

TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A)

Saturday 14th	<i>Monkwick</i>	5.00 pm	Robert Bradshaw RIP
Sunday 15th	<i>Church</i>	8.00 am	Bridie Markham RIP
	<i>Church</i>	10.30 am	James, Mary + John Galvin RIP
	<i>Church</i>	2.00 pm	Polish Mass
	<i>Church</i>	6.30 pm	Ints: Mary Bulalague
	<i>West Mersea</i>	8.30 am	Parishioners
	<i>Mile End</i>	9.30 am	Private Intention
Monday 16th			Feria
	<i>Church</i>	9.30 am	Frederick, Elizabeth + Angelo Lucas
Tuesday 17th			St Ignatius of Antioch, Bp, M
	<i>Church</i>	9.30 am	Christine Lucas RIP
Wednesday 18th			ST LUKE, Evangelist
	<i>Church</i>	9.30 am	Alphonse Knapp RIP
Thursday 19th			Feria
	<i>Church</i>	9.30 am	Canon John Bloomfield
Friday 20th			Feria
	<i>Church</i>	9.30 am	Holy Souls
Saturday 21st			Memorial of the Blessed Virgin Mary
	<i>Church</i>	9.30 am	Thanksgiving (SF)

TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A)

World Mission Day

Saturday 21st	<i>Monkwick</i>	5.00 pm	Ints: Grace McCartney
Sunday 22nd	<i>Church</i>	8.00 am	Private Intention
	<i>Church</i>	10.30 am	Ints: Naya Isabel, Monika Julian
	<i>Church</i>	2.00 pm	Polish Mass
	<i>Church</i>	6.30 pm	Private Intention
	<i>West Mersea</i>	8.30 am	Parishioners
	<i>Mile End</i>	9.30 am	Kathleen Wagstaff 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).
- ❖ Mass Intentions. Envelopes are available in Church Porch and are situated either side of Church entrance, A suggested minimum stipend is £10 per Mass.

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

NEW TO THE PARISH? Then please complete one of our Parish Registration forms, which can be found in the porch at the back of the church.

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. This is a chance to catch up in the spirit of friendship and community. Everyone is warmly invited.



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:

Mgr. Christopher Brooks
Fr. Philip Okoli

Address: 51 Priory Street, Colchester, Essex, CO1 2QB

Tel: 01206 866317

E-Mail : colchester@brcdt.org

Website: www.stjamesthelessandstheleen.org



St James the Less and St Helen RC Church, Colchester

TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A)
Week Commencing 15th October 2023

Again, Jesus speaks to the chief priests and the elders of the people. He had done this for a couple of Sundays now. This is Jesus' final effort to win them over, but they are not moved, and the invitation is extended to the gentiles. He started with the more difficult set of people and then came to others. The parable demonstrates the Lord's desire to save all people, the bad, and the good. However, a caveat is added - you must be in the right attire to enter the party. The invitation to our Lord's feast is for all of us but we are expected to turn up in our "wedding garments". In the same way, we are all invited to partake in the Holy Eucharist but we are expected to be in our wedding garment of grace, not stained by serious sin. His loving arms are open to welcome us.

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



THE POPE'S INTENTIONS FOR OCTOBER: For the Synod

We pray for the Church, that she may adopt listening and dialogue as a lifestyle at every level, and allow herself to be guided by the Holy Spirit towards the peripheries of the world.

MARRIAGE MATTERS: (Isaiah 25:6-10 Phil 4:12-14 Matt 22:1-4) **Add another stitch.** God our Father invites us all to His great wedding feast in heaven! In living out our married life, we have been making our wedding garments! It is woven, sewn and stitched with all the little acts of loving kindness, long forgotten, the courtesies in every little action we show toward each other, our children, family and friends.

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

RECENTLY DECEASED: Please pray for the repose of the souls of Norma Morris, Roger Kemp and Pamela Blair who have all recently passed away. The parish community offers their respective families and friends our condolences and the assurance of our prayers at this most difficult time. The funeral service for Norma will take place here on Wednesday 25th October at 11.30am. The funeral service for Roger will take at Colchester Crematorium on Thursday 26th October at 12.15pm. Funeral details for Pamela are to be advised.

2nd COLLECTION: After all Masses this weekend a 2nd collection will be taken for Prisoner's Sunday (Pact) Pacts work helps to provide a bridge of support, keeping families together, reducing reoffending and creating safer prisons. Prisoners Sunday is the Church's national day of prayer and action in support of prisoners and their families, and the work of Pact.

UPCOMING 2nd COLLECTION: (World Mission Day on 22nd October 2023). World Mission Sunday, when the Holy Father invites all Catholics to contribute to a special collection for Missio, his charity for World Mission. Please support Missio in helping missionaries to work alongside communities throughout the world that are poor or in need, regardless of their background or belief. Join us on this special day that unites Catholics all over the World in prayer and celebration of our Church's mission to share Gods' love with all people.

REFRESH YOUR PRAYER LIFE: Do you ever feel your prayers are getting stale through familiarity? Refresh your prayer life by coming to 4 sessions on **Prayer** on **28th Oct**, and **4th, 11th and 18th Nov** at 3.30 pm -5pm in the Hall. See full details on posters in Church and Hall, Website and Facebook.

DAY OF MERCY: On **Friday 8th 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.

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.

GIFT AID ENVELOPES: There are still some uncollected Gift Aid box sets in porch.

MISSIO VOLUNTEER PARISH REPRESENTATIVE (Missio Red Boxes): We are currently looking for a volunteer to take on the role of the Missio representative for this Parish. For further details on this position, please speak to Fr Chris.

SAVE THE DATE! Christmas Celebration on **Saturday 2nd December 2023** in **Cardinal Bourne Hall** from 11.00am to 3.30pm. More details of event to follow.

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: - General toiletries (shower gels, shampoo, deodorants, toothpaste, 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. 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.

BEHAVIOUR IN CHURCH: A church building is a special place calling for special behaviour and your actions in church show respect for God and for the community that gathers there. If you are stopping by the church to pray, even just for a moment, your actions should respect the place and its purpose. No eating/snacking of food or chewing gum, switch off your phones, check that you're appropriately dressed and make the most of the precious opportunity to step away from the ordinary and into a sacred space and time. If you are in the church for mass and you wish to go to communion, remember that Catholics are required to fast for one hour before receiving the Eucharist. This ensures that we are "hungry" (at least symbolically) for the Eucharist and that we show respect for the Body of Christ. The Eucharist is real food, but it is not ordinary food, and thus we don't mix it in with bites of our ordinary food and drink. Snacking or chewing gum distracts us from the sacred fast that prepares us to receive the Body of Christ.

SVP CUPPA CLUB: We meet **every Thursday from 10.00am to 11.30am** in the Hall.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION: Registration is now open for all children who are currently in years 3 and 4. Please send the following details via email to fncstjamescolchester@gmail.com Child's Full Name - Child's D.O.B. - Name of the school your child attends. The dates of the next course will be sent out upon receipt of your registration. However, please 'save the date' of the Parents' Meeting will be Saturday 10th February 2024 which ALL PARENTS will be required to attend to complete the registration process for your child to attend the Reconciliation & First Holy Communion Courses.

CLEANER REQUIRED - ST THOMAS MORE'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL: Our lovely cleaner is leaving us for full time employment and we are desperate to replace her. We are looking for someone for 2 hours per day - Monday – Friday 3.30-5.30. Term time only @ £10.98 per hour, starting Monday 30th October. If you are interested, or know someone who might like to join our friendly team please contact the school for more details on 01206 865722

LEXDEN PARISH: OUR LADY IN THE MONTH OF OCTOBER: The Legion of Mary & The Knights of St. Columba invite parishioners to join them in a Holy Hour **every Sunday from 3-4pm** in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel, Lexden Parish. The dates are 15th; 22nd; 29th of October. All welcome.

CURRENT VACANCIES WITHIN THE DIOCESE OF BRENTWOOD: There are various vacancies throughout the Diocese – to see details of positions, please click on the link below: <https://www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/diocese/working-for-us/>

CHURCH CLEANING TEAM: Monday 16/10/23: Team 3 / Monday 23/10/23: Team 4
COFFEE MORNING: 15/01/23: Peggy & Anne / 22/01/23: Yolande + 1
The updated Rotas for Church Cleaning are available in Church Porch.