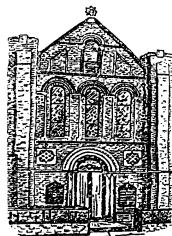


ST. JAMES THE LESS AND ST. HELEN CATHOLIC CHURCH, COLCHESTER WITH MERSEA, MILE END AND MONKWICK



Fr Anthony McKentey

Fr Neil Brett

Fr Philip Willenbrock

51 Priory Street, Colchester, Essex, CO1 2QB

Tel: 01206 866317; Fax 01206 791213

E-Mail colchester@dioceseofbrentwood.org

www.stjamesthelessandsthelen.org

THE THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT [A] March 24th 2011

My dear friends

At the heart of the season of Lent is the theme of conversion. This is a time of final preparation for those to be received into the Church at Easter and thereby, hopefully, a refresher course for all of us. We remember those in our community and Diocese who are preparing to be received into the Church through the RCIA [Rite for the Christian Initiation of Adults]. We also remember those in the Anglian communion who will be received into full communion with the Catholic Church through the Ordinariate. We pray that they will all find new life through their faith in Jesus.

Today's Gospel about Jesus' encounter with the Samaritan woman is a classic example of conversion. As she comes not only to believe in Christ, but also to be his witness in the community to which she belongs.

I hope you have all completed your Census forms. They will give a clear idea where all of us are on the 27th March 2011. March 27th is the anniversary of my Ordination to the Priesthood, which took place on that day in 1976 at Blessed Sacrament, Chelmsford. This weekend is my thirty fifth anniversary as a priest which I believe is a Coral anniversary. The dictionary definition of coral is; tough and durable; flesh coloured and attractive on the outside. Any similarity with your Parish Priest is purely coincidental.

May God bless you all.

Fr Tony McKentey

EVENTS THIS WEEK

See Schedule for Changes or Extra Masses

| | | | |
|----------------------------------|----------------|-----------------------------|--------|
| Wednesday 30 th March | 12:45pm approx | Lenten Lunch | Crypt |
| " | 6:45-8:45 | Scripture Group | Crypt |
| Thursday 31 st | 7:30pm | RCIA | |
| Friday Apl 1 | 7:30pm | Stations of the Cross | Church |
| Saturday 2nd | 10 am | FHC Reconciliation Service* | Church |
| " | 5-6pm | Lectio Divina | Crypt |

DAILY: Morning Prayer 8:15am; Rosary/Divine Mercy 8:35am. [Wed. 11:15am]
PRAYER GROUP Mondays @ 8pm in the Crypt
MEDITATION GROUP: Tuesdays @ 8pm in the Crypt
EXPOSITION: *Not on 2nd April because of the children's Confessions

SICK: Please remember in your prayers: May Banks, June Bickersteth, Joan Boyden, Frank Campbell, Nancy Drummond, Charlie George, Cara Maude, Bridie Murphy, Denis Nolan, Leah Patterson, Hector Silva, Ellen Woodley. Please also remember Canon Peter Walker and his wife, Caroline.

GIFT AID: Sets of envelopes for the new financial year will be available as follows : Priory Street and Mersea – 26 March onwards. Mile End and Monkwick – 3 April onwards. Please collect your supply as appropriate. There will also be the usual supply of un-numbered boxed sets for those that have previously used this method of giving.

CONGRATULATIONS to Sr Mary Thérèse Bamford on the Diamond Anniversary of her Religious Profession on the 25th March.

THANK YOU FROM PERNILLE: "To all the WRAP volunteers, thank you so much for volunteering to keep homeless people off the streets this winter. All in all, the Project helped 21 different individuals for a total of 55 bed nights. Even if you were not called out, remember that without the continuity provided by you setting time aside for this, the WRAP could not have run and much hardship would have resulted. WELL DONE AND GOD BLESS".

THANK YOU from Frances and friends to all for your help and support at the St Patrick's Dance on March 19th. It was an enjoyable night and we raised £438.

BAPTISM: Bryony May Doyle. God bless this child and congratulations to her family.

RECENTLY DECEASED: Please pray for the repose of the soul of Elizabeth Davies who has recently died. May she rest in peace.

EASTER LILIES: If you would like to donate a bloom in memory of a loved one, please enclose whatever you can afford in an envelope marked "Easter Lily" and deliver to the Priests' House.

CHOIR LOFT: Please note that the Choir Loft is now out of bounds for Health &

Safety reasons.

LENTEN LUNCHESS ON WEDNESDAYS IN CRYPT: After 12:15 Mass. Homemade soup and a roll for 50p. So far, £40 has been collected for Childcare.

MILE END STATIONS OF THE CROSS: At St Joseph's at 7:30pm on Wednesday, 30th March and Wednesday, 6th April.

LECTIO DIVINA: On Saturday evenings in Lent in the Crypt 5pm – 6pm.

MERCY ASSOCIATES: Meet next at 7.30 pm on Monday 4 April at Christ Church Court (tel. 763049)

LENT LECTURE: Sr Helen Costigan, SHCJ- **What does it mean to forgive and to be forgiven? Tuesday 5th April Cathedral Conference Centre, 7.30pm. Cost £5 per person.** For booking all events please contact the Adult Religious Education office on 01277 265255.

SOUP AND ROLL HUNGER LUNCH: At St John Payne Parish Hall, Greenstead on Saturday 9th April between 12 noon – 2pm. Proceeds in aid of Christian Aid.

'GOD'S CALLING IN THE LIGHT OF THE GOSPEL' A Holy Week retreat from Fri 15th -Sun 17th April at Abbotswick led by Fr Stefan Park OSA for young adults aged 18-38. For further details and booking forms visit www.abbotswick.org or call Theresa on 01277 373848.

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS' DAY; In The Cardinal Bourne Hall, 16th April 10:30am-4pm. Please bring a packed lunch; teas, coffees will be provided.

SVP TEA PARTY will be held in Cardinal Bourne Hall on Saturday, 7th May, at 2.30pm with entertainment by Colne Harmony. There is no charge, but please phone 07970408707 *by 24th April* to book your place.

VACANCY: HEADTEACHER – ST FRANCIS CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL, MALDON, ESSEX: Closing date for receipt of applications: Tuesday 26 April 2011 at Noon. Short-listing date: Wednesday 27 April 2011. Interviews will be held on Friday 6 May 2011. For an application pack, contact Keren Prior, Essex County Council, Schools Workforce Development Team, PO Box 47, County Hall, Chelmsford CM2 6WN. Tel No: 01245 434031 or email: headships@essex.gov.uk.

MISSION TODAY SPRING 2011 Newsletter available at the rear of the Church. "Red-Box" holders invited to take one; also others interested in becoming a box-holder or in the work of APF/Mill Hill Missionaries. Last year our parish collected £1,344. For further information ring, Ron Griffin - 571590

CHURCH CLEANERS' ROTA: Thursday, 31st March, Team 4.

LITURGY FOR THE THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT [A]

27th March 2011

| | | |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|
| Saturday March 26th | 6:15 pm | Stephen Mooney RIP |
| Sunday March 27th | 8:00 am | P. I. Abraham RIP |
| | 10:30 am | Dr Roger Sykes RIP |
| | 6:30 pm | Parishioners |
| <i>Mersea</i> | 8:30 am | Anne Harper RIP |
| <i>Mile End</i> | 9:15 am | In Thanksgiving [Chato Family] |
| <i>Monkwick</i> | 10:15 am | Harold and Denise Smith RIP |
| Monday 28th | Feria | |
| <i>Church</i> | 7:30 am | Intentions of Netta Caldeira |
| <i>Church</i> | 9:15 am | Frederick Fordham RIP |
| Tuesday 29th | Feria | |
| | N.B. Church 7:30am | Arthur Harper RIP |
| | <i>Church</i> | 9:15am Intentions of Miss Ria and Family |
| Wednesday 30th | Feria | |
| | <i>Church</i> | 7:30 am Canon John Bloomfield RIP |
| | <i>Church</i> | 9:15 pm Peggy Byrne RIP |
| Thursday 31st | N.B. FERIA | |
| | <i>Church</i> | 9:15 am Frederick, Elizabeth & Angelo Lucas RIP |
| Friday April 1st | Feria | |
| | <i>Church</i> | 9:15 am Linda Minnis RIP |
| | <i>Church</i> | 6:30 pm Mrs Peggy Kelly RIP |
| | <i>Church</i> | 7:30 pm Stations of the Cross |
| Saturday 2nd | Feria | |
| | <i>Church</i> | 9:15 am Fr Gerald Ryan RIP |

LITURGY FOR THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT [A]

3rd April 2011

| | | |
|--------------------------------------|----------------|-----------------------------------------|
| Saturday April 2nd | 6:15 pm | Moira and Dennis Pryke RIP |
| Sunday April 3rd | 8:00 am | George Onwuezezi RIP |
| | 10:30am | Intentions of the UCM |
| | 6:30 pm | Frederick, Elizabeth & Angelo Lucas RIP |
| | 8:30 am | Parishioners |
| <i>West Mersea</i> | 9:15 am | Jim England RIP [A] |
| <i>Mile End</i> | 10:15am | D/Rels: Scanlan/Brown Families |
| <i>Monkwick</i> | | |

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*
SCHOOLS *St Thomas More* Head: Bridget Harris

[865722]

St Benedict's Head: John O'Hara

[549222]

www.marriagecare.org.uk or 0800 389 3801.

www.brentwoodvocations.org

The Brentwood Diocesan Trust – Registered Charity No. 234092