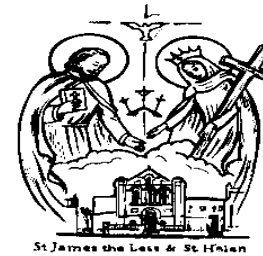


ST. JAMES THE LESS AND ST. HELEN

CATHOLIC CHURCH, COLCHESTER

WITH MERSEA, MILE END AND MONKWICK

1 PARISH, 4 CHURCHES, 1 COMMUNITY



Parish Priest: Mgr. Christopher Brooks
 Assistant Priest: Fr. Paschal Uche
 Assistant Priest: Fr. Philip Willenbrock

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 St James the Less and St Helen RC Church, Colchester

TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (B)

Saturday 18th	Church	6.15 pm	Hector Silva RIP
Sunday 19th	Church	8.00 am	Private intention
Confirmation Mass	Church	10.30 am	Parishioners
	Church	2.00 pm	Polish Mass
	Church	6.30 pm	Parishioners
	West Mersea	8.30 am	Private intention
	Mile End	9.15 am	Andrew Morton RIP
	Monkwick	10.15 am	Private intention

Monday 20th	St Andrew Kim Tae-Gon, Pr & Paul Chong Ha-sang & Comps, Mm		
	Church	9.30 am	Tony Moore RIP

Tuesday 21st	ST MATTHEW, Ap, Evangelist		
	Church	9.30 am	Michael + Ellen Kate Conlon RIP

Wednesday 22nd	Feria		
	Church	9.30 am	Michael + Ellen Kate Conlon RIP

Thursday 23rd	St Pius of Pietrelcina, Pr (Padre Pio)		
	Church	9.30 am	Michael + Ellen Kate Conlon RIP

Friday 24th	Our Lady of Walsingham		
	Church	9.30 am	Tony Dixon RIP

Saturday 25th	Church	9.30 am	Feria Tony Dixon RIP
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TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (B)

Saturday 25th	Church	6.15 pm	Thanksgiving
Sunday 26th	Church	8.00 am	Parishioners
	Church	10.30 am	Kathleen Gillooly RIP
	Church	2.00 pm	Polish Mass
	Church	6.30 pm	
	West Mersea	8.30 am	Daniel Millgate RIP
	Mile End	9.15 am	Private Intention
	Monkwick	10.15 am	Private Intention

- ❖ For Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals, please email or contact our parish office.
- ❖ Visiting for the Sacrament of the Sick is possible, under certain circumstances.
- ❖ Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) Saturdays after 10am Mass and 5.30pm-6.00pm
- ❖ Mass Intentions. These can be posted through the presbytery letterbox and they will be published in the newsletter (available on the parish website or via Facebook).
- ❖ If you are self-isolating and would like to speak to a priest or have any worries, please contact us at the Presbytery on 01206 866317 and we will try to help you.

LIVE STREAM: The Live Streaming of Masses is currently suspended

Please check out our Facebook page for Live Stream Masses and all the latest Parish/Diocese/Vatican news, Clergy/Church photos/videos. Please remember to [like](#) & [follow](#) our page!

TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (B)
Home Mission Day
 Week commencing 19th September 2021

It is generally agreed that there is a turning point in St. Mark's Gospel, the passage we heard last week, in which St. Peter voices his recognition of who Jesus is. Thereafter the Gospel relates Jesus' journey to Jerusalem for his Passion and Death, and Jesus prepares his disciples for the 'scandal' of the Cross. We've just celebrated the feast of the Exaltation of the Cross (14/9), in which we recognise the salvific value of the Cross, its unique role as the means of our redemption. We can also note how the Cross fulfils the passage in Wisdom that we hear this week. If we are to be disciples Jesus tells us to pick up our cross and follow him. Is it not a little curious, therefore, that so often when a person becomes ill people immediately pray for the person to get better? For many people it seems that carrying their cross is not meant to involve pain. We can recall St. Peter's response to Jesus' prophecy of the Passion, 'This must not happen to you', for saying which he was rebuked by Jesus; and the disciples in today's Gospel don't understand either. The Gospel tells us that suffering isn't always bad, discernment is needed, and of course we have the witness of the martyrs who endured suffering and thus entered into the fullness of life. To ponder.....

Fr. Chris

PLEASE SEE MASS SCHEDULE FOR ALL CHANGES

DAILY	Morning Prayer	at 9.15 am
CHRISTIAN MEDITATION	Wednesdays (Cardinal Bourne Hall)	at 8.00 pm
DAILY	Rosary/Divine Mercy	All Temporarily suspended
2 nd SUNDAY MONTHLY	Eucharistic Adoration	



THE POPE'S INTENTIONS FOR SEPTEMBER: The Church

Let us pray for the Church, that she may receive from the Holy Spirit the grace and strength to reform herself in the light of the Gospel.

Dear Parishioners and Friends,

Relaxation of Covid restrictions: There will no longer be restrictions on group sizes for attending communal worship. Our collective challenge, as restrictions are lifting, is to make sure we all continue to keep ourselves and others as safe as possible. Please note the following changes that will be implemented:-

- There will be an expectation that face coverings are worn in the Church, as per the advice of the Government (*unless, of course, a person is exempt from doing so*).
- As Social distancing rules have changed there will no longer be Church Stewards at Mass guiding people to their seats, this means that people now have the option of choosing where they wish to sit.
- We will retain a section of the church roped off for those who wish to maintain the 2-metre social distancing.
- Weekday Masses have returned to their normal time of 9.30am with Morning Prayer at 9.15am.
- Entrance to Church will be via the main door (no one way system needed)
- The side door will remain open for ventilation and can be used for exiting if wished.
- Communion will remain under one kind.
- Sign of peace will remain not physical
- Singing at Masses is gradually being reintroduced.
- We will continue to supply hand sanitiser stations at entrance and side door.
- An Offertory Collection box will be situated at side door; the donation station in church porch is also useable
- There will be no restrictions on the number allowed to attend Funerals, Baptisms and Weddings

Anyone displaying symptoms of Covid-19, or who has reason to believe that they have been in contact with someone who has, should not attend church or volunteer in any capacity until they have received medical advice that it is safe to do so.

MARRIAGE MATTERS: (Wisdom 2:12, 17-20 James 3:16-4:3 Mark 9:30-37) *Selfish ambition versus intimacy.* The readings illustrate the struggle between peacemakers and those driven by jealousy and selfish ambition - is that us? Together, we can regulate what we do as a couple, knowing each other so intimately. Our consciences can be reinforced by the extent we are prepared to be open and honest with each other. What do we choose?

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK: We continue to pray for those parishioners we know who are sick and housebound especially Elizabeth Pace, Hilda Morah, Nicollas and Adam Campbell-Vencarto, Jim Lynas, Maureen R. We pray for all persons who have contracted Covid-19 and their families.

DIOCESAN 2nd COLLECTION: After all Masses this weekend there will be a collection for **Home Mission Day**. Our prayers help them to be attentive to the Holy Spirit who directs their work and our donations to the second collection will enable them to help the local Church share the joy of the Gospel throughout England.

CONFIRMATION & FIRST HOLY COMMUNION CERTIFICATES: Collection from Presbytery.

BISHOP'S VISITATION: Bishop Alan will be coming for his pastoral visit to the parish today. He will celebrate the 10.30am Mass and administer the Sacrament of Confirmation. Afterwards there will be light refreshments in the hall to which all are invited. **Congratulations to all those being confirmed today.**

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION: For those children who would have normally prepared for summer 2021, preparation will begin in early October. In order to enroll your child on this course, please submit details (*your child's name, school and your contact number*) by email to the presbytery colchester@dioceseofbrentwood.org We are also looking for volunteer Catechists to assist us run the course, if you are able to assist, please advise us. Thank you.

WEDNESDAY MASS (CHANGE OF TIME): Please note that with immediate effect the Mass on Wednesday will no longer be at 12.15pm but instead will be at 9.30am each week preceded by Morning Prayer.

CHRISTIAN MEDITATION: The Christian Meditation group started again on Wednesday 1st September at 8pm in the Cardinal Bourne Hall. Please note the new venue and day. Arrivals from 7.30pm (the Hall doors will be closed from 7.55pm).

REFLECTION ON THE JOYS OF ORDINARY TIME: Join us for a reflection, discussion and prayer on the extraordinary time we have experienced. How has it affected our day to day, and our spiritual, lives – can these be one and the same? What can be the joy of ordinary time? What does the Church give us? **Saturday October 2nd, 11am (coffee) – 1pm. Cardinal Bourne Hall.** For further information Valerie Quinlivan 07941196227.

THE BIBLE TIMELINE COURSE: Understand the Bible from start to finish, the Old and New Testament, with this FREE OF CHARGE, worldwide-famous course delivered online LIVE by Mauro Iannicelli.. Starts Wed 29th September 2021. Eight Wednesday sessions (7pm-8:40pm). Info & Registration: www.comeandsee.org

THE THRESHOLDS OF HOPE QUESTIONS are a series of talks for adults who want to grow in understanding and confidence when questioned or speaking about their Catholic Faith. The talks and discussion will take place on Zoom from 4.00 - 5.00pm on a Sunday afternoon. The first talk is on the 19th September and will consider the question: *"What is the relationship between faith and reason?"* It will be given by Fr Mark Swires, the chaplain at the University of Essex. If you would like to join this discussion please email your name and a contact email address to adultformationvicariate@dioceseofbrentwood.org For more info about **The Thresholds of Hope Questions** go to www.thresholdsofhope.co.uk

THE CRY OF THE POOR - STUDY DAY FOR THE SEASON OF CREATION: A study day on Pope Francis' encyclical letter *Fratelli Tutti* on 'fraternity and social friendship' will be live-streamed from 11.00 - 12.30 BST on Saturday 2nd October. The study day, entitled '*The Cry of the Poor*', is organised from Gidea Park parish, and the speaker is Fr Ashley Beck, expert on Catholic Social Teaching. The event is free of charge and no registration is necessary. To access the livestream go to www.whatgoodnews.org where the previous study day 'The Cry of Creation' (exploring *Laudato si'*) is also available.

PARISH FINANCES: If you wish to make an offering/donation this can be done in various ways:

- By dropping envelope through Presbytery door (please write on envelope Mass Offering or Parish Maintenance) or in the Donation Basket situated at Church entrance & Exit
- Diocesan Online Donation platform (where donations can also be gift aided):-
St. James the Less & St. Helen <https://www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/donations?parish=colchester>
St. Cedd & St. Gregory: <https://www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/donations?parish=colchester-b>
St. Theodore of Canterbury: <https://www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/donations?parish=colchester-d>

Everything that happens in our parish is only possible with your support. Thank you

CHURCH CLEANING TEAM: The new Cleaning Team Rotas are in the Church Porch, please take a copy and *Thank you* for all you do for our Parish. 20/9/21: **Team 2**