FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT [B] 30th November 2014

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Saturday November 29 th	6:15 pm	Mr Phil Rudgley RIP
Sunday November 30 th	8:00 am	Wilbur & Muriel McDonald RIP

10:30 am Tony Southon RIP 2:00 pm **POLISH MASS** 6:30 pm Casiano Pasumbal RIP

West Mersea 8:30 am Henry Johnson RIP

Mile End 9:15 am Thomas, Mary & John Rutherfoord RIP

Monkwick 10:15 am Parishioners

Monday 1st Blessed John Beche, Ab, M

> D/Rels: Udall family Church 7:30 am

Ints: Fr Tom Coffey-STM Whole School Church 9:15 am

Church 12:15 am Special Intention

Tuesday 2nd Feria

NB Church 9:30 am Archie Crolla RIP

Wednesday 3rd St Francis Xavier, Pr

Church 7:30 am Ints: Tony White

West Mersea 9:30 am **Mass & Confessions**

Church 12:15 pm Ints: Leo & Donna Fuller

Thursday 4th Feria

> Church 9:15 am In thanksgiving [SF] Church 10:30 am **REQUIEM MASS**

Rocchina Sagnella RIP

Friday 5th Feria

Church 9:15 am Anne Sears RIP Church 6:30 pm Private Intention

Saturday 6th Feria

West Mersea

Church 9:15 am Stephen Hilton RIP

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT [B]

Saturday November 6th 6:15 pm Sr Mary Scullin RIP **Sunday November 7th** 8:00 am

Helen, Joseph & Julien Horeau RIP

Lilean Southon RIP 10:30 am 2:00 pm POLISH MASS 6:30 pm Annie McGunnigle RIP 8:30 am **Deceased Parishioners**

Mile End 9:15 am Gelsomina Fappiano & Family

Monkwick 10:15 am Parishioners

The Brentwood Diocesan Trust – Registered Charity No. 234092

ST. JAMES THE LESS AND ST. HELEN

CATHOLIC CHURCH, COLCHESTER

WITH MERSEA, MILE END AND MONKWICK



Fr Anthony McKentey

Fr Neil Brett

Fr Philip Willenbrock

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FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT [B]

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My dear friends

Today we embark on the new church year and the holy season of Advent, preparing us for the coming of Christ at Christmas. We will hear the Pastoral Letter from our new Bishop Alan Williams, copies of which are available at the back of church and on the parish website. He will preside at our 10:30am Mass today, as later on - he is due to be present at St John's Abbey Gatehouse, where a new sign has been erected marking the martyrdom of Blessed John Beche. Also he will receive on our behalf the new relic of St John Paul II, which is to be housed in our parish.

We also welcome Fr Adam Podbiera from Poland. Fr Adam worked with St John Paul II in Kraków, so it is very appropriate that he should be here at this special time. There will be an opportunity for veneration of the relic after the 10:30am Mass, at the end of the Afternoon Rosary at 3pm and at the end of Sunday evening Mass at 7:30pm. There will be other opportunities to do this in the days to come for the other Masses. Mass Centres and the housebound too.

As we go to press, I am looking forward to the Christmas Market. We hope it will be a great success, especially for those who have put so much time into its preparation. This year, the Christmas Draw will take place later during the social on Saturday 19th December at 7:30pm.

May God bless our Advent preparations for the birthday of our Saviour.

Please see Mass Schedule for ANY changes

SUNDAYS: Divine Mercy followed by Rosary

3pm

DAILY: Morning Prayer 8:15am; Rosary/Divine Mercy

8:35am

EVENING PRAYER:Fridays at 6pmChurchPRAYER GROUP:Mondays at 7:45pmCryptMEDITATION GROUP:Tuesdays at 8pmCryptSCRIPTURE GROUP:Wednesdays at 6:45pm [Term time only]Crypt

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK (new entries are in bold type): Please remember in your prayers; Władysław Antończak, Pat Banks, June Bickersteth, Grace Blanchette, Frank Campbell, Karl Collins, Olive Crawford, Jeanette Dagwell, Lynne-Michelle Denton, Joan Donnelly, Nancy Drummond, Fr Paul Dynan, Charlie George, Bill Graves, Bert Hewitt, Norah Hewitt, Maurice Highfield, David Hill, Theresa Hogan, Ronald Jay, Pat Keene, Patrick King, John Lawlor, Peter Ledgley, Mirella Leonardi, Doreen Lowe, Marie Lyons, Pat Maloney, Jean Mansell, Mary-Ann Martin, Cara Maude, David Merryman, Byron Miller, Margaret Norman, Anne Renwick, Leah Patterson, Elaine Proudfoot, Ronald Quijano, Stephen and Sabina Rhatigan, Catherine Spicer, Arthur Urquhart, Filomena Velasquez, Patricia Wiltshire, Tony White, Dorcey Young.

RECENTLY DECEASED: Please pray for the repose of the soul of Rocchina (Maria) Sagnella of 17 Gurden Road, Colchester. Mrs Sagnella's Requiem Mass will be on Thursday 4th December at 10:30am. May she rest in peace.

MONDAY 1st DECEMBER: St Thomas More whole school Mass for the beginning of Advent.

MASSES THIS WEEK: On Monday 1st December – there will be an additional Mass at 12:15pm to honour our local martyr, Blessed John Beche. On Tuesday 2nd December, Mass will start at the slightly later time of 9:30am. On Wednesday 3rd December, the Holy Communion service at Mersea will be replaced by Mass and Confessions at 9:30am.

CHRISTMAS GRAND DRAW TICKETS: Please return unsold tickets or the counterfoils with your name, contact details, and money to the Presbytery by the 19th December to be entered. Help us raise funds for the church. Excellent prizes on offer. Don't miss out!

ST THOMAS MORE'S PRIMARY SCHOOL 2015-16 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 or by contacting the office on 01206 865722.

PARISH COUNCIL: Meets on Thursday December 4th at 7:30pm in the crypt.

LECTIO DIVINA FOR ADVENT: Holy reading of the Sunday texts, at 5pm on Saturdays, beginning Saturday 29th Nov at 5pm in the Crypt.

ADVENT and the SIGN of the CROSS: Day of Reflection Sat 13 Dec in the Crypt, 11 am

– 3pm. Coffee 10.30. Poster in Porch. Further info from Valerie Q 01206 612196.

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS AND DECORATIONS COLLECTION: Weekend of the 13 / 14th December. Priory St Only.

FAITH OF OUR FATHERS: In Search of the English Martyrs. The Second DVD will be shown at 10am on Monday 1st December and Friday 5th at 7:30pm with great refreshments.

CHRISTIAN CHRISTMAS CARDS & DIARIES: are available in the repository in Priory Street. A small number of Advent calendars are also in stock. Why not give a good book at Christmas? Some carefully selected and attractive ones are available for different ages.

RORATE CAELI: Drop down dew, you heavens from above! During Advent there is Mass with Procession of Our Blessed Lady each Tuesday evening starting at 6:30, in conjunction with the Polish people. Bring a candle for the procession.

PROCESSION AND MASS FOR THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF OUR BLESSED LADY: is on Monday 8th December. It will begin at 6:30 pm. The novena for this feast will take place every day from Sunday November 30th just before the Rosary is said.

UCM CHRISTMAS CRAFTS: 1pm to 3pm. Sunday 7th December. Cardinal Bourne Hall. Hot dogs and soup served from 12.45pm. Make a nativity scene, reindeer food, table and tree decorations, letter to Santa and a special guest appearance! £3 per child. £5 per family.

BRENTWOOD 2015 DIOCESAN DIRECTORY: Packed full of useful contacts and information for the diocese and the wider church. Contains an appreciation of Bishop Thomas by Fr Brian O'Shea and obituaries of Rev. Ambrose O'Gorman, Andrew Hurley and John Timmins. It also contains the church's liturgical calendar with many feast days specific to this diocese; useful if you say Morning and Evening prayer at home. Available now for £2.75.

BRENTWOOD NEWS: Winter edition now available. Free of charge.

THURSDAY 4TH DECEMBER: 20 Somethings. Elliott, newly-arrived at Essex University, has offered to launch a monthly get-together for those aged 18 to 35. To start with, the programme will be: Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament at 6pm in the church. At 6:30 Elliott will introduce a time of reflection in the crypt. At 7, we go for a pizza. Hope to see you there!

SATURDAY 6th NOVEMBER: 74 Howe Close, Greenstead - a showing of the film of the life of Nelson Mandela. Tea and Advent Evening Prayer to follow.

COLLECTION COUNTERS: A reminder that we are to have a meeting in the crypt at 10am on Friday 5th December to hopefully answer any questions about procedure etc. More info from Ron Griffin on 01206 571 590.

DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES: Brochures available from the back of church for this pilgrimage that runs from 26th – 31st July 2015.

IN CONVERSATION WITH BISHOP ALAN: An evening for young adults aged 17-35, with a unique opportunity to hear Bishop Alan share his vocational journey. What inspired him to become a priest? Hear his story on Thursday 18 December, Cathedral House

Conference Room, 7.30-10.00 pm, including fish & chip supper. Full details at www.brentwoodvocations.org. The evening is free, but registration is required – call Fr Dominic, Vocations Director, on 01268 281732 or email frdominic@brentwoodvocations.org