

ST. JAMES THE LESS AND ST. HELEN

CATHOLIC CHURCH, COLCHESTER

WITH MERSEA, MILE END AND MONKWICK



YEAR OF FAITH 2012
2013

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THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

Sunday – 13th January 2013

This Sunday's Feast marks the end of the Christmas season. Last week we celebrated the *Epiphany*, the Manifestation of God to the whole world. So why move so quickly to the Baptism of the Son of God, which in time happened three decades later? This Sunday is a *Theophany*. At the Baptism the One God in Three Persons is revealed: the Christ declared by John; the Holy Spirit descending as a dove; and the voice of the Father. Therefore these two feasts are both about God showing Himself. The Christian Faith is not some secret doctrine for the few. Many people in our society have strange and confused ideas about Jesus, truly divine yet fully human. You and I share the task of revealing the Truth of the Gospel to those in darkness. When we do, often gaps in our own knowledge are shown up. Let's resolve in this Year of Faith to put that right. The Truth is a Person. Let's get to know Him!

In the calendar of the Church, Jesus is baptised soon after His birth. May I encourage those to whom God has granted the gift of new life to have your baby baptised as soon as possible? Ante-natal baptismal classes are the best! Yes, Jesus waited thirty years, but then He didn't carry in His soul the weight of Original Sin. Why hold off this great sacrament?

Why was the Sinless One baptised at all? St Maximus gives this answer: "Christ is baptised, not to be made holy by the water, but to make the water holy. ... For when the Saviour is washed, all water for our baptism is made clean, purified at its source for the dispensing of baptismal grace to the people of future ages." May we the baptised thank God for our entry into the Church, made possible by the coming to earth of the Saviour

of the world.

Fr Neil Brett

EVENTS THIS WEEK

Please see *Mass Schedule* for ANY changes

Sunday 13 th	4:00pm	Catholicism Course - Ep 6	Crypt
" "	8:00pm	Ratzinger Reader	Crypt
Wednesday 15 th	6:45pm	Scripture Course	Crypt
Friday 18 th	7:30pm	Catholicism Course - Ep 7	Crypt
Sunday 20 th	5:00pm	Catholicism Course - Ep 7	Crypt

SUNDAYS:	Divine Mercy followed by Rosary	3pm
DAILY:	Morning Prayer 8:15am; Rosary/Divine Mercy	8:35am
PRAYER GROUP:	Mondays at 8pm	Crypt
MEDITATION GROUP:	Tuesdays at 8pm	Crypt

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK (new entries are in bold type): Please remember in your prayers, June Bickersteth, Grace Blanchette, Frank Campbell, Rosaleen Campbell, Ian Cole, Richard Cox, Stanley Crane, Nancy Drummond, Gianni Emoli, Kitty Foley, Charlie George, Maurice Highfield, **Pat Keene**, Maria Mahy, Pat Maloney, Cara Maude, Paula Nash, Dennis O'Neill, Leah Patterson, Elaine Proudfoot, Sabina Rhatigan, Patricia Roche, Catherine Spicer, Filomena Velasquez, Ron Wheeler, Tony White.

RECENTLY DECEASED: Please pray for the repose of the soul of Maria Anzelone and Tony Warren – may they rest in Peace. Mr Warren's Requiem Mass will be Wednesday 16th at 12:15pm with reception into church at 4pm on Tuesday 15th.

WEDNESDAY LUNCHTIME MASS: The 12:30pm Mass this Wednesday 16th, will be replaced by a morning Mass at 10:30am.

CATHOLICISM: Episode 6 will be shown this Sunday 13th at **4pm and not 5pm** as previously advertised. Number 7 will be shown Friday 18th and Sunday 20th.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO GET YOUR CHILD BAPTISED? The next Baptism course will be Thursday 31st January and Thursday 7th February 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].

DOORWAY TO FAITH: The 2nd part of this series of booklets with quotations each day from the Catechism for reflection. The theme of this issue is prayer. Priced £1.

THE RATZINGER READER: Continues this Sunday the 13th January at 8pm with the Parables. Get a copy of *Jesus of Nazareth* and come along!

OCTAVE OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY 18-25th JANUARY: On Sunday 20th January there will be a Unity Service at Castle Street Methodist Church at 6:30pm. All our welcome. Exchange of Pulpits: Fr Taemin Oh from St James the Great will speak at the 10:30am Mass here on the 20th January and Fr Tony will go to St James the Great on Sunday 27th January for the 10am Service there.

2nd COLLECTIONS: The White Flower Appeal, very appropriately, falls today when we think of Christ establishing the sacrament of Baptism. SPUC are stressing the importance of marriage in protecting unborn babies. We know that marriage between a man and a woman is the best place, ordained by God, for children to be brought up. We are less used to thinking that it is also much safer for unborn children. Pray and give generously to defend "real" marriage. Let's also resolve

to help practically those tempted by the pressure of circumstances and people around them to abort their child, especially those unwed.

FILIPINO FAMILY EVENT: Saturday 26th January in the Cardinal Bourne Hall. 7:30pm – 10:30pm. Come and enjoy Filipino food. Adults £6, Children 5-12 £4, under 5's – free. Bring your own drinks. Tea and Coffee also available. Tickets available from Amy and Armando T:854 921. Everybody is welcome.

100 CLUB RECRUITMENT & RENEWALS: Members will have the opportunity to renew their £12 subscriptions for 2013 at Priory St after all Masses this weekend 13th and next weekend 20th January. We hope to pay visits to West Mersea this week - then Monkwick on the 20th and Mile End on the 27th.

PRIORY STREET THEATRE GROUP: present their annual pantomime Sleeping Beauty in the Cardinal Bourne Hall, Priory Street on Friday and Saturday the 18th and 19th January 2013. Friday night doors open 7.00 pm starts 7.30 pm and Saturday Doors open at 2.30 for Matinee at 3.00 and 7.00 pm for 7.30 start. Tickets £5.00 or £2.50 for concessions. For more information please contact Lesley on 01206 512310.

ST THOMAS MORE FORM SIGNING: The school will be sending out the Priest reference forms in January. Fr Tony will be available to sign the forms on Thursday 24th and Friday 25th January from 4pm – 6pm. Please make contact through the church office to book your appointment time. **Please bring completed forms with you - ready to sign**

WINTER RESERVE ACCOMODATION PROJECT: Volunteers are needed to help run our shelter at the Cardinal Bourne Hall for homeless people that the Night shelter doesn't have room for. 23rd – 29th January and 6th – 12th February. Please ring Pernille on 01206 549 885 for more information. Thank you and God Bless.

THE FRIENDS OF PERU: would like to thank everyone who helped and supported this worthy cause during 2012. Our fund-raising events, sales of Peruvian Craft and recycled cards raised £1,860 which has been sent, in total, to The Sisters of Mercy Mission in Peru. Our next event will be The Beetle Drive on 16th February. Details to follow.

MISSIO: In the year 2012, our parish collected £1,407.92p for MISSIO in the red boxes; a very good effort for a good cause. If you wish to have a red box in which to put your offerings to MISSIO – please contact Ron Griffin in person or 01206 571590.

CATHOLIC SINGLES: is an organisation which helps single adult Catholics of all ages meet, either one to one or through social events. Please tel. 0161 941 3498, visit the website www.catholicsingles.org.uk or email info@catholicsingles.org.uk

ROME – EASTER WEEK 2013: Following the success of our trip to Poland last year, we are planning to visit Rome from Monday 1st to Saturday 6th April. Accommodation will be in a Polish centre. Includes daily Holy Mass and the veneration of a relic of the True Cross, climbing the Scala Santa and a tour of the English College. Interested? Meet on **Saturday 26th January at 11.30** in the crypt of St James.

CHURCH CLEANERS: Thursday 17th January – Team 4.

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

13th January 2013

Saturday January 12th 6:15 pm Frederick Fordham RIP

Sunday January 13th 8:00 am Ints: Richard Cox

10:30 am Resolution of conflict in the Middle East

2:00 pm POLISH MASS

5:00 pm HOLY HOUR

West Mersea
Mile End
Monkwick
Monday 14th
6:30 pm James & Mary O'Reilly RIP
8:30 am Parishioners
9:15 am Ernest Jardim RIP
10:15 am Major E A & Jane Wright RIP

Tuesday 15th
Feria
Church **7:30 am** James Doherty RIP
Church **9:15 am** Anne Sears RIP
Feria
Church **9:15 am** D/Rels: Pauk & Zlocki Families
Church **4:00 pm** **Reception of Tony Warren**

Wednesday 16th
Feria
Church **7:30 am** Derek Harvey RIP [JN]
NB *Church* **10:30 am** Ints: Margaret Wright
Church **12:15 pm** **REQUIEM MASS: Tony Warren RIP**
Thursday 17th
St Anthony, Ab
Church **9:15 am** Frances Halkyard

Friday 18th
Feria
Church **9:15 am** Derek Harvey RIP [J&MM]
6:30 pm Ints: Teresa Fuller & Family

Saturday 19th
Feria
Church **9:15 am** Julie & John O'Connor RIP
SECOND SUNDAY OF THE YEAR [C]

20th January 2013
Saturday January 19th
Mile End **6:15 pm** Mr & Mrs Milford
6:00 pm **KERALA MASS**
Sunday January 20th
8:00 am Derek Harvey RIP [FB]
10:30 am Catherine Edwards RIP
4:00 pm **POLISH MASS**
6:30 pm Norma De Nobrega RIP

West Mersea
Mile End
Monkwick
8:30 am Parishioners
9:15 am Rosa Foley RIP
10:15 am Celestine Tighe RIP

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION *Saturday 9:45-10:30am and 5:30-6:00pm*
SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM *Baptismal Courses arranged as per Newsletter*
SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE *At least six months notice is required*

SCHOOLS *St Thomas More* Head: Bridget Harris [865722]
St Benedict's Head: Mrs J Santinelli [549222]

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