

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

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SVP contact number: 07955203405 Linda Swinbourne President

**SECOND SUNDAY AFTER THE NATIVITY (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 REGULATIONS: England has moved to Plan B measures in the response to the new Omicron variant of COVID-19. HM Government has made the wearing of face coverings mandatory in Places of Worship from Friday 10<sup>th</sup> December 2021.

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

THANK YOU: Thank you for all your cards, presents, generous offerings and prayers. Wishing you all a peaceful and Happy New Year. Fr Patrick.

CHURCH CLEANING TEAM: If you can give the occasional hour to the cleaning of the Lord's house – our beautiful Church, please give your details to Fr Patrick.

John 1:1-18

In today's Gospel from John, we are told that, 'In the beginning was the Word: The Word was with God and The Word was God.' Jesus Christ is the Word of God. Jesus Christ is the Second Person of the Holy Trinity. Jesus Christ is God. God the Father chose to reveal Himself through the Word made Flesh. To know Jesus Christ is to know the Father. Jesus is the Way, the Truth, and the Life, and the only way to the Father. Jesus Christ shines His light of the love of the Father in a world consumed by the darkness of sin and death.

We are told that 'a man came, sent by God. His name was John'. John's birth was announced by the Archangel Gabrielle. He was born of a barren woman. He was sent to call the world to repentance in preparation of the coming of God Incarnate. He said of Jesus, 'I baptise you with water, but someone is coming, someone who is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to undo the strap of His sandals.' We have all received the baptism of fire, the baptism of the Holy Spirit. Through our baptism, we have become temples of the Holy Spirit and adopted Sons and Daughters of God. We are told that, 'He gave power to become children of God, to all who believe in the name of Him, who was born not out of human stock or urge of the flesh or will of man but of God Himself'. The birth of Jesus Christ was announced by the Archangel Gabrielle to a virgin called Mary. Through her perfect consent to the will of God in her life, Mary conceived God Himself in her womb through the action of the Holy Spirit. Our Church is dedicated to 'Our Lady of Light, Spouse of the Holy Spirit'. Our Lady gave Jesus her humanity. Our Lady gave humanity the Light of the World – her Son Jesus Christ. She received the Son of God in her womb through the action of the Holy Spirit. Mary is called Spouse of the Holy Spirit because of the intimate and wonderful relationship existing between her and the Holy Spirit. God became man in order that mankind could become partakers in the divinity of God. It is the same God that we receive in the Holy Eucharist, the Body and Blood of Our Lord Jesus Christ. We consume the Holy Eucharist

to become what we consume. In the words of St John, the Baptist, He must become greater, and I must become smaller.

FR PATRICK: Will be away from the Parish from 3<sup>rd</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> January. Fr Gerald Gosling will be providing cover.

FUNERAL: The funeral of Maureen Hurley will take place on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> January. Please pray for the repose of her soul and for her family who are grieving on her death.

SECOND COLLECTION: There will be a collection at all Masses for the Society for the Protection of the Unborn Child (SPUC) during the weekend 15<sup>th</sup>/16<sup>th</sup> January 2022.

SVP SOUP KITCHEN RAFFLE: Winning numbers are: 412 (599215), 192 (477860), 686 (599215), 603 (599215), 753 (599215), 648 (599215), 42 (477860), 388 (599215), 318 (599215), 359 (599215), 184 (477860), 99 (477860). Please contact Linda on: 07955203405 to arrange collection.

FREE STUDY DAY: Professor John Morrill will lead a Study Day on 'The Evolution of the Mass' – event begins at 11.00 and ends at 13.30 on Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> January. Go to [www.whatgoodnews.org](http://www.whatgoodnews.org)

#### THIS WEEK'S SERVICES.

Saturday 1 <sup>st</sup> January 2022. <i>Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God.</i>	9.30 am.	MASS: Joe Rodohan RIP Lorraine & Brendan Herlihy.
Saturday 1 <sup>st</sup> January 2022.	11.00 am to 12.00 pm.	SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: Confessions will be heard in the Sacristy.
Saturday 1 <sup>st</sup> January 2022.	11.00 am to 1.00 pm.	Church is open for private prayer with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament.
Saturday 1 <sup>st</sup> January 2022.	12.00 pm.	THE HOLY ROSARY.
Saturday 1 <sup>st</sup> January 2022. <i>Vigil of the Second Sunday after the Nativity.</i>	6.00 pm.	MASS: Amy Lynn Lee & Family Intentions. Shane.
Sunday 2 <sup>nd</sup> January 2022. <i>Second Sunday after the Nativity.</i>	8.30 am.	MASS: John & Anne Lavey Intentions. Mrs C Pratt.

Sunday 2 <sup>nd</sup> January 2022.	10.30 am. FAMILY MASS.	MASS: Mary Gilgallon RIP Lee Family.
Saturday 8 <sup>th</sup> January 2022.	9.30 am.	MASS: Mary Pearce Intentions. Mary.
Saturday 8 <sup>th</sup> January 2022.	11.00 am to 12.00 pm.	SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: Confessions will be heard in the Sacristy.
Saturday 8 <sup>th</sup> January 2022.	11.00 am to 1.00 pm.	Church is open for private prayer with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament.
Saturday 8 <sup>th</sup> January 2022.	12.00 pm.	THE HOLY ROSARY.
Saturday 8 <sup>th</sup> January 2022. <i>Vigil of the Feast of The Baptism of The Lord.</i>	6.00 pm.	MASS: Families affected by Downes Syndrome. Andrews Family.
Sunday 9 <sup>th</sup> January 2022. <i>Feast of The Baptism of The Lord.</i>	8.30 am.	MASS: Joe Rodohan RIP Margaret & Jan.
Sunday 9 <sup>th</sup> January 2022.	10.30 am. FAMILY MASS.	MASS: Lindsey Abbarchi Intentions. Mary.
Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup> January 2022.	9.00 am.	MASS: Joe Rodohan RIP Barry Michael.
Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> January 2022.	9.00 am.	MASS: Kathleen Glynn RIP Ann Ayton.