

ST. JAMES THE LESS AND ST. HELEN

CATHOLIC CHURCH, COLCHESTER

WITH MERSEA, MILE END AND MONKWICK



YEAR OF FAITH 2012
2013

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SIXTEENTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR [C] - 21st July 2013

Parish Mass Book – Page 111

On Wednesday the Bishops of England and Wales issued a statement which begins: "In receiving Royal Assent, the Marriage (Same Sex Couples) Act marks a watershed in English law and heralds a profound social change. This fact is acknowledged by both advocates and opponents of the Act."

The Bishops sum up their position:

"The new Act breaks the existing legal links between the institution of marriage and sexual complementarity. With this new legislation, marriage has now become an institution in which openness to children, and with it the responsibility on fathers and mothers to remain together to care for children born into their family unit, are no longer central. That is why we were opposed to this legislation on principle."

The Bishops are quick to acknowledge that the legislation has been "improved" during its passage through parliament:

"We also welcome the Government's amendment to the Public Order Act which makes it clear beyond doubt that "discussion or criticism of marriage which concerns the sex of the parties to the marriage shall not be taken of itself to be threatening or intended to stir up hatred". Individuals are therefore protected from criminal sanction under the Public Order Act when discussing or expressing disagreement with same sex marriage."

It is of course sad that in a supposedly free society this could not be taken for granted. The Bishops highlight a particular concern in relation to Catholic schools, a battleground for so much of the secular agenda of pressure-groups today:

"We were concerned to provide legislative clarity for schools with a religious character. This was in order to ensure that these schools will be able to continue to teach in accordance with their religious tenets. Given the potential risk that

future guidance given by a Secretary of State for education regarding sex and relationships education could now conflict with Church teaching on marriage, we were disappointed that an amendment to provide this clarity was not accepted." Unless we exercise vigilance as parents, governors and teachers, we may find that our children are being taught in opposition to the truths of the Church. To have our children turned against us in matters of Faith would be reminiscent of the Soviet Union.

The Bishops will try to hold the government to assurances made: "... Ministerial assurances have been made that no one can suffer detriment or unfavourable treatment in employment because she or he holds the belief that marriage can only be between a man and a woman."

The Bishops conclude: "The legal and political traditions of this country are founded on a firm conviction concerning the rights of people to hold and express their beliefs and views, at the same time as respecting those who differ from them. It is important, at this moment in which deeply held and irreconcilable views of marriage have been contested, to affirm and strengthen this tradition."

May Saints John Fisher and Thomas More, who defended marriage with their blood, pray for us.

EVENTS THIS WEEK

Please see Mass Schedule for ANY changes

NO HOSPITAL MASS THIS FRIDAY, 26TH JULY

Saturday 27 th	10am-2pm	VSO Sale [see below]	CBHall
"	3pm-6pm	Strawberry Tea [see below]	CBHall

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 8pm
Crypt	
MEDITATION GROUP:	Tuesdays at 8pm
Crypt	

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK (new entries are in bold type): Please remember in your prayers, Anne Barry, June Bickersteth, Grace Blanchette, Frank Campbell, Rosaleen Campbell, Ian Cole, Richard Cox, Stanley Crane, Val Crane, Olive Crawford, Lynne-Michelle Denton, Nancy Drummond, Fr Paul Dynan, Gianni Emoli, Kitty Foley, Charlie George, Venetia Hetherington, Maurice Highfield, Theresa Hogan, Minimol Joseph, Pat Keene, Patrick King, Declan Knight, Mirella Leonardi, Val Ling, Maria Mahy, Pat Maloney, Cara Maude, Paula Nash, Margaret Norman, Leah Patterson, Elaine Proudfoot, Sabina Rhatigan, The Sharfraie Family, Catherine Spicer, Arthur Urquhart, Filomena Velasquez, Ron Wheeler, Tony White, Dorcey Young.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO GET YOUR CHILD BAPTISED? The next Baptism course will be Friday 6th and 13th September 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].

RECENTLY DECEASED: Please pray for the repose of the soul of Barry Fitzgerald who has recently died. May he rest in peace. His Requiem Mass will take place here on Tuesday next, 23rd July, at 1:30pm.

MERSEA NEWS: Change of venue for the next Coffee Morning on August 13th: Rewsalls Farm, East Mersea, to be hosted by Anne Marie Jacobs. Margaret Brooks will host the Coffee Morning on 10th September.

MONKWICK NEWS: Thanks to all those who supported our last Coffee Morning. The next date for your diary is August 31st, between 10am and 12pm, and will be hosted by Grace McCartney, 20a, Buxton Road.

SECOND COLLECTIONS: There will be a second collection next weekend 27th/28th July in aid of DAY FOR LIFE.

DOWNTON ABBEY FANS: The SVP trip to Highclere Castle on Sunday 18th August will pick up on East Hill at 9am. There are 5 remaining spaces, cost £42, if anyone is interested. To book please phone 07970 408 707. Would those already booked please pay the balance of £32 by 29th July.

CONFIRMATION COURSE: 2013/14: In order to get confirmed at Pentecost 2014 you have to complete the Parish course of instruction and be aged 14 years old on the day of the confirmation service. If you wish to be confirmed at Pentecost and are in Year 9 at school and under the age of 18 then please leave your name and contact details (inc email) with either Andrew and Elspeth Johnson at the 10:30 mass on Sundays or with the priest at the mass you attend or ring the parish office. For the course to run we need to know numbers by the end of the school summer term. Alongside the course there will be a parents course.

Tel 01206 618846 or email Andrew.johnson13@talktalk.net.

PARISH FAMILY BARBEQUE: Saturday August 17th. Details to follow

50p - £5 SALE: Saturday July 27th from 10am – 2pm in the Cardinal Bourne Hall. Tea & Coffee and light refreshments available. Proceeds to Dr Thalanany's fund-raising for VSO.

VOLUNTARY SERVICE OVERSEAS: One of our parishioners, Dr Matthew Thalanany, has been selected to join VSO. His first assignment is to be in Ethiopia. Matthew leaves in September. He requests your generous donations to VSO's work in the world's poorest nations. Amongst a variety of fundraising events is a fun-filled fund-raising evening Saturday 20th July at the Highwoods Community Centre, Highwoods, CO4 9SR (Tickets £5 per head). His VSO Just Giving website gives more detailed information: <http://www.justgiving.com/MATTHEW-THALANANY-IN-ETHIOPIA> - in fact you can donate safely and directly through the website; taxpayers please tick the Gift Aid button.

KNIGHTS OF ST COLUMBA STRAWBERRY TEAS: Cardinal Bourne Hall on the 27th July from 3 - 6 pm with Mass at 6.15pm. There will also be a Raffle (prizes are always welcome).

DIARY DATE: Distance Learning with convenient Study Days: Beginning Autumn 2013 the Maryvale Institute and Sion Community are collaborating to facilitate New Evangelisation & Ministry Courses. Pathways offered: Parish Ministry, Ministry to the Sick, Youth Ministry and Family Ministry. Contact: Maryvale Institute. Tel: 0121 360 8118, evangelisation@maryvale.ac.uk www.maryvale.ac.uk "Taster Days" available 24-25th August 2013 at Summer School, Buckfast Abbey. Contact artassistant@maryvale.ac.uk

CHURCH CLEANERS: Thursday 25th July – Team 1.

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR [C]

21st July 2013

Saturday July 20th	6:15 pm Joe Mooney RIP
Sunday July 21st	8:00 am In Thanksgiving [S&JC]
	10:30 am Dorothy Burke RIP
	4:00 pm POLISH MASS
	6:30 pm May Malone RIP
<i>West Mersea</i>	8:30 am Frederick, Elizabeth & Angelo Lucas RIP
<i>Mile End</i>	9:15 am Parishioners
<i>Monkwick</i>	10:15 am Private Intention

Monday 22nd

St Mary Magdalene

Church **7:30 am** Canon T W Clarke & Family RIP

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

Tuesday 23rd

ST BRIDGET OF SWEDEN, Rel

Church **9:15 am** Bill Farrell RIP

Church **11:00 am** **REQUIEM– Barry Fitzgerald RIP**

Wednesday 24th

Feria

Church **7:30 am** Private Intention

Church **12:15 pm** Canon Thomas Clarke RIP

Thursday 25th

ST JAMES, Ap

Church **9:15 am** Angelo Ciarleglio RIP

Friday 26th

Ss Joachim and Anne, Parents of BVM

Church **9:15 am** Holy Souls RIP [F&JG]

Church **6:30pm** Phyllis, Cora and Deirdre RIP

Saturday 27th

Feria

Church **9:15 am** D/Rels: Abraham & Chennattu Families RIP

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR [C]

28th July 2013

Saturday July 27th

6:15 pm Patrick O'Leary RIP

Sunday July 28th

8:00 am Raymond Banks RIP

10:30 am Albert Sloman RIP

6:30 pm Maxwell Milford RIP

West Mersea

8:30 am Parishioners

*Mile End
Monkwick*

9:15 am Canon John Bloomfield RIP
10:15 am Frederick, Elizabeth & Angelo Lucas RIP

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION *Saturday 9:45-10:30am and 5:30-6:00pm*
SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM *Baptismal Courses arranged as per Newsletter*
SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE *At least six months notice is required*

Cardinal Bourne Hall cb.hall@btinternet.com

The Brentwood Diocesan Trust – Registered Charity No. 234092

