

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

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FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT (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 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 £357.00 of which £258.00 was gift aided.

Collection £648.19 of which £193.00 was gift aided.

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

JOHN 11:1-45

In John's Gospel, we are told the story of the raising from the dead of Lazarus. Jesus told His disciples, "Lazarus is dead; and for your sake I am glad I was not there because now you will believe. But let us go to him".

On His arrival, Jesus found that Lazarus had been in the tomb for four days. Jesus meets Martha and tells her, "I AM the resurrection. If anyone believes in me, even though he dies he will live, and whoever lives and believes in me will never die, Do you believe this"? In an act of total faith, Martha responds, "Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, the one who was to come into this world". Using the term 'I AM', Jesus claimed the divine name revealed to Moses. Together with the sisters Martha and Mary, Jesus arrived at the tomb of Lazarus. Jesus commanded, "Take the stone away". Martha protested that the body would smell; this was the fourth day. Jesus lifted His eyes and said: "Father, I thank you for hearing my prayer. I know indeed that you always hear me, but I speak for all these who stand around me, so that they may believe it was you who sent me".

Jesus then cried out, "Lazarus here! Come out"! Lazarus came out of the tomb. Jesus tells them to, "Unbind him, let him go free". As the Father was to raise Jesus from the dead, so Jesus performed His greatest miracle in raising Lazarus from the dead.

We all must face the inescapable reality of our own death. Our faith in Jesus Christ gives us hope. Hope in the reality that we are loved totally by God. God, who sent His Only Son in to the world to be the perfect sacrifice for our sins and to grant us eternal life. As Jesus called out Lazarus's name, He will also call out our name. Lazarus rose from the dead simply to face death all over again at the end of his mortal life. When we are raised from the dead in body and in soul, we will be raised for eternity. We will never have to face the prospect of any further death. We will look forward to eternal life, together with our loved ones, in the presence of the all loving and merciful God.

WALK OF WITNESS: We meet with other Christians outside of McDonalds in the town centre at 10.00 am. Fr Patrick is leading the initial service with the support of the Parish Choir and readers. The walk will process around the town centre and arrive at the Pier Avenue Baptist Church for a closing service and refreshments.

EASTER SERVICES

Thursday 6 th April	Maundy Thursday Mass:	8.00 pm
Friday 7 th April	Walk of Witness:	10.00 am
Friday 7 th April	The Passion of the Lord	3.00 pm
Saturday 8 th April	Polish Blessing of the food.	12.00 pm
Saturday 8 th April	Easter Vigil	8.00 pm
Sunday 9 th April	Easter Day Mass	8.30 am
Sunday 9 th April	Easter Day Mass	10.30 am

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

CALLING ALL RED BOXES: Please bring in any full Missio Red Boxes and hand them to a Church Steward. Thank you.

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

THIS WEEK'S SERVICES.

Saturday 25 th March 2023. <i>Solemnity of The Annunciation of The Lord.</i>	9.30 am.	MASS: Fr Patrick Daly Intentions. Andrews Family.
Saturday 25 th March 2023.	11.00 am to 12.00 pm.	SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: Confessions will be heard in the Sacristy.
Saturday 25 th March 2023.	11.00 am to 1.00 pm.	EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT.
Saturday 25 th March 2023.	11.00 am.	DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET.
Saturday 25 th March 2023.	12.00 pm.	THE HOLY ROSARY.
Saturday 25 th March 2023. <i>Vigil of the Fifth Sunday of Lent (A).</i>	6.00 pm.	MASS: Fr John Cairns RIP John & Sheila Fox.
Sunday 26 th March 2023. <i>Fifth Sunday of Lent (A).</i>	8.30 am.	MASS: Dominic & Mary Henley RIP. John Henley.

Sunday 26 th March 2023.	10.30 am.	MASS: Peter McManamon & Family Intentions. Caroline Daly.
Monday 27 th March 2023.	9.00 am	MASS: Dominic & Mary Henley RIP. John Henley.
Thursday 30 th March 2023.	9.00 am.	MASS: Alan Codling RIP Angela & Family.
Friday 31 st March 2023.	9.00 am.	MASS: Ronald Wilson Intentions. Angela & Family.
Friday 31 st March 2023.	7.00 pm.	STATIONS OF THE CROSS.
Saturday 1 st April 2023.	9.30 am.	MASS: Thomas Whelan RIP Eileen Morley.
Saturday 1 st April 2023.	11.00 am to 12.00 pm.	SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: Confessions will be heard in the Sacristy.
Saturday 1 st April 2023.	11.00 am to 1.00 pm.	EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT.
Saturday 1 st April 2023.	11.00 am.	DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET.
Saturday 1 st April 2023.	12.00 pm.	THE HOLY ROSARY.
Saturday 1 st April 2023. <i>Vigil of Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord (A).</i>	6.00 pm.	MASS: Vera Andrews RIP Sydney, Sonya & Shane Andrews.
Sunday 2 nd April 2023. <i>Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord (A).</i>	8.30 am.	MASS: Marie Brown RIP Joan McCarthy.
Sunday 2 nd April 2023.	10.30 am.	MASS: Jeannie, John, Andrew & Martin Bradshaw Intentions.