Orthodox Parish of St Helen of Colchester

Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of the British Isles and Ireland Metropolitan: His Eminence Archbishop Silouan

Newsletter 231

May 2016



Christ brings the Resurrection life to us all

7 hen Christ rose from the dead on Holy Pascha it was not just for himself alone. "In Christ shall all be made alive," says St Paul.

This means that you and I are changed by the events of that Easter night.

We receive a new life: a completely new slant on all life and death affects us and the whole of existence.

Our life and our death are transformed. In as far as we, still in this world, live our life in Christ, we share the life of eternity.

Father Alexander



GREAT AND HOLY WEEK

GREAT & HOLY WEDNESDAY, 27 APRIL

Holy Anointing 6.00 pm

GREAT & HOLY THURSDAY, 28 APRIL

Ct Vespers & Holy Liturgy of St Basil 9.30 am Mattins of the Twelve Gospels 6.00 pm

GREAT & HOLY FRIDAY, 29 APRIL

Royal Hours 8.30 am Great Vespers & Deposition 3.00 pm Mattins & Burial Procession 6.00 pm

GREAT & HOLY SATURDAY, 30 APRIL

Gt Vespers & Holy Liturgy of St Basil 9.30 am Reading of Acts 10.30pm Midnight Office 11.30 pm

HOLY PASCHA, 1 MAY

Resurrection Procession & Mattins 12 midnight Holy Liturgy of St John 1.00 am (till 2.15) No late morning Liturgy, nor Lunch

Paschal Vespers

3.00 pm

BRIGHT FRIDAY, LIFE-GIVING SPRING, 6 May Holy Liturgy & Blessing of Water 9.30 am

CONFESSIONS: GIFTS FOR FLOWERS: EPITAPHION FLOWERS:

After any service or by arrangement Khouria Hilary will receive donations Women & girls invited to prepare the Epitaphion on Holy Friday 9.30 am.

Church Giving Sunday Fr Philip Hall's visit was a very happy occasion and resulted in commitments which will give a total income of over £5000 per year. including Gift Aid. Thank you to all who committed themselves. Now we must address worshippers who were unable to get to church here that Sunday and encourage them to consider this method of giving.

Archbishop celebrates our Patronal Feast with us—book the weekend 20-22 May

His Eminence Metropolitan Silouan will serve the Holy Liturgy for SS Constantine & Helen on Saturday 21 May here in Colchester, and again on the Sunday. Sayedna did make a very brief visit here just a few days after his enthronement, but this will be his first formal visit to this Parish. A provisional programme is set out right: watch out for alterations.



SS Constantine & Helen are usually venerated together in the Orthodox Church, but in the West St Helen was generally venerated HOLY LITURGY on her own. In the Western tradition both were claimed as **CLACTON** British, born in Colchester. 21 May is Constantine's date of Saturday repose, in 327. As Helen receives little mention in the 28 May 10.00 am services of 21 May, we in this Parish keep both this day, (Note date) and also her day of Repose, 18 August - probably in 329.

PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME FOR ARCHBISHOP'S VISIT FRIDAY 20 MAY - Eve of Feast

Reception of His Eminence & Vespers 5.00 pm

Dinner for Church Leaders

SATURDAY 21 MAY - Feast of SS Constantine & Helen

10.30 am Hierarchical Holy Liturgy

> Alfresco Lunch for all - offers of foods (including national foods) to George Harrison (07-869-488-842)

5.00 pm

Sunday 22 May - Fourth Sunday of Pascha

10.30 am Hierarchical Holy Liturgy

Refreshments & "Ask the Archbishop" session

St Helen's Chapel, Maidenburgh St, High St

St Helen's is 200m. down behind the George Hotel in the High Street, but accessible from there only on foot. By car leave Middleborough Roundabout (between dual cam'ageways Westway and Balkerne Hill), to Northgate, go straight along St Peter's Street to Castle Park; continue round the bend, up into Maidenburgh Street The nearest car park is Nunns Road NCP, off St Peter's Street.

Saturday: Great Vespers usually 4.30 pm (check before coming) Sunday: Mattins 9.45 am (or Hours 10.15 am), Divine Liturgy 10.30 am

Confessions: Saturday 5 pm, after Vespers, or by arrangement Holy Marriage, Baptism, Funerals, Memorials etc. by arrangement

Parish Priest: Father Alexander (Alistair) Haig

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The Parish of St Helen is Registered Charity No. 1134418 Bank account: Sort Code 20-22-67 Account No. 50349364 Parish Website: http://www.orthodoxcolchester.org.uk

At St James Anglican Church, Beatrice Rd, Clacton-on-sea CO15 ILE Divine Liturgy: usually third Saturday of month 10.00 am