

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT (C)



Saturday 27th	Church	6.15 pm	David + Douglas Finch RIP
Sunday 28th	Church	8.00 am	Private Intention
	Church	10.30 am	Sidney Finch + Rose Jane Castell
	Church	2.00 pm	Polish Mass
	Church	5.00 pm	Holy Hour & Vespers
	Church	6.30 pm	November Dead List
West Mersea		8.30 am	November Dead List
Mile End		9.15 am	Deceased Members of Page + Gilmore Fams
Monkwick		10.15 am	Parishioners
	Church	9.30 am	Deceased Relatives of Farrell Family

Monday 29th			Feria
	Church	9.30 am	Holy Souls (M.T)

Tuesday 30th			St Andrew, Ap, Patron of Scotland
	Church	9.30 am	Frederick, Elizabeth + Angelo Lucas

Wednesday 1st December			Blessed John Beche, Ab, M
	Church	9.30 am	Abbot Beche RIP

Thursday 2nd			Feria
	Church	9.30 am	Ints: Elsie + Rowland Speers

Friday 3rd			St Francis Xavier, Pr Migrants Day
	Church	9.30 am	Donor's Int (Dimatulac)

Saturday 4th			Feria
	Church	9.30 am	Thanksgiving for Birthday

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT (C)



Saturday 4th	Church	6.15 pm	Marian Cullen RIP
Sunday 5th	Church	8.00 am	Frank Nally RIP
	Church	10.30 am	Ints: Jude Kollamparambil
	Church	2.00 pm	Polish Mass
	Church	4.00 pm	Filipino Mass
	Church	5.00 pm	Holy Hour & Vespers
	Church	6.30 pm	Mr. Oliver McDonald RIP
West Mersea		8.30 am	Private Intention
Mile End		9.15 am	Parishioners
Monkwick		10.15 am	Anne Sears RIP

- ❖ For Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals, please email or contact our parish office.
- ❖ Visiting for the Sacrament of the Sick is possible, Please contact the Presbytery.
- ❖ Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) Saturdays after 10am Mass and 5.30pm-6.00pm
- ❖ 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
- ❖ Mass Intentions. Envelopes are available in Church Porch and are situated either side of Church Entrance, please complete envelope & drop through presbytery door. A suggested minimum stipend is £10 per Mass. The Mass Intention will be published in the newsletter (available on the parish website or via Facebook or collection from Church).
- ❖ Repository in Church Porch: Mass Intention Cards available in Church Porch; All items purchased - Monies to be left in Repository Box.

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:
Assistant Priest:

Mgr. Christopher Brooks
Fr. Paschal Uche
Fr. Philip Willenbrock

Address: 51 Priory Street, Colchester, Essex, CO1 2QB
Tel: 01206 866317
E-Mail: colchester@dioceseofbrentwood.org
Website: www.stjamesthelessandsthelen.org
St James the Less and St Helen RC Church, Colchester



FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT (C)

WEEK COMMENCING 28TH NOVEMBER 2021

Today is the first Sunday of Advent, the church's new year's day. The readings and prayers at Mass don't mention Christmas, instead they seem to be focussed on daily life which makes perfect sense. In Baptism we are reborn as children of God and therefore called to live a life worthy of a Christian. The liturgical year, with its feasts great and small, is an aid to that call by putting before us examples of Christian living and celebrating major events. It's true that we can at this time of the year look forward to Christmas, nevertheless our primary responsibility is to live each day as well as we can. In that way, once Christmas has been remembered for another year, we won't be left with a sense of emptiness as we move into January and February, as so many about us experience; instead we can continue to look forward with confidence, striving to grow day by day into clearer images of Christ.

Fr. Chris

PLEASE SEE MASS SCHEDULE FOR ALL CHANGES

DAILY	Morning Prayer	at 9.15 am
CHRISTIAN MEDITATION	Wednesdays (Cardinal Bourne Hall)	at 8.00 pm
DAILY Mon-Fri	Rosary/Divine Mercy	at 8.45 am
2 nd SUNDAY MONTHLY	Eucharistic Adoration	Temporarily suspended

Please refer to the Website Home Page or External Church Notice Board for details on the **Relaxation of Covid restrictions**.

As a Reminder: 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 POPE'S INTENTIONS FOR DECEMBER: *Catechists*. Let us pray for the catechists, summoned to announce the Word of God: may they be its witnesses, with courage and creativity and in the power of the Holy Spirit.

MARRIAGE MATTERS: (Jeremiah 33:14-16; 1 Thess 3:12-4:2; Luke 21:25-28, 34-36) ***Keeping the star of our love burning brightly.*** Jeremiah's joy reminds us of the weeks before our wedding, a time when we were deeply aware of our love for one another. Since then, many cares have threatened to divert us from that love and it has sometimes been necessary to make a special effort to share, listen and forgive to keep the star of our love burning brightly.

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK: We continue to pray for those parishioners we know who are sick and housebound especially Elizabeth Pace, Hilda Morah, Nicollas and Adam Campbell-Vencarto, Jim Lynas, Maureen R. We pray for all persons who have contracted Covid-19 and their families.

MILE END NEWS: The Next Coffee Morning will be on **Sunday 5th December 2021** after the 9:15am Mass at St Joseph's and will be held at the Dog & Pheasant. All welcome.
2nd COLLECTION: There will also be a Collection taken for Church Flowers on this day also

ABBOT JOHN BECHE: Next week we remember Blessed Abbot Beche who died for the Faith on 1st December 1539 here in Colchester.

INAUGURATION OF ADVENT SERVICE this Sunday 28th November at 4pm in Brentwood Cathedral. Presider: Bishop Alan Williams with the Brentwood Cathedral Choir. *This is a beautiful and uplifting way to prepare ourselves for the celebration of Christ's birth and for that time when He will come again.*

PARISH COUNCIL: There will be a brief meeting in the crypt, after the 10.30am Mass on Sunday 5th December.

POLISH ADVENT MASSES (Rorate): These will take place at 6.30pm on the following Thursdays in December: 2nd + 9th + 16th + 23rd. **POLISH COMMUNITY DANCE:** This will take place on 27th November at 5pm-12pm in Cardinal Bourne Hall.

FILIPINO SIMBANG GABI MASSES: These will take place on the following dates at 8pm: Friday 17th Dec, Monday 20th Dec, Wednesday 22nd Dec at Priory Street. **FILIPINO MASS & CHRISTMAS PARTY:** The Mass will take place on Monday 27th December at 4pm followed by Christmas party in Cardinal Bourne Hall.

CHRISTMAS AFTERNOON TEA on Saturday 11th December from 2.30pm -4.30pm in Cardinal Bourne Hall. There will be a good variety of Cakes and Sandwiches along with Tea/Coffee. Please donate any unloved gifts for stall sale at event. Tickets: Adults -£7, Children 5-10yrs -£3. Contact Frances 369568 or Nora 503410.

ST. THOMAS MORE SCHOOL [ADMISSIONS FOR 2022/2023]: (Local Authority Closing Date 15/01/22). The signing of the "**Certificate of Catholic Practice**" will take place in the church crypt on the following dates: -

Friday 03/12/21 at 3.15pm-4.15pm	Saturday 04/12/21 at 3pm-4pm
Thursday 09/12/21 at 4.30pm-5.30pm	Monday 13/12/21 at 5pm-6pm

There is no need to make an appointment as parents/guardians and the child (with Baptism Certificate) applying to St Thomas, will be seen on a 1st come, 1st served basis.

MISSIO CHRISTMAS CALENDARS IN CHURCH PORCH: Please take a free calendar.

BRENTWOOD DIOCESAN DIRECTORY 2022: available at £2.80 per book. **ADVENT WALK WITH ME BOOKLETS** - £1.00. Money to go in Repository box in porch. Thank you.

LEXDEN PRAYER & PRAISE. A monthly meeting on the 1st Wednesday of the month in St Teresa's church hall, 16 Clairmont Rd, Colchester CO3 9BE, starting at 7:25pm. Open to all Christian's young and old. There's Power in Praise. Come and join us. All welcome.

BCCS: This November, Brentwood Catholic Children's Society is pleased to re-launch their virtual *Tree of Angels* which will allow you to light up an angel on a virtual Christmas tree in memory of a loved one who has died while making a donation to the work of 'bccs'. Please visit <https://www.bccs.org.uk/christmas/tree-angels> to make your dedication and secure donation.

DECEMBER YOUTH MASS: If you are a young person in school year 9 or above, please join the BCYS for an Advent Youth Mass on Thurs 2nd December at Brentwood Cathedral, beginning with Pizza in the Parish Hall from 6pm and a Youth led Reconciliation Service in the Cathedral from 6:30pm before celebrating Mass with Fr Stephen Morrison preaching at 7:30pm. For more info, please visit www.bcys.net/events.

BCYS CAROL CONCERTS: You are warmly invited to join us on Sunday 12th December at Walsingham House at Abbotswick. For just £10, you can hear Christmas carols both classic and contemporary performed by our incredibly talented BCYS musicians, and accompanied by readings from scripture, Christmas poems & stories, and followed by light refreshments. Concerts will be at 3pm or 7pm with limited capacity. To book your tickets, please contact Joe Beattie josephbeattie@dioceseofbrentwood.org or 01277 373 959

BCYS ADVENT RETREAT: 10th-11th December at Walsingham House at Abbotswick. Open to all those in years 10-13, at our beautiful retreat house just outside Brentwood. The cost of the retreat is just £35, including accommodation, activities and meals. You can find out more and book your place at www.bcys.net/events or get in touch at info@bcys.net !

THE THRESHOLDS OF HOPE QUESTION: *What are the unique insights of Catholic Social Teaching?* Takes place by Zoom on Sundays 28th & 5th December 4-5pm. The input and discussion will be led by Fr Dominic Howarth, Episcopal Vicar for Youth Ministry and Pastoral Care. To join this meeting go to Events at www.thresholdsofhope.co.uk

ALTERNATIVE GIFTS THIS CHRISTMAS. To help in your search for such gifts our Diocesan Caritas has brought a range of charity details all together on one page, and you will find it at: <https://www.caritasbrentwood.org/christmas/>

FIVE BIBLE STUDIES ON THE ADVENT SUNDAY GOSPELS: Mauro Iannicelli will break-open the forthcoming Advent Sunday Gospels with in-depth teaching and stimulating questions. X5 Wednesdays: 24 Nov | 1 Dec | 8 Dec | 15 Dec | 22 Dec (7-8pm). Free of Charge LIVE sessions on YouTube Info & Registration: <https://comeandsee.org/advent>

CHURCH CLEANING TEAM: Monday 29/11/21: **Team 4**
CBH COFFEE MORNING ROTA: 28/11/21 - Diane & Adrian / 05/12/21 - Yolande & 1 (Rotas in Church porch).