

THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A)

Saturday 28th	Monkwick	5.00 pm	Robert Renford RIP
Sunday 29th	Church	8.00 am	Anniversary: Jackie (John) Wilmot RIP
	Church	10.30 am	Eileen King RIP
	Church	2.00 pm	Polish Mass
	Church	6.30 pm	Private Intentions
	West Mersea	8.30 am	Parishioners
	Mile End	9.30 am	Thanksgiving (PK)
Monday 30th			Feria
	Church	9.30 am	Mary Jacob RIP
Tuesday 31st			Feria
	Church	9.30 am	Donor's Intention (PM)
	West Mersea	7.30 pm	Elizabeth Ward RIP
Wednesday 1st November			ALL SAINTS HOLYDAY OF OBLIGATION
	Church	9.30 am	Deceased Relatives of Farrell Family
	Church	12.15 pm	Mrs Pearly Navaratnam RIP
	Church	7.30 pm	Private Intention
Thursday 2nd			ALL SOULS Commemoration Of All The Faithful Departed
	Church	9.30 am	Alphonse & Maire Knapp RIP
	Church	7.30 pm	All Souls
Friday 3rd			St Martin De Porres, Rel
	Church	9.30 am	Anniversary: Christine Nock
Saturday 4th			St Charles Borromeo, Bp
	Church	9.30 am	Ken Evans RIP
			THIRTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A)
Saturday 4th	Monkwick	5.00 pm	November Dead List
Sunday 5th	Church	8.00 am	Bridget Joyce RIP
	Church	10.30 am	Ann Bridget Lambourn RIP
	Church	2.00 pm	Polish Mass
	Church	4.00 pm	Filipino Mass
	Church	6.30 pm	Private Intention
	West Mersea	8.30 am	Parishioners
	Mile End	9.30 am	Ints: Yadi Khodverdi

- ❖ 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



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Assistant Priest:

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Fr. Philip Okoli

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St James the Less and St Helen RC Church, Colchester

THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A)
Week Commencing 29th October 2023

Today's Gospel is a very important passage in the New Testament wherein Jesus gives a very simple but complete summary of the core principles of Christianity. Jesus is asked "*Master, which is the greatest commandment of the law?*". Jesus gives this eternal answer '*Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: Love your neighbour as yourself.*' This teaching contains the essence of Christ's message and the foundation of Christian ethics. That is to say, all our thoughts, actions and interactions **MUST** be guided by this principle of love of God and neighbour. St Paul puts it so *well* "*Whoever fails to love does not know God, because God is love*" (1 John 4.8). So dear friends, let LOVE lead you.

Fr. Philip

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



THE POPE'S INTENTIONS FOR NOVEMBER: *For the Pope.* We pray for the Holy Father; as he fulfills his mission, may he continue to accompany the flock entrusted to him, with the help of the Holy Spirit.

PRAYER FOR PEACE IN PALESTINE, ISRAEL & UKRAINE. We pray for the people of all worn torn countries, for all those suffering or afraid, that you will be close to them and protect them. We pray for world leaders, for compassion, strength, and wisdom to guide their choices and for the laying down of all weapons.



† NOVEMBER IS THE MONTH OF HOLY SOULS. During this month, prayers and Masses are said for the Faithful Departed. *November Altar Lists of dead & Envelopes* are available in the Church Porch. Please put the names of your deceased family and friends on the list and place this in the envelope along with your donation and either hand the envelope to a priest or drop the envelope through the presbytery letterbox.

MARRIAGE MATTERS: (Exodus 22:20-26 1 Thess 1:5-10 Matt 22:34-40) ***How can I best love you today?*** In today's gospel, Jesus says love should be at the centre of our lives, so we must ask 'How can I best love my partner today?' To know how our partner experiences our love best, we need to explore together whether it is through compliments, special time together, presents or acts of service, or simple hugging and kissing.

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK: We continue to pray for those parishioners we know who are sick and housebound especially Margaret Brookes, Diana Irvén, 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.

MISSIO VOLUNTEER PARISH REPRESENTATIVE (Missio Red Boxes): We are currently looking for a volunteer to take on the role of the Missio representative for this Parish. For further details on this position, please speak to Fr Chris.

NEXT 2nd COLLECTION: There will be a 2nd collection taken for World Day of the Poor on Sunday 5th November 2023 with the theme ***"Do not turn your face away from any of the poor, and God's face will not be turned away from you."*** (As per previous years we will split the proceeds of this collection between the SVP & Josie's Kitchen, both of whom play such a vital role in our Parish with assisting those in need).

REFRESH YOUR PRAYER LIFE: Session 2: Our Familiar Prayers- Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be. Valerie Quinlivan. Please come and hear Valerie, share your experience of these prayers and participate in the discussion on Saturday 4th November at 3.00pm in Cardinal Bourne Hall. All Welcome.

DAY OF MERCY: On **Friday 8th December 2023**, the Church will be open all day with Mass at 9.30am followed by Exposition & Confession all day; to finish with Benediction at 9.00pm. Please do try to attend at some point during the day.

REPOSITORY: The Repository now has a selection of boxed sets and single Christmas Cards & 2024 Diaries available for sale in the Church Porch along with a new selection of Mass Intention cards. All monies to go into Repository Box. Thank you.

CHURCH CLEANING: Updated Rotas for the Cleaning teams are available in Porch.



NATIONAL PILGRIM VIRGIN STATUE (NPVS) OF OUR LADY OF FATIMA AND RELICS OF SAINTS JACINTA & FRANCISCO: On 13 October 1917, God worked a spectacular miracle of the sun in Fatima, Portugal to prove that our Blessed Lady was appearing to the three little shepherd children, Jacinta, Francisco and Lucia, with an important message for our time. This miracle was witnessed by some 70,000 people including government officials and newspaper reporters, all of whom testified that it actually happened. **On 11th + 12th NOVEMBER 2023 the World Apostolate of Fatima, England and Wales is bringing the National Pilgrim Virgin Statue to our Parish**, as approved by Bishop Alan. This beautiful statue of Our Lady of Fatima was blessed by Pope St Paul VI and given to our country by the Bishop of Fatima in 1968 to commemorate the Golden Jubilee of the apparitions and to make known the important message of Fatima. Pope St John Paul II said the Fatima message *"is the true Gospel of Christ presented anew to our generation... Let us receive the light that comes from Fatima, let us be guided by Mary."* All are invited and encouraged to come and see this beautiful National Pilgrim Virgin Statue of Our Lady of Fatima, with the Relics of Saints Jacinta and Francisco.

ST. THOMAS MORE SCHOOL [ADMISSIONS FOR 2024/2025]: (Local Authority Closing Date 15/01/24). The signing of the ***"Certificate of Catholic Practice"*** forms will take place in the Church Crypt on the following dates: -

Saturday 04/11/23 at 11.15am-12.15pm	Thursday 30/11/23 at 3.15pm-4.15pm
Saturday 09/12/23 at 11.15am-12.15pm	Monday 11/12/23 at 3.15pm -4.15pm

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.

SAVE THE DATE! CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION ON SATURDAY 2nd DECEMBER 2023 in Cardinal Bourne Hall from 11.00am to 3.00pm. There will be lots to see and do. All Welcome!

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.

JOSIE'S KITCHEN: Josie is looking for donations of various items to make her care packages for the Homeless at Christmas. If you can spare any of the following items: - shower gels, shampoo, deodorants, toothpaste, razors, shaving foam, Cup-a-soups, sachets of coffee drinks, hot chocolate, long life milk. Tins of ready meals e.g. Chilli-con-carne, casserole, minced beef, tinned potatoes, tinned puddings, crisps, biscuits, small multipack snacks. These items make a big difference to their lives and show them that they are cared for in our community. Please drop your Donations into the Presbytery. Thank you for your continued generosity and support.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION: Registration is now open for all children who are currently in years 3 and 4. Please send the following details via email to fhcstjamescolchester@gmail.com Child's Full Name - Child's D.O.B. - Name of the school your child attends. The dates of the next course will be sent out upon receipt of your registration. However, please 'save the date' of the Parents' Meeting will be Saturday 10th February 2024 which ALL PARENTS will be required to attend to complete the registration process for your child to attend the Reconciliation & First Holy Communion Courses.

WALSINGHAM HOUSE VOLUNTEER TEAM: applications for the Walsingham House at Abbotswick volunteer retreat team are now open. If you are aged between 18-23 and are considering a gap year then please consider the Walsingham House Team. For more info <https://bcys.net/whabbotswick/be-on-team/> or email clairebailey@brcdt.org

CHURCH CLEANING TEAM: Friday 03/11/23: Team 5 / Thursday 09/11/23: Team 1
COFFEE MORNING: 29/10/23: SVP / 05/11/23: Matthew & Mariamma