

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

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THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT (C)

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 GUIDELINES: The wearing of face masks is suggested in crowded, enclosed spaces. You should continue to protect yourself and others.

OFFERTORY COLLECTION / DONATIONS: Offerings can be placed in one of the orange buckets or at the Sunday Mass collection, but I would request wherever possible, all offerings are made electronically by **1. Standing order; 2. Using the Smart Bar Codes at the Church exit doors; or 3. 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. Electronic offerings greatly reduce our bank charges. 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 £725.00 of which £ 400.00 was gift aided.

Collection Offerings £568.02 of which £110.90 was gift aided.

CAFOD Family Fast Day £273.65 of which 31.10 was gift aided.

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

LUKE 13:1-9

In the Gospel from Luke, Jesus tells us twice: 'No; but unless you repent you will perish as they did'. Jesus referred to a group of Galileans slaughtered by Pilate and the men working on the tower of Siloam. Both groups experienced unexpected and sudden death. Jesus then gave the parable of the fig tree. This is an interpretation of the parable. The landowner had a fig planted in his vineyard. The landowner is God, and we are the fig trees. The man in the vineyard is Jesus Christ. God came looking for fruit on the fig tree but found none. God has given us the gift of Baptism. He has given us the gift of the Holy Spirit. He has given us His Holy Church. He has given us the gift of His Sacraments. He has given us the gift of life. He has given us His only Son – Jesus Christ. God expects us to bear fruit in our lives with these gifts.

The Landowner finding no fruit, gives instructions for the fig tree to be cut down. The man asks that the fig tree be given one last chance to bear fruit before it is cut down. Jesus Christ intercedes for us before God the Father. He gave His own body to be the perfect sacrifice for our sins. Jesus Christ feeds us in the Holy Eucharist with His very self: His body and blood.

The purpose of this life is to love. We bear fruit through love of God and love of others, particularly those who are most need of our help. Lent is a time to reflect on our lives. It is a time for humility and honesty. It is a time to consider how we have failed in our love towards God and others. It is a time for repentance. We are all sinners and need God's mercy. Lent is a time to accept God's love and mercy in our lives. The most perfect way to show repentance and receive God's loving mercy is to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation. There will be a Service of Reconciliation with visiting priests at our church on Monday 11th April 2022 at 7.00 pm.

CALLING ALL RED BOXES: Please give to a Church Steward or hand into the Sacristy any full Missio Red Boxes.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS: Every Friday evening at 7.00 pm in the church. Please bring your children or grandchildren. It is very important that they experience this devotion.

BRENTWOOD YOUTH SERVICE: Opportunity for Gap Year at Walsingham House. On Sunday 10th April, from 2pm – 4pm, there will be a short introduction to the House, including insights into the Gap Year, a tour of the House, and time for questions from prospective Team members and their parents. See www.bcys.net/events/whopenday/

SVP MEETING: In the presbytery at 7.00 pm on Thursday 24th March – new members always welcome.

TALK BY MGR JOHN ARMITAGE: What does it mean to talk about Christ as our Redeemer? Input will be given by Mgr John Armitage on Sunday 20th March 4.00 – 5.00 p.m. via Zoom. To join this Zoom meeting simply forward a contact email to adultformationvicariate@dioceseofbrentwood.org. For more information go to www.thresholdsofhope.co.uk

GIFT AID ENVELOPES 2022: The new Gift Aid envelopes are available at the back of the church. There are also some blank 2nd collection envelopes for anybody paying by standing order. You must write your number on the 2nd collection envelopes.

VOCATION ENQUIRERS MEETINGS: The next evening for those considering or interested in a vocation to the priesthood is on Tuesday 5 April at St Edmund of Canterbury Church in Loughton. The speaker will be Mgr Kevin Hale. For further information please contact Fr Mark Swires: vocprom@dioceseofbrentwood.org

WEBSITE TO HELP UKRAINE: CARITAS has a webpage dedicated to ways that people can help – through prayer, financial donations, and donations of food, medical supplies, and clothing. All the information is at: www.caritasbrentwood.org/ukraine

THIS WEEK'S SERVICES.

Saturday 19 th March 2022. <i>Solemnity of St Joseph, Husband of The Blessed Virgin Mary.</i>	9.30 am.	MASS: Gail Candy RIP Parish.
Saturday 19 th March 2022.	11.00 am to 12.00 pm	SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: Confessions will be heard in the Sacristy.
Saturday 19 th March 2022.	11.00 am to 1.00 pm.	Church is open for private prayer with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament.
Saturday 19 th March 2022.	12.00 pm.	THE HOLY ROSARY.

Saturday 19 th March 2022. <i>Vigil of The Third Sunday in Lent. (C).</i>	6.00 pm.	MASS: Ben Browder & Family Andrews Family.
Sunday 20 th March 2022. <i>The Third Sunday in Lent. (C).</i>	8.30 am.	MASS: Simon Hammond Intentions Parish.
Sunday 20 th March 2022.	10.30 am. FAMILY MASS.	MASS: Mary Connelly RIP Bridget.
Monday 21 st March 2022.	9.00 am.	MASS: Claude Perira RIP Brian Madge.
Tuesday 22 nd March 2022.	9.00 am.	MASS: Patrick Hughes RIP May, Noel, Theresa & Pauline.
Friday 25 th March 2022. <i>Solemnity of The Annunciation of the Lord.</i>	9.00 am.	MASS: Fr Patrick Daly Intentions Andrews Family.
Friday 25 th March 2022.	7.00 pm.	Stations of the Cross
Saturday 26 th March 2022.	9.30 am.	MASS: Pat & Sandra Murray Intentions Parish.
Saturday 26 th March 2022.	11.00 am to 12.00 pm	SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: Confessions will be heard in the Sacristy.
Saturday 26 th March 2022.	11.00 am to 1.00 pm.	Church is open for private prayer with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament.
Saturday 26 th March 2022.	12.00 pm.	THE HOLY ROSARY.
Saturday 26 th March 2022. <i>Vigil of The Fourth Sunday in Lent. (C).</i>	6.00 pm.	MASS: All Jews living & dead Andrews Family.
Sunday 20 th March 2022. <i>The Fourth Sunday in Lent. (C). 'Laetare' Sunday.</i>	8.30 am.	MASS: Ann Hyde & Family Parish.
Sunday 20 th March 2022.	10.30 am. FAMILY MASS.	MASS: Brigit Vackey Intentions Justin George.