

Holy Orthodoxy: Faith in Christ for the modern world

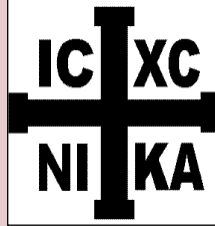
Orthodox Parish of St Helen of Colchester

Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of the British Isles and Ireland

Metropolitan: His Eminence Archbishop Silouan

NEWSLETTER 252

MAY 2018



MAY WEEKDAY HOLY LITURGY

Wed 2 May 9.30 Mid-feast of Pentecost

Thu 10 May 9.30 St Simon, Apostle of Britain
Check that the above will take place

Thu 17 May 9.30 ASCENSION OF CHRIST

Mon 21 May 10.30 SS CONSTANTINE & HELEN
Parish Lunch: check for arrangements

St Helen's Appeal for St Martin's opens on 7 May

On 7 May we open our arms to *all our worshippers and all our friends around the country - and indeed around the world* - to invite their generosity before God, to help St Helen's Parish purchase nearby St Martin's Church.

This church will be of a size to deal with our needs.

We need a bigger building to accommodate all the worship and mission of a modern parish. It is an ancient building which goes back at least to Saxon (i.e. Orthodox) times, though much enlarged in the mediaeval period.

- The cost is £150,000, and we are appealing for £200,000, to help put in heating immediately if we can.
- We have to find the purchase price within eighteen months. Even before we start we have £30,000 set aside from parish reserves.
- The owners - the Churches Conservation Trust in London - are not committed to us until we have 80% of the total, so we must press forward with the project.

We intend to rent St Helen's Chapel for the moment, and to have winter services in St Helen's until we get heating at St Martin's.

Our Archbishop, Metropolitan Silouan enthusiastically blesses our project, but also wants us to keep St Helen's if at all possible: "It is too precious to lose!" he says.

We have opened a special Appeal bank account to receive gifts. Leaflets will be available shortly, and sent out to as many of our friends as possible - by postal contacts, or by email - and a special website and a Facebook page are being prepared.

You should receive details either by email or by post. If not, please send for details. You can send your gift by bank order or cheque or bank transfer or online.

Those able and inspired to donate a larger amount are respectfully invited to send their gift as early as possible as this will encourage others to contribute.

Monthly totals will be published.

Please help us, dear worshippers in the parish and dear friends in Colchester and Britain and around the world.

Our friends include former parishioners and students and anyone who has benefitted from our ministry in the past or who just wishes us well.

They also include those who will just be glad to see this beautiful and ancient building restored to full use - and for its original and proper purpose.

We believe that God will bless all who open their hearts to our need at this time.

Father Alexander

ST HELEN'S APPEAL FOR ST MARTIN'S

17 Maidenburgh Street, Colchester
CO1 1UB, UK

"St Helen's Appeal for St Martin's"

Bank Sort Code 20-22-67

Appeal Account No. 80219819

CLACTON
HOLY
LITURGY
Sat 19 May
10.00 am



St Martin's Church, West Stockwell Street, is only 200 metres from St Helen's, and lies just behind the Town Hall. We trust in God and the generosity of worshippers and friends to help us raise the £150,000 we must have to buy it.

Who is St Martin the Merciful?

He is an Orthodox Saint, the Bishop of Tours in France in the fourth century - he died in AD 397, a very holy and beloved Bishop. At first a Roman soldier, he was baptised after a vision of Christ, having famously clothed the beggar outside the town of Amiens. His influence has been huge, in France and Britain and elsewhere. Many pre-schism and modern churches are dedicated to him in the West. We know that a church in south-west Scotland was dedicated to him in the very year he died.

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 Balkeine 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): 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

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

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

Orthodox Parish of St Helen Registered Charity No. 1134418

Bank Account: Sort Code 20-22-67

Account No. 50349364 Appeal Account No. 80219819

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

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

Divine Liturgy: usually third Saturday of month 10.00 am

Here and There



RUBY WEDDING: Khouria HILARY and I celebrated forty years of marriage on Bright Monday with a lunch for our children and grandchildren at the Red Lion Hotel in the High Street (where I stayed when I first visited Colchester as a young soldier in 1959). It was a very happy day, and on St Thomas Sunday worshippers shared our joy with some cake in St Helen's.



THE HOLY ASCENSION, 40 days after Holy Pascha, teaches that Christ has returned to his Father in heaven as the great Conqueror (Nika), and that he has taken to heaven not only his divinity but also his humanity—essentially he has taken *us*. He did it so that at Pentecost he could send the Holy Spirit on the Apostles and on their followers, so that God now dwells on earth in us his people.
**ARISE, O GOD,
INTO THY RESTING-PLACE**

SMALL OPERATION: I must have a small job done on my wrist on Thursday 3 May, and may not be able to hold the Holy Chalice and serve for a time. Fr MELCHISEDEC will kindly serve on Sunday 6 May and baptise afterwards. If necessary the Liturgy on 10 May will be cancelled. If I still need help on the following Sunday Fr PAULINUS hopes to come.

CHILDREN OF ST HELEN: Our children's group is for pre-school and primary children. It meets this month in St Helen's on Saturday 5 May 3.15-4.15 pm. Details from Silvia, 01-206-835-715.

THE ARCHDIOCESAN CONFERENCE: We understand that there are one or two places remaining, if you would like to attend and enjoy time with fellow Orthodox believers. It meets 28-30 May in Derbyshire, this year's subject being *Nurturing the Parish Community*, and speakers being Sister MAGDALEN from Tolleshunt Knights and Diakonissa ANNE-MEIKE from Poole. Speak to me quickly if you are interested in joining us.

SS Constantine and Helen Monday 21 May

10.15 am Hours
10.30 am Holy Liturgy
Parish Lunch

This icon of SS Constantine & Helen is in the Town Hall



Ninth Annual Orthodox Pilgrimage to the Saints of Barking

The Broadway, Barking, IG11 8AS

Saturday 12 May 10:30-16:30

10:30 Divine Liturgy (in St Margaret's)
Picnic lunch — bring your own
14:00 Talk: Father Melchisidec (Tolleshunt Knights)
15:00 Great Vespers (in Abbey, if fine)
*Bus from St Helen's Chapel 9.00, calling at Aldi at Lexden,
& the Monastery, £20 per head: names on Porch list.*

A Word from the Fathers: St Irenaeus, Bishop of Lyons

When the Lord gave to the disciples power to confer rebirth into the life of God, he said, 'Go, make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.' He promised through his prophets that he would pour out this Spirit in the last times on his servants and handmaidens so that they would prophesy.

And so the Spirit came down on the Son of God, who became the Son of Man, and with him became accustomed to dwell in the human race and to abide in God's creation, within men, working the Father's will

among them and making their old natures new with the newness of Christ....

The Lord promised to send us the Holy Spirit to make us fit for God's purposes. Just as dry flour cannot coalesce into a lump of dough, still less a loaf, without moisture, so too, we being many, could not become one in Christ Jesus without the water which comes from heaven.

And just as dry soil cannot bear fruit unless it receives moisture, so we, who to begin with are dry wood, can never bear the fruit of life unless the rain from heaven falls upon our wills.

MAY DAYS

In Antiochian practice no fasting Pascha to eve of Ascension

Wed	2	Mid-Feast of Pentecost
Fri	4	Virgin-Martyr Pelagia of Tarsus
Sat	5	Gt Martyr Irene of Thessalonica
Sun	6	Pascha 6, The Samaritan Woman
Mon	7	Commemn of Sign of Cross over Jerusalem S John of Beverley, Bishop of York
Tue	8	H Apostle & Evangelist John the Theologian
Wed	9	Translation of Relics of S Nicholas to Bari Martyr Christopher of Lycia
Thu	10	H Apostle Simon Zelotes, Apostle of Britain
Fri	11	SS Cyril & Methodius, Teachers of the Slavs
Sat	12	S Ethelheard of Louth, Archbishop of Canterbury
Sun	13	Pascha 6, The Blind Man
Tue	15	S Pachomius the Great
Thu	17	ASCENSION OF CHRIST
Sat	19	S Dunstan, Archbishop of Canterbury
Sun	20	Pascha 7, Fathers of the First Ecumenical Council
Mon	21	SS CONSTANTINE & HELEN OUR PATRON
Fri	25	Third Finding of Head of S John the Baptist
Sat	26	S Augustine, Archbishop of Canterbury
Sun	27	HOLY PENTECOST, S Bede the Venerable
Mon	28	DAY OF THE HOLY SPIRIT
Tue	29	THIRD DAY OF THE TRINITY