

Our Lady of Light & Saint Osyth

National Shrine of Our Lady of Light, Spouse of the Holy Spirit

Parish Priest: Fr Patrick Daly

Parish Priest Email: ClactonCatholicChurch@gmail.com

Steward of the Gospel: Paul Twyford ~ email: paultwyford@btinternet.com

Parish website: www.ourladyoflight.uk ~ Diocesan website:

+www.dioceseofbrentwood.net

1 Church Road, Clacton-on-Sea, CO15 6AG, Tel: 01255 423319, Office email:

clacton@dioceseofbrentwood.org

SVP contact number: 07955203405 Linda Swinbourne President

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A)

Come Holy Spirit, by means of the powerful intercession of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, Your well-beloved spouse. Amen.



Our Lady of Light, Spouse of the Holy Spirit, I give thee my whole self, soul and body, all that I have or may have, to keep for Jesus, that I may be His for evermore. Amen.

CORONAVIRUS UPDATE: Please review the Parish Website for the latest updates: <https://ourladyoflight.uk/>

OFFERTORY COLLECTION / DONATIONS

Offerings can be made by standing order or electronic payments using the following details: **Bank Title: Catholic Church Clacton-on-Sea, Sort Code 401322, Account Number: 41020463** or by debit card using the

donation button on our website. Members of the gift-aid scheme should quote their name and gift aid number in the Reference. Thank you for your support. Fr Patrick.

CHURCH OPENING FOR PERSONAL PRAYER: The church will not be open for personal prayer on Saturday 18th July due to the commencement of public Mass and a wedding.

RESUMPTION OF PUBLIC MASS: I am delighted to confirm that public Mass will resume on Friday 17th July at 9.30 am. Thank you for the volunteer Stewards and Cleaners, who have made it possible to resume Mass. Please note the following:

- We are not in normal times and will not be for the foreseeable future
- The Sunday obligation has not been reinstated at this time
- The maximum number of people permitted at any one Mass will be 60
- The maximum number of 60 has been calculated based on social distancing below 2 meters
- I would ask that those who are able to attend Mass in the week, refrain from attending Mass at the weekends to allow others the opportunity
- You must wear a face mask or covering
- You must follow the instructions of the Parish Stewards
- You must not attend Mass if you are at 'clinical risk' of COVID 19 or have been advised to shield
- You must follow 'social distancing'
- You must sanitise your hands on entering and leaving the Church
- Forms will be on pews to allow you to provide your contact details in the event of the need for contact tracing. The completed forms will be held for 21 days and will then be destroyed. Please bring your own pen.

- Children are welcome but must be accompanied by an adult
- Please allow plenty of time before the commencement of the service to prevent queuing
- At Holy Communion, you must remain in your pew until asked by a Parish Steward to come forward to receive the Blessed Sacrament
- Holy Communion must be received in silence
- It is only possible to receive Holy Communion in the hand
- You must follow the one-way system in the church
- It is not possible to allow access to the Parish Hall Toilets at the present time
- It will be possible to place your offering in a bucket, but I would request that, wherever possible, all offerings are made electronically by standing order or via the donation button on the website. This will reduce the level of risk to our collection counters and those who will need to visit the bank
- There will be no Readers, Servers, Sacristans or Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion at this stage.
- Do not enter the sacristy.
- Please leave the church after Mass promptly to allow us to complete sanitizing and cleaning.

Thank you for your understanding and support. Fr Patrick.

HOLY WATER: please bring a bottle of water and place it on the first step in front of the altar. I will be blessed at the end of Mass.

PARISH HALL AND TOILETS: I am now commencing the necessary risk assessments and paperwork for authorisation to open the parish hall and allow access to the toilets. The ladies' toilets are being refurbished during the first week in August. Once the hall is open, I will arrange to have the toilets professionally cleaned on a weekly basis. This will be an ongoing expense to the parish. To get the parish hall open, it must

receive a deep clean. I am appealing for volunteers to complete the deep clean. PPE will be provided to helpers. We need the kitchen, the sitting area, the main hall, toilets, and entrance area all cleaned. Can you help? Each area can be cleaned separately at a time and date convenient to the volunteers. Fr Patrick.

THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION will resume in the presbytery garden on Saturday 18th July from 11.00 am to 12.00 pm. Please remain in your car or wait in the car park until you are called into the garden through the rear gate.

MATTHEW 13:1-23

In today's Gospel we are given 'the parable of the sower'. The sower is God. The seed is the Word of God. We are the soil that receives or rejects the Word of God. Jesus is the Word of God. He is the Word through which everything in the cosmos was created including ourselves. Jesus is the Word incarnate into humanity through the action of the Holy Spirit and the consent of the Blessed Virgin Mary. To receive the Word of God, we must have the ears and eyes of faith. Jesus said to His disciples: "But happy are your eyes because they see, your ears because they hear!" The disciples were receptive to the Word of God because they were people of profound faith. Without faith, the Word of God means nothing to us. Without faith, we 'look without seeing and listen without hearing or understanding'. It is only in the disposition of faith, do we receive the Word of God into our hearts, minds, and souls. It is only in faith that we hunger for the Word of God.

Our faith is given to us in the Sacrament of Baptism. In Baptism we become adopted sons and daughters of God; we become temples of the Holy Spirit, and members of the Body of Christ – His Church. In the Letter to the Hebrews, faith is described as 'the assurance of things hoped for and the conviction of things not seen'. Faith is the most precious gift given to us in this life. It is through faith that we receive

salvation through Our Lord Jesus Christ. Faith is the hope we have in a God who loves us and the assurance of eternal life in the perfect happiness of heaven.

Our faith is a gift that sadly we can lose. Our faith is like a precious and beautiful flower which must be watered and nourished to be sustained and to grow. If we fail to feed our faith, it will diminish and die. How do we feed our faith? We feed our faith through daily prayer, conversation with Our Lord Jesus Christ; we feed our faith through acts of love and kindness, especially to those in most need of our help; we feed our faith by reading Holy Scripture, in particular the Gospels where we hear the Word of God speaking to us directly; we feed our faith in the reception of the Sacraments, each one of which is a personal encounter with the person of Jesus Christ, and finally we feed our faith most especially when we receive the Word Incarnate, Our Lord Jesus Christ in the Holy Eucharist. If we feed our faith, we become rich soil for the Word of God. If we feed our faith, we bring forth a great harvest for the Kingdom of God.

FUNERALS: Please pray for the repose of the soul of Johanna Daly Dec'd who funeral takes place on Tuesday 14th July, and for the support of her grieving family.

THE FOLLOWING MASSES WILL BE CELEBRATED BY THE PRIEST ONLY:

Monday 13 th July	9.30 am.	MASS: Caroline Twyford RIP (Tim & Catherine)
Tuesday 14 th July	9.30 am.	MASS: Christina Wraight RIP (Tim & Catherine)

THE FOLLOWING MASSES WILL BE OPEN TO A MAXIMUM OF SIXTY
PEOPLE IN THE CHURCH

Friday 17 th July	9.30 am.	MASS: Elizabeth & Ian Lloyd Golden Wedding Anniversary. (Tim & Catherine)
Saturday 18 th July	9.30 am.	MASS: Lisa Andrews Intentions. (Tim & Catherine)
Saturday 18 th July	11.00 am.	SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: In the presbytery garden.
	3.00 pm	WEDDING: Joan and Brian Locker
Saturday 18 th July	5.00 pm.	MASS: Mary Coughlan RIP (Angela O'Neil)
Sunday 19 th July	8.30 am.	MASS: Betty Smith RIP (Harry)
Sunday 19 th July <i>Sixteen Sunday in Ordinary Time A</i>	10.30 am	MASS: Denis Cunningham RIP (Pat & Breda)

Daily Offering

*Our Lady of Light, Spouse of the Holy Spirit, I give thee my whole self,
soul and body, all that I have or may have, to keep for Jesus that I may
be His forever more. Our Lady of Light, Spouse of the Holy Spirit, pray
for us. Amen*