

# THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A)

<b>Saturday 18<sup>th</sup></b>	<i>Monkwick</i>	5.00 pm	George Farrell RIP
<b>Sunday 19<sup>th</sup></b>	<i>Church</i>	8.00 am	Gatha Nally RIP
	<i>Church</i>	10.30 am	Parishioners
	<i>Church</i>	2.00 pm	Polish Mass
	<i>Church</i>	6.30 pm	Private Intention
	<i>West Mersea</i>	8.30 am	Rosalie Sutcliffe RIP
	<i>Mile End</i>	9.30 am	Doreen Rebeiro RIP
<b>Monday 20<sup>th</sup></b>			<b>Feria</b>
	<i>Church</i>	9.30 am	Desmond Fuller RIP
<b>Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup></b>			<b>The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary</b>
	<i>Church</i>	9.30 am	Frederick, Elizabeth + Angelo Lucas
<b>Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup></b>	<i>Church</i>	<b>*</b>	<b>St Cecilia' V, M NO MASS</b>
<b>Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup></b>			<b>Feria</b>
	<i>Church</i>	9.30 am	November Dead List
<b>Friday 24<sup>th</sup></b>			<b>St Andrew Dung-Lac, Pr, &amp; Comps, Mm</b>
	<i>Church</i>	9.30 am	Mrs Aleykutty George RIP
<b>Saturday 25<sup>th</sup></b>			<b>Memorial of the Blessed Virgin Mary</b>
	<i>Church</i>	9.30 am	D.J (BB)
			<b>OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST THE KING (A)</b>
<b>Saturday 25<sup>th</sup></b>	<i>Monkwick</i>	5.00 pm	Ints: Grace McCartney
<b>Sunday 26<sup>th</sup></b>	<i>Church</i>	8.00 am	Deceased Members of Farrell Family
	<i>Church</i>	10.30 am	Augustine Liew RIP
	<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 Payne RIP

## \* PLEASE NOTE THAT THERE IS NO MASS ON WEDNESDAY 22<sup>nd</sup> NOVEMBER.

- ❖ 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).
- ❖ For Sacrament of First Holy Communion. Please see poster in Church porch for details.
- ❖ Mass Intentions. Envelopes are available in Church Porch and are situated either side of Church entrance, A suggested minimum stipend is £10 per Mass.
- ❖ Colchester General Hospital: If you would like to arrange for a priest to visit a Catholic relative in hospital, please contact the presbytery direct on (01206 866317).

**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. All welcome.

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

Mgr. Christopher Brooks  
Fr. Philip Okoli

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

**Tel:** 01206 866317

**E-Mail :** [colchester@brcdt.org](mailto:colchester@brcdt.org)

**Website:** [www.stjamesthelessandsthelen.org](http://www.stjamesthelessandsthelen.org)



St James the Less and St Helen RC Church, Colchester

## THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A)

Week Commencing 19<sup>th</sup> November 2023

We are presented today with the Parable of the Talents. In the parable, a man gives out talents (money) to his servants. He expects them to invest and multiple what they have received. It is interesting how the servants performed with the talents each of them received. The first two have results commensurate with what they received, but the last one did not appreciate what he was given and so had nothing to show. These talents as seen in the Gospel represent the gifts God has given to each and every one of us. Having received the gifts from God, we have the responsibility to use the gifts diligently to the glory of God. Your gifts are not mine and mine are not yours. You become fruitful when you appreciate your talents and put them to use. On the other hand, you are unproductive when you do not appreciate what you have been blessed with.

Fr. Philip

**PLEASE SEE MASS SCHEDULE FOR ALL CHANGES**

<b>DAILY (Mon-Fri)</b>	Rosary/Divine Mercy	<b>at 8.45 am</b>
<b>DAILY</b>	Morning Prayer	<b>at 9.15 am</b>
<b>CHRISTIAN MEDITATION</b>	Wednesdays (Cardinal Bourne Hall)	<b>at 8.00 pm</b>



**THE POPE'S INTENTIONS FOR NOVEMBER: *For the Pope.*** We pray for the Holy Father; as he fulfills his mission, may he continue to accompany the flock entrusted to him, with the help of the Holy Spirit.

**PRAYER FOR PEACE IN PALESTINE, ISRAEL & UKRAINE.** We pray for the people of all worn torn countries, for all those suffering or afraid, that you will be close to them and protect them. We pray for world leaders, for compassion, strength, and wisdom to guide their choices and for the laying down of all weapons and the pursuit of peace.



**† 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.

**MARRIAGE MATTERS:** (Prov 31, 10-13, 19-20, 30-31 1 Thess 5:1-6 Matt 25:14-30) ***Our love must be nourished.*** The parable of the talents could be compared to our marriage and the consequences if we, like the lazy servant, do not work at our relationship. Avoiding conflict can mean that the opportunity for forgiveness and growth is allowed to pass by. Let's not allow our love for each other to simply slip away, but work to keep our life flourishing.

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

**NEXT DIOCESAN 2<sup>nd</sup> COLLECTION:** There will be a collection taken for World Youth Sunday on 26<sup>th</sup> November.

**ADVENT EVENING PRAYER:** On the first Sunday of Advent (3<sup>rd</sup> December 2023), St James the Less & St Helen will be holding Exposition at 5.00pm followed by Benediction at 6.00pm. This is a chance to spend a short while in stillness, contemplation, and community.

**DAY OF MERCY:** On Friday 8<sup>th</sup> 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.

**'WALK WITH ME' Booklets (ADVENT EDITION):** Booklets are available in church porch at £1 a copy – please leave monies in Repository Box.

**REPOSITORY:** The Repository now has a selection of boxed sets and single Christmas Cards & 2024 Diaries and Calendars available for sale in the Church Porch along with a new selection of Mass Intention cards. All monies to go into Repository Box. Thank you.

**MISSION TODAY CALENDAR 2024:** Please feel free to take a Mission Today calendar from the church porch. This is a small thank you to all Red Box holders and supporters for the prayers and donations throughout the year.

**ST JOSEPH'S - FLOWER COLLECTION:** There will be a retiring collection for Christmas flowers at St Joseph's over the next two Sundays. The money will go towards decorating the church over the Christmas period. Many thanks in advance for your kind generosity.

**SAVE THE DATE! CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION ON SATURDAY 2<sup>nd</sup> DECEMBER 2023** in Cardinal Bourne Hall from 11.00am to 3.00pm. There will be lots to see and do. Please see poster in church porch and on facebook. All Welcome!  
**We would be grateful for any donations which will be collected on the following dates:**  
**12/11/23:** (*Drinks Tombola*) Bottles of wine, spirits, beer, soft drinks, cans etc.,  
**19/11/23:** Unwanted gifts, new toiletries, Scarves, Perfume, Toiletry giftsets, Trinkets  
**26/11/23:** Non perishable goods suitable for hamper, cakes, biscuits, chocolates, Sweets and Gifts for Tombola.

**ST. THOMAS MORE SCHOOL [ADMISSIONS FOR 2024/2025]:** (Local Authority Closing Date 15/01/24). The signing of the **"Certificate of Catholic Practice"** forms will take place in the Church Crypt on the following dates: - **Thursday 30/11/23 at 3.15pm-4.15pm**  
**Saturday 09/12/23 at 11.15am-12.15pm** **Monday 11/12/23 at 3.15pm -4.15pm**

There is no need to make an appointment as parents/guardians and the child (with Baptism Certificate) applying to St Thomas, will be seen on a 1<sup>st</sup> come, 1<sup>st</sup> served basis.

**JOSIE'S KITCHEN:** Josie is looking for donations of various items to make her food packages for the Homeless at Christmas. If you can spare any of the following items: - cup-a-soups, sachets of noodles, pot noodles, sachets of coffee drinks, hot chocolate, long life milk. Tins of ready meals e.g. Chilli-con-carne, casserole, minced beef, tinned potatoes, tinned tomato, baked beans, spaghetti hoops, tinned fruit & puddings, tins or cartons of custard, crisps, biscuits, small multipack snacks, small bottles of fizzy or flavored water. Josie also needs thermal underwear (vests, tights +leggings). 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.

**POLISH ADVENT MASSES (Rorate):** These will take place at 6.30pm on the following Thursdays in December: 7<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup>.

**FILIPINO SIMBANG GABI MASSES:** These will take place at 8.00pm on the following dates: Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup>, Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup>, Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> December at Priory Street.

**FILIPINO MASS & CHRISTMAS PARTY:** The Mass will take place on Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> December at 4pm followed by Christmas party in Cardinal Bourne Hall.

**CAFOD ISRAELI-PALESTINIAN CRISIS APPEAL:** Donate to CAFOD's Israeli-Palestinian Crisis Appeal at [cafod.org.uk/ipc](https://cafod.org.uk/ipc) or call 0303 303 3030 to support those affected and get funds to local trusted experts in Gaza and southern Israel who have been working alongside communities helping those most in need. Your donation will help support aid workers providing urgent humanitarian aid including food, water and emergency shelter to those in need. Thank you for your prayers.

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

**MAGNIFICAT NOVEMBER EDITION:** There are free copies of November's issue of Magnificat in the church porch, please feel free to take a copy. Magnificat currently have a short term offer: 3 months for £11.25 available at: <https://catholicherald.co.uk/magnificat/>

**ECUMENCIAL CHRISTMAS CAROLS** at Chesterwell Co-Op on 8<sup>th</sup> December at 6.30pm Please come and join us, all welcome!

**ADVENT TALK ON THE PROPHET ISAIAH:** In preparation for the beginning of Advent Fr Adrian Graffy, parish priest of Gidea Park and Scripture scholar, will be giving a talk on the Prophet Isaiah at 7pm on Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> November in the parish hall at the Catholic Church of Christ the Eternal High Priest, Gidea Park, RM2 6DH. The talk is free and it will also be live-streamed on [www.whatgoodnews.org](https://www.whatgoodnews.org). No booking necessary

**CHURCH CLEANING TEAM:** Monday 20/11/23: **Team 3** / Monday 27/11/23: **Team 4**  
**COFFEE MORNING:** 19/11/23: **Diane + Adrian** / 26/11/23: **The O'Sullivans**