

THIRTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A)			
Remembrance Sunday			
Saturday 11 <sup>th</sup>	Monkwick	5.00 pm	November Dead List
Sunday 12 <sup>th</sup>	Church	8.00 am	Mary Jose Vadakepeedika RIP
	Church	10.30 am	Ints: Marion Jomy
	Church	2.00 pm	Polish Mass
	Church	6.30 pm	Private Intention
	West Mersea	8.30 am	Parishioners
	Mile End	9.30 am	Michael + Bridget Brady RIP

Monday 13 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Feria</b>		
	Church	9.30 am	Frederick, Elizabeth + Angelo Lucas

Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Feria</b>		
	Church	9.30 am	Sidney Finch Castell + Rose Jane Castell

Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Feria</b>		
	Church	9.30 am	Ann de Smith RIP

Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup>	<b>St Edmund of Abingdon (Rich), Bp</b>		
	Church	9.30 am	November Dead List

Friday 17 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Feria</b>		
	Church	9.30 am	Margaretta Wright

Saturday 18 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Memorial of the Blessed Virgin Mary</b>		
	Church	9.30 am	Patrick Casey RIP

THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A)			
Saturday 18 <sup>th</sup>	Monkwick	5.00 pm	George Farrell RIP
Sunday 19 <sup>th</sup>	Church	8.00 am	Gatha Nally RIP
	Church	10.30 am	Parishioners
	Church	2.00 pm	Polish Mass
	Church	6.30 pm	Private Intention
	West Mersea	8.30 am	Rosalie Sutcliffe RIP
	Mile End	9.30 am	Doreen Rebeiro RIP

- ❖ 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).
- ❖ For Sacrament of First Holy Communion. Please see poster in Church porch for details.
- ❖ Mass Intentions. Envelopes are available in Church Porch and are situated either side of Church entrance, A suggested minimum stipend is £10 per Mass.
- ❖ 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).

**SUNDAY COFFEE MORNING:** Anyone who has half-an-hour to spare after Mass is most welcome to stay for coffee and biscuits after 10.30am Mass on Sundays. All welcome.

- **Cardinal Bourne Hall Enquiries/Bookings:** [colchester@brcdt.org](mailto:colchester@brcdt.org)
- **SVP (St Vincent de Paul Society):** Tel: 07493 439427/email: [colchestersvp@gmail.com](mailto: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. Philip Okoli

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St James the Less and St Helen RC Church, Colchester

## THIRTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A)



*Remembrance Sunday*

**Week Commencing 12<sup>th</sup> November 2023**

We hear about the “*Parable of the Ten Virgins*” in the Gospel of today. Five of them are wise and the other five are foolish. Jesus uses the imagery of the ten virgins to convey a deeper spiritual lesson of being prepared. The last Sundays of the church are usually characterized by the Scripture texts about Christ’s Second Coming at the end of the world and our inevitable death and judgment. Today’s Gospel is one of them. Our lives here on earth will not last forever, but we are going to live forever. Our concern should be about where we are going to spend eternity. And so, we have to be as wise as the ten virgins, we have to be intentional about our lives as Christians and be attentive to the meanings of the times.

*Fr. Philip*

**PLEASE SEE MASS SCHEDULE FOR ALL CHANGES**

<b>DAILY (Mon-Fri)</b>	Rosary/Divine Mercy	<b>at 8.45 am</b>
<b>DAILY</b>	Morning Prayer	<b>at 9.15 am</b>
<b>CHRISTIAN MEDITATION</b>	Wednesdays (Cardinal Bourne Hall)	<b>at 8.00 pm</b>



**THE POPE'S INTENTIONS FOR NOVEMBER: *For the Pope.*** We pray for the Holy Father; as he fulfills his mission, may he continue to accompany the flock entrusted to him, with the help of the Holy Spirit.

**PRAYER FOR PEACE IN PALESTINE, ISRAEL & UKRAINE.** We pray for the people of all worn torn countries, for all those suffering or afraid, that you will be close to them and protect them. We pray for world leaders, for compassion, strength, and wisdom to guide their choices and for the laying down of all weapons and the pursuit of peace.



**† NOVEMBER IS THE MONTH OF HOLY SOULS.** During this month, prayers and Masses are said for the Faithful Departed. *November Altar Lists of dead & Envelopes* are available in the Church Porch. Please put the names of your deceased family and friends on the list and place this in the envelope along with your donation and either hand the envelope to a priest or drop the envelope through the presbytery letterbox.

**MARRIAGE MATTERS:** (Wis 6:12-16 1 Thess 4:13-18 Matt 2:1-13) **Always be ready.** Jesus said we must always be ready for His second coming, ready to meet Him. Being 'ready' doesn't mean spending all the time doing religious things. For married couples, being 'ready' means being ready to listen to each other, sharing thoughts and feelings. Keep your 'love tank' full by thinking of ways he or she can be surprised by love.

**PRAYERS FOR THE SICK:** We continue to pray for those parishioners we know who are sick and housebound especially Fr Francis Coveney, Grace McCartney, Margaret Brookes, Diana Irven, Mrs. Maureen McKenna, Joyce Wrobel, Ron & Margaret Griffin, Peter Wyatt, Elizabeth Pace, Jason McLean, Hilda Morah, Nicollas and Adam Campbell-Vencarto, Maureen R. We also pray for all persons who are ill or are in need.

**RECENTLY DECEASED:** Please pray for the repose of the soul of Rosemary Gertrude Gladwell who has recently passed away. The parish community offers Rosemary's family and friends our condolences and the assurance of our prayers at this most difficult time. Rosemary's funeral service will take place at Colchester Crematorium on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> November at 3.15pm.

**REPOSITORY:** The Repository now has a selection of boxed sets and single Christmas Cards & 2024 Diaries and Calendars available for sale in the Church Porch along with a new selection of Mass Intention cards. All monies to go into Repository Box. Thank you.

**ST. THOMAS MORE SCHOOL [ADMISSIONS FOR 2024/2025]:** (Local Authority Closing Date 15/01/24). The signing of the "*Certificate of Catholic Practice*" forms will take place in the Church Crypt on the following dates: -

<b>Thursday 30/11/23 at 3.15pm-4.15pm</b>
<b>Saturday 09/12/23 at 11.15am-12.15pm</b>
<b>Monday 11/12/23 at 3.15pm -4.15pm</b>

There is no need to make an appointment as parents/guardians and the child (with Baptism Certificate) applying to St Thomas, will be seen on a 1<sup>st</sup> come, 1<sup>st</sup> served basis.

**REFRESH YOUR PRAYER LIFE: Session 4: Contemplative Prayer & Praying with Scripture, Valerie Quinlivan.** Please come and hear Valerie, share your experience of this way of praying and participate in the discussion. Sat 18<sup>th</sup> Nov. 3.00pm Cardinal Bourne Hall.

**DAY OF MERCY:** On Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December 2023, the Church will be open all day with Mass at 9.30am followed by Exposition & Confession all day; to finish with Benediction at 9.00pm. Please do try to attend at some point during the day.

**SAVE THE DATE! CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION ON SATURDAY 2<sup>nd</sup> DECEMBER 2023** in Cardinal Bourne Hall from 11.00am to 3.00pm. There will be lots to see and do. Please see poster in church porch and on facebook. All Welcome!

**We would be grateful for any donations which will be collected on the following dates:**  
**12/11/23:** (*Drinks Tombola*) Bottles of wine, spirits, beer, soft drinks, cans etc.,  
**19/11/23:** Unwanted gifts, new toiletries, Scarves, Perfume, Toiletry giftsets, Trinkets  
**26/11/23:** Non perishable goods suitable for hamper, cakes, biscuits, chocolates, Sweets and Gifts for Tombola.

**MAGNIFICAT NOVEMBER EDITION:** There are free copies of November's issue of Magnificat in the church porch, please feel free to take a copy. Magnificat currently have a short term offer: 3 months for £11.25 available at: <https://catholicerald.co.uk/magnificat/>

**JOSIE'S KITCHEN:** Josie is looking for donations of various items to make her care packages for the Homeless at Christmas. If you can spare any of the following items: - shower gels, shampoo, deodorants, razors, shaving foam, Cup-a-soups, sachets of coffee drinks, hot chocolate, long life milk. Tins of ready meals e.g. Chilli-con-carne, casserole, minced beef, tinned potatoes, tinned puddings, crisps, biscuits, small multipack snacks. Josie also needs thermal underwear (vests, tights +leggings). These items make a big difference to their lives and show them that they are cared for in our community. Please drop your donations into the Presbytery. Thank you for your continued generosity and support.

**NEXT DIOCESAN 2<sup>nd</sup> COLLECTION:** There will be a collection taken for World Youth Sunday on 26<sup>th</sup> November.

**ST JOSEPH'S - FLOWER COLLECTION:** There will be a retiring collection for Christmas flowers at St Joseph's over the next two Sundays. The money will go towards decorating the church over the Christmas period. Many thanks in advance for your kind generosity.

**ST JOHN PAYNE ART EXHIBITION:** (Church Hall, Blackthorn Avenue, CO4 3QD). Please join us on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> November from 12.30pm for an exhibition of our work with a chance to buy paintings, cards, candles, decorations etc. Free refreshments will be served. We look forward to seeing you!

**CAFOD ISRAELI-PALESTINIAN CRISIS APPEAL:** Donate to CAFOD's Israeli-Palestinian Crisis Appeal at [cafod.org.uk/ipc](https://cafod.org.uk/ipc) or call 0303 303 3030 to support those affected and get funds to local trusted experts in Gaza and southern Israel who have been working alongside communities helping those most in need. Your donation will help support aid workers providing urgent humanitarian aid including food, water and emergency shelter to those in need. Thank you for your prayers.

**KSC CHRISTMAS FOOD DRIVE:** Christmas is a busy time of year for everyone – particularly for those most in need. This year we are asking for your help to spread a little joy, by donating Christmas food items & Advent Calendars for the Colchester Foodbank. Please bring your donation to your regular Mass on the 18<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup> of November and leave them at the back of the Church. The KSC will then collect and get them to the Foodbank and community larders in the city to help those most in need.

**ECUMENCIAL CHRISTMAS CAROLS** at Chesterwell Co-Op on 8<sup>th</sup> December at 6.30pm Please come and join us, all welcome!

**ADVENT TALK ON THE PROPHET ISAIAH:** In preparation for the beginning of Advent Fr Adrian Graffy, parish priest of Gidea Park and Scripture scholar, will be giving a talk on the Prophet Isaiah at 7pm on Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> November in the parish hall at the Catholic Church of Christ the Eternal High Priest, Gidea Park, RM2 6DH. The talk is free and it will also be live-streamed on [www.whatgoodnews.org](https://www.whatgoodnews.org). No booking necessary

**CHURCH CLEANING TEAM:** Monday 13/11/23: **Team 2** / Monday 20/11/23: **Team 3**  
**COFFEE MORNING:** 12/11/23: **African Community** / 19/11/23: **Diane + Adrian**