



ST. JAMES THE GREAT CHURCH & ST PAUL'S CHURCH
3RD SUNDAY OF EASTER – 19TH APRIL 2026



✦ **TODAY AT ST JAMES: A SEASON OF GROWTH**

- 08:00 — Said Mass.
- 10:00 — Parish Sung Mass.

A Vital Pastoral Request: Please ensure you take home and read the Pastoral Letter from Fr James included with today's notices. It contains essential information regarding our Financial Health, a detailed update on Liturgical Patterns, and our Shared Vision as we work toward building a Resilient Future Together. It is a crucial read for all who call this parish home.

 **PLEASE PRAY FOR**

The Infirm and Housebound: Adam, Ava Mills, Gaby, Christine & Emma, Clive French, David Beattie, Donna Canning, Joyce & Ralph, Jon Hawkings, Lubomira, Madeline Bates, Michelle Ntow, Naomi & family, Noreen Cunliffe, Ronnie, Sheila Townsend, Sharon, Shirley.

The Recently Departed: Addy and Brian.

- **The Years Mind:**
- 19th Dorothy de Havilland, Hilda Backhouse, Leslie Clarke.
- 21st: George Hill, Elijah Gayton.
- 22nd: Evelyn Harrison, David Robinson.
- 23rd: William Cragg, Truda Newark.
- 24th: Mark Cole.

 **SANCTUARY LAMPS**



- Blessed Sacrament: Is not sponsored this week.
- The Aumbry Lamp: Is not sponsored this week.
- St James the Great Lamp: Is not sponsored this week.

- The Lamp for Iran: Dedicated to the people of Iran, especially the faithful diaspora within our church and city, showing our heartfelt support.



PARISH CALENDAR & THE DAILY OFFICE

The Daily Office: You are invited to join Jean and Fr James in church Tuesday–Saturday.

- Morning Prayer: 07:45 
- Evening Prayer: 18:00 

This Week:

- Monday 20th April: Simply Good News Study (Zoom) — 19:15 to 20:45.
- Tuesday 21st April: Church Cleaning — 09:00 to 10:30.
- Thursday 23rd April: Mass — 12:30.
- Friday 24th April: Study Course (The Rectory) — 11:00 (Concluding chapters 7 and 8).
- Saturday 25th April: Confessions — 08:00 (by appointment).



THANKSGIVINGS AND BLESSINGS

We offer our heartfelt thanks for the following:

- Church Cleaning: For the dedicated hard work of those who ensure our church remains a beautiful house of prayer.
- PCC Meeting: For the spirit of peace and shared purpose during our recent meeting in the Pilgrim Centre.
- University Ministry: For Fr James's invitation by the two unions at Essex University to speak, and for the success of that engagement.
- School Life: For the Class Mass at St James the Great Church as the children returned to school this past week.
- Faith Formation: For our Lent Course and the study of *Simply Good News*, and for the continuing dedication of our Confirmation class.

🎵 SUMMER LUNCHTIME CONCERTS

Please advertise these concerts and invite people to attend, enjoy, tell others, and help with our fundraising.

AT ST JAMES THE GREAT, EAST HILL, COLCHESTER

1st Tuesdays of each month May–October 2026 at 1pm

- Tuesday 5th May at 1pm: Althena Ensemble
Gill Gerrard (Oboe), Rhianwen Gold (Violin) & Mary Blanchard (Flute & Piano).

📄 MISSION, STEWARDSHIP & LEADERSHIP

Financial Health & Resilience: As detailed in the Pastoral Letter, we are addressing a monthly deficit of £1,109. To ensure our future, the PCC is focused on returning to a surplus budget.

- **Planned Giving:** Only 24 individual or households of our 109 Electoral Roll members are on the Parish Giving Scheme. We encourage all members to review their stewardship to help us meet rising costs.
- **Urgent Vacancies:**
- We require a Fundraising Team (2–3 people) and a
- **Food Hygiene Lead.** Please speak to Fr James if you can serve in these capacities.
- **Enterprise:** Promotional cards for the Pilgrim Centre will soon be available to help parishioners assist in marketing our greatest asset.

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**** Giving: Our Gospel work is funded by your sacrifice. We ask for your profoundest generosity (2 Cor 9:7).



✦ ADDITIONAL NOTICES

- **Deanery Synod Elections:** At our APCM on Sunday 17th May, we shall elect lay representatives (2026–2029). Please consider standing if you have a heart for the mission of the Church beyond our parish boundaries.
- **Electoral Roll Revision:** The Revision ends on Saturday 2nd May. Please check your details on the noticeboard or complete an Enrolment Form if you are new. Note: A GDPR form is not the same as the legal Electoral Roll.
- **Schools & Community:** Volunteers are urgently requested for Prayer Spaces (18th–22nd May) as we welcome local classes. On 6th May, we welcome 60 pupils for an RE lesson.
- **Walsingham Outreach:** Sessions with Dr Jane Southward on Saturday 2nd May and Saturday 11th July.
- **National Pilgrimage:** Monday 25th May. Fr James will drive a mini-bus if 15 people sign up.
- **Confirmation:** Sunday 14th June at 18:00 with The Right Reverend Luke Irvine-Capel.

📞 CONTACTS & SAFEGUARDING

- Safeguarding Representative: Mrs Clare Moles | 07751 329314
- Fr James McCluskey SSC: 01206 860419 |
infostjamesthegreat@gmail.com
- Churchwarden: Dr Desirée Campbell | 01206 617263
- Churchwarden & Treasurer: Mrs Lucy Mason | 01206 386766

**** **Affiliation:** St James the Great is a parish of The Society and Forward in Faith, under the care of the Bishop of Richborough.

