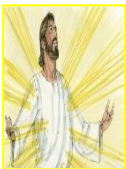


PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD (c)				
Saturday 12th	Monkwick	5.00 pm	Thomas Joseph RIP	
Sunday 13th	Church	8.00 am	Parishioners	
	Church	10.30 am	Rida Masoom + Family	
	Church	2.00 pm	Polish Mass	
	Church	6.30 pm	Maria Latacz RIP	
	West Mersea	8.30 am	Private Intention	
	Mile End	9.30 am	Bernard Wilson RIP	
Monday 14th			Monday of Holy Week	Mass + Confessions
	Church	9.30 am	Frederick, Elizabeth + Angelo Lucas	
Tuesday 15th			Tuesday of Holy Week	
	Church	9.30 am	Ints: Margaret, Mike, Jamie + Karl Daniels	
	Church	5.30 pm	Polish Reconciliation (Confessions)	
	Church	6.00 pm	Polish Stations of the Cross	
Wednesday 16th	Spy Wednesday		Wednesday of Holy Week	
Please note Mass time!	Church	8.30 am	Paula Turner RIP	
Thursday 17th	Maundy Thursday		Thursday of Holy Week	
	Church	9.30 am	Office of Reading & Morning Prayer	
	Monkwick	7.00 pm	Polish Triduum (Polish)	
	Church	8.00 pm	Michael Collins RIP	
Friday 18th	Good Friday		FRIDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD	
	Church	9.30 am	Office of Reading & Morning Prayer	
	Church	10.30 am	Children's Stations of the Cross	
	Church	12.30 pm	Stations of the Cross	
	Church	3.00 pm	Liturgy of the Passion of the Lord	
	Monkwick	2.30 pm	Polish Triduum	
	Mile End	12.00 pm	Stations of the Cross	
Saturday 19th			HOLY SATURDAY	
	Church	9.30 am	Office of Reading & Morning Prayer	
	Church	1.00 pm	Polish Blessing of Food	
	Monkwick	8.00 pm	Polish Triduum (Polish)	
EASTER SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD (c)				
Saturday 19th	Church	8.00 pm	William Joseph Singleton RIP	Solemn Vigil of Easter
Sunday 20th	Church	8.00 am	Mike Hanley RIP	
	Church	10.30 am	Parishioners	
	Church	12.30 pm	Polish Mass	
	Church	6.30 pm	George Downes RIP	
	West Mersea	8.30 am	Laurenser Adenike Otulano RIP	
	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.
- ❖ Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) Saturdays after 9.30am Mass (Priory Street) to 10.30am; after 5.00pm Mass at Monkwick; And by appointment.
- ❖ **Cardinal Bourne Hall Enquiries/Bookings:** colchester@brcdt.org



Please check out our Facebook page for all the latest Parish/Diocese/Vatican News/ Clergy + Church photos/videos. Please remember to **like** and **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



St James the Less & St Helen

Parish Priest:
Assistant Priest:

Mgr. Christopher Brooks
Fr. Philip Okoli

Address: 51 Priory Street, Colchester, Essex, CO1 2QB
Tel: 01206 866317
E-Mail: colchester@brcdt.org
Website: www.stjamesthelessandsthelen.org



St James the Less and St Helen RC Church, Colchester



PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD (c)

Week Commencing 13th April 2025

Today, we enter into the most sacred and solemn time in the life of the Church - Holy Week. Palm Sunday is a day of both joy and tension. We remember Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem, hailed by the crowds as a king. Yet even as we wave our palms in celebration, we know that the road Jesus enters is one that leads to the Cross. This is the paradox of Holy Week: glory and suffering, triumph and sacrifice, death and the promise of new life. Each day of this week invites us to draw closer to the mystery of God's love, a love that does not shy away from suffering but embraces it for the sake of others. We see Jesus misunderstood, betrayed, denied, and abandoned. And yet He continues to love. He continues to give. He lays down His life for all. Palm Sunday invites us to walk this week with Him, not as bystanders, but as disciples. Let us make space in the coming days to accompany Jesus through His Passion and into His Victory.

Fr Philip

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
LEGION OF MARY	Fridays (Cardinal Bourne Hall)	at 7.30 pm



2025 Year of Jubilee - Pilgrims of Hope: Pope Francis has declared that 2025 will be a year of Jubilee. A Jubilee happens every 25 years and is a special opportunity for coming closer to Our Lord Jesus Christ. The Church grants special graces called Plenary Indulgences during the Jubilee Year. These graces can be for your own soul or the Holy Souls in purgatory. **Our Lady of Light Church, Clacton on Sea**, has been designated as a Sacred Place of Pilgrimage for the Jubilee Year. Full details of all services are available at: <https://ourladyoflight.uk/>

THE POPE'S INTENTIONS FOR APRIL: *For the use of the new technologies.* Let us pray that the use of the new technologies will not replace human relationships, will respect the dignity of the person, and will help us face the crises of our times.



MARRIAGE MATTERS: (Isaiah 50:4-7; Philippians 2:6-11; Luke 22:14 – 23:56) *The Kingdom of God is a lifestyle choice.* Today's readings are deeply moving, calling us to what? Can we stand up for our marriages; make lifestyle choices, putting our marriage first? Joseph of Arimathea stood up for what he believed in, when others had run away. He lived in 'hope of seeing the Kingdom of God'. This kingdom is among us; let us choose it today – for us.

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK: We continue to pray for those parishioners we know who are sick and housebound especially Anthony (Tony) Weekes, J Brian Critchley, Edwina Pastor, Jimmy Clarin, Ron & Margaret Griffin, Margaret Hawkins, Valerie Thurston, Grace McCartney, Diana Irvén, Mrs. Maureen McKenna, Peter Wyatt, Hilda Morah, Jason Christopher McLean, Nicollas and Adam Campbell-Vencarto. We also pray for all people who are ill or are in need.

WASHING OF FEET- MASS OF THE LORDS SUPPER AT 8.00PM (Maundy Thursday). The washing of the feet imitates Jesus' act of love for His "twelve" on the night before He died, this ritual signifies their participation in Christ's mission of love and service to one another and to those in need. If you would like to participate, please add your name to the washing of feet list in Church Porch – 12 volunteers needed.

EASTER COLLECTION: The Offertory Collection at all the Easter Masses next Sunday is by tradition, the parishioners' personal gift to the Clergy. In this Parish, Fr Chris and Fr Philip are the beneficiaries, since this collection forms the main part of their personal annual income. Thank you.

2nd COLLECTIONS: The annual collection for the SVP is on Maundy Thursday (17th April), and on Good Friday (18th April) there will be a collection for Holy places for the upkeep of the places in the Holy Land. Thank you.



OUR LADY OF WALSINGHAM STATUE: If you would like to host the statue at your home and pray the Rosary for a week, please contact Gemma – Tel: 01206 844751 or email olwstatue2024@gmail.com

REPOSITORY: There is a good selection of cards incl. Easter Cards for sale in the Church

GIFT-AID SUBSCRIBERS: Please can you collect your new box sets from the church porch. Box sets are laid out in alphabetical order. Thank you for your generosity over the last year(s). Thank you.

HOLY WEEK SERVICES 2025

Monday 14th April	9.30 am	Mass & Confessions	Priory Street
Tuesday 15th April	9.30 am	Mass	Priory Street
Spy Wednesday 16th April	8.30 am	Mass	Priory Street

EASTER TRIDUUM

17th April:	9.30 am 8.00 pm	MAUNDY THURSDAY Office of Readings & Morning Prayer Mass of the Lord's Supper and Watching until Midnight	Priory Street Priory Street
18th April:	9.30 am 10.30 am 3.00 pm 12.00 pm	GOOD FRIDAY Office of Readings & Morning Prayer Children's Stations of Cross Liturgy of the Passion of The Lord Stations of Cross	Priory Street Priory Street Priory Street Mile End
19th April:	9.30 am 8.00 pm	HOLY SATURDAY [NO CONFESSIONS] Office of Readings & Morning Prayer Solemn Vigil of Easter	Priory Street Priory Street
20th April:		EASTER SUNDAY (THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD) Masses at usual Sunday times [There will be no Mass at Monkwick]	
21st April:	10.00 am	EASTER MONDAY Mass	Priory Street

KNIGHTS OF ST JOSEPH: The Knights of St Joseph are a new, modern, and locally based Catholic Fraternal order who will serve as a vital support system within our Parish, undertaking various charitable activities and community services. If you would like to join or find out more information, please see the poster in the Church Porch.

WEDNESDAY FILM GROUP: The next screening will be on **Wednesday 16th April** commencing at 12.00pm. This screening is the 2nd installment of a drama about Jesus and is perfectly pertinent on the lead up to Easter. All are welcome.

CAFOD MYANMAR EARTHQUAKE APPEAL: Following the devastating earthquake in Myanmar, CAFOD is responding through the Catholic Church there to support families affected by the disaster. Your donations will provide essentials like water, food, solar lights, and mosquito nets. Please give to CAFOD's Myanmar Earthquake Appeal by donating online at cafod.org.uk/myanmar or by calling 0303 303 3030. You can also text EARTHQUAKE to 70450 to donate £10.

EASTER VIGIL READINGS: The Readings are a high point in the celebration of the Easter Vigil. In order to assist priests and people in managing these readings, Fr Adrian Graffy has prepared commentaries on each of them. Go to www.whatgoodnews.org Click on Scripture Readings, and follow the links.

CARITAS SOCIAL ACTION NETWORK (CSAN) has recently launched a lived experience survey to better understand the impact of the two-child benefit cap on Catholic families in England and Wales and to explore how parishes are supporting families in need. You can find the survey here: <https://www.csan.org.uk/news/familysurvey/>

DIOCESE VACANCIES: The Diocese of Brentwood is accredited by the Living Wage Foundation as a Living Wage Employer. For Education vacancies, please go to <https://www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/departments/education/vacancies/>



- **CUPPA CLUB:** We meet **every Thursday from 10.00am to 11.30am** in the Hall.
- **SUNDAY COFFEE MORNING** after 10.30am Mass in Cardinal Bourne Hall.

CHURCH CLEANING TEAM: Friday 18/04/25: **Team 5** / Thursday 24/04/25: **Team 1**
COFFEE MORNING ROTA: 13/04/25: Peggy & Sue / 20/04/25: Yolande + 1