

## **Our Lady of Light & Saint Osyth**

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

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*CHRISTMAS DAY (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.*

OFFERTORY COLLECTION / DONATIONS: **Please, wherever possible, arrange to make your weekly offerings electronically.** If you are a taxpayer, you can gift aid the amount without any cost to yourself. This saves the work of our volunteer counters, increases our income, and greatly reduces our bank charges. 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 £469.00 of which £181.00 was gift aided.

Collection Offerings £530.22 of which £119.00 was gift aided.

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

**CHRISTMAS OFFERINGS:** The Christmas offerings are your personal gift to the Parish Priest. Only the following qualifies for the personal offering: Electronic payments with the word 'Christmas' included in the reference details, the 'Christmas Offering' gift-aid envelopes, and cash placed in the collection at the Christmas Masses. Private gifts welcome. Thank you for your generosity. Fr Patrick.

#### JOHN 1:1-18

In the Gospel from John, we are told 'In the beginning was the Word: The Word was with God and the Word was God'. We are told that, 'The Word was made flesh, He lived among us, and we saw His glory.' Jesus Christ is the Word of God. He is God incarnate through the Blessed Virgin Mary and the action of the Holy Spirit. Today we celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ in a stable. A baby laid in a manger. This is the greatest event in the history of humanity. God, the creator of the universe, chose through the incarnation of the Second Person of the Holy Trinity to enter our humanity; to become a human-being.

God sent His Only Son into the world to reconcile humanity to Himself. The creator of mankind became man and was born of a virgin. God humbled Himself to share in our humanity in order that we may become sharers in His divinity. Today in Bethlehem, we meet the child that is born for us, for our salvation, and the joy of all people.

**DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES 2023:** Join Bishop Alan in Lourdes from Monday 24 to Saturday 29 July. We can support those with medical needs. For further information, please 'phone Tangey Tours on 01732 886 666 or book online: [Brentwood Lourdes - Lourdes - Tangey Tours \(tangney-tours.com\)](http://tangney-tours.com)

#### **CHRISTMAS SERVICES:**

Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> December 5.00 pm Children's Vigil Mass

Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> December 8.00 pm Christmas Carols

Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> December 9.00 pm Christmas Vigil Mass

Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> December 8.30 am Christmas Day Mass

Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> December 10.30 am Christmas Day Mass.

HAPPY CHRISTMAS: Wishing all parishioners and visiting relatives a peaceful and blessed Christmas. Fr Patrick.

HOUSE OF COMMONS INQUIRY INTO ASSISTED SUICIDE: Invitation to general public to submit view via 6 questions. Deadline for response 20<sup>th</sup> January 2023. Assisted suicide presents profound dangers to public safety and the common good, and so it is crucial that as many people as possible engage with the Parliamentary Inquiry and oppose the introduction of assisted suicide into UK law. It is especially important that those who respond should oppose the idea of a “Citizens Assembly” or referendum on this issue, as these are easily abused to try to legalize assisted suicide. See: <https://committees.parliament.uk/committee/81/health-and-social-care-committee/news/174845/mps-launch-new-inquiry-on-assisted-dyingassisted-suicide/> Thank you for your support – The Anscombe Bioethics Centre.

STUDY DAY ON THE APOSTLE PAUL: The speaker is Dr Sean Michael Ryan, Chair of the Catholic Biblical Association of Great Britain. Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> January 2023 from 11.00 to 13.30 in person or online. See [www.whatgoodnews.org](http://www.whatgoodnews.org) for further information.

BRENTWOOD CATHOLIC YOUTH SERVICE: See [www.bcys.net/events](http://www.bcys.net/events) for latest events.

#### THIS WEEK’S SERVICES.

Saturday 24 <sup>th</sup> December 2022.	11.00 am to 12.00 pm	SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: Confessions will be heard in the Sacristy.
Saturday 24 <sup>th</sup> December 2022. <i>The Solemnity of the Nativity of Lord.</i>	5.00 pm.	CHILDRENS MASS: Catherine & Graham Baudains Intentions. Angela Cook.
Saturday 24 <sup>th</sup> December 2022.	8.00 pm.	CAROL SERVICE.
Saturday 24 <sup>th</sup> December 2022.	9.00 pm.	MASS: The People of the Parish.
Sunday 25 <sup>th</sup> December 2022. <i>The Solemnity of Christmas Day.</i>	8.30 am.	MASS: Mary & John Coyne RIP. Theresa Coyne.
Sunday 25 <sup>th</sup> December 2022.	10.30 pm.	MASS: Edith Hefferan Intentions. Joan Jenkins.

Wednesday 28 <sup>th</sup> December 2022. <i>Feast of The Holy Innocents, Mm.</i>	9.00 am.	MASS: David Stephens RIP Lee Family.
Thursday 29 <sup>th</sup> December 2022. <i>National Feast of St Thomas of Canterbury, Bp,M.</i>	9.00 am.	MASS: Matthew Kamppillil RIP Miney.
Friday 30 <sup>th</sup> December 2022. <i>Feast of The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary &amp; Joseph. (A)</i>	9.00 am.	MASS: Eugene Awuna Gormley Intentions Eugene Mullin.
Saturday 31 <sup>st</sup> December 2022.	9.30 am.	MASS: Mary Pearce & Family Intentions.
Saturday 31 <sup>st</sup> December 2022.	11.00 am to 12.00 pm	SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: Confessions will be heard in the Sacristy.
Saturday 31 <sup>st</sup> December 2022. <i>Vigil of the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God.</i>	6.00 pm.	MASS: Catherine & Graham Baudains Intentions Angela Cook.
Sunday 1 <sup>st</sup> January 2023. <i>The Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God.</i>	8.30 am.	MASS: Gina McDonald RIP May, Noel, Theresa & Pauline.
Sunday 1 <sup>st</sup> January 2023.	10.30 am.	MASS: Tina Killen RIP Harry Killen.