

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

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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.

SANCTUARY LAMP DEDICATIONS: For the week commencing 18th June 2023:

- ❖ *Blessed Sacrament Chapel: St Helena Hospice.*
- ❖ *Our Lady of Light Chapel: George & Eileen Adams RIP*

OFFERTORY COLLECTION / DONATIONS: **Please make your weekly offerings by standing order.** This greatly helps the parish finances. If you are a taxpayer, you can Gift Aid the amount without any cost to yourself. The parish 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 £1425.00 of which £1183.00 was gift aided.

Collection Offerings £395.99 of which £55.00 was gift aided.

Stella Maris £198.08 of which £61.45 was gift aided.

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

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.

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. 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.

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, through acts of love and kindness, by reading Holy Scripture, through the reception of the Sacraments, 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 in the Kingdom of God.

YOUNG PERSON'S PARTY 14TH JULY: Thank you to all who contributed to the young people's parish party. The youngsters had a fantastic time. A special thank you to monies contributed from after masses tea and coffees and the wonderful helpers of all ages that made this possible. It was a blessing seeing the youngsters together happy as they support each other to be involved in our church. God bless you all Julie Lee.

NEW PARISH LOTTERY: A new lottery is being set up in the Parish. It will work as follows:

- All payments by standing order.
- The cost to join will be £5.50 per month.
- Payments must be received by the 6th of each month.
- Members can choose their own lottery number. You will need to quote your lottery number with your standing order payment.
- There will be no limit on the number of lottery numbers held by one individual.
- The draw will take place on the second Sunday of each month at the coffee club following the 10.30 am Mass, commencing in September.
- The minimum number of members to initiate a draw will be 50.
- There will be a £50 draw and a £100 draw each month.

Please sign up for the lottery with a Church Stewart at the back of the church. For further information, contact Paul Twyford on 01255 688213.

BRENTWOOD CATHOLIC YOUTH SERVICE: See www.bcys.net/events for latest events.

THIS WEEK'S SERVICES

Saturday 15 th July 2023. <i>Memorial of St Bonaventure, Bp, D.</i>	9.30 am.	MASS: S Matthew Intentions S Matthew.
Saturday 15 th July 2023.	11.00 am to 12.00 pm.	SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: Confessions will be heard in the Sacristy.
Saturday 15 th July 2023.	11.00 am to 1.00 pm.	EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT.
Saturday 15 th July 2023.	11.00 am.	DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET.
Saturday 15 th July 2023.	12.00 pm.	THE ANGELUS AND HOLY ROSARY.
Saturday 15 th July 2023. <i>Vigil of the Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)</i>	6.00 pm.	MASS: Raphael Damian & Gabriel Hanna RIP. Hanna.
Sunday 16 th July 2023. <i>Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time A.</i>	8.30 am.	MASS. Helen Wheatly Intentions. Tara.

Sunday 16 th July 2023.	10.30 am.	MASS: Terrie Murray Intentions. Brendan Herlihy.
Monday 17 th July 2023.	9.00 am.	MASS: Mary & Dominic Henley RIP. John Henley.
Tuesday 18 th July 2023.	9.00 am.	MASS: Vincent MP's Intentions. Margaret Geale.
Friday 21 st July 2023.	9.00 am.	MASS: Mary Walsh RIP Johanna Campbell.
Saturday 22 nd July 2023. <i>Feast of St Mary Magdalene.</i>	9.30 am.	MASS: Tony & Jeannine Cartwright Intentions.
Saturday 22 nd July 2023.	11.00 am to 12.00 pm.	SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: Confessions will be heard in the Sacristy.
Saturday 22 nd July 2023.	11.00 am to 1.00 pm.	EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT.
Saturday 22 nd July 2023.	11.00 am.	DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET.
Saturday 22 nd July 2023.	12.00 pm.	THE ANGELUS AND THE HOLY ROSARY.
Saturday 22 nd July 2023. <i>Vigil of the Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)</i>	6.00 pm.	MASS: Mary & Al Powell RIP Joe.
Sunday 23 rd July 2023. <i>Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time A.</i>	8.30 am.	MASS. Tom McManamon RIP Joan McCarthy.
Sunday 23 rd July 2023.	10.30 am.	MASS: Xavier, Solly, Reona, Marleena & Rosemary Intentions.