

Our Lady of Light & Saint Osyth
National Shrine of Our Lady of Light, Spouse of the Holy Spirit

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FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT (B)

'Laetare' Sunday (Mother's Day)

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.

COVID 19 REGULATIONS: Tier 5 Regulations Update: Communal worship is a permitted event. The Church is open for the celebration of Mass and Private Prayer. Please follow the instructions of the Church Stewards and allow plenty of time before Mass starts to sanitize your hands and complete registration. Face Masks are mandatory. Attendance at Mass is restricted to 50 people.

OFFERTORY COLLECTION / DONATIONS

Offerings can be placed in one of the orange buckets, but I would request 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. The bank details are: **Bank Title: Catholic Church Clacton-on-Sea, Sort Code 401322, Account Number: 41020463.** Members of the gift-aid scheme should quote their name and gift aid number in the Reference. Funds received last week:

Electronic Offerings £1445.00 of which £1005.00 was gift aided.

Collection Offerings £361.83 of which £160.00 was gift aided.

CAFOD second collection £414.09 of which £115.00 was gift aided.

Thank you for your generosity, for Gift Aiding your offerings, and for your support of the parish. Fr Patrick.

JOHN 3:14-21

In the Gospel from John, Jesus was speaking to Nicodemus, who was a Pharisee and a member of the Sanhedrin. Nicodemus was a unique man among the Jewish religious authorities. He listened to Jesus; he visited Jesus, and he defended Jesus before the Sanhedrin. Jesus quoted the Book of Numbers to Nicodemus, where Moses lifted-up the serpent in the desert. Jesus was referring to the great Exodus of the Jewish people, who lived for 40 years in the desert following their release from slavery in Egypt. The Jews were being attacked by serpents and a large number died from the bites. God instructed Moses to make a bronze serpent and mount it on a pole. Whenever a serpent bit someone, the person would look up at the bronze serpent mounted on the pole and they would recover from the bite.

Jesus tells us that, 'The Son of Man must be lifted-up as Moses lifted-up the serpent in the desert, so that everyone who believes may have eternal life'. As the bronze serpent was lifted-up on the pole to be a sign of hope and relief from suffering and death, Jesus Christ was lifted-up on the Cross as a sign of our redemption and salvation. Jesus tells Nicodemus, 'Yes, God loved the world so much that He gave His Only Son, so that everyone who believes in Him may not be lost but may have eternal life'. If we refuse to believe in Jesus Christ, He does not condemn us, we condemn ourselves.

Hanging above the sanctuary in our church, we have a beautiful crucifix. Many of you reading this reflection have a crucifix on your person. When we look on the crucifix, we see Jesus Christ lifted-up on the Cross. We are reminded of the great price paid for our salvation. We see a great sign of hope. Hope in a merciful God, who sent His only son into the world in order that the world and each one of us individually could be healed from sin. There can be no resurrection without the Cross. May we learn this Lent to embrace the Cross of Christ as the means of our salvation.

WEEKLY LENTEN REFLECTIONS: From Missio at
<https://www.youtube.com/c/MissioUK/videos>

STATIONS OF THE CROSS: Every Friday at 7.00 pm.

RIGHT TO LIFE: request your MP to attend the All-Party Parliamentary Pro-Life Event on 23rd March to discuss the dangers of DIY Abortions - go to:
www.righttolife.org.uk/DIYabortionMeeting

PASSAGE HOMELESS CENTRE: Double your donations @ www.passage.org.uk

THE HOLY SEASON OF LENT

Times of Services and Mass will be as follows:

Thursday 1st April – Holy Thursday:

Mass of the Lord’s Supper at 7.00 pm

Friday 2nd April – Good Friday:

The Celebration of the Passion of the Lord at 3.00 pm

Stations of the Cross at 7.00 pm

Saturday 3rd April:

The Easter Vigil at 8.00 pm

Please note that the services will be limited to 50 people on a first arrival basis. The services have been redacted to ensure COVID19 compliance.

THE FOLLOWING MASSES WILL BE OPEN TO A MAXIMUM OF 50 PEOPLE IN THE CHURCH.

Saturday 13 th March	9.30 am.	MASS: Brian & Jennifer Coates Intentions Parish
Saturday 13 th March	11.00 am to 12.00 am.	SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: Confessions will be heard in the Sacristy. Please tell the Steward that you wish to go to confession.
Saturday 13 th March	11.00 am to 1.00 pm.	Church is open for private prayer with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament.
Saturday 13 th March	2.00 pm	SYRO MALABAR MASS
Saturday 13 th March Vigil Mass of the Fourth Sunday of Lent (B)	6.00 pm.	MASS: Jeffrey Smiles RIP Jean Frounhold

Sunday 14 th March Fourth Sunday of Lent (B) <i>Laetare Sunday</i>	8.30 am.	MASS: Jenny Cotter RIP Caroline, James, Lisa Cotter
Sunday 14 th March	10.30 am. FAMILY MASS	MASS: Philomena McMahon Intentions L Hanna
Wednesday 17 th March Feast of St Patrick, Bp, Patron of Ireland	9.30 am.	MASS: Hilda O'Brien & Family Intentions L Hanna
Thursday 18 th March	9.30 am.	MASS: Maria Dolores Bowe RIP Claire & Paul Bird
Friday 19 th March Solemnity of St Joseph, Husband of The Blessed Virgin Mary	9.30 am.	MASS: Rob Armstead Intentions Ann Killen
Friday 19 th March	7.00 pm.	STATIONS OF THE CROSS
Saturday 20 th March	9.30 am.	MASS: Dermot Murray RIP John Murray
Saturday 20 th March	11.00 am to 12.00 am.	SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: Confessions will be heard in the Sacristy. Please tell the Steward that you wish to go to confession.
Saturday 20 th March	11.00 am to 1.00 pm.	Church is open for private prayer with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament.
Saturday 20 th March Vigil Mass of the Fifth Sunday of Lent (B)	6.00 pm.	MASS: Patrick Cunnane RIP Janet Cunnane
Sunday 21 st March Fifth Sunday of Lent (B)	8.30 am.	MASS: Alice Doyle RIP L Hanna
Sunday 21 st March	10.30 am. FAMILY MASS	MASS: Mentally Ill in Parish Lee Family