, "there came forth two large rays, one red and the other pale". The pale ray, he told her, "stands for water which makes souls righteous", and the red ray "stands for the blood which is the life of souls". These rays, Our Lord told her, issued from the depths of "my most tender mercy at a time when my agonising heart was opened by the lance on the Cross". He asked her to have an image of himself as he had first appeared to her painted, with the inscription: "Jesus, I trust in you".

In the Universal Church, the devotion to the Divine Mercy will always be associated as much with Saint John Paul II as it is with his compatriot Sister Faustina, whom he canonised in the spring of 2000. A few weeks later, Our Lord's request that the Sunday after Easter should be devoted to Divine mercy was finally fulfilled, as the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments decreed that the feast should be kept throughout the world, as "a perennial invitation to the Christian world to face, with confidence in divine benevolence, the difficulties and trials that mankind will experience in the years to come".

It is though the suffering Pope knew, at the turn of the new millennium, how much the world would need this sign. As if to seal this prophetic act, when he died five years later, it was on the vigil of the feast itself. From the eloquent encyclical *Dives in Misericordia*, to his profound charity and understanding of human nature Saint John Paul's life can be said to epitomise the principle at the heart of the devotion. For God wishes us not merely to avail ourselves of his mercy, but to express and pass this on to others. This is not always an easy thing to do, particularly in the face of overwhelming evil. However, as Jesus said to Saint Faustina: "When a soul approaches Me with trust, I fill it with such an abundance of graces that it cannot contain them within itself, but radiates them to other souls."



Please see Mass Schedule for ANY changes

SUNDAYS: Divine Mercy followed by Rosary 3pm
DAILY: Morning Prayer 8:15am; Rosary/Divine Mercy
8:35am
EVENING PRAYER: Fridays at 6pm Church
PRAYER GROUP: Mondays at 7:45pm Crypt
MEDITATION GROUP: Tuesdays at 8pm Crypt
SCRIPTURE GROUP Wednesdays at 10am
Crypt
SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: Saturdays 9:45am – 10:30am and 5:30pm – 6pm

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK: Please remember in your prayers; Pat Banks, June Bickersteth, Grace Blanchette, Frank Campbell, Karl Collins, John & Olive Crawford, Paul Crocker, Lynne-Michelle Denton, Nancy Drummond, Fr Paul Dynan, Charlie George, Bill Graves, Bert Hewitt, Maurice Highfield, David Hill, Ronald Jay, Mary Jose, Pat Keene, Patrick King, John Lawlor, Peter Ledgley, Mirella Leonardi, Doreen Lowe, Marie Lyons, Jean Mansell, Mary-Ann Martin, Cara Maude, Eileen McGee, David Merryman, Byron Miller, Margaret Norman, Charles Norman, Anne Renwick, Leah Patterson, Elaine Proudfoot, Ronald Quijano, Stephen and Sabina Rhatigan, Margaret Scammell, Aimée Stammers, Catherine Spicer, Arthur Urquhart, Brian Baggiony, Filomena Velasquez, Patricia Wiltshire, Tony White, Dorcey Young.

RECENTLY DECEASED: Please pray for the repose of the soul of Lawrence Larkin of Hartlepool. May he rest in peace.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO HAVE YOUR CHILD BAPTISED? The next Baptism course will be Friday May 8th & 15th in the Crypt from 7:30pm – 9pm. There is no need to make an appointment but both sessions must be attended. Entry to the Crypt is via the Church. [This course is for new-borns up to age 6]

EASTER THANKS: To everyone for a beautiful and inspiring celebration of Holy Week & Easter and to all those who helped prepare for it in anyway.

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY: This Sunday April 12th. 2pm Mass in Polish followed by the Divine Mercy Chaplet and Devotions at 3pm approx.

UCM: Spring Chick/Easter Egg Hunt on Sunday 19th April, 2 - 3.30pm by the Café in Castle Park. Activities include Easter Trail, Egg & Spoon race and Egg Rolling. Prize for best Easter Bonnet. £3 per child, £5 per family.

LEAVING GREETING CARDS AT THE BACK OF CHURCH: It is not advisable to leave cards intended for other parishioners at the back of church, as unscrupulous people tend to open them looking for money.

DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO WALSINGHAM: 23rd May. A 16 seat minibus will be leaving East Hill at 8:15am. For more details contact Theresa Higgins on 523 501.

CHURCH CLEANERS: Thursday 16th April – Team 3

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER [B] (Divine Mercy Sunday)

Saturday April 11th	6:15 pm	Ints: Mr & Mrs Mathew
Sunday April 12th	8:00 am	Derek Harvey RIP
	10:30 am	Norah Hewitt RIP [E&IH]
	2:00 pm	POLISH MASS
	5:00 pm	HOLY HOUR
	6:30 pm	Ints: Leo Gildea
<i>West Mersea</i>	8:30 am	Teresa Hogan RIP [MW]
<i>Mile End</i>	9:15 am	Parishioners
<i>Monkwick</i>	10:15 am	Ints: Catherine Spicer
Monday 13th	<i>Feria</i>	
	<i>Church</i>	7:30 am Tim Williamson RIP [GB]
	<i>Church</i>	9:15 am Ints: Schmoll Family
Tuesday 14th	<i>Feria</i>	
	<i>Church</i>	9:30 am Holy Souls RIP
Wednesday 15th	<i>NB Feria</i>	
	<i>Church</i>	12:15 pm Philomena Williams RIP
Thursday 16th	<i>Feria</i>	
	<i>Church</i>	9:15 am Terry Hilton RIP
Friday 17th	<i>Feria</i>	
	<i>Church</i>	9:15 am Frederick, Elizabeth & Angelo Lucas RIP
	<i>Church</i>	6:30 pm Maureen McCarthy RIP [JW]
Saturday 18th	<i>Feria</i>	
	<i>Church</i>	9:15 am Private Intention

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER [B]

Saturday April 18th	6:15 pm	Mary & Bridie Markham RIP
Sunday April 19th	8:00 am	Brian Jackson RIP
	10:30 am	Norah Hewitt RIP [BB]
	4:00 pm	POLISH MASS
	6:30 pm	Tim Williamson RIP [C&DD]
<i>West Mersea</i>	8:30 am	Parishioners
<i>Mile End</i>	9:15 am	Mrs Tess Lane RIP
<i>Monkwick</i>	10:15 am	Joan Rooke RIP

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION *Saturday 9:45-10:30am and 5:30-6:00pm*
SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE *At least six months notice is required*

Cardinal Bourne Hall T: 07758 805263 E: cb.hall@btinternet.com

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