

+ **Holy Orthodoxy: a glorious Faith, ever-old, ever-new!** +

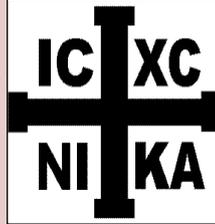
Orthodox Parish of St Helen of Colchester

*Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese
of the British Isles and Ireland*

Metropolitan: His Eminence Archbishop Silouan

NEWSLETTER 243

JUNE 2017



WEEKDAYS IN JUNE

HOLY LITURGY 9.30 AM

Friday 9 June

St Cyril of Alexandria,

St Columba of Iona, Enlightener of Scotland

Thursday 22 June

St Alban, Protomartyr of Britain

Thursday 29 June

SS Peter & Paul, Chiefs of the Apostles,

Founders of the Church of Antioch

Parish will Appeal for funds to buy St Martin's: we need God's grace!

At Holy Pentecost, fifty days after Pascha, ten after Ascension, **JOY** and **PEACE OF HEART** and **POWER** came upon the Apostles gathered around the Holy Mother of God—see Acts 1 & 2.

They had been praying with her there in the Upper Room, that Christ's promise—to be with them for ever—would be fulfilled. And it was!

This is entirely relevant to us in this Parish at this moment.

The Church Council has decided that we should go ahead with the task of raising money to buy St Martin's Church, just 200 metres away from St Helen's. We have been offered it for £150,000.

This sounds a lot, *is* indeed a lot—but it is rather less than the cost of the average house in Colchester, and is less than the owners have ever asked in our long pursuit of it.

The Council has appointed an Appeal Committee, with Chairman CATALIN FLISCU and Treasurer NICK TAYLOR.

A date to start the Appeal has not as yet been fixed but we hope it will be within a few months.

Metropolitan SILOUAN has sent a second message to the Council and Parish. He says:

What you are doing is asking God to act but whatever comes next will be full of trials, so I ask you all to pray and remain focused, dedicated to overcoming these so that in your weakness Christ's strength will be made manifest!...

Our work for God must be accompanied by faith, so I now ask you all to join together and pray fervently and constantly in the privacy of your own homes as well

as in the community as the body of Christ.

You have given me great joy and I celebrate before Christ your courageous faith. Let this work be blessed and may it glorify God and yourselves.

No doubt you will be as grateful for these words as I am. The full text is available on paper in church or by email: please ask.

It is indeed the message of Pentecost: pray to Christ our God and receive his power, the Holy Spirit, to do his Will.

It fits so closely with the lovely and powerful prayer that Reader ANDREAS wrote for us over a year ago, printed again overleaf. The prayer will be answered by God if it is his Will. I ask you once more to use it in your own prayers as well as in church.

As we celebrate Pentecost this year let us understand ourselves to be open to receive the Power, the Spirit of God in this Parish at this time.

We do need bigger premises. God by his mercy can provide them *if we pray, and work, for his glory.*

God bless you.

Father Alexander

Please don't send money yet: wait till we announce it.



St Martin's Appeal—more than £150,000

Details will be worked out over the coming months. It must be for considerably more than the purchase-price of £150,000. The final figure must cover the immediate expense of heating, lighting, and basic adaptation. Also we must find early funding for some of the cost of furnishing an Orthodox temple. Watch out for more information. Can you help in some way?

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 carriageways 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, Holy Baptism, Funerals, Memorials etc: by arrangement

Children of St Helen (Pre-school & Primary): 1st Saturday 11.00 am

Parish Priest: Father Alexander (Alistair) Haig

17 Maidenburgh Street, Colchester CO1 1UB

Tel: 01-206-530-530 Mob: 07-947-047-201 Eml: parishpriest@orthodoxcolchester.org.uk

Reader Andreas Moran, 6 Woodlands, Welshwood Park CO4 3JA Tel: 01-206-865-697

Reader & Sacristan Martin Gräß, 21 Alexandra Road CO3 3DF Tel: 07-702-579-743

Churchwardens: David Davies 01-473-745-167 Dusan Radunovic 01-206-762-553

Children of St Helen: Sanja Radunovic 01-206-762-553 Silvia Lefley: 01-206-835-715

Orthodox Parish of St Helen 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 1EE

Divine Liturgy: usually third Saturday of month 10.00 am

Church Council decides to rent St Helen's Chapel for now

The owner of St Martin's is the Churches Conservation Trust in London, but the owner of St Helen's is the Chelmsford Anglican Diocese, so it is complicated!

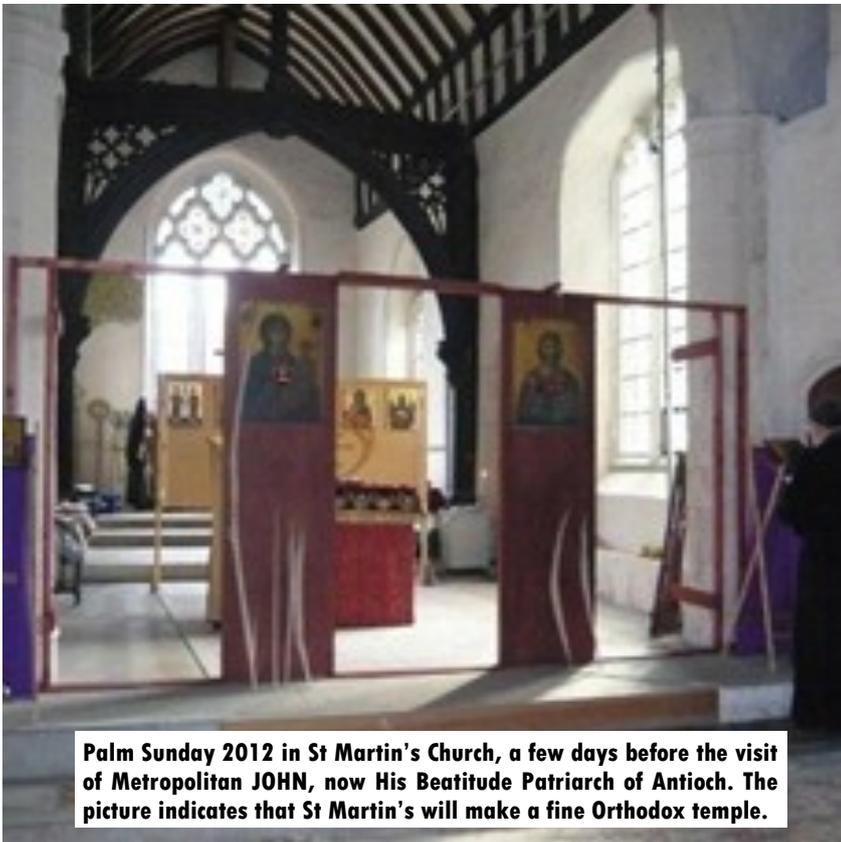
The Church Council has now agreed to rent St Helen's for the sum of £2,000 per year, for at least 5 years. This is a new call on our regular income and giving, a challenge in itself.

For a further 5 years we could have it for a rent to be negotiated. We could purchase St Helen's at some point, if we have enough funding.

This will allow us time to get heating into St Martin's, which is absolutely necessary to help us get rid of any damp there.

So we will expect at the beginning to have summer services in St Martin's, but still to use St Helen's for winter services.

**CLACTON
HOLY
LITURGY
Saturday
17 June
10.00 am
St Botolph's
feast**



Palm Sunday 2012 in St Martin's Church, a few days before the visit of Metropolitan JOHN, now His Beatitude Patriarch of Antioch. The picture indicates that St Martin's will make a fine Orthodox temple.

Here and There

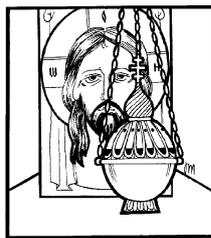
CAR-PARKING: I announced last month that worshippers could park in the car park along St Helen's Lane on the right, out of office hours (only!). But I gave the wrong name for the building: my apologies! The building is **Herrick House**. But in any case, there has been a problem for Sunday parkers—finding the entrance closed with a chain! However, I now have the code, and will try to remember to open up on Sundays about 9.30 am and to close it after the Liturgy. By the way, the first of our people to take advantage of the generous arrangement on a weekday (out of office hours of course!) were (big story!) our Ipswich members **KAKIA** and **GEORGIA**. We congratulate them on their gold medal!

CHRISMATION: Congratulations to **NICK TAYLOR** who has been received into the Orthodox Church by Holy Chrismation. He lives in the Mile End area of Colchester, and is already helping the Parish by becoming

Treasurer for our Appeal.

IKEN PILGRIMAGE: Iken in Suffolk (the next county to Essex) is where St Botolph founded his Monastery in the seventh century. Mettingham parish organise a pilgrimage there and this year's will be on Saturday 1 July, with an Akathist to the Saint at 11.00 am. Please contact me for details.

THE APOSTLES FAST: This varies in length, starting on the Monday following All Saints (the Sunday after Pentecost), this year 12 June, continuing till 28 June, the eve of SS Peter and Paul.



A Word from the Fathers: St Boniface (+5 June 754)

The Church is like a great ship sailing the sea of the world and tossed by the waves of temptation in this life.

But it is not to be abandoned - it must be brought under control.

As an example of this we have the Fathers of the past, Clement and Cornelius and many others in the city of Rome, Cyprian in Carthage, and Athanasius in

Alexandria.

Living under pagan emperors, they steered the ship of Christ, that is the Church, his beloved spouse.

And they did this by teaching, defending, working, and suffering even to the shedding of their blood....

Truth may become wearied but cannot be overcome or deceived....

PRAYER FOR HELP

REGARDING OUR CHURCH BUILDING

Lord Jesus Christ, Thou didst say,
'Whatsoever ye shall ask in prayer believing,
ye shall receive' and
'Whatsoever ye shall ask in my name,
that will I do'.

Wherefore we dare to invoke Thee
and humbly beseech Thee:

hear our unworthy prayer
for the Chapel of St Helen
that we may continue to hold the same as now
for our worship of Thee
together with Thy Father
and the Holy Spirit.

And if it seemeth good to Thee O God
that we establish another holy house
for the worship of Thy majesty,
guide us to fulfil Thy holy will.

Reader ANDREAS

We are using this prayer frequently in church. Please also use it frequently at home. Copies printed on card are available on request.

NEW MEMBERS OF THE BODY OF CHRIST

The following have been baptised in recent months:

ALEXANDER FLORINEL CIOBANU

son of Jan and Simona;

LILLY ANNE LUPASCU,

daughter of Alin and Elena;

IOANNA VICTORIA BALUTA,

daughter of Ionel and Paula;

ILAN ANDREI MARGARINT,

son of Flavius and Alina;

SOPHIA (Syrenna) BONDS,

daughter of Benjamin and Stephanie;

ALEX ANDREI DUNEA,

son of IONUT and EMILIA.

Congratulations to them all and to their parents and godparents. Many years!

JUNE DAYS

Thu	1	S Justin the Philosopher, Nun-Martyr Wite of Whitchurch Canonicorum
Sun	4	HOLY PENTECOST
Mon	5	DAY OF THE HOLY SPIRIT, Hieromartyr Boniface of Crediton
Tue	6	THIRD DAY OF THE HOLY TRINITY
Fri	9	S Cyril of Alexandria, S Columba of Iona, Enlightener of Scotland
Sun	11	Pentecost 1, All Saints, SS Bartholomew & Barnabas
Mon	12	<i>Beginning of Apostles Fast</i>
Wed	14	Prophet Elisha, S Justin Popovich
Thu	15	Prophet Amos, S Lazar, Prince of Serbia
Sat	17	S Botolph of Iken
Sun	18	Pentecost 2, All Saints of Britain, Russia, Romania, America, Athos, Palestine, Patmos
Mon	19	H Apostle Jude, Brother of the Lord
Thu	22	S Alban, Protomartyr of Britain
Fri	23	S Etheldreda of Ely, S Mark of Ephesus
Sat	24	Nativity of S John the Forerunner
Sun	25	Pentecost 3, New Martyrs & Confessors of Bulgaria, New Martyrs of the Turkish Yoke
Tue	27	S Joanna the Myrrh-bearer
Thu	29	H Chiefs of the Apostles Peter & Paul
Fri	30	Synaxis of H Twelve Apostles

A FULLER LIST OF THE MONTH'S FEASTS AND FASTS IS AVAILABLE