

### THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT (C)

<b>Saturday 19<sup>th</sup></b>	Church	6.15 pm	Bill & Daphne Reader RIP
<b>Sunday 20<sup>th</sup></b>	Church	8.00 am	Agnes Williams RIP
	Church	10.30 am	Parishioners
	Church	2.00 pm	Polish Mass
	Church	6.30 pm	Private Intention
	West Mersea	8.30 am	Private Intention
	Mile End	9.15 am	Iris Jay RIP
	Monkwick	10.15 am	Anniversary: Olive Hewitt RIP
<b>Monday 21<sup>st</sup></b>	Church	9.30 am	<b>Feria</b> Frederick, Elizabeth + Angelo Lucas
<b>Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup></b>	Church	9.30 am	<b>Feria</b> Patrick J. Cunningham RIP
<b>Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup></b>	Church	9.30 am	<b>Feria</b> Ints: Manuel Baby
<b>Thursday 24<sup>th</sup></b>	Church	9.30 am	<b>Feria</b> Canon John Bloomfield
	Church	7.00 pm	<b>ADORATION &amp; PRAYER</b>
<b>Friday 25<sup>th</sup></b>	Church	9.30 am	<b>THE ANNUNCIATION OF THE LORD</b> Margaret Barker RIP
	Church	7.30 pm	<b>STATIONS OF THE CROSS</b>
<b>Saturday 26<sup>th</sup></b>	Church	9.30 am	<b>Feria</b> Ints: People of Ukraine
<b>FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT (C)</b> 'Laetare' Sunday			
<b>Saturday 26<sup>th</sup></b>	Church	6.15 pm	Richard Lambe RIP
<b>Sunday 27<sup>th</sup></b>	Church	8.00 am	Parishioners
	Church	10.30 am	Sheila Rowlands 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	Private Intention
	Monkwick	10.15 am	Mary H. Davies 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 10am Mass and 5.30pm-6.00pm
- ❖ 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. The Mass Intention will be published in the newsletter (available on the parish website or via Facebook or collection from Church).
- ❖ Visiting for the Sacrament of the Sick is possible, Please contact the Presbytery.
- ❖ 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

# 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



**THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT (C)**  
**WEEK COMMENCING 20<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2022**

I'm sure we are familiar with the idea, prevalent in Jesus' day, that to be rich and healthy was a sign of God's blessing and therefore proof that the person was 'good' whereas being poor/sick was the opposite. This also means that a person who did 'good things' expected to be rewarded by God. I would suggest that this idea still occurs today. Thus, we do find people who practise a religion, say prayers etc, but when something happens which is unwelcome eg illness, they get upset at God for not keeping his side of the bargain (a bargain they have imagined). Similarly, doing something 'extra', such as saying more prayers, so as to 'win' God's favour and be rewarded with a successful exam or job interview. Jesus rejects all such bargaining and requires repentance, using a word which means a deep conversion, a radical turning around rather than just saying sorry. Repentance means we know our inability to do anything good without God's grace, while also knowing that we are God's children and heirs to the Kingdom by his free gift – humility and dignity together.

Fr. Chris



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!

**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 Mon-Fri	Rosary/Divine Mercy	at 8.45 am
2 <sup>nd</sup> SUNDAY MONTHLY	Eucharistic Adoration	Temporarily suspended



**THE POPE'S INTENTIONS FOR MARCH: A Christian Response to Bioethical Challenges.** We pray for Christians facing new bioethical challenges; may they continue to defend the dignity of all human life with prayer and action.

**MARRIAGE MATTERS:** (Exodus 3:1-8, 13-15; 1 Corinthians 10: 1-6, 10-12; Luke 13: 1-9) *What's in a name?* Yahweh means 'I am who I am'. Names bring to mind the person, and what they mean to you. Our God – Three Persons, created me, loves me, redeemed me, makes me holy, and is compassionate, merciful and forgiving. Just as MY Jack, MY Jill has shown me the same love, we have tried to show it to our children.

**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 are ill or have contracted Covid-19 and their families.

**MASS TIMES ARE CHANGING** – please make sure you get a copy of the handout and/or check our Facebook page, and respond. Thank you.


**2<sup>nd</sup> COLLECTION RE UKRAINE APPEAL:** After all Masses this weekend there will be a collection taken for Caritas Ukraine Appeal. This will be kept open if people wish to donate. We pray for the people of Ukraine today. We pray for peace and the laying down of weapons.

**CARITAS BRENTWOOD: Helping those in the Ukraine, and Ukrainian Refugees.** Caritas Brentwood are regularly updating information on their website, covering donations, prayer, and welcoming those who are fleeing the Ukraine. You will find everything at: <https://www.caritasbrentwood.org/ukraine/>

**EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS, Priory Street Masses:** As more of us are returning to our normal patterns and more people are returning to Sunday Mass, if you feel you are able to return to assisting as Extra Ordinary Ministers of the Eucharist at Sunday Mass please give your name and contact details to Cathy O'Connor 01206 735623 or email [cathy@dioceseofbrentwood.org](mailto:cathy@dioceseofbrentwood.org) so your name can be included in the Rota. Thank you.

**CHILDREN'S LITURGY:** We are happy to be able to re start Children's liturgy on Sundays at 10:30am Mass. Children in Reception class and of pre-school age are welcome to attend with a parent, where they will hear a story, sing and take part in an activity. We are looking for volunteers to assist with the sessions, if you would like to find out more, please contact Kelly via email - [kemarie1979@gmail.com](mailto:kemarie1979@gmail.com)

**CHURCH CHOIR:** The next Choir Practice will take place on Saturday 26/03/22 at 12.30pm. Please contact Claire for more details on 07482253284. **New Members always welcome.**

**SVP:**  **CUPPA CLUB:** will meet every Thursday from 10.00am to 11.30am in Cardinal Bourne Hall. Come and enjoy a free tea/coffee and cake with friends. Newspapers, puzzles, games and craft etc., will be available. If you know anyone who would like to come but needs a lift, please get in touch Tel: 07493 439427 or email: [colchestersvp@gmail.com](mailto:colchestersvp@gmail.com)

**BRENTWOOD DIOCESE SCHOOL/ADMIN VACANCIES:** details are available from <https://www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/departments/education/vacancies/school-vacancies/>

**COLCHESTER CATENIANS INVITE YOU TO THEIR CEILIDH / BARN DANCE & CURRY SUPPER EVENING:** On Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> April 7.30pm til late at PlayGolf Colchester. This will be a great fun evening with dancing to the Caledonian Reelers live band. Tickets are £25 per head and this includes a Curry & Buffet Meal available. To book tickets email [Colchester.catenians@gmail.com](mailto:Colchester.catenians@gmail.com)

**ESSEX LEG OF PILGRIM CROSS (FORMERLY STUDENT CROSS):** We kindly ask for Volunteers to cook and serve an evening meal on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> April and breakfast on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> April to approx. 15-18 Students who will be sleeping in Cardinal Bourne Hall whilst taking part in the Essex leg of the Easter Walking Pilgrimage to Walsingham. Please contact the Clergy if you are able to assist in any way in feeding these tired and hungry young people.

**THE DIOCESAN LOURDES PILGRIMAGE:** Bp Alan will lead the diocesan pilgrimage to Lourdes from 24 – 29 July; a time to pray at the Grotto of Our Lady and enjoy the opportunities of this experience. You can book now on-line: [www.tangney-tours.com/brentwood](http://www.tangney-tours.com/brentwood) For further information, please phone Cathy O'Connor, the Administrative Director: 01206 735623.

**SUPPORT THE FOODBANK THIS LENT:** Caritas is inviting you to collect at home and donate a box of items for the foodbank throughout Lent, by following their Lenten Giving Calendar <https://www.caritasbrentwood.org/news/lenten-giving-calendar/>. Once completed donate directly to our local foodbank - just in time for Easter week.

**THRESHOLDS OF HOPE QUESTION: What does it mean to talk about Christ as our Redeemer?** Input will be given by Mgr John Armitage on Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> March, 4–5pm. via Zoom. To join this Zoom meeting simply forward a contact email to [adultformationvicariate@dioceseofbrentwood.org](mailto:adultformationvicariate@dioceseofbrentwood.org). For more information go to [www.thresholdsofhope.co.uk](http://www.thresholdsofhope.co.uk)

**VOCATIONS:** The next "Enquirers' Evening" for those considering or interested in a vocation to the priesthood is on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> April at St Edmund of Canterbury Church in Loughton. The speaker will be Mgr Kevin Hale. For further information please contact Fr Mark Swires [vocprom@dioceseofbrentwood.org](mailto:vocprom@dioceseofbrentwood.org)

**CARITAS DIOCESE OF BRENTWOOD** are inviting people from the night of April 8<sup>th</sup> to the morning of April 9<sup>th</sup>, to join the 2022 Sponsored Sleepout. Raising awareness and money to help our local homeless charities and the Brentwood Catholic Youth Service. All information can be found at [www.caritasbrentwood.org/sleepout](http://www.caritasbrentwood.org/sleepout) or by emailing [sleepout@dioceseofbrentwood.org](mailto:sleepout@dioceseofbrentwood.org)

**BE PART OF THE WALSINGHAM HOUSE TEAM 2022/23:** If you will be 18+ in September, and are looking for an exciting gap year opportunity, deepening team working and practical skills in a context of youth leadership, and developing your faith, then a year on the Walsingham House Team could be perfect for you. For more information please contact Joseph Beattie, by emailing [josephbeattie@dioceseofbrentwood.org](mailto:josephbeattie@dioceseofbrentwood.org) or calling 01277 373959. There is an open afternoon from 2-4pm on Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> April; for more information and to register, go to [www.bcys.net/events/whopenday/](http://www.bcys.net/events/whopenday/)

**NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER AND FASTING FOR LIFE:** On Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> March the Vigil of the Annunciation, please pray and fast for the end of abortion and euthanasia in this Country. On this month's Day of Prayer and Fasting for Life, we are especially asking you to fast and pray for the end of DIY abortions at home. Please join in and invite others to join as well. [www.GoodCounselNetwork.com](http://www.GoodCounselNetwork.com) This will also be the day before the Holy Father consecrates Ukraine and Russia to the Immaculate Heart of Mary, so please pray for this as well.

**CHURCH CLEANING TEAM:** Thursday 24/03/22: **Team 1** / Monday 28/03/22: **Team 2**  
**CBH COFFEE MORNING ROTA:** 20/03/22 (SVP) / 27/03/22 (Matthew + Mariamma)