

**ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY
HOLIDAY OF OBLIGATION Solemnity**

Saturday August 13th 6:15 pm Cath and Edward McElroy RIP
Sunday August 14th 8:00 am Dec. Relatives: O'Grady Family RIP
 10:30 am Intentions of Canon Anthony McKentey
 2:00 pm Polish Mass
 5:45 pm Rosary and Marian Procession
 6:30 pm Cristeta Poblador RIP
West Mersea 8:30 am Parishioners
Mile End 9:15 am Mr Tinneveld RIP
Monkwick 10:15 am Holy Souls RIP

Monday 15th *Feria Church* 9:15 am Intentions: Sykes Family

Tuesday 16th *Feria Church* 9:15 am Intentions: Michelle Scutcher

Wednesday 17th *Feria Church* 12:15 pm Intentions: Alice White

Thursday 18th *ST HELENA, WIDOW, Patroness of Boro of Colchester Church* 9:15 am Intentions: John and Myra Dolamore

Friday 19th *Feria Church* 9:15 am Cristeta Poblador RIP

Saturday 20th *St Bernard, Ab, D Church* 9:15 am Fr James Hawes RIP

TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME [C]

Saturday August 20th 6:15 pm Christina Mooney RIP
Sunday August 21st 8:00 am Canon John Bloomfield RIP
 10:30 am Ints: Christine Hornigold
 4:00 pm Polish Mass
 6:30 pm John Sutcliffe RIP
West Mersea 8:30 am Frederick, Elizabeth & Angelo Lucas RIP
Mile End 9:15 am Parishioners
Monkwick 10:15 am Catherine Spicer RIP

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

ST. JAMES THE LESS AND ST. HELEN

CATHOLIC CHURCH, COLCHESTER

WITH MERSEA, MILE END AND MONKWICK



Canon Anthony McKentey
 Fr Alex Poblador, RCJ
 Fr Philip Willenbrock

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ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

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From Adrian Lowe, Seminarian

"The Immaculate Mother of God, the ever Virgin Mary, having completed the course of her earthly life, was assumed body and soul into heavenly glory." - Munificentissimus Deus, Pope Pius XII, 1950

The beautiful feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary which we celebrate this Sunday was formally recognised by the Church in 1950, but it has been a part of our faith since the 6th Century. In some parts of the world it used to be known as The Feast of Our Lady in Harvest Time, with the blessing of grapes and herbs a tradition of the day.

The idea of harvest seems to be appropriate for the Assumption – the fruit from the hard work of growing a crop is reaped and a celebration of the produce is enjoyed. We can see a parallel with the life of Our Lady, where her hard work, devotion and accompanying of Christ, from the happiness of his birth to the sorrow of the Cross and then the joy of his resurrection, are celebrated and rewarded by her ecstatic entry into Heaven and into the mystery of the Godhead itself. This is God's promise to everyone – that eternal life with Him is a possibility for all of us and this feast day gives us this hope.

In the Gospel for today Our Lady tells us, 'Yes, from this day forward all generations will call me blessed'.

Blessed, together with Our Lord's words from the cross where He says to St. John, 'Behold your Mother,' gives us the lovely title for her, Blessed Mother, which we often use. How gracious of God, not only to call us to Himself, but into His family as well.

Please see Mass Schedule for ANY changes

SUNDAYS: Divine Mercy and Rosary Following 8am
Mass
DAILY: Morning Prayer 8:15am; Rosary/Divine Mercy
8:35am
MEDITATION GROUP: Tuesdays - Crypt
8:00pm
FILMS FOR FAITH Resume on September 7th

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK: Please remember in your prayers; Percy Abrahams, Pat Banks, Lorraine Belmonté, Frank Campbell, Vicky Culham, Margaret Griffin, Jim Harvey, John Harvey, Bert Hewitt, David Hill, Jan Holden, Ronald Jay, Julie Jefferies, Pat Keene, Marie Kent, Patrick King, John Lawlor, Peter Ledgley, Nathanael Lee, Joanne Leon, Doreen Lowe, Marie Lyons, Canon Anthony McKentey, Jean Mansell, Mary-Ann Martin, Cara Maude, David Mercedes, David Merryman, Byron Miller, Margaret Norman, Charles Norman, Anne Renwick, Leah Patterson, Ronald Quijano, Stephen Rhatigan, Chris Sands, Margaret Scammell, Maureen Sheeran, Aimée Stammers, Fiona Stephenson, Filomena Velasquez, Mary Wallace, Patricia Wiltshire, Tony White, Dorcey Young.

CHANGE IN MASS TIMES: Please note that there will no longer be a Mass at 9:15am on a Wednesday. All other Mass times remain unchanged

HOLY HOUR: Holy Hour today has been cancelled and will be replaced with the Rosary and Marian Procession at 5:45pm

BAPTISMS THIS WEEKEND: We welcome into the Church through the Sacrament of Baptism, Aniya Sharfraie and Lily-Ella Bowman. God bless these children and congratulations to their families.

THE NEXT BAPTISM COURSE FOR NEW BORN UP TO AGED 6: Will take place on *Fridays 16th and 23rd September in the Crypt from 7:30pm-9pm*. Entry to the Crypt is via the Church. There is no need to make an appointment – just turn up. Both sessions must be attended, and the date of baptisms will be booked during the course.

RECENTLY DECEASED: Please pray for the repose of the soul of Anna Pugh who has recently died. Her funeral will take place here on Monday, 22nd August, at 1pm. May she rest in peace and we pray for the comfort of her bereaved family.

PARISH FAMILY BBQ: Will be held on Saturday 20th August 3pm until 5pm in the Church garden. Everyone welcome and excellent food as always. Adults £6 and under 12's £3. Contact Norah (01206) 503410 or Frances (01206) 369568 for tickets in advance.

YEAR OF MERCY MASSES AT BRENTWOOD CATHEDRAL: The next Sunday Mass at the Cathedral during this Year of Mercy takes place on August 28th at 6:30pm. Welcoming those who live with the pain of having had an abortion or being involved in one. *Preacher: Fr Martin O'Connor.*

JOURNEY IN FAITH (R.C.I.A.): The Journey in Faith programme is a series of informal weekly meetings to provide knowledge and guidance to those adults who wish to enter into full communion with the Catholic Church. Have you or someone you know ever thought about becoming a Catholic? Are you married to a Catholic or about to get married and want to know more? Perhaps you have been baptized as a child but for various reasons haven't received the sacraments of Reconciliation, Holy Communion or Confirmation. Then this programme may be for you. The first meeting will take place on *Thursday 8th September* at 7:00pm in the Crypt. Please come along if you are keen to find out about the Catholic Faith. Give your name and contact details to one of the Priests, to the Parish Office or contact Cathy O'Connor 01206 501146 email cathy_oconnor83@hotmail.com

KNIGHTS OF ST COLUMBA EVENTS: BBQ organised by the Knights at 69 Heath Road, Lexden, on Monday 29th August, 2 - 5 pm. Admission £3 to include burger/hot dog. Concessions £1. Contact Stefan on 07948148531 or buy at the door. Please bring your own drinks. The Knights of St. Columba are having their annual pilgrimage to Clare Priory, Suffolk on the 10th Sept. 2016. All parishioners are welcome. Cost £16. Please contact Stewart Taylor for details on 07545 829333.

DAY OF REFLECTION AND PRESENTATIONS: Prayer in the Parish on Saturday, 17th September from 11am to 3.00pm here in the Crypt.

THE POLISH COMMUNITY invite you, on *18th September from 5pm-8pm*, in the Cardinal Bourne Hall, to a celebration of Polish and English music with coffee and Polish cakes, to commemorate St Stanislaus Kostka. All welcome – free entrance.-

DATE FOR YOUR DIARY: Friday 21st October 1:15pm we are delighted to welcome the Domkantorei Koln choir who will be performing a concert of choral works entitled Faith, Hope, Love in our Church. This is a unique opportunity to hear this world famous choir perform in Colchester. Entry to this concert is FREE! However there will be a retiring collection for Aid to the Church in Need. Please come along and support what we hope will be the first of many world class performances to be held at St. James the Less & St. Helen's.

REPOSITORY: There will be no Sunday Repository for the duration of August, however a varied selection of cards, gifts and books are available in the Church porch.

100 CLUB DRAW: The winners in the July Draw are: 1st: Mike Jones, 2nd: Judith Cooper and 3rd: Nial Conlon. Congratulations to all! If you would like to know more about joining the Parish's 100 Club, please contact Teresa Sales on 795623.

CARDINAL BOURNE HALL: To book: cb.hall@btinternet.com 07758 805263

CHURCH CLEANERS' ROTA: Thursday, August 18th, Team 1.