

TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A)

Saturday 26th	<i>Monkwick</i>	5.00 pm	Ints. Grace McCartney
Sunday 27th	<i>Church</i>	8.00 am	Ints. Katie
	<i>Church</i>	10.30 am	Parishioners
	<i>Church</i>	2.00 pm	Polish Mass
	<i>Church</i>	6.30 pm	Fr. Kevin Gradwell RIP
	<i>West Mersea</i>	8.30 am	Ints. New priests & seminarians
	<i>Mile End</i>	9.30 am	Leo Soko RIP

Monday 28th			St Augustine, Bp, D
	<i>Church</i>	9.30 am	Mr & Mrs Byrne & Family

Tuesday 29th			The Passion of St John The Baptist
	<i>Church</i>	9.30 am	Ints: Jerome Raj R

Wednesday 30th			Feria
	<i>Church</i>	9.30 am	Colin Taylor RIP

Thursday 31st			Feria
	<i>Church</i>	9.30 am	Ints: Marisa
	<i>Monkwick</i>	2.00pm	Funeral Service: Robert (<i>Robbie</i>) Renford RIP

Friday 1st August			St Sebbi, King of the East Saxons
	<i>Church</i>	9.30 am	Holy Souls

Saturday 2nd			Memorial of the Blessed Virgin Mary
	<i>Church</i>	9.30 am	Ints: Raju John

TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A)

Saturday 2nd	<i>Monkwick</i>	5.00 pm	Robert Renford RIP
Sunday 3rd	<i>Church</i>	8.00 am	Mick Hanley RIP
	<i>Church</i>	10.30 am	Private Intentions
	<i>Church</i>	2.00 pm	Polish Mass
	<i>Church</i>	4.00 pm	Filipino Mass
	<i>Church</i>	6.30 pm	Parishioners
	<i>West Mersea</i>	8.30 am	Tony Morris RIP
	<i>Mile End</i>	9.30 am	Bridget & Michael Brady RIP

- ❖ For Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals, please email or contact our parish office.
- ❖ Marriage Preparation: Please be aware that 6 months' notice of intention for Marriage is required especially if marrying outside the Parish. Couples who are planning to get married should contact us **at least 6 months** in advance. Thank you.
- ❖ Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) Saturdays after 9.30am Mass (Priory Street) and after 5.00pm Mass (Monkwick).
- ❖ Mass Intentions. Envelopes are available in Church Porch and are situated either side of Church entrance, A suggested minimum stipend is £10 per Mass.

- **Cardinal Bourne Hall Enquiries/Bookings:** colchester@brcdt.org
- **SVP (St Vincent de Paul Society):** Tel: 07493 439427/email: colchestersvp@gmail.com



Please check out our Facebook page for all the latest Parish/Diocese/Vatican news, Clergy/Church photos/videos. Please remember to **like & follow** our page

ST. JAMES THE LESS AND ST. HELEN

CATHOLIC CHURCH, COLCHESTER

WITH MERSEA, MILE END AND MONKWICK

1 PARISH, 4 CHURCHES, 1 COMMUNITY



Parish Priest:
Assistant Priest:

Mgr. Christopher Brooks
Fr. Paschal Uche

Address: 51 Priory Street, Colchester, Essex, CO1 2QB

Tel: 01206 866317

E-Mail : colchester@brcdt.org

Website: www.stjamesthelessandsthelen.org

St James the Less and St Helen RC Church, Colchester

TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A)

Week Commencing 27th August 2023

In today's second reading, St. Paul poses some rhetorical questions. Who could ever be God's counsellor? Given that God is all-wise and all-knowing, the answer should be obvious, no-one. Quite clear and straightforward we would think, yet in practice it's not so simple. I'm thinking here of the prayers people make. Is it not true that people very often ask God to do things in a way which is 'counselling God'? The petitioner has already worked out the 'right' way in which God should act, the prayer is then a matter of asking God to get on with it. It's not uncommon to meet people who have given up on God precisely because their prayers weren't answered, meaning that God didn't jump to attention and carry out the person's will. Prayer is time spent listening to God, seeking his will, his counsel.

Fr. Chris

PLEASE SEE MASS SCHEDULE FOR ALL CHANGES

DAILY (Mon-Fri)	Rosary/Divine Mercy	at 8.45 am
DAILY	Morning Prayer	at 9.15 am
CHRISTIAN MEDITATION	Wednesdays (Cardinal Bourne Hall)	at 8.00 pm
ADORATION & PRAYER	Thursdays	at 7.30 pm



THE POPE'S INTENTIONS FOR AUGUST: *For World Youth Day.* We pray the World Youth Day in Lisbon will help young people to live and witness the Gospel in their own lives.

MARRIAGE MATTERS: (Isaiah 22:19-23 Rom 11:33-36 Matt 16:13-20) ***The key to family life.*** Today's Gospel places keys at the heart of the responsibility Jesus gives Peter. In spite of his weaknesses and failings, because of his faith, he is entrusted with the 'keys' to the kingdom of God. Our married love is entrusted with the 'keys' of our family life. We are the 'rock' upon which the future of our family will be built.

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK: We continue to pray for those parishioners we know who are sick and housebound especially Diana Irlen, Mrs. Maureen McKenna, Joyce Wrobel, Ron & Margaret Griffin, Peter Wyatt, Elizabeth Pace, Jason McLean, Hilda Morah, Nicollas and Adam Campbell-Vencarto, Maureen R. We continue to pray for all persons who are ill or are in need.

RECENTLY DECEASED: Please pray for the repose of the soul of Robert (Robbie) Junior Renford who has recently passed away. The parish community offers his family and friends our condolences and the assurance of our prayers at this most difficult time. Robbie's funeral service is on Thursday 31st August at 2pm in St Theodore, Monkwick.

NEXT 2nd COLLECTION: There will be a 2nd collection taken for Education Day on 10th September. This takes place at the start of the academic year; and offers us an opportunity to pray to Almighty God for all people involved in Catholic education, to celebrate the achievements of the past and to ask Our Lord to bless the work of the year ahead.

SUNDAY COFFEE MORNING: Anyone who has half-an-hour to spare after Mass is most welcome to stay for coffee and biscuits after 10.30am Mass on Sundays. This is a chance to catch up in the spirit of friendship and community. Everyone is warmly invited.

VOLUNTEERS FOR THE CHURCH FLOWER GROUP: We have a gifted group of flower arrangers here who work hard to ensure that there are always flowers on display in the church, and in particular for the major events during the year like Christmas & Easter. We are a small friendly team working on a rota, with 3 teams and each team taking a fortnight at a time, usually on a Friday morning. No experience is necessary simply enthusiasm and the physical ability to assist as we all teach and help each other. Flower arranging is an enjoyable ministry, if you are interested in getting involved please contact Jane Hopgood 07761557375 or email: janehopgood735@gmail.com We look forward to welcoming new members to our group.

DIOCESAN MASS TO CELEBRATE MISSIO: Fr. Patrick Daly, Diocesan Director for Missio, invites all Red Box holders and supporters of Missio to a Diocesan Mass on Saturday 16th September at Our Lady of Light and St. Osyth Catholic Church, Clacton On Sea from 11am-3pm. Please bring a packed lunch. Tea, coffee and cake are provided. Please reply by email at redbox@missio.org.uk or tel: 07593 544622 if you are planning to attend. Please could you also let Cathy Scott know on 07930 639575.

GIFT AID APPEAL: This has been postponed until further notice.

FR PASCHAL: A leaving reception will take place on Sunday 3rd September in Cardinal Bourne Hall following the 10.30am Mass – All parishioners are warmly invited to say their farewells to Fr Paschal.



CUPPA CLUB: We meet **every Thursday from 10.00am to 11.30am** in the Hall. This is an opportunity to relax and catch up with others from the local community. We are always pleased to see a new face and offer a warm welcome to newcomers!

COULD YOU DONATE TOOTHBRUSHES & DISPOSABLE RAZORS FOR REFUGEES? X2 bags of donated items have so far been delivered to the Roots Colchester representative who will be taking these to Roots in Calais in September. We are still accepting donations of toothbrushes and disposable razors for the next week or so. Thank you to all those who have donated so far.

ENGLISH HERITAGE DAY: The church will be open on Saturday 9th September 10.30am-4.00pm for English Heritage day.

PRAY FOR UKRAINE: Brentwood Cathedral (St Mary & St Helen) will be holding an ecumenical service at 6.30pm on 23rd August. The Mayor of Brentwood will be attending and Ukrainian and English Music will be played. Everyone welcome and refreshments will be served in the adjoining hall after the service.

THE CATHOLIC POLICE GUILD 100th ANNUAL REQUIEM MASS: Westminster Cathedral 7th November at 2pm. Bishop Alan will preside. The Mass is held every year for all deceased Police Officers and staff.

CHURCH CLEANING VOLUNTEERS: We are still looking for a couple of volunteers for Cleaning Teams 1 + 3 as many hands make light work. If you are able to volunteer about 2 hrs every 5 weeks, please contact Linda in the Presbytery office (01206 866317) Thanks.

THE DEDICATION OF A CHURCH: The next Gidea Park Faith Talk is due to take place at 7pm on Wednesday 20th September in the hall at Christ the Eternal High Priest Catholic Church, Gidea Park, RM2 6DH. Parish priest and liturgical scholar, Fr David Manson, will be speaking about 'the Dedication of a Church', explaining how this rare ceremony takes place, and pointing to its deeper significance. All are welcome. Tea and coffee will be available from 6.30pm. The event can also be viewed on line simply by going to www.whatgoodnews.org

YEAR 13 RETREAT AT WALSINGHAM HOUSE IN SEPTEMBER: Will you be in Year 13 this September? Are you currently making decisions about your next steps? Would you like time to step back, reflect, pray and think about the different pathways ahead of you? If so, Year 13 retreat at Walsingham House is just the opportunity to do that. There are 2 retreats on 13th - 15th September or 22nd - 24th September and the cost is £35. Please visit www.bcys.net/events for further details or email clairebailey@brcdt.org

STALLHOLDERS NEEDED FOR CHRISTMAS CRAFT & GIFT FAIR: The Brentwood Catholic Children's Society are seeking stallholders for their Christmas Craft and Gift Fair being held at The Mill Hall Arts & Events Centre, Bellingham Lane, Rayleigh SS6 7ED on Sunday 5th November from 10.30am-4pm. Pitches are £30 and all profits made on the day are the stallholders' own. For further information please contact Damian: ddillon@bccs.org.uk / 07912 308000

NEW TO THE PARISH? Then please complete one of our Parish Registration forms, which can be found in the porch at the back of the church.

CHURCH CLEANING TEAM : Thursday 31/08/23: **Team 1** / Monday 04/09/23: **Team 2**
COFFEE MORNING (HALL): 27/08/23: Peggy & Anne / 03/09/23: Yolande + 1.