

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (C)

Saturday 29th	Church	6.15 pm	Jim, Pat Joe, Connell McGinley RIP
Sunday 30th	Church	8.00 am	Alan Michael Buck RIP
	Church	10.30 am	Ints: Andrew Johnson
	Church	2.00 pm	Polish Mass
	Church	3.30 pm	First Holy Communion Mass (Children+Fams)
	Church	6.30 pm	Private Intention
West Mersea		8.30 am	Parishioners
Mile End		9.15 am	Private Intention
Monkwick		10.15 am	Georg-Marie Dimech RIP

Monday 31st	Church	9.30 am	St John Bosco, Pr Robert Amstad RIP
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Tuesday 1st February	Church	9.30 am	Feria Patrick Killen RIP
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Wednesday 2nd	Church	9.30 am	THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD Ints: Helen Jay
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Thursday 3rd	Church	9.30 am	St Anne Line, M Ints: Steph K
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Friday 4th	Church	9.30 am	Feria Ints: Jay's
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Saturday 5th	Church	9.30 am	St Agatha, V, M Ints: Families- Cicek, Iancu, Colac, Descalu, Ciceu
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			FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (C) World Day of Prayer for Consecrated Life
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Saturday 5th	Church	6.15 pm	Ros Sutcliffe RIP
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Sunday 6th	Church	8.00 am	Paul Kievenaar RIP
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	Church	10.30 am	Parishioners
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	Church	2.00 pm	Polish Mass
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	Church	4.00 pm	Filipino Mass
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	Church	6.30 pm	Private Intention
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West Mersea		8.30 am	Private Intention
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Mile End		9.15 am	Ints: Manuel + Samuel
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Monkwick		10.15 am	Ints: Mrs. Joy Lee
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- ❖ 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.
- ❖ 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
- ❖ 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).
- ❖ 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

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

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (C) WEEK COMMENCING 30TH JANUARY 2022

In this Sunday's Gospel, we have a great image of Jesus slipping unharmed through the crowds; he lives to preach another day. Jesus does not avoid the hatred of the hard-hearted on the contrary; he seems to confront the issues head on. In this gospel scene, he does so by exposing the hearts of the people from his hometown. In a similar way, life can often present us with many difficulties. Whilst the temptation to avoid difficulties by distraction or evasion can seem like the most natural thing to do, avoiding the road is also to avoid the destination. Today's readings steer our hearts back towards our greatest goal and our ultimate destination; the complete and perfect possession of unending life in heaven, union with God. The life and ministry of Jesus continues to teach us that the journey to perfect love and union with God must go through the difficult road of selfless sacrificial love. Jesus chose to save us from our sins by confronting sin head on. He did not dodge the bullet but when the time came, he pulled the weed of sin out from its root, crushing the head of the devil by his passion, death and resurrection. He went through to get to. The same will be required of us. True charity will ask that we give everything. That giving everything begins with receiving everything God freely gives. Most beautifully in the gift of Holy Communion, a gift that many young people in our Parish will receive for the first time this weekend.

Fr. Paschal

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 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 FEBRUARY: *Religious Sisters and Consecrated Women.* We pray for religious sisters and consecrated women; thanking them for their mission and their courage; may they continue to find new responses to the challenges of our times.

MARRIAGE MATTERS: (Jeremiah 1:4-5, 17-19; 1 Cor 12:31-13:13; Luke 4:21-30) ***We reflect God's love.*** Through our marriage we become a living flesh and blood sacrament of our Church! Saint Paul says 'be ambitious for the higher gifts'. Our love isn't just a warm feeling but an action; it flourishes in being given attention to and nurtured. In this way we become a sacramental 'sign' of God's love for our children, family, friends and Church.

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 are ill or have contracted Covid-19 and their families.

RECENTLY DECEASED: Please pray for the repose of the souls of Iris Jay, David Morton and Giovanna Butterfield who have all recently passed away. The parish community offers their respective family and friends our condolences and the assurance of our prayers at this most difficult time. Iris' Funeral will take place here on Friday 4th March at 12.30pm. David's Funeral will take place at St Cedd's, West Mersea on Wednesday 9th February at 1pm. Giovanna's funeral details are to be advised.

CHURCH CHOIR: Claire Williamson has taken over running the choir but more musicians and singers are needed. An organist is needed for the first Sunday of the month when Brian is engaged elsewhere. The choir sings at the 10:30am Mass at Priory Street and for all the major Feast Days. The Easter Triduum and the Vigil Mass are next on the calendar. Choir Practice takes place every two weeks so please contact Claire for more details on 07582253284. **New Members Welcome.**

NEXT 2nd COLLECTIONS: There will be 2nd collections taken for Lourdes Sick & Helpers fund on 6th February and for Racial justice Sunday on 13th February.

VOLUNTARY HEALTH & SAFETY ASSISTANT REQUIRED: We are looking for a volunteer willing to assist with the Parish Health and Safety – If you have any expertise and are willing to advise and assist, for details of the role, please speak to Fr Chris. Thank you.

MESSAGE FROM SVP: We would like to thank all Parishioners for their generous donations in respect to the 2nd collection for "World Day of the Poor" and their continued support of our work.

SAVE THE DATE: St Patricks Day Celebration in Cardinal Bourne Hall on Saturday 19th March 2022. Details of event to follow in due course.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION: Congratulations to all those receiving their Sacrament of First Holy Communion over the weekend and to all the volunteers who assisted with the running of the course. Thank you

NEXT FIRST HOLY COMMUNION COURSE: There will be an initial meeting with Parents/children on **Saturday 12th February at 11.00am** in the Church hall (*please remember to bring your child's Baptism Certificate and the £25.00 fee for your child's course books*). Course (Part 1: Reconciliation) will then commence on 26th February for those who have attended the initial meeting. Please Note: Parents must also attend the weekly sessions with their child(ren) from 11am-12.45pm approx. Thank you.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: We will require volunteers to help assist on the First Holy Communion Course, please email (colchester@dioceseofbrentwood.org) or advise the clergy if you are able to help out (we would also encourage any parents attending weekly to offer their assistance). Thank you.

2022 RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults): RCIA is the process developed by the Catholic Church for those who are interested in finding out more about the Catholic Faith, teachings and practices with a view to becoming Catholics, or for those who have a background in the Catholic Faith but who have not yet been confirmed, or for anyone who wants to refresh their knowledge of the Catholic Faith. To register your interest, please email your contact details colchester@dioceseofbrentwood.org. Thank You

SATURDAY EVENING SOUP RUN ROTA FOR HOMELESS/HOUSED: Volunteers are required (aged 18 + over) to make up a team of 4+ persons. Volunteers would have to be available one Saturday a month from about 5.30 to 8pm; this includes time for setting up & clearing up afterwards. Teams will be distributing the food and drinks and chat to the folks. (The soup run itself will be from 6.30-7.30pm. the location will be The Salvation Army Car Park, which is situated opposite the police station). If interested please contact SVP Tel: 07493 439427 or email: colchestersvp@gmail.com.

BCYS FEBRUARY YOUTH MASS WITH TALK FROM MILLION MINUTES: Thursday 3rd February at Brentwood Cathedral. From 6pm join the BCYS for pizza and drink in the Parish Hall, and from 6:30pm Beth Warren, former Walsingham House Assistant Manager and now Senior Parish Engagement Officer for "Million Minutes" will help us prepare for the upcoming Lenten Season, with their SiLENT campaign and other exciting ventures! This will be followed by Mass at 7:30pm, where we will be joined by Fr Paschal Uche and Fr Michael Barwick who will preach the gospel. All info about this and other events can be found on our website www.bcys.net.

CARITAS DIOCESE OF BRENTWOOD are inviting people from the night of April 8th to the morning of April 9th, to join the 2022 Sponsored Sleepout. Raising awareness and money to help our local homeless charities and the Brentwood Catholic Youth Service. All information can be found at www.caritasbrentwood.org/sleepout or by emailing sleepout@dioceseofbrentwood.org

THRESHOLDS OF HOPE QUESTION: *What do the Martyrs teach us about the life of faith?* Input will be given by Fr Paul Keane, Sunday 30th January 4-5pm. For more information go to www.thresholdsofhope.co.uk

CHURCH CLEANING TEAM: Monday 31/01/22: **Team 2** / Monday 07/02/22: **Team 3**
CBH COFFEE MORNING ROTA: 30/01/22 (SVP) / 06/02/22 (Matthew & Mariamma)
 2022 Rotas are available in Church Porch.



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!



Please note that Face Masks must be worn in Church, unless medically exempt.

