

ST. JAMES THE LESS AND ST. HELEN

CATHOLIC CHURCH, COLCHESTER

WITH MERSEA, MILE END AND MONKWICK



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SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME [A]

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In his speech to the Bishops' Conference of England and Wales in May, the apostolic Nuncio stressed one topic: "I cannot fail to express concern about the Assisted Dying Bill which will be discussed in the next few months in the House of Lords. This is a very sensitive issue, which required a serious commitment from us to protect and defend human life as a gift from God. As Pope Francis said in His Message to Catholics in Ireland, Scotland, England and Wales on the occasion of the Day for Life celebrated last year: "Even the weakest and most vulnerable, the sick, the old, the unborn and the poor, are masterpieces of God's creation, made in his own image, destined to live forever, and deserving of the utmost reverence and respect".

Pope Francis in his Apostolic Exhortation *Evangelii Gaudium* refers to the "'thrown away' culture" in which the "excluded are not the 'exploited' but the outcast, the 'leftovers'" (n. 53). In his more recent Message to the Pontifical Academy for Life the Holy Father says that in our societies we find the "'exclusion of the elderly, especially when he or she is ill, disabled or vulnerable for any reason". Against this kind of exclusion, the Holy Father affirms that "poor health and disability are never a good reason for excluding or, worse, for eliminating a person".

Archbishop Mennini encouraged "each one of you to announce the Gospel of Life among our People, as well as in Society in general, presenting the reality which hides behind the "nice", "politically correct" and "compassionate" expression "assisted dying". Unfortunately we know from experience how easily public opinion can be manipulated, especially using "emotional" arguments that try to move compassionate sentiments. But once we open this "Pandora's box" we know as well the horrible consequences that follow."

Well, by the time you read this the Lords will have debated the Second Reading.

Whatever the outcome we can be sure that this issue will not go away. Next weekend we will once again celebrate a Day for Life and we can make our influence felt, firstly by prayer and then at least by supporting the Second Collection which will go to excellent causes including the Anscombe Bioethics Centre (formerly the Linacre Centre). The Day for Life prayer will be available on the leaflet produced by the bishops and to be distributed then. Visit: www.dayforlife.org for more information.

Catholics believe that we are made in the image and likeness of God, that life is a gift from God and that suffering can have a meaning and purpose. These should be reasons enough for us to defend our society against this most chilling exclusion.

Fr Neil Brett

Please see Mass Schedule for ANY changes

SUNDAYS:	Divine Mercy followed by Rosary	3pm
DAILY:	Morning Prayer 8:15am; Rosary/Divine Mercy	8:35am
EVENING PRAYER:	Fridays at 6pm	Church
PRAYER GROUP:	Mondays at 7:45pm	Crypt
MEDITATION GROUP:	Tuesdays at 8pm	Crypt

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK (new entries are in bold type): Please remember in your prayers; Władysław Antończak, Pat Banks, June Bickersteth, Grace Blanchette, Frank Campbell, Karl Collins, Val Crane, Brian and Pauline Critchley, Olive Crawford, Jeanette Dagwell, Lynne-Michelle Denton, Nancy Drummond, Fr Paul Dynan, Gianni Emoli, Charlie George, Bill Graves, Bert Hewitt, Norah Hewitt, Maurice Highfield, Theresa Hogan, Ronald Jay, Pat Keene, Patrick King, Declan Knight, Irma Knowles, Peter Ledgley, Mirella Leonardi, Marie Lyons, Pat Maloney, Cara Maude, Colleen Mercedes, **Byron Miller**, Margaret Norman, Anne Renwick, Leah Patterson, Elaine Proudfoot, Ronald Quijano, Sabina Rhatigan, Douglas Rogers, Catherine Spicer, Angela Udall, Arthur Urquhart, Filomena Velasquez, Patricia Wiltshire, Tony White, Dorcey Young.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO HAVE YOUR CHILD BAPTISED? The next Baptism course will be Friday September 29th and Friday October 3rd in the Crypt from 7:30pm – 9pm. There is no need to make an appointment but both sessions must be attended. Entry to the Crypt is via the Church. [This course is for new-borns up to age 6]

BAPTISM CERTIFICATES: Certificates for the following children are still awaiting collection: Abbey Calanan, Olivia Geary-Cooper, Erin Goody, Joy Mukada, Myra Olufeyisan, Betsy Osborne, Ava Pickett, Sebastian Slawinski, Elizabeth Turner, Dominic Uzukwu, Jessie Wampamba, Tilly White, Joseph Wilkinson.

RECENTLY DECEASED: Please pray from the repose of the souls of Patrick Coe, Monika Hickmott and Victoria McLellan. We extend our deepest sympathy to their families. Monica's Requiem Mass will be on Thursday 24th July at 11am Priory St. Victoria's Requiem Mass will be on Monday 28th July at 10:30am.

HOWARD ASHCROFT: Bernie and family would like to thank everyone who came to Howard's Requiem Mass and also for the many cards and Mass dedications received. Special thanks to Fr. Tony for such a lovely service.

Fronks Road, Dovercourt. Refreshments afterwards. All our very welcome.

CHURCH CLEANERS: Thursday 24th July – Team 3

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME [A] - 20th July

Saturday July 19th

Mile End

6:00 pm KERALA MASS

6:15 pm Joe Mooney RIP

Sunday July 20th

8:00 am Canon Thomas Clarke RIP

10:30 am Anthony Southon RIP

4:00 pm POLISH MASS

6:30 pm Dorothy Burke RIP

West Mersea

8:30 am Parishioners

Mile End

9:15 am Howard Ashcroft RIP

Monkwick

10:15 am Private Intention

Monday 21st

Feria

Church **7:30 am** Howard Ashcroft RIP

Church **9:15 am** Canon T W Clarke RIP

Tuesday 22nd

St Mary Magdalene

Church **9:15 am** Mr K T George RIP

Wednesday 23rd

ST BRIDGET OF SWEDEN, Rel

Church **7:30 am** Eddy Crummy RIP

Church **12:15 pm** Anna Norfolk RIP [LS]

Thursday 24th

Feria

Church **9:15 am** Frederick, Elizabeth & Angelo Lucas RIP

Church **11:00 am REQUIEM MASS – Monika Hickmott RIP**

Friday 25th

ST JAMES, Ap

Church **9:15 am** Ints: Jim & Margaret

Church **6:30 pm** Howard Ashcroft RIP

Saturday 26th

St Joachim and Anne, Parents of the BVM

Church **9:15 am** Ints: Judy Hemming-Allen

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME [A] - 27th July

(Day for Life)

Saturday July 26th

6:15 pm Anna Norfolk RIP [R&AK]

Sunday July 27th

8:00 am John Egan RIP

10:30 am Joan Norman RIP

2:00 pm POLISH MASS

4:00 pm FILIPINO MASS

6:30 pm Geoffrey New RIP

West Mersea

8:30 am Parishioners

Mile End

9:15 am Mrs Anna Mele RIP

Monkwick

10:15 am Ints: Brown Family [CB]

Cardinal Bourne Hall

SECOND COLLECTION: This Sunday 20th July – there will be a collection for the work of CAFOD. On Sunday 27th July – there will be the annual Day for Life collection. On Sunday 3rd August there will be a collection for the White Fathers (see below)

WHITE FATHER'S APPEAL: On the weekend of the 26th / 27th July we welcome Fr Joseph Cummins of the Missionaries of Africa (The White Fathers) to our parish. He will be saying all the Masses for us at Priory St on the Sunday and will make an appeal on behalf of the White Father's. They are an international team of priests, brothers and lay associates from Africa, Britain and many countries around the world. Any ministry which has a real relationship with Africa, no matter in what part of the world it may be, is considered by the Missionaries of Africa to be within the scope of the apostolate. Through parish work, building up small Christian communities, working with the media, involvement in justice and peace, agriculture, seminary training, education and social welfare; the Missionaries of Africa aim to work in partnership with the Church in Africa and above all else, to help build up the leadership of the Churches.

MERSEA NEWS: The August coffee morning will be hosted by Bernadette Ebling on Tuesday August 12th at 3 Firs Road. Come along and enjoy it with friends.

MONKWICK NEWS: Next coffee morning is Saturday 26th July at Grace McCartney's.

SCHOOL HOLIDAYS: We wish our school children, their teachers and staff a happy and holy holiday. May they know the protection of Our Lady of Wisdom in all they do. We pray especially for those leaving school. May they retain what is good from what they have learned, and discard what is bad. May they listen to the guidance of God for the next stage of their lives.

ST JOHN BOSCO CHILDREN'S CAMP: The St John Bosco Centre provides an opportunity for children to have an exciting, activity-packed camping holiday in a countryside setting. The site is set in over forty acres of Essex countryside and is owned and maintained by SVP volunteers. Activities include football, cricket, netball, swimming (supervised in a pool), climbing, archery (instructor led), mountain biking, fishing, art and crafts, table tennis, basketball etc and many other games. A cooked breakfast, lunch, dinner and evening snacks are provided, and all activities are also included in the cost. Boys (8 – 14 yrs) and Girls (9 – 12 yrs). Week one of camp for the boys begins on Saturday 26th July followed by week two for the boys and then week three for the girls. Cost is £140. Contact Irene 841 236 www.svpboscocamp.org.uk bookings@svpboscocamp.org.uk

PARISH FAMILY BBQ: Saturday August 16th 3 – 5pm in the church garden. Adults £6, Children (5 to 12 yrs) £3. Play area for children available. Good food. Live entertainment, Raffle. Please contact Nora: 503410 or Frances: 369568.

SOUP RUN: Two volunteers are needed to cover from 20th August – 20th September. Must be car owner – all equipment provided. Please contact Armando T: 854 921

HARWICH 150TH ANNIVERSARY: The Catholic Parish of Harwich was established on the 16th July 1864. There will be a Service of Thanksgiving for 150 Years on Wednesday 16th July at 7.30 p.m in the Church of Our Lady Queen of Heaven,

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