

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT (C)

Expectant Mothers



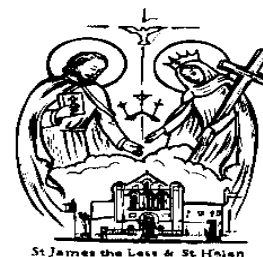
Saturday 18th	Church	6.15 pm	Ron & Margaret Wheeler
Sunday 19th	Church	8.00 am	Private Intention
	Church	10.30 am	Ints: Margaret Hilton
	Church	2.00 pm	Polish Mass
	Church	5.00 pm	Holy Hour & Vespers
	Church	6.30 pm	Private Intention
	Church	8.00 pm	Filipino Simbang Gabi Mass
	West Mersea	8.30 am	Parishioners
	Mile End	9.15 am	Tessa Southon RIP
	Monkwick	10.15 am	Ints: Altar Servers
Monday 20th			Feria
	Church	9.30 am	Ints: Mr. & Mrs. Kennedy Isaac + Family
Tuesday 21st			Feria
	Church	9.30 am	Frederick, Elizabeth + Angelo Lucas
Wednesday 22nd			Feria
	Church	9.30 am	Donor's Intention (CN)
	Church	8.00 pm	Filipino Simbang Gabi Mass
Thursday 23rd			Feria
	Church	9.30 am	Canon John Bloomfield
	Church	6.30 pm	Polish Rorate Mass
Friday 24th			Feria
	Church	9.30 am	Deceased Relatives of Farrell Family
			THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD
	Church	6.00 pm	Ints: Rose + Hugh Pat Robinson
	Monkwick	8.00 pm	Celestine Tighe RIP
	Church	12.00 am	Parishioners
	Monkwick	12.00 am	Polish Midnight Mass
Saturday 25th			CHRISTMAS DAY
	Church	8.00 am	Ints: Geoffrey Charles Osborn
	West Mersea	8.30 am	Daniel Milgate RIP
	Mile End	9.15 am	Toni + Derrick Foley RIP
	Church	10.30 am	Ints: Joe + Ray Canty + Family
	Church	2.00 pm	Polish Mass
			THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH (C)
Sunday 26th	Church	8.00 am	Parishioners
	Church	10.30 am	Jacob Thomas + Mary Jacob RIP
	Church	2.00 pm	Polish Mass
	Church	6.30 pm	Private Intention
	West Mersea	8.30 am	Private Intention
	Mile End	9.15 am	Ints: Fr Neil Brett
	Monkwick	10.15 am	Ros Sutcliffe RIP

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:
Assistant Priest:

Mgr. Christopher Brooks
Fr. Paschal Uche
Fr. Philip Willenbrock

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 St James the Less and St Helen RC Church, Colchester



FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT (C)

WEEK COMMENCING 19TH DECEMBER 2021

Over the years, I have truly grown to love Mary. As a child she was part of the religious furniture, but through the many challenges and changes of my life, I have come to appreciate Mary as an awesome role model, a powerful mediator and a beautiful Mother. This fourth Sunday of Advent the Gospel invites us to see in Mary what Elizabeth and John the Baptist have perceived in Mary, namely, that the Lord is with her. As a river leads us to the sea so Mary leads us to see that indeed the Lord is with her, in her and through her. We see in Mary not merely how to be a Christian but more so what Christianity is; a pure, undeserved gift that transforms the receiver in to a unique mirror image of the giver. For it was by God's gift that Mary was immaculately conceived, again by God's gift that she assented to God's will and it is by God's gift that she now lives to intercede for us in heaven as our Queen and Mother. St Maximilian Kolbe said do not be afraid of loving Mary too much none of us can love her more than Christ. Love for Mary does not diminish our love for Christ, no; on the contrary, it deepens our love for Christ. This Advent and Christmas may we seek to love Mary more, confident that she will lead us more profoundly to the sea of God's presence.



Please note that Face Masks must be worn in Church, unless medically exempt.



Fr. Paschal

PLEASE SEE MASS SCHEDULE FOR ALL CHANGES

DAILY	Morning Prayer	at 9.15 am
CHRISTIAN MEDITATION	Wednesdays (CBH)	at 8.00 pm
DAILY Mon-Fri	Rosary/Divine Mercy	at 8.45 am
2 nd SUNDAY MONTHLY	Eucharistic Adoration	Temporarily suspended

Please refer to the Website Home Page or External Church Notice Board for details on **Covid restrictions**.

As a Reminder: 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.



THE POPE'S INTENTIONS FOR DECEMBER: *Catechists*. Let us pray for the catechists, summoned to announce the Word of God: may they be its witnesses, with courage and creativity and in the power of the Holy Spirit.

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.

CHRISTMAS OFFERING: The Offertory Collection at all the Christmas Masses is, by tradition, the parishioners' personal gift to the Clergy. In this parish, Fr Chris and Fr Paschal are the beneficiaries, since this collection forms the main part of their personal annual income.

CHRISTMAS CRIB COLLECTION IN AID OF THE BRENTWOOD CATHOLIC CHILDREN'S SOCIETY: In accordance with Diocesan policy, our Crib will remain in place until the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord [February 2nd] and these offerings will go to the (BCCS) Brentwood Catholic Children's Society.

CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS: On the last Sunday of Advent, please collect a card bauble from the box situated at the entrance of Church to decorate the tree. On one side to be decorated & on the other a prayer for loved ones, our community ... for Christmas. Please leave your completed bauble in the box at Church exit and this will be safely added to the tree, as a present for all of us, when you come to church over Christmas. Thank you

CHRISTMAS VIGIL MASS : There will be a change from previous years in that during the 6pm Family Vigil Mass on Christmas Eve, the First Holy Communion children will be recreating the Nativity scene and will be in costume. All Children are welcome to attend Mass in Costume but no Mary's, Josephs, Angel Gabriels or Stars please - Thank you.

(BCCS) BRENTWOOD CATHOLIC CHILDREN'S SOCIETY: A special collection will be taken during the 6pm Vigil Mass, which will be added to the Crib Collection. During the remaining days of Advent, all children, young and old, are asked to save their loose change and wrap this as a present, which will then be brought forward during Mass. Thank you.

MILE END NEWS: The next coffee morning will be on 2nd January after the 9:15am Mass at St Joseph's and will be held at the Dog & Pheasant. All welcome.

THE MEDITATION GROUP will not meet on 29th Dec. The following meeting will take place on 5th Jan 2022. Thank you

ST. THOMAS MORE SCHOOL [ADMISSIONS FOR 2022/2023]: (Local Authority Closing Date 15/01/22). The final date for signing of the "**Certificate of Catholic Practice**" will take place in the church crypt on the following date: - **Sunday 9th January 2022 at 4.00pm-5.00pm**. 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 1st come, 1st served basis.

The Masses for week commencing 26th December 2021 are as follows: -



THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH (C)

The Masses for week commencing 26th December 2021

Sunday 26th	Church	8.00 am	Parishioners
	Church	10.30 am	Jacob Thomas + Mary Jacob RIP
	Church	2.00 pm	Polish Mass
	Church	6.30 pm	Private Intention
	West Mersea	8.30 am	Private Intention
	Mile End	9.15 am	Ints: Fr Neil Brett
	Monkwick	10.15 am	Ros Sutcliffe RIP
Monday 27th	Church	9.30 am	ST JOHN, Ap, Evangelist Mrs. Hermione J.
Tuesday 28th	Church	9.30 am	THE HOLY INNOCENTS, Mm Tessa Southon RIP
Wednesday 29th	Church	9.30 am	ST THOMAS OF CANTERBURY, Bp, M Timothy English RIP
Thursday 30th	Church	9.30 am	Sixth Day within Octave of Christmas Melanie O'Flynn
	Monkwick	11.00 am	Funeral Mass: Rosalie Sutcliffe RIP
Friday 31st	Church	9.30 am	Seventh Day within Octave of Christmas Ints: Patrick John Lyons
Saturday 1st January 2022	Church	9.30 am	MARY, MOTHER OF GOD Edwina Bunn
			SECOND SUNDAY AFTER THE NATIVITY
Saturday 1st	Church	6.15 pm	Jerome Burke RIP
Sunday 2nd	Church	8.00 am	Parishioners
	Church	10.30 am	Ints: Maureen + Peter Ahern + Family
	Church	2.00 pm	Polish Mass
	Church	4.00 pm	Filipino Mass
	Church	6.30 pm	Private Intention
	West Mersea	8.30 am	Private Intention
	Mile End	9.15 am	Holy Souls
	Monkwick	10.15 am	Ints: Joseph Hawken

Please note that there will be **no** newsletter for week commencing 26th December.

MISSIO CHRISTMAS CALENDARS IN CHURCH PORCH: Please take a free calendar.

PARISH FINANCES: If you wish to make an offering/donation this can be done 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):-
Priory St: <https://www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/donations?parish=colchester>
Mile End: <https://www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/donations?parish=colchester-c>
Mersea: <https://www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/donations?parish=colchester-b>
Monkwick: <https://www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/donations?parish=colchester-d>

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

SVP (St Vincent de Paul Society): Tel: 07493 439427 or email: colchestersvp@gmail.com

CHURCH CLEANING TEAM: Monday 20/12/21: **Team 4** / Thursday 30/12/21: **Team 1**
CBH COFFEE MORNING ROTA: 19/12/21 (Matthew & Mariamma) +26/12/21 (Frances + Nora)