

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

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TWENTY FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A)

(Evangelii Gaudium 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.*

SANCTUARY LAMP DEDICATIONS: This week:

❖ *Our Lady of Light Chapel: Sarah Murray Intentions.*

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 £595.00 of which £542.00 was gift aided.

Collection Offerings £779.35 of which £112.00 was gift aided.

Catholic Education Service £168.38 of which £48.00 was gift aided.

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

Matthew 18:21-35

In the Gospel from Matthew, Jesus gives the 'Parable of the unforgiving debtor to the disciples.' A servant owned ten thousand talents to the king and had no means of repaying the debt. How much is ten thousand talents? This is a vast amount of gold with a value exceeding 18 billion pounds in today's money. This is a debt beyond our imagination! The servant threw himself down at his master's feet and said, 'Give me time' and 'I will pay the whole sum'. This was clearly an impossible and unrealistic promise. The king felt sorry for the servant and cancelled the debt. The king's mercy was beyond our comprehension. God's mercy is beyond our comprehension. The servant then refused to forgive his fellow servant's tiny debt of one hundred denarii. The king found out and told the wicked servant, 'I cancelled all that debt of yours when you appealed to me. Were you not bound, then, to have pity on your fellow servant just as I had pity on you?' The servant was handed over to the torturers until he paid all his debt. He could clearly never repay such a debt. What does this parable mean to us? Jesus tells us that this is how His heavenly Father will deal with us unless we forgive each other from our hearts. God sent His Only Son into the world to die on a cross for the reconciliation of humanity. Jesus Christ paid the enormous debt of our sins. God's mercy has no limits. There is no offence, however serious, that cannot be forgiving in through the Sacrament of Reconciliation. There is no one, however, wicked, and guilty, who may not confidently hope for forgiveness, provided he or she approaches God with honest repentance. True repentance demands that we forgive others that have hurt us.

PARISH LOTTERY: The first draw will now go ahead on Sunday 17th September 2023 immediately after the 10.30 am Mass in the parish hall.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PROGRAMME: The programme will commence with a parents' meeting immediately following the 10.30am Sunday Mass on Sunday 17th September 2023 in the church. To join the programme, you must be registered with the Parish. Parish Registration Forms are available at the back of the church or on the website. Please endorse the completed form 'First Holy Communion'.

SVP NEW YEAR PARTY LUNCH: SVP would like to invite the housebound and seniors to a New Years Party with Christmas lunch on 7th January 2024 at 1.00 pm. If you would like to attend, please write down your name, contact telephone number and whether you need transport and give the details to a Steward at the back of the church. We need the details by Sunday 3rd December 2023 at the latest.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: There are no Confessions on Saturday 16th September 2023 due to the Missio event.

VACANCY HEADTEACHER: St Joseph's Catholic Primary School in Dovercourt. Closing date is 12.00 noon 26th September 2023. Please contact Gill Colley, Business Administrator admin@stjosephs-dovercourt.essex.sch.uk

SECOND COLLECTION: For Evangelii Guadium Day (Home Mission Sunday) at all Masses this weekend.

GIDEA PARK FAITH TALK: Wednesday 20th September 2023 at 7.00 pm. Go to www.whatgoodnews.org for more information.

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

THIS WEEK'S SERVICES

Saturday 16 th September 2023. <i>Memorial of SS Cornelius, P and Cyprian, Bp. Mm.</i>	11.00 am	MISSIO MASS – followed by presentations in St Charles Hall.
Saturday 16 th September 2023. <i>Vigil of the Twenty fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time A.</i>	6.00 pm.	MASS: Vera Andrews RIP Sidney, Sonya & Shane Andrews.
Sunday 17 th September 2023. <i>Twenty Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time A.</i>	8.30 am.	MASS: Holy Souls.
Sunday 17 th September 2023.	10.30 am.	MASS: Joan Lenihan RIP Harry Killen.
Sunday 17 th September 2023.	2 pm.	BAPTISM: Florence Fairey.

Monday 18 th September 2023.	9.00 am.	MASS: Stephen & Jill Morris & Family Intentions.
Tuesday 19 th September 2023.	9.00 am.	MASS: Michael Chambers RIP Peter & Penny.
Wednesday 20 th September 2023. <i>Memorial St Andrew Kim Tae-Gon & Comps, M.</i>	9.00 am.	MASS: Saji Mathew Intentions.
Saturday 23 rd September 2023. <i>Memorial of St Pius of Pietreicina, Pr.</i>	9.30 am.	MASS: Marion Methole Branco RIP. Edith & Balabola.
Saturday 23 rd September 2023.	11.00 am to 12.00 pm.	SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION
Saturday 23 rd September 2023.	11.00 am to 1.00 pm.	EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT.
Saturday 23 rd September 2023.	11.00 am.	DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET.
Saturday 23 rd September 2023.	12.00 pm.	THE ANGELUS AND THE HOLY ROSARY.
Saturday 23 rd September 2023. <i>Vigil of the Twenty Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time A.</i>	6.00 pm.	MASS: Gerry McIntyre RIP Mary McIntyre.
Sunday 24 th September 2023. <i>Twenty Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time A.</i>	8.30 am.	MASS: Aiden Hughes RIP May, Noel, Theresa & Family.
Sunday 24 th September 2023.	10.30 am.	MASS: Nan Baldwin Intentions. Breda & Jim Spriggs.