ST. JAMES THE LESS AND ST. HELEN

CATHOLIC CHURCH, COLCHESTER

WITH MERSEA, MILE END AND MONKWICK

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THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME [B]

25th January 2015 - Parish Mass Book Page 129

Today's Gospel – by Fr Robert Barron

Mark 1:14-20 our Gospel for this week, is a precious text, for it relays to us Jesus' inaugural address. When the Lord first came preaching in the towns of Galilee, his message was this is the time of fulfilment; the Kingdom of God is at hand. Oceans of ink have been spilled trying to explain what the Kingdom of God means. The best interpretation is Origen's: Jesus is the autobasilea, the kingdom in person, for he himself is the coming together of divinity and humanity. He himself constitutes the new order, and he himself represents "time of fulfilment", the moment when all of the expectations and hopes of Israel are realised.

And what is the only proper response to this unexpected state of affairs? "Repentance!" The word in the Greek of Mark's Gospel is *metanoiete*, which literally means "go beyond the mind you have." Since God has become one of us. we have to change our attitude. our perspective, our way of seeing the world. We sinners operate out of the mind of fear, and we tend to see the world through the lenses of greed, selfishness, and pride. All of that has to go! All of that has to change! We must now see the world with the eyes of Christ. Real repentance means that we can say with Saint Paul, It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. Once we've repented, then we can believe in the Gospel. We can accept the impossibly Good News that God has become one of us, and we can trust in the power of the God-man.

In these few lines of Jesus' inaugural sermon, we find, really, the whole of Christianity.

THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME [B] Saturday January 24th **6:15 pm** Ints: Roger & Anne Kemp Sunday January 25th 8:00 am Ints: Fr Tom Coffev 10:30 am Ints: Joe & Ray Canty 2:00 pm **POLISH MASS** 4:00 pm FILIPINO MASS **6:30 pm** Ints: Ken Lambert West Mersea 8:30 am Parishioners Mile End 9:15 am Leo Folev RIP Monkwick Celestine Tighe RIP 10:15 am Monday 26th Ss Timothy & Titus, Bpp Church 7:30 am Ints: Margaret Hilton Frederick, Elizabeth & Angelo Lucas RIP Church 9:15 am 7:00 pm Church **SVP MASS** Tuesday 27th Feria Church 9:15 am Ints: John & May Coffey **REQUIEM MASS - Vincent Galea RIP** West Mersea 2:00 pm Wednesday 28th St Thomas Aquinas, Pr. D Church 7:30 am Holy Souls RIP

West Mersea 9:30 am HOLY COMMUNION SERVICE

> 9:30 am Sheila Allen RIP Church

Thursday 29th Feria

Church 9:15 am Conal McGinley &

Maureen O'Connell RIP

Friday 30th Feria

> Church 9:15 am Des Fuller RIP

12:00 pm **HOSPITAL MASS**

Church 6:30 pm Norah Hewitt RIP [JH]

Saturday 31st St John Bosco, Pr

Church 9:15 am

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME [B]

Saturday January 31st 6:15 pm Margaret Ratcliffe RIP Sunday February 1st 8:00 am Maurice & Kitty Foley RIP 10:30 am Ints: Una & Finbar Nagle 2:00 pm **POLISH MASS** 6:30 pm West Mersea 8:30 am Joan Donnelly RIP [JW] Mile End 9:15 am Thomas, Mary & John Rutherfoord RIP Monkwick 10:15 am Parishioners

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION Saturday 9:45-10:30am and 5:30-6:00pm SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE At least six months notice is required

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

SCRIPTURE GROUP Wednesdays at 10am

Crypt

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: Saturdays 9:45am - 10:30am and

5:30pm - 6pm

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK: Please remember in your prayers; Pat Banks, June Bickersteth, Grace Blanchette, Frank Campbell, Karl Collins, Olive Crawford, Paul Crocker, Lynne-Michelle Denton, Nancy Drummond, Fr Paul Dynan, Charlie George, Bill Graves, Bert Hewitt, Maurice Highfield, David Hill, Theresa Hogan, Ronald Jay, Mary Jose, Pat Keene, Patrick King, John Lawlor, Peter Ledgley, Mirella Leonardi, Doreen Lowe, Marie Lyons, Jean Mansell, Mary-Ann Martin, Cara Maude, David Merryman, Byron Miller, Margaret Norman, Anne Renwick, Leah Patterson, Elaine Proudfoot, Ronald Quijano, Stephen and Sabina Rhatigan, Catherine Spicer, Arthur Urquhart, Filomena Velasquez, Patricia Wiltshire, Tony White, Dorcey Young.

RECENTLY DECEASED: Please pray for the repose of the souls of Vincent Galea, Norah Hewitt & Thelma Stang. Mr Galea's Requiem Mass will be this Tuesday 27th January at 2pm St Cedd & St Gregory, Mersea. Mrs Stang's Requiem Mass will be on Monday 9th February at 11am Priory St. Norah Hewitt's funeral details to be announced. May they rest in peace.

BAPTISMS THIS WEEKEND: This weekend we welcome into the church through the Sacrament of Baptism: Daniel Akubulio. God bless this child and congratulations to his family.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO HAVE YOUR CHILD BAPTISED? The next Baptism course will be Friday February 6th & 13th in the Crypt from 7:30pm – 9pm. There is no need to make an appointment but <u>both sessions</u> must be attended. Entry to the Crypt is via the Church. [This course is for new-borns up to age 6]

SECOND COLLECTIONS: The next second collection will be Sunday 1st February for the parish development fund; this vital fund helps support the repair and maintenance of all our church buildings. On the 15th February there will be a collection for the Lourdes sick and helpers pilgrimage fund.

MASS TIMES THIS WEEK: Wednesday 28th January – Mass will be at 9:30am instead of 12:15pm as the priests will be attending the Deanery Conference at Brightlingsea.

HOSPITAL MASS: There will be Mass on Friday 30th January at 12pm in the new Hospital Chaplaincy at the General Hospital located on the first floor between the main hospital building and the Radiotherapy Centre. All our welcome.

SVP DISTRICT MASS: This Monday 26th January at 7pm Priory St. All are very welcome. The next regular meeting will be on February 4th at 7pm.

100 CLUB: 2015 subscriptions are now due (£12 an entry).

FILIPINO MASS: The next Filipino Mass will be this Sunday 25th January at 4pm Priory St.

FRIENDS OF PERU BEETLE DRIVE: Saturday 31st January in the Cardinal Bourne Hall. 7pm for 7:30pm start until 10pm. Adults £3.50, children £2.50. Includes a non-alcoholic fruit punch or soft drink, hot dog and mince pie. Come and enjoy this fun and easy game to play, loved by children. Prizes to be won and raffle. Contact Nora 503410 or in hall after 10:30am Mass on Sunday.

DIOCESAN CELEBRATION OF OUR LADY OF LOURDES: Please join Bishop Alan and parishioners from across the Diocese at Brentwood Cathedral at 3.00pm on Sunday 15th February, for Mass to celebrate one of the Patrons of Brentwood Diocese, in the week of the Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes and World Day of Prayer for the Sick. Many hundreds take part in our Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes each year – Cathy O'Connor, the pilgrimage administrator, will be on hand to answer any queries you have, and the Brentwood Catholic Youth Service will also be assisting, just as they do in Lourdes. This special celebration will include candles blessed in Lourdes, and everyone is very welcome. There will be refreshments after the Mass. For more information about the annual Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes please visit www.brentwoodlourdes.org or call Cathy on 01206 501146.

THOMAS MERTON: Restless pilgrim. The 31st January 2015 is the centenary of Thomas Merton's birth. To mark this occasion, Father Brian O'Shea parish priest of St Thomas of Canterbury, Grays, will give a talk on the above title. Monday 26th January at 7:30pm Cathedral Conference Centre, Brentwood.

CHURCH CLEANERS: Thursday 29th January - Team 4