

**+ For our children's children in Colchester: St Martin's fills the bill! +**

**Orthodox Parish of St Helen of Colchester**

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

*Metropolitan: His Eminence Archbishop Silouan*

**NEWSLETTER 262**

**APRIL 2019**



Wed 3, 10, 17 Apr Presanctified Liturgy 9.30 am  
 Fri 5, 12 Apr Akathist to Mother of God 6.00 pm  
 Fri 19 Apr Vespers of Lazarus Saturday 6.00 pm

**HOLY & GREAT WEEK**

**Lazarus Saturday, 20 April**  
 4.30 pm Great Vespers  
**Palm Sunday, 21 April**  
 9.45 am Mattins & Palm Blessing  
 10.30 am Liturgy of St John  
**Holy Monday, 22 April**  
 6.00 pm Bridegroom Mattins  
**Holy Tuesday, 23 April**  
 6.00 pm Bridegroom Mattins  
**Holy Wednesday, 24 April**  
 6.00 pm Holy Anointing  
**Holy Thursday, 25 April**  
 9.30 am Liturgy of St Basil  
 6.00 pm Twelve Gospels  
**Holy Friday, 26 April**  
 12 noon\*\*\*\* Vespers & Deposition  
 6.00 pm Mattins & Procession  
**Holy Saturday, 27 April**  
 9.30 am Liturgy of St Basil  
 10.30 pm Acts of the Apostles  
 11.30 pm Midnight Office  
**HOLY PASCHA, 28 April**  
 12 midnight Procession & Mattins  
 1.00 am Liturgy of St John  
 3.00 pm Agape Vespers

**Confessions after any service or by appointment**

**Flowers to decorate the Epitaphion: women & girls invited to prepare it on Holy Friday at 9.30 am.**

**Gifts of cash for flowers invited.**

*\*\*\*Note that Vespers on Holy Friday is at 12 noon*

**Christ's resurrection, the source of all my hope**

**I**t's a pretty sad world we live in, isn't it! The older you get the more perhaps you realise it.

All the turmoil over Brexit! All the sorrow over extremist attacks here - and throughout the world, it seems! Then all the trouble we in our families have to live with! And our individual sins and complaints to put up with, to confess!

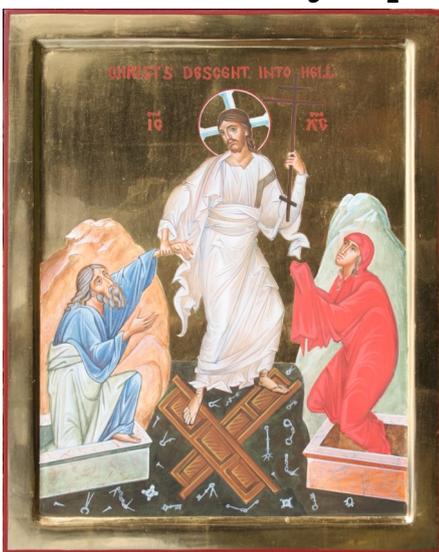
Yes, trouble of one sort or another all around us - yes, and deep within us!

But as Orthodox Christians we know that, however much that trouble and sorrow is true (a reality that must be faced and dealt with), there remains a yet deeper and even more real truth and reality.

**It is the fact that Christ who died has risen again!**

That truth, that reality, we celebrate with particular strength and devotion every year at Holy Pascha - indeed every Sunday, that weekly *little Pascha*.

Christ is risen! we shall cry at midnight, each in his own



language, for it is a universal truth.

*And that will not only moderate every trouble, every pain. It will transform them. It will transform, if we allow it, every one of us.*

Christ's victory is in fact total. It's just that we have to let knowledge and awareness of it filter down through us to all the world.

**Father Alexander**

**ST HELEN'S APPEAL FOR ST MARTIN'S**

St Martin's is in West Stockwell Street, two minutes' walk from St Helen's, and close to the Town Hall

**Raised so far: over £117,000 plus promises**

- CHEQUES may be sent to the address below, made out to: *St Helen's Appeal for St Martin's*
- BANK TRANSFERS: use these codes:  
 IBAN: GB05BUKB20226780219819  
 Bank Sort Code 20-22-67  
 Appeal Account No. 80219819
- PAYPAL: available on the Appeal website
- APPEAL WEBSITE: [orthodoxcolchesterappeal.org.uk](http://orthodoxcolchesterappeal.org.uk)
- FACEBOOK: *St Martin's Appeal*

*Please support us in restoring an important and beautiful building to its original and proper use and in providing an Orthodox parish church "for our children and our children's children"*  
 17 Maidenburgh Street, Colchester CO1 1UB, UK

**CLACTON**  
 HOLY LITURGY  
 Sat 13 April  
 10.00 am  
 NOTE DATE

**We are doing well - praise to God! - but, still need £33,000 simply to purchase, let alone install heating. Therefore we still need to pray for generous givers & gifts.**



**St Helen's Chapel, Maldenburgh St, High St CO1 1UB**

*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 Maldenburgh Street. Nearest car-park NCP Nunns Rd. Very little street parking available.*

**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): normally first Saturday 3.15 pm*

**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](mailto:parishpriest@orthodoxcolchester.org.uk)

**Reader: George Harrison 07-869-488-842.....**

**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**

**IBAN: GB05BUKB20226780219819 Bank Account Sort Code: 20-22-67**

**Bank Account No: 50349364 Appeal Account No: 80219819**

**Parish Website:** <http://www.orthodoxcolchester.org.uk>

**Appeal Website:** <http://orthodoxcolchesterappeal.org.uk>

**At St James Anglican Church, Beatrice Rd, Clacton-on-sea CO15 1LE**

**Divine Liturgy: usually third Saturday of month 10.00 am (not August)**

## Here and There



One Bishop & three Alexanders, gathered around the Holy Chalice—3 March 2019

**THE APPEAL RE-LAUNCH** went well, very well. Special thanks to our Deputy Mayor NICK COPE with his lady, and Councillor DARIUS LAWS for their encouraging speeches, and of course to SAYEDNA for his. Thanks also to GEORGE for organising and preparing food - and congratulations also to him on his ordination that day as Reader. Thanks to the many who provided splendid food, and thanks to master of ceremonies MARK, and to MARGARET and the MOSAIC CHOIR, whose lovely and enthusiastic singing beautifully embellished morning and afternoon. Thanks also to Deacon ALEXANDER for his assistance and altar server JOSEPH. And a special thank you to the METHODIST CHURCH for their generous hospitality.

**THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR GREETINGS** and gifts on my 80th birthday (that's the age my birth certificate seems to claim: I hardly believe it!). They are much appreciated.

**BABY IOANNIS XINWEI** was baptised in Greece recently. His parents MICHAEL and NICOLLE KAMPOURIDIS worshipped with us several years ago while studying here, and now live in Kent. Michael writes: *It's so nice to hear from you! We are all doing very well, the baby was born on 19 October... I'm so glad St Martin seems to be finally happening for St Helen's, I'm so happy raising the sums has been going quite well... I'm following closely your news and hoping that you'll finally have your new home soon! We send congratulations to all three, Ioannis and parents!*



**RUTH BRANDON:** We are sad to hear of Ruth's death. She was a founding member of the St Fursey's community in Norfolk, where I had priestly responsibility for some ten years. I served there every month, and got to know her pretty well. She was a very *sensible* woman with a deep piety and commitment. No doubt she will continue to pray for that parish as it enters a new phase of its life with a new church and rooms in Stalham. Our sympathy to her family and to the parish there. Memory eternal!

**CHILDREN OF ST HELEN** meets on 6 April at 3.15pm.

**RUSSIAN ANGLICANS** must be few and far between! I was inter-

ested to meet Fr ANDREI at a meeting in London and discover that - many years later - he is my successor at the ancient and exquisitely beautiful St Nicholas' church in Laindon (Basildon). Recently he had lunch with us in Colchester: I was able to introduce him to our town, and its history and traditions. We got on well!

**METHODIST WOMEN:** Receiving their usual warm welcome at the women's meeting in March, I spoke on the Lent Prayer of St Ephraim.

**CLERGY MEETING:** The clergy met on Forgiveness Saturday in London—as they were doing in Syria and Lebanon. After lunch and useful business discussion we concluded with the mutual forgiveness ceremony.

## The annual review of parish life ....

Each year an "annual general meeting" must be held for any public charity, as they are called. So after the Holy Liturgy near the end of March we reviewed the business of running our parish.

Immediately before it this year we had to have an "extraordinary" general meeting to alter a few words in our parish constitution. The two changes - to align our work with Charity Commission requirements - were (a) to the title of the person who examines our accounts, a lady in Ipswich, and (b) to allow proper continuation of Council membership, up from 12 to 15.

It was reported that the numbers for 2018 were: 10 child Baptisms, 2 adult Baptisms, 2 Chrismations, 1 marriage, 1 funeral, average attendance at Sunday Liturgy 39.

The accounts were passed

(still available on the table). Thanks were expressed to everybody with a special job in our parish life. On the Appeal, St Martin's might be ours by September, but more funds are still needed. The lease for St Helen's is surprisingly not finalised.

Elections were carried out. With the new arrangements for membership, the following were appointed Councillors: Khouria Hilary, David Davies, Dusan Radunovic, Theodora Ford, Mary Morris, Teodor Petica, Kalisthene Aristodimou, George Harrison, Jon Kanaar, Nick Taylor, Mark Shillaker, Catalin Fliscu. Paul Lansley asked to retire from the Council, but is still a Trustee. Chairman *ex officio* is Fr Alexander.

Churchwardens, currently David and Dusan, will be elected at the first Council meeting.

## APRIL DAYS

Mon	1	S Agilbert, Bishop of Dorchester & Paris
Sat	6	Saturday of Souls
Sun	7	<b>Lent 4, S John Climacus</b>
Tue	9	Hieromartyr Theodore, Abbot of Crowland
Sat	12	Saturday of the Akathist
Sun	14	<b>Lent 5, S Mary of Egypt</b>
Fri	19	Hieromartyr Alphege, Abp of Canterbury
Sat	20	<b>Lazarus Saturday</b>
Sun	21	<b>Entry of Lord into Jerusalem (Palm Sun)</b>
Mon	22	<b>Great &amp; Holy Monday</b>
Tue	23	<b>Great &amp; Holy Tuesday</b>
Wed	24	<b>Great &amp; Holy Wednesday</b>
Thu	25	<b>Great &amp; Holy Thursday, H Evangelist Mark</b>
Fri	26	<b>Great &amp; Holy Friday</b>
Sat	27	<b>Great &amp; Holy Saturday</b>
Sun	28	<b>HOLY PASCHA, THE RESURRECTION</b>
Mon	29	<b>Bright Monday</b>
Tue	30	<b>Bright Tuesday, H Ap James son of Zebedee,</b>

## A Word from the Fathers

**C**hrist is risen from the dead,  
trampling down death by death,  
And upon those in the tombs  
bestowing life.