


### THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (B)

<b>Saturday 20<sup>th</sup></b>	<i>Monkwick</i>	5.00 pm	Roger Kemp RIP
<b>Sunday 21<sup>st</sup></b>	<i>Church</i>	8.00 am	Kitty Reilly 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	Erwin Cagadas + Marilou Barraca RIP
	<i>Mile End</i>	9.30 am	Private Intention
<b>Monday 22<sup>nd</sup></b>			<b>Feria</b>
	<i>Church</i>	9.30 am	Roger Kemp RIP
<b>Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup></b>			<b>Feria</b>
	<i>Church</i>	9.30 am	Frederick, Elizabeth + Angelo Lucas
<b>Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup></b>			<b>St Francis de Sales, Bp, D</b>
	<i>Church</i>	9.30 am	Filomena + Joel Jimenez RIP
<b>Thursday 25<sup>th</sup></b>			<b>THE CONVERSION OF ST PAUL, Ap</b>
	<i>Church</i>	9.30 am	Frederick, Elizabeth + Angelo Lucas
<b>Friday 26<sup>th</sup></b>			<b>Ss Timothy &amp; Titus, Bpp</b>
	<i>Church</i>	9.30 am	Canon John Bloomfield
<b>Saturday 27<sup>th</sup></b>			<b>Memorial of the Blessed Virgin Mary</b>
	<i>Church</i>	9.30 am	Anniversary: Mike Taylor RIP
<b>Saturday 27<sup>th</sup></b>	<i>Monkwick</i>	5.00 pm	Michael Scanlon RIP
<b>Sunday 28<sup>th</sup></b>	<i>Church</i>	8.00 am	Raymond Alexander RIP
	<i>Church</i>	10.30 am	Norah Hewitt
	<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	Thanksgiving

- ❖ 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).
- ❖ Church Loop System: Please note that the Church loop system serves all the seats in the centre Nave but not the aisles or the chancel.
- ❖ 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).

- **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

## THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (B)

Week commencing 21<sup>st</sup> January 2024

The second reading is a beautiful admonition from St Paul. He says, the world, as we know it is passing away. He goes on to encourage us to be as detached as possible from the things that we possess by living as though we hadn't those things. Dear friends, God made us and blessed us with family, friends, possession (wealth), talents, gifts and power, that they may help us live happily. They are not end in themselves. Hence the message of St Paul. We are reminded that all we see is passing. We must use what we have to achieve what we are seeking, namely, eternal life. So be not too attached to the things that you possess. With the psalmist let us pray - teach us Lord to count our days aright, that we may gain wisdom of heart.

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 JANUARY** *For the gift of diversity in the church:* We pray that the Holy Spirit may help us to recognise the gift of different charisms within the Christian Community and to discover the richness of different traditions and rituals in the Catholic Church.



**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. We pray for the laying down of all weapons.

**MARRIAGE MATTERS:** (1 Samuel 3:3-10, 19 1 Corinthians 6:13-15, 17-20 John 1:35-42) *Welcomed in His name.* When Andrew and Simon Peter met Jesus, they asked Him: "*Rabbi, where do you live?*" He said: "*Come and see.*" They went, and stayed for the rest of the day. Did Mary, His mother, return to find strangers in her house and welcome and serve them in her Son's name? Do we welcome and serve one another in His name?

**PRAYERS FOR THE SICK:** We continue to pray for those parishioners we know who are sick and housebound especially Grace McCartney, 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:** The next Diocesan collection will be for Racial Justice Sunday, which will take place on 28<sup>th</sup> January. Racial Justice Sunday is the day the Church focuses on the need to oppose racism and pursue racial justice with renewed vigour. This year's theme is '*Seeing one another in the life of the Church*'.

**BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP:** When we lose someone we have loved, a relationship where we felt safe, or a job where we felt fulfilled, we are left with grief that affects us emotionally and spiritually. Working together with two neighbouring parishes, we offer opportunities for support at a time of bereavement and loss: **Group support** at St Teresa's, Lexden and St. John Payne's Greenstead and **one to one help** in St James the Less, Priory St. The leaders are trained and experienced and are, or have been part of St Helena's Hospice Counselling and Emotional Support Team. More details on Notice Board, website and Facebook.



**CUPPA CLUB:** We meet **every Thursday from 10.00am to 11.30am** in the Hall. This is an opportunity to relax and catch up with others from the local community and enjoy the warm space.

**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 2<sup>nd</sup>] and these offerings will go to the (BCCS) Brentwood Catholic Children's Society.

**PALM CROSSES:** We would be grateful if people could bring their old palm crosses back to us. A basket is situated in the Church Porch for collection of these. Thank you.

**CHRISTIAN MEDITATION GROUP:** We thank the Christian Meditation Group for their kind donation of £100 towards Church funds.

**BRENTWOOD DIOCESAN DIRECTORY 2024:** There are copies of the directory available in the Church porch – these are very useful as they contain the liturgical calendar for the church year and information about all parts of the Diocese including Diocesan contact details, parishes, schools, prayer groups and other organisations and societies. Priced at £2.95 per copy. Please leave money in Repository box on wall in Church Porch. Thank you.

**GIFT AID:** Please consider gift aiding your offertory donations. Information can be found on the Parish website. Parish Registration Forms and separate Gift Aid Declaration /Standing Order forms can be found in the Church porch. Every £1.00 you donate to the Church is worth £1.25 when you Gift Aid it, at No Extra Cost to You.

**THE SVP ARE LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS WILLING TO HELP CHILDREN PUT THEIR FAITH INTO ACTION. COULD THIS BE YOU?** The St Vincent de Paul Society have primary school groups called Mini Vinnies, and volunteers would support teachers or youth leaders wishing to start a group in their school or parish. They will talk to children about how they can make a difference to those living in poverty and share resources to support the group. The role is flexible but does need people with some availability during school hours (at least 2 mornings or afternoons per month) who are willing to travel within the diocese (all costs are covered). If you are passionate about helping children discover how they can make a difference in their communities, please email Sarah for more information on [youngvincentians@svp.org.uk](mailto:youngvincentians@svp.org.uk). You do not have to have previous experience of working with children as all training will be given. Our next initial training day is on Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> February 2024.

**BRENTWOOD CATHEDRAL LENTEN TALKS:** A series of 4 talks on the recent Synod on Synodality, which took place in Rome last October has been organised for the Holy Lenten season this year. We have managed to secure 4 speakers who were participants at the Synod. Fr Timothy Radcliffe OP, (Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> February 2024) who was appointed by the Pope as the Guest Preacher and Spiritual Director for the whole Synod; The Revd Dr Jan Nowotnik (Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> February 2024) Director of Mission for the Bishops' Conference, and its National Ecumenical Officer; Mr Austen Ivereigh (Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> March 2024) Catholic Journalist, Biographer of Pope Francis; Writer, speaker on contemporary Church affairs; Bishop Nicholas Hudson Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> March 2024) Auxiliary Bishop of Westminster, (former Rector of the Ven English College, Rome), appointed delegate at the Synod last October. All the Talks will take place at Brentwood Cathedral at 7.30pm. Considering the Bishop's Pastoral Letter recently this will be a wonderful opportunity to learn about the Synod on Synodality, and this invitation is open to the whole Diocese.

### UPCOMING BCYS EVENTS LISTED BELOW: -

- Youth Mass - on the 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday every month from 6.00pm at Brentwood Cathedral and in the Parish Hall.
- Summer Lourdes Pilgrimage - applications are now open
- Year 12 Retreat - takes place from Friday 16<sup>th</sup> February to Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> February for anyone in Year 12 to explore their faith further and learn more about God's role in our lives.
- FLAME 2025 - tickets are now on sale.
- Walsingham House - for academic year 2024/2025, applications are now open for anyone currently in year 13 or above to volunteer.

For more information on any of the above, please visit [www.bcys.net](http://www.bcys.net).

**CHURCH CLEANING TEAM:** 26/01/24: **Team 5** / Thursday 02/02/25: **Team 1**

**COFFEE MORNING:** 21/01/24: The O'Sullivans / 28/01/24: Peggy & Anne  
2024 Rota's in Church Porch for Coffee Morning – volunteers welcome to take a copy.