

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A)

Saturday 15th	<i>Monkwick</i>	5.00 pm	Natacha Doutreleau
Sunday 16th	<i>Church</i>	8.00 am	Ints: Akabueze Family
	<i>Church</i>	10.30 am	Ints: Cordell
	<i>Church</i>	2.00 pm	Polish Mass
	<i>Church</i>	6.30 pm	Ints: Mary Sherry Jane Razon Bulalague
	<i>West Mersea</i>	8.30 am	Ints: Juan Rob
	<i>Mile End</i>	9.30 am	Parishioners
Monday 17th			Feria
	<i>Church</i>	9.30 am	Frederick, Elizabeth + Angelo Lucas
Tuesday 18th			Feria
	<i>Church</i>	9.30 am	Ints: David Merryman
Wednesday 19th			Feria
	<i>Church</i>	9.30 am	Des Fuller RIP
	<i>Church</i>	11.00 am	Funeral Service: Roger Madarang Espejo RIP
Thursday 20th			Feria
	<i>Church</i>	9.30 am	Cyril Farrell RIP
Friday 21st			Feria
	<i>Church</i>	9.30 am	Ints: S.J + Family
Saturday 22nd			ST MARY MAGDALENE
	<i>Church</i>	9.30 am	Mr K. T. George RIP

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A)

Saturday 22nd	<i>Monkwick</i>	5.00 pm	Holy Souls
Sunday 23rd	<i>Church</i>	8.00 am	Canon T. W. Clarke + Family
	<i>Church</i>	10.30 am	Danny Farrell RIP
	<i>Church</i>	2.00 pm	Polish Mass
	<i>Church</i>	* 4.30 pm	Private Intention
	<i>West Mersea</i>	8.30 am	Parishioners
	<i>Mile End</i>	9.30 am	Private Intention

***TIME CHANGE: Please note Mass will be at 4.30pm and not 6.30pm Thank You.**

- ❖ 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, please complete envelope & drop through presbytery door. 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



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. Paschal Uche

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St James the Less and St Helen RC Church, Colchester

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A)

Week Commencing 16th July 2023

A young student in China decided to play a trick on his elderly teacher one day. He caught a small bird and cupped it in his hands behind his back. He then approached the sage with this plan in mind. He would ask the old man what he had in his hand. If he answered correctly, he would then ask the teacher if the bird was dead or alive. If the old man said, "Alive," he would crush the bird. If he answered, "Dead," he would release the bird. Upon approaching the teacher, the young student said, "Old man, what do I have in my hand?" The man responded, "A bird, my son." "Is he dead or alive, old man?" the boy asked with a grin. The old sage thought for a moment and then he replied, "The answer to that question, my son, is in your hands.....it's in your hands." Today's Gospel tells us that the seed of the Gospel the seed of grace has been given to us. The fruitfulness of it is in our hands and in our hearts. What kind of soil are we cultivating in our hearts? St Augustine said that Christ made us without us but will not save us without us. God wills our salvation and has made it available in Jesus Christ by his saving death and resurrection. However, whether we are saved and get to heaven or not is now a responsibility that we must take seriously, for in the end we will see that the answer was in our hands.

Fr. Paschal

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
ADORATION & PRAYER	Thursdays	at 7.30 pm



THE POPE'S INTENTIONS FOR JULY: *For a Eucharistic life*

We pray that Catholics may place the celebration of the Eucharist at the heart of their lives, transforming human relationships in a very deep way and opening to the encounter with God and all their brothers and sisters.

MARRIAGE MATTERS: (Isaiah 55:10-11 Rom 8:18-23 Matthew 13:1-23) ***Listen to the person behind the words.*** The stony ground is when we are too engrossed in the telly, reading or working on the computer to listen to our partner. The thorny ground is where we disengage with such but not wanting real involvement, suggest a cuppa as a diversion. We are called to be fertile ground by real listening – hold hands, look in each other's eyes.

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK: We continue to pray for those parishioners we know who are sick and housebound especially 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 soul of Mary Elizabeth Haines who has recently passed away. The parish community offers Mary's family and friends our condolences and the assurance of our prayers at this most difficult time. Funeral details are to be advised.

SPECIAL COLLECTION (16th July). As a token of our appreciation for his love and service to our Parish, a special collection will be taken at the end of all Masses this weekend (if you would like to contribute towards a gift for Fr Chris.). Alternatively a card/envelope can be left into the Presbytery with Fr Chris name + Anniversary on front of Envelope. Thank you.

FR CHRIS: If anyone has any memorabilia of Fr Chris (photo's) of his Ordination or of him as a younger priest, or recent photo's – please could you loan them to us by dropping them into the Presbytery (*we will take copies and return them to you*) or scanning and emailing to us. Also if anyone has a special anniversary coming up or this year (i.e. Ruby Wedding Anniversary) and would also like to celebrate this during Fr Chris Jubilee Mass please do let us know. Thank you

CELEBRATING FR CHRIS' RUBY (40 YEARS) JUBILEE OF ORDINATION: A Mass will take place here **on 23rd July 2023 at 4.30pm**, which will be followed by an Ordination Anniversary Party in Cardinal Bourne Hall. We are asking people to *'bring a plate'* for this celebration. A poster is in the church porch and on our facebook page which lists some suggestions and if you could let Frances (01206 369568) or May (01206 867829) know what you would like to bring along, as they will be coordinating this event. Some general ideas are - *Wine, Soft drinks/Squashes, Finger Foods, Cakes/Pastries (individual or large), Sweet & savoury biscuits, various Salads.* We will also be happy to accept any ideas you might have. Please do join us in celebrating Fr Chris on his special day. Thank you

NEXT RCIA COURSE (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults): Thank you to those who attended the initial meeting. The 1st (official) session will take place on **Monday 17th July from 7.00-8.00 pm in the Presbytery.**

FR PASCHAL: Fr Paschal will be starting as Assistant Priest in Chelmsford at the beginning of September. Before he leaves St James The Less & St Helen Parish, we would like to show our appreciation by presenting him with a leaving gift/ monetary donation. If you would like to contribute to this, a leaving collection will be taken on 30th July after all Masses. Alternatively, a card/envelope can be dropped into Presbytery with his name on the front.

CAFOD: Gemma our Parish Cafod Representative will be giving a talk at Mile End, Monkwick and Priory street today.

SUNDAY COFFEE MORNING: Anyone who has half-an-hour to spare after Mass is most welcome 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.



CUPPA CLUB: will meet **every Thursday from 10.00am to 11.30am** in Cardinal Bourne Hall. Enjoy a free tea/coffee and cake with friends. Newcomers always welcome!

WORLD YOUTH DAY AT HOME: World Youth Day (WYD) is the gathering of young people from all over the world with Pope Francis, taking place in Lisbon this summer. If you can't attend the main event, why not join WYD in London run by the Religious of the Assumption - a day celebration on **Saturday 5th August 2023** from 11am-5pm in the church by **Leicester Square**. Programme: music • prayer • talks • activities • Mass, bringing together a young community of different nationalities in one faith! Venue: Notre Dame de France, 5 Leicester Place, London WC2H 7BX. Donations only. **To register** a group or individually, fill in the form: [/bit.ly/wydlondon](http://bit.ly/wydlondon)

YOUNG ADULTS FORMATION: The Community of Our Lady of Walsingham (COLW) is offering an opportunity to Catholic men and women aged 18 - 35 to live alongside their community in Norfolk for a week this summer. As well as joining community prayers, meals and activities, young adults will receive formation on topics such *Prayer, Scripture, Discernment and the Spirituality of Walsingham*. There are two choices of dates: 14th - 21st August or 30th August - 6th September. To find out more, please enquire by 31st July by emailing the COLW Sisters at freetobe@walsinghamcommunity.org

YEAR 13 RETREAT AT WALSINGHAM HOUSE IN SEPTEMBER: Will you be in Year 13 this September? Are you currently making decisions about your next steps? Would you like time to step back, reflect, pray and think about the different pathways ahead of you? If so, Year 13 retreat at Walsingham House is just the opportunity to do that. There are 2 retreats on 13th - 15th September or 22nd - 24th September and the cost is £35. Please visit www.bcys.net/events for further details or email clairebailey@brcdt.org

PROPERTY ASSISTANT (Cathedral House): The successful applicant will provide comprehensive, effective, and efficient administration support. Full Job description <https://www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/diocese/working-for-us/> Hours: 35 hours per week- Office Based. Apply by sending a CV and covering letter (no longer than A4) to recruitment@brcdt.org Closing date for applications is 30th July 2023.

CHURCH CLEANING TEAM: Thursday 20/07/23: Team 1/ Monday 24/07/23: Team 2
We now have another cleaning team (5) who will be joining us in August – Please can you take a new rota (available in the Church Porch) also on our Facebook page.

CHURCH CLEANING VOLUNTEERS: We are still looking for a couple of volunteers for Cleaning Teams 1 + 3 as many hands make light work. If you are able to volunteer about 2 hrs every 5 weeks, please contact Linda in the Presbytery office (01206 866317) Thanks.

COFFEE MORNING (HALL): 16/07/23: Yolande + 1/ 23/07/23: SVP