

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME^(A)

Saturday 25th	Church	6.15 pm	Ints: Mary Jacob
Sunday 26th	Church	8.00 am	David Anthony Hill RIP
	Church	10:30 am	Mary (k/a Lee) Kernott RIP
	Church	2.00 pm	Polish Mass
	Church	6.30 pm	Private Intention
	West Mersea	8:30 am	George Birch RIP
	Monkwick	10:15 am	Parishioners
Monday 27th			Feria
	Church	10.00 am	Lee Kernott RIP
Tuesday 28th			Feria
	Church	10.00 am	Sally Widman RIP
Wednesday 29th			St Martha
	Church	10.00 am	Phil Treby RIP
Thursday 30th			Feria
	Church	10.00 am	Ints: April Farrell
Friday 31st			St Ignatius of Loyola, Pr
	Church	10.00 am	Xavier Swampillai + Shanini Bastrampillai RIP
Saturday 1st August			St Alphonsus Liguori, Bp, D
	Church	10.00 am	Virgilio De Jesus RIP

EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME^(A)

Saturday 1st	Church	6.15 pm	Mrs. Colleen Thurlow RIP
Sunday 2nd	Church	8.00 am	Kathleen Shock RIP
	Church	10:30 am	Parishioners
	Church	2.00 pm	Polish Mass
	Church	6.30 pm	Tracey Moore RIP
	West Mersea	8:30 am	Private Intention
	Monkwick	10:15 am	Leslie Hawken RIP

To reserve seat(s) at Weekend Masses, please right-click [Mass Bookings](#) and open the hyperlink, which will take you to the *Booking Form* for each Mass

It is important to reaffirm that, at present, the obligation to attend Sunday Mass remains suspended.

- ❖ For Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals, please contact our parish office.
- ❖ Visiting for the Sacrament of the Sick is possible, under certain circumstances.
- ❖ Mass Intentions. These can be posted through the presbytery letterbox and they will be published in the newsletter (available on the parish website).
- ❖ If you are self-isolating and would like to speak to a priest or have any worries, please contact us at the Presbytery on 01206 866317 and we will try to help you.

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, subject to hospital restrictions due to virus.

ST. JAMES THE LESS AND ST. HELEN

CATHOLIC CHURCH, COLCHESTER

WITH MERSEA, MILE END AND MONKWICK**1 PARISH, 4 CHURCHES, 1 COMMUNITY**

Parish Priest: Mgr. Christopher Brooks
 Assistant Priest: Fr. Nixon Gomes
 Assistant Priest: Fr. Philip Willenbrock
 Assistant Priest: Fr. Adrian Lowe

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 St James the Less and St Helen RC Church, Colchester

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A)**WEEK COMMENCING: 26TH JULY 2020 - PARISH MASS BOOK PAGE**

Where your treasure is, there's your heart; and in reverse, where your heart is reveals what is your treasure. God is the treasure hidden in the field, the pearl of great price, the one who ought to be our greatest treasure. How, then, do we spend our days in practice? Lockdown and its partial relaxation can be a time which reveals our heart to ourselves. Many people have found time to go back to basics e.g. home baking, discovering different ways of spending their time. It has been heartening to hear of parishioners reading Scripture more, saying the rosary daily. May newly established good habits endure, God our greatest treasure.

Fr. Chris

PLEASE SEE MASS SCHEDULE FOR ALL CHANGES

DAILY	Morning Prayer	Temporarily suspended
DAILY	Rosary/Divine Mercy	
SUNDAYS:	Rosary/Divine Mercy	
2 nd SUNDAY MONTHLY	Eucharistic Adoration	
CHRISTIAN MEDITATION	Tuesdays in Crypt (8.00 _{pm})	

Dear Parishioners and Friends,

Despite all the restrictions, let us be thankful that we can once again gather together, despite social distancing, as God's people.

Please note the following norms in order to promote a COVID 19 safe environment :-

- Weekend masses need to be booked in advance
- Churches will open 20 minutes before start of Mass as it will take longer than normal to enter the church, please make allowances
- Entrance to Church will be via the main door, exit by the side door
- Hand sanitiser is available at entrance and exit, though you may bring your own
- It will be essential that people sit where they are asked and do not move from there
- An Offertory Collection will be taken at each mass with 'collection bags' available on entry and exit; the donation station is also useable
- No touching of Statues or Images in Church
- Toilets will be closed except for genuine emergencies.
- The use of face covering is not obligatory but recommended by the NHS

THE PARISH STEWARDS ARE HERE TO HELP AND DIRECT YOU TO YOUR SEAT(S), PLEASE BE POLITE TO THEM AS THEY CAN ASK YOU TO LEAVE THE CHURCH IF YOU DO NOT COMPLY WITH PRESENT GOVERNMENT AND DIOCESAN REGULATIONS.

Anyone displaying symptoms of Covid-19, or who has reason to believe that they have been in contact with someone who has, should not attend church or volunteer in any capacity until they have received medical advice that it is safe to do so.

THE HOLY FATHER'S INTENTIONS FOR JULY *Our Families*. We pray that today's families may be accompanied with love, respect and guidance.

MARRIAGE MATTERS: (1 Kings 3:5, 7-12 Rom 8:28-30 Matt 13:44-52) ***Discover what loving really means.*** Instead of praying for 'treasure', King Solomon prayed for wisdom '*to discern good from evil*'. When discerning what 'loving' really means, you find '*hidden treasure*' in these weekly reflections on Scripture. They will also help you to discover the 'hidden treasure' in each other. Sharing this, you sow 'seeds' of love in the minds and hearts of others.

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK: We continue to pray for those parishioners we know who are sick and housebound especially, Nicollas and Adam Campbell-Vencarto, Elizabeth Pace, Hilda Morah. Valerie Thurston, Joan Jeal. Jimmy Clarin. We pray for all persons who have contracted Covid-19

RECENTLY DECEASED: Please pray for the repose of the souls of George Birch & Sue Lee who have recently passed away. May they rest in peace. We pray for the comfort of their bereaved family and friends. George's funeral service will take place on 7th August at 12.30_{pm} at St Theresa's Church, Lexden. Sue's Funeral Mass is at St James the Great on 29th July at 12.30_{pm}.

CHURCH STEWARDS/CLEANERS: We are hoping to resume Funeral Masses in Church and are looking for volunteers who will be available to come in and assist as and when required; we have a Funeral Mass on Wednesday 29th July at 11.45_{am} and will require assistance for this. Also, Steward/Cleaners are still required for the following 10_{am} masses: - Monday /Thursday /Friday /Saturday. If you have the time and are able to assist us, please contact the presbytery office with your contact details. Thank you.

TO RESERVE A SEAT AT A WEEKEND MASS: This can be done via the following means: -

- Click on the Mass Bookings tab in the Newsletter
- Parish Website under the tab for Mass Times
- Clicking on the links on Facebook
- By phoning the presbytery office (*If you do not have access to the Internet*); when calling please advise how many seats you will require (*must be from same household*) and give your full name and contact number.

We will have stewards at every Mass and after the service the church will be cleaned to get it ready for the next Mass. We are so grateful to all the volunteers who have come forward to help. It's a huge ask but the response has been tremendous. If you would like to Volunteer as a Stewart/Cleaner, please call the Presbytery Office. Thank you.

MAKING A DONATION: Some parishioners have asked how they can continue to make their offerings during this period. This is much appreciated; our Parish needs your continued support at this time as Coronavirus has raised some very particular financial challenges for us. Not only do we have no plate and envelope collection, but we cannot hire out our parish hall either. We must, however, continue to pay for essentials such as our priest's living expenses, the upkeep of our buildings and other ongoing costs. Of course, we realise that the current situation is affecting many people's income and they may not be able to continue their level of offerings. If this is the case, we fully understand, and our prayers are with you. If you usually give by envelope or via cash in the collection, you can either make individual payments whenever you like by dropping envelope through Presbytery door, or you can set up a regular gift by Standing Order. This can be stopped at any time, for example, if you wish to resume giving by cash or envelope once Sunday Mass is resumed. The Donation Station (in Church porch) can be used when attending mass or alternatively, you can donate online using the Diocesan Online Donation platform (where donations can also be gift aided):-

* St. James the Less & St. Helen <https://www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/donations?parish=colchester>

* St. Joseph, Mile End: <https://www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/donations?parish=colchester-c>

* St. Cedd & St. Gregory: <https://www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/donations?parish=colchester-b>

* St. Theodore of Canterbury: <https://www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/donations?parish=colchester-d>

To those who have sent in offerings and set up Standing Orders - Thank you very much for your donation. Everything that happens in our parish is only possible with your support.

GARDENING VOLUNTEERS: We are looking for volunteers who are willing and able to contribute to the maintenance of the Church garden and outdoor space. No experience is necessary just a love of gardening! If interested, please contact the presbytery office.

PUBLICATION OF POPE'S PRAYERS AND HOMILIES: The Dicastery for Communication of the Holy See is making available a free downloadable book entitled "*Strong in the Face of Tribulation*", containing prayers, supplications and the Pope's homilies as "a sure support in time of trial". https://www.vaticannews.va/content/dam/lev/forti-nella-tribolazione/pdf/eng/20_0961-Forti-nella-tribolazione-inglese-3.pdf

LOURDES IN YOUR LIVING ROOM, 27th – 31st July. Begins TOMORROW, Monday 27th July with a full week of pilgrimage for all ages; Bishop Alan will preach at the 10.30_{am} Mass on Monday and each day incl. Morning Prayer, Mass, Rosary & Angelus, Afternoon Reflection, and Evening Prayer, with the week also incl. a Marian ("Torchlight") procession where the Hail Mary will be prayed in over 40 languages, as well as Stations of the Cross. A talent show offers a social element to the pilgrimage on Friday evening, and throughout the week there is a special programme for young people www.youtube.com/c/brentwoodcys and full details, plus liturgy handbook, are at www.bcys.net/lourdes2020.

GIFT AID SUBSCRIBERS: Please can you collect your new box sets from the church porch.

- **SVP (St Vincent de Paul Society):** Tel: 07493 439427 or email: colchestersvp@gmail.com
 - **CARDINAL BOURNE HALL:** The hall is closed and all group activity suspended until further notice.
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