

ST. JAMES THE LESS AND ST. HELEN

CATHOLIC CHURCH, COLCHESTER

WITH MERSEA, MILE END AND MONKWICK



St James the Less & St Helen

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SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A)
23rd February 2014 - Parish Mass Book Page 139

Mr dear friends

In today's liturgy we hear the two-fold challenge to be holy, as the Lord our God is holy (Leviticus 19) and to be perfect, as our Heavenly Father is perfect (Mt 5). We are holy when we imitate the generosity of God by not exacting vengeance, or bearing a grudge against another. In Leviticus, the commandment: "You must love your neighbour as yourself" is restricted to fellow-Israelites. But Jesus broadened it to include everyone, Gentiles as well as Jews, enemies as well as friends. Why? Because this is the way the heavenly Father acts. He shows equal love towards good and bad, not because he is indifferent to morality, but because he loves without limit.

Saint Paul gives us a profound reason why we should respect one another: we are the Temple of God. Individually and collectively the Holy Spirit dwells in us. This is also the basis of our unity.

I hope everyone enjoyed the half-term holiday and the sense that Spring is on the way. Next weekend, we will outline the extra services for the season of Lent. We will say goodbye to Fr Zbigniew this week and wish him well in his new appointment. His time here has been a happy experience for him and for us.

We will pray today for the people of Ukraine, who are suffering such terrible violence at the moment. We pray for their desire to live in a country where rights and dignity are respected.

May God bless you all.

Fr Tony McKentey

Please see Mass Schedule for ANY changes

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

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK: Please remember in your prayers, Pat Banks, June Bickersteth, Grace Blanchette, Frank Campbell, Rosaleen Campbell, Karl Collins, Emma Cooper, Val Crane, Olive Crawford, Paul Crockett, Amy Daggitt, Jeanette Dagwell, Lynne-Michelle Denton, Nancy Drummond, Fr Paul Dynan, Christine Farrell, Gianni Emoli, Charlie George, Bert Hewitt, Norah Hewitt, Venetia Hetherington, Maurice Highfield, Theresa Hogan, Ronald Jay, Pat Keene, Patrick King, Declan Knight, Peter Ledgley, Mirella Leonardi, Val Ling, Maria Mahy, Pat Maloney, Cara Maude, Anna Norfolk, Margaret Norman, Leah Patterson, Elaine Proudfoot, Ronald Quijano, Sabina Rhatigan, Douglas Rogers, Carley Saunders, Catherine Spicer, Roger Thurlow, Arthur Urquhart, Filomena Velasquez, Patricia Wiltshire, Tony White, Dorcey Young.

SECOND COLLECTIONS: Thank you for your donations to the Lourdes Sick and Helpers Pilgrimage Fund; £486 has been raised so far. The next second collection will be the Lent Family Fast Day on the weekend of the 14th March.

SENSE AND NONSENSE ON ASSISTED DYING: 'Assisted dying' is often in the news. There is a Private Member's bill before Parliament to try to legalise it. But just what is 'assisted dying'? What does the law say about it? What do doctors have to say about it? What does the Church say about it and what are the problems with it? Some guidelines from the Catholic Bishops of England and Wales are available from the back of church on this issue or at <http://www.catholicnews.org.uk/assisted-suicide-information>

NIGHTFEVER LONDON: Saturday March 1st. We invite you 20 something's to come and join us for an evening of prayer and mission at St. Patrick's Catholic Church, Soho, an evening we promise you will not forget! Some stay for a few minutes, many others are struck by the stillness, beauty and peace that they remain longer in the church than they first anticipated. Holy Mass (for Sunday) is celebrated at 6:00pm and this is followed by Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. We will be leaving St James the Less at 4:00pm to catch the 4:30 train from Colchester North. We leave St Patrick's at 9:00pm or you can stay on if you wish for Benediction at 10:30.

ST PATRICK'S DANCE: Saturday 15th March. 7:30pm – 10:30pm in the Cardinal Bourne Hall. Live music, singing, dancing by Steve Williams. Irish dancing by local dance school. Menu: Home cooked ham, cheese board, finger buffet, homemade Irish soda bread, tea / coffee, soft drinks. Bring your own alcoholic drinks. There will also be a raffle. Tickets: Adults £10, Children 5 – 12 yrs £5. Contact Frances 369568 or Nora 503410.

A BIG THANK YOU: To Liam Gillen for all his hard work on maintenance issues

in the parish; not least our temporary rain cover in the organ loft.

QUIET DAY: 28th March at 74 Howe Close from 10:00am – 3:00pm. Please bring your own lunch. Tea & Coffee provided.

THE SOCIAL GROUP NEEDS YOU! We need new members. Are you new to the parish? Would you like to get involved in the fundraising events such as St Patrick's Dance, the family BBQ in the summer and the Christmas Market? If so, you are welcome to join us at our next meeting on Sunday 23rd February after 10:30am Mass in the CBH. Contact Frances on T: 01206 369568.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION: The next parent's meeting will be on Thursday 27th February in the Crypt from 7:30pm – 9:00pm.

BRENTWOOD CATHEDRAL LENTEN LECTURES 2014: Subject will be: "The Cost of Discipleship" - four reflections on the nature, joys and challenges of Christian discipleship. Beginning Wednesday 12th March with "Paying a Price for Belief" given by Lord David Alton of Liverpool. All lectures begin at 7:30pm in the Cathedral Parish Hall. Admission free. All welcome. More information at www.cathedral-brentwood.org

DESERT ISLAND PRIESTS: 1 Desert Island. 6 priests. 6 books. 6 remarkable stories to tell... Fr Martin Boland will be interviewing priests of the Diocese about their favourite spiritual reading and how it has influenced them as men and priests. Beginning Thursday 6th March with Fr Kevin Hale on "Journal of a Soul, John XXIII". All interviews begin at 7:30pm in the Cathedral Parish Hall. Admission free. All welcome. More information at www.cathedral-brentwood.org

DO YOU HAVE AN INTEREST IN ST FRANCIS? St Francis of Assisi, as well as founding the Order of Friars Minor and Poor Clares, also started the Secular Franciscan Order for lay men and women who, in their everyday lives, wanted to follow the same path of spirituality, which Almighty God had called him to walk along. If you would like to learn more about this most Christ-like saint and his spirituality, as practised by the Secular Franciscans, come along on Sunday, 23rd March to the Assumption of Our Lady church in Victoria Road, Maldon at 3.00pm when a new Fraternity of this Order begins with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament. For further details Tel: Fr Peter Connor OSF 01621 852259/782034 or email ledaclare@gmail.com

A QUESTION OF FAITH: You are warmly invited to attend an evening to ask questions on living the Catholic faith, with a special emphasis on Marriage and Family Life, on Wednesday 10 March 2014 at SS Peter and Paul Parish Centre, Ilford High Road, Ilford IG1 1QP from 7.30 p.m. Your questions can be on moral issues, the church in today's world, Catholic marriage and family life or any question you may have always wanted to find the answer to.....Our experienced panel members will help you. Wine and nibbles provided. Further details from the parish on 020 8478 0583 or the Commission for Evangelisation and Formation on 01277 265289.

CHURCH CLEANERS: Thursday 27th February – Team 3

SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A) - 23rd February

Saturday February 22nd 6:15 pm Noreen Downes RIP
Sunday February 23rd 8:00 am D/Rels Lauery & O'Dwyer Families

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| | 10:30 am | Mr S Power RIP |
| | 2:00 pm | POLISH MASS |
| | 6:30 pm | Parishioners |
| <i>West Mersea</i> | 8:30 am | D/Rels: Smith / O'Sullivan Families |
| <i>Mile End</i> | 9:15 am | Martin Dwyer RIP |
| <i>Monkwick</i> | 10:15 am | Denise, Harold & Alan Smith RIP |
| Monday 24th | Feria | |
| <i>Church</i> | 7:30 am | Bernard Stevens RIP [JH] |
| <i>Church</i> | 9:15 am | William Lufkin RIP |
| Tuesday 25th | Feria | |
| <i>Church</i> | 9:15 am | Mrs M Power RIP |
| Wednesday 26th | Feria | |
| <i>Church</i> | 7:30 am | Frederick, Elizabeth & Angelo Lucas RIP |
| <i>Church</i> | 12:15 pm | In thanksgiving - Dr Sykes & Family |
| Thursday 27th | Feria | |
| <i>Church</i> | 9:15 am | In thanksgiving |
| Friday 28th | Feria | |
| <i>Church</i> | 9:15 am | Frederick, Elizabeth & Angelo Lucas RIP |
| <i>Church</i> | 12:00 pm | HOSPITAL MASS – Neil O'Keefe RIP |
| <i>Church</i> | 6:30 pm | Holy Souls RIP [AC] |
| Saturday 1st | ST DAVID, Bp, Patron of Wales – National Feast | |
| <i>Church</i> | 9:15 am | Veronica A Thomas RIP |

EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A) - 2nd March *(Day for the Unemployed)*

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| Saturday March 1st | 6:15 pm | Tommy Close RIP |
| Sunday March 2nd | 8:00 am | Geoffrey Foley RIP |
| | 10:30 am | Rose Donovan RIP |
| | 2:00 pm | POLISH MASS |
| | 6:30 pm | Sr Helen Walsh RIP |
| <i>West Mersea</i> | 8:30 am | John Cawley RIP |
| <i>Mile End</i> | 9:15 am | Special Intention |
| <i>Monkwick</i> | 10:15 am | Parishioners |

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

New Hall Number: 07758 805 263

The Brentwood Diocesan Trust – Registered Charity No. 234092

