THIRTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME [C]

Saturday October 29th 6:15 pm Roger Thurlow RIP Sunday October 30th 8:00 am Cornelius O'Sullivan RIP 10:30 am Cora and George Allard RIP 2:00 pm Polish Mass 6:30 pm Doria Concetta RIP West Mersea 8:30 am Intentions: Canon Anthony McKentey Mile End

9:15 am Francisco Castro Jr RIP

Monkwick 10:15 am Intentions: Paul and Margaret Everitt

Monday 31st Feria

Church 9:15 am INTS: Brian Fernandes

Mersea 7:30 pm Parishioners

Tuesday NOV 1st ALL SAINTS - HOLYDAY OF OBLIGATION

9:15 am Alphonse Knapp RIP School Mass Church

12:15 pm Pam Andrews RIP Church Church 7:30 pm November Dead List

Wednesday 2nd **ALL SOULS**

> 12:15 pm Intentions of Ronan Cundy Church

Thursday 3rd Feria [or St Martin of Porres, Rel]

> 9:15 am Frederick, Elizabeth & Angelo Lucas RIP Church

12:15 pm FUNERAL - David Merces RIP Church

Friday 4th St Charles Borromeo, Bp

> 9:15 am Joshua Walker RIP Church

Saturday 5th Feria

9:15 am Felicitas Ramos RIP Church

THIRTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME [C]

Saturday November 5th 6:15 pm Agnes McInerney RIP **Sunday November 6th** 8:00 am Des Fuller RIP Ints: Sykes Family 10:30 am 2:00 pm Polish Mass 4:00 pm Filipino Mass 6:30 pm Compton Pooran RIP West Mersea 8:30 am Sebastian Ramos RIP Mile End 9:15 am Yadi Khodaverdi RIP Monkwick 10:15 am Herbert [Bert] Hewitt RIP

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: Saturday 9:45-10:30am; 5:30-6pm SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE: At least six months notice is required

ST. JAMES THE LESS AND ST. HELEN

CATHOLIC CHURCH, COLCHESTER

WITH MERSEA, MILE END AND MONKWICK



Canon Anthony McKentey

Fr Alex Poblador, RCJ

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THIRTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME [C]

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CALLED TO BE WITNESSES OF GOD'S MERCY

Surprises may come to our life, at any moment, and whether it is big or small we always experience these mixed emotions of happiness, contentment and above all of being loved.

In our Gospel today, Zacchaeus experienced the same thing. He got the biggest surprise of his life when Jesus met him. He was a tax collector and worse, considered a sinner in his town and by his own kinsmen, someone who seemed rejected and neglected by everyone. Furthermore, in the eyes of all, he is a nobody and worthless Jew. Yet, Jesus on that day called him. Jesus, in his loving mercy and compassion was not at all bothered about what other people would think or say of him. The only thing he was sure of is to open to this man the possibility of LOVE and being LOVED. Jesus sought Zacchaeus! He called him, by his name, "to come down quickly for today I must stay at your home" (LK 19:5). This is it, the surprise! This is the main reason why the son of man came: to seek and to save what was lost.

Jesus, did not condemn him but called him back with the promise of salvation. For Jesus, Zacchaeus is like anyone of us, a sinner, who needs to come down (= humble himself) and walk with Jesus; yet this can happen only if we are willing to change and be converted. The door of eternal life is widely opened for us to enter if we want it.

And so brothers and sisters let us always consider how much God loves us. He loves us and is always ready to accept us when we want to come back....for Jesus no matter what happened in the past or what we have done today, he remains the God for us all.

The Jubilee year of Mercy is about to end on the feast of Christ the King, 20 November 2016. We are all invited to be God's merciful presence by continuing the mission of helping our brothers and sisters in the best way possible for we know that we still have so much more to do. So, while we continue to experience God's mercy in our life, let us be instruments so that others may experience too the same mercy of God. As Jesus said: "Be merciful as your Heavenly Father is merciful."

Send O Lord, Holy Apostles into your Church.

<u>Please see Mass Schedule for ANY changes</u> -See Feast of All Saints-

SUNDAYS: Divine Mercy and Rosary Following 8am Mass
DAILY: Morning Prayer 8:15am; Rosary/Divine Mercy 8:35am
MEDITATION GROUP: Tuesdays - Crypt 8:00pm
FILMS FOR FAITH Next showing – See below 1:15pm

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK: Please remember in your prayers; Percy Abrahams, Pat Banks, Frank Campbell, Vicky Culham, Margaret Griffin, Jim Harvey, John Harvey, David Hill, Jan Holden, Ronald Jay, Julie Jefferies, Pat Keene, Marie Kent, Patrick King, John Lawlor, Peter Ledgley, Nathanael Lee, Joanne Leon, Doreen Lowe, Marie Lyons, Canon Anthony McKentey, Jean Mansell, Mary-Ann Martin, Cara Maude, David Merryman, Byron Miller, Margaret Norman, Charles Norman, Anne Renwick, Leah Patterson, Ronald Quijano, Stephen Rhatigan, Chris Sands, Margaret Scammell, Maureen Sheeran, Aimée Stammers, Fiona Stephenson, Filomena Velasquez, Mary Wallace, Patricia Wiltshire, Tony White, Dorcey Young.

BAPTISMS TODAY: We welcome into the Church though the Sacrament of Baptism, **IIa and Meela Mallett and Gabriella Morawski.** God bless these children and congratulations to their families.

FEAST OF ALL SAINTS: Next Tuesday is the Feast of All Saints and is a Holyday of Obligation. Masses here at Priory Street will be at 9:15am; 12:15pm and 7:30pm with a Vigil Mass at Mersea at 7:30pm on Monday, 31st October.

FILMS FOR FAITH: Due to technical problems, this week's film – A Man For All Seasons – will now be shown on *Wednesday*, *9*th *November*. Timing as usual – 1pm for a 1:15pm start.

HOLY SOULS: November is the month of the Holy Souls. If you wish your loved ones to be remembered in a special way, brown envelopes are available in the Church porch. All Masses for the month of November will be applied for them. May they rest in peace.

RECENTLY DECEASED: The funeral for David Merces will be here on Thursday 3rd November, at 12:15pm. The funeral for Brigid Whitelaw will be at Priory Street on November 7th at 10:45am. The funeral of Pat Andrews is at St Teresa of Lisieux, Lexden on Friday 4th November at 10:30 am.

YEAR OF MERCY FINAL AUTUMN TALK: Takes place on Saturday, 5th

November, 10;30 – 12 noon at Cathedral House Conference Centre, Brentwood. "Transformed by Mercy". Speaker: Bishop Alan, SM. To book: 01277 265285 or jude@dioceseofbrentwood.org

AID TO THE CHURCH IN NEED: Christmas Sales Don't miss the opportunity to purchase Christmas cards, advent calendars and many lovely gifts before or after Mass on 12th & 13th November at Priory Street and on 20th November at Mile End. The idea is to place one large parish order straight after the last sales in order to have the goods available early December. Thank you for supporting the ACN. Anne Claydon 07880852738

THANK YOU: To all who came to the Concert given by the Choir of Cologne Cathedral here at St James the Less on the 21st October. The retiring collection for ACN raised £696.36!

St Thomas More's Primary School 2017-18 Intake Any parent wishing to apply for a place at St Thomas More's School must complete a Supplementary Information Form (SIF) in addition to the Local Authority Application Form. SIFs are available to download on the school's website www.stthomasmores.co.uk under the admissions tab or by contacting the office on 01206 865722. You will also need to supply the school with a Certificate of Practice. Dates when Father Alex will be signing these will be published in due course.

CHURCH BAZAAR: *There is a Meeting today after the 10:30 Mass for* those helping with the Church Bazaar which takes place on **Saturday 26th November** This week for donations of jewellery, toiletries, perfumes and gifts.. Donated items may be left at the Parish Office/ Presbytery.

REPOSITORY: We now have a beautiful range of Christmas cards, calendars and diaries for sale in the Church porch. A full range of Christmas gifts is also available every Sunday after 10:30am from the Repository in Cardinal Bourne Hall. Please support the Parish and take a look.

VOLUNTEERS: If you are one of our much valued volunteers at the church then we need to hear from you to update our DBS files. It is a requirement that ALL volunteers have a current DBS certificate to continue with their roles. If you haven't yet completed a form then please collect one from the Presbytery. We will be publishing dates soon for when forms can be returned and checked.

PRIORY STREET CAR PARK: Please do NOT park there as you may get a ticket. Blue Badge holders please park with consideration either on St Augustine Mews or Priory Street itself. Please DO NOT overfill our church car park as priests require 24 access for emergency calls. Thank you.

CARDINAL BOURNE HALL BOOKINGS: <u>cb.hall@btinternet.com</u> 07758 805263 CHURCH CLEANERS' ROTA: Thursday, November 3rd - Team 4.