

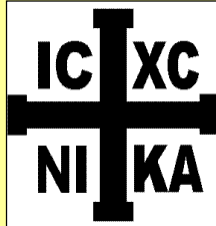
+ For our children's children in Colchester: St Martin's fills the bill! +

## Orthodox Parish of St Helen of Colchester

Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese  
of the British Isles and Ireland

Metropolitan: His Eminence Archbishop Silouan

NEWSLETTER 265 JULY/AUGUST 2019



### Weekday Holy Liturgy, 9.30 am

Friday 5 Jul	St Athanasius of Athos
Thursday 11 Jul	Great Martyr Euphemia
Thursday 25 Jul	Dormition of St Anna
Thursday 1 Aug	Procession of the Cross
Tuesday 6 Aug	TRANSFIGURATION OF LORD
Thursday 15 Aug	DORMITION OF THEOTOKOS
Friday 23 Aug	St Irenaeus of Lyons
Thursday 29 Aug	Beheading of St John

## Still £15,000 to the purchase price for St Martin's - can you help?

The funds to buy this church, which will answer our needs to serve God and his Orthodox people, are almost in our hand. We praise God for that!

But it is not the full amount for which we have appealed, and we hope that more people yet will assist this parish in its hour of need.

We hope that, on top of £150,000 for the building, grants may also be given by various bodies to enable us to begin the transformation of the beautiful church into a true temple for Orthodox prayer and worship. Plans are circulating to obtain the various consents that are necessary

If you yourself can give, or if you can encourage people who care about this fine historical city, or who like the idea of returning a great building to its proper use, or who just rejoice in helping to restore the peace and tranquillity provided in it - then we shall be very grateful indeed.

Be sure that God will bless you and them for the generosity shown. And generations will rise up and call us blessed for our care for providing this place of worship for "our children and our children's children".

Father Alexander



On the Holy Mountain, Christ is transformed, transfigured, displaying his true divine nature to three of his Apostles, Peter, James and John, who represent the New Covenant or Testament and to the two great Prophets Moses and Elias representing the Old. He has brought together in himself God and Man, and shows what he wishes mankind to become alongside or rather *in* him. This icon encourages us in our pilgrimage to become our true selves in him, *from glory to glory*. Join the race to *theosis*, the race to God-likeness with the Holy Orthodox Church. You won't regret it!

### SUNDAY 18 AUGUST

#### REPOSE OF ST HELEN

9.45 am Mattins 10.30 am Divine Liturgy

Parish Bring and Share Lunch

on the Green (in church if wet)

Veneration of the Holy Relic

Saturday 15 July Children of St Helen 3.15 pm

For pre-school & primary children

## Servants of Christ

for St Helen's  
and shortly for St Martin's

An invitation to offer your expertise to God by helping with on-going jobs at St Helen's - training given where necessary - or to prepare St Martin's for worship.

Can you

- Sing in the choir?
- bake church bread?
- serve on the holy altar (men and boys)?
- do church washing?

Do you have practical skills

- as skilled carpenter or joiner?
- as plumber?
- in other crafts?

Please contact Fr Alexander or one of the Reader team if you would like to help us achieve the highest standards both in St Helen's and St Martin's.

### 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 **£135,000**

- 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

### St Helen's Chapel, Maidenburgh 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 Maidenburgh 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: Dusan Radunovic 01-206-762-553, Jon Kanaar 01-255-431-975

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>





**Diocesan Conference: a time for praying, a time for thinking, but also a time for socialising**

Mark and Paula Shillaker reflect on their experience, pictured here with Catalin Fliscu and Reader George Harrison

This was our first visit to an Archdiocesan conference after being received into the Church last year and we found it a very interesting and rewarding time; the facilities at the Yarnwood Park conference centre were excellent and the food was very good too!

The theme of ‘Nurturing Converts and Children in the Faith’ provided plenty of opportunity for interesting talks and discussion. Subjects included catechising children and converts, the implications of social media for parishes, lessons for contemporary Orthodox mission in light of the history of Orthodoxy in Alaska and working pastorally with children and teenagers. It was encouraging to see the genuine interest and healthy debate during the question and answer section of each session.

**His Eminence Metropolitan Silouan opened the conference and graciously provided his wise guidance throughout.**

We particularly valued Sayedna’s emphasis on the vital importance of prayer in the life of the archdiocese and, of course, of every Orthodox Christian; as he said: “without prayer, we are nothing.”

This same message was

reiterated by Sister Magdalen (from the Monastery of St John the Baptist, Tolleshunt Knights) who gave an excellent and thought provoking talk about her work with children and young people and reminded us that faithful prayer should be our first resort, rather than our last.

**We think it is important to point out that the conference is not only for clergy but for ordinary lay-people too; we now feel much more connected to the wider archdiocese after attending and very much enjoyed getting to know clergy and lay-people from different parishes and communities.**

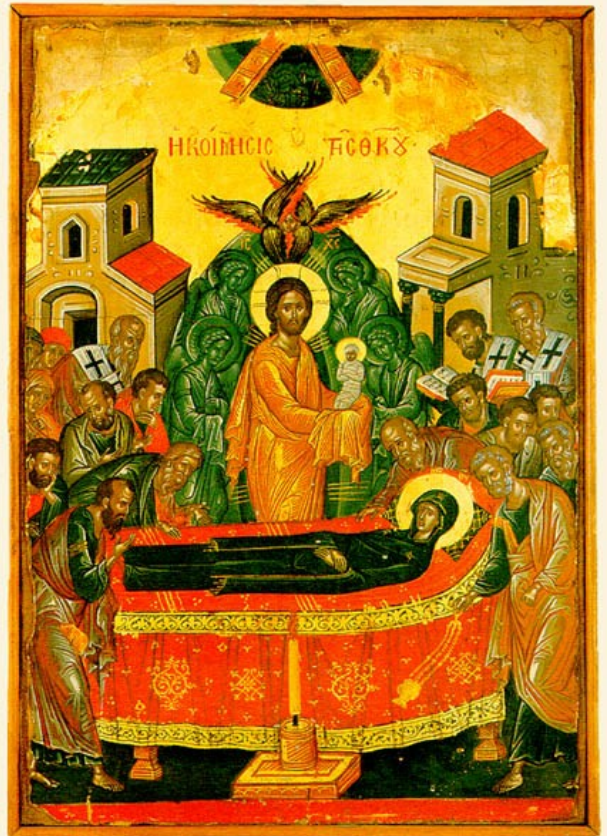
There was plenty of time for socialising and informal chat and Sayedna made a point of instructing attendees to spend time with people they didn’t already know.

The daily services of Matins and Vespers concluded with a Hierarchical Divine Liturgy on the last day and after closing sessions it was time for yet another hearty lunch before bidding our fond farewells to all.

*Look on the Archdiocesan website for a selection of photos, and listen to several of the talks given.*

<http://www.antiochian-orthodox.co.uk/events/archdiocesan-conference-2019-2/>

The Dormition of the Theotokos (Icon below) comes in the last weeks of the Church Year and is its climax. The Virgin’s reward of life in heaven is the one promised to every faithful Orthodox Christian.



**JULY-AUGUST DAYS**

Mon	1	SS Cosmas & Damian of Rome
Fri	5	S Athanasius Founder of the Gt Lavra, Athos
<b>Sun</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>Pentecost 3</b>
Mon	8	S Edgar the King of England, the Peaceable
Thu	11	Great Martyr Euphemia the All-praised
Fri	12	S Veronica who was healed by Christ
Sat	13	S Mildred, Abbess of Thanet in Kent
<b>Sun</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>Pentecost 4</b>
Mon	15	Great Prince Vladimir, Enlightener of the Rus
Wed	17	Great Martyr Margaret (Marina) of Antioch, Passion-bearers Nicholas, Empress Alexandra & family
Thu	18	Martyrs Gd Duchess Elizabeth & Nun Barbara
Sat	20	Holy Prophet Elias (Elijah)
<b>Sun</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>Pentecost 5</b>
Mon	22	Holy Myrrh-bearer Mary Magdalene
Wed	24	Martyr Christina of Tyre
Thu	25	Dormition of Righteous Anna
Fri	26	Martyr Parasceva of Rome
Sat	27	Great Martyr & Healer Panteleimon
<b>Sun</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>Pentecost 6</b>
<b>August</b>		
Thu	1	Beginning of Dormition Fast
		Procession of the Life-creating Cross
<b>Sun</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>Pentecost 7</b>
Tue	6	Holy Transfiguration of Christ
Fri	9	Holy Apostle Matthias
<b>Sun</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>Pentecost 8</b>
Thu	15	<b>Dormition of the Mother of God</b>
Fri	16	Translation of the Icon <i>Not made with hands</i>
<b>Sun</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>Pentecost 9,</b>
		<b>Repose of St Helen, Patron of our Parish</b>
<b>Sun</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>Pentecost 10</b>
Thu	29	<b>Behheading of S John the Forerunner</b>
Sat	31	S Aidan, Bishop of Lindisfame

**A Word from the Fathers: St Hilary of Poitiers (c.310–c367)**

**H**oliness, justice, human temperance - this is the temple of God. This house therefore must be built by the agency of God, for one which is constructed by human efforts does not endure, nor does it stand firm when reared by the teachings of this age, nor will it be

kept safe by the care of vain toil and of our anxiety. It must be constructed in another way: it must be guarded in another way. It must not have its beginnings upon slippery and shifting sand. Its foundations must be laid firmly upon the prophets and apostles.