

Our Lady of Light & Saint Osyth
National Shrine of Our Lady of Light, Spouse of the Holy Spirit
Sacred Place of Pilgrimage for the Jubilee Year 2025

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<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Prayer to the Holy Spirit</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Come Holy Spirit, by the means of the powerful intercession of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, your well beloved Spouse. Amen.</i></p>		<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Daily Offering of myself to Jesus through Mary.</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>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.</i></p>
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FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT (C)

Laetare Sunday

SANCTUARY LAMP DEDICATIONS:

Week commencing 30th March 2025

Blessed Sacrament Chapel: Anthony William Walker Intentions - Angela & Gordon Cook.

Our Lady of Light Chapel: Blessed Sacrament Chapel: Anthony William Walker Intentions - Angela & Gordon Cook.

Week commencing 6th April 2025

Blessed Sacrament Chapel: David Wilson RIP - Angela Cook.

Our Lady of Light Chapel: David Wilson RIP - Angela Cook.

OFFERTORY COLLECTION / DONATIONS: Please make your weekly offerings by standing order. If you are a taxpayer, you can Gift Aid the amount without any cost to yourself - simply send an email to giftaid-clacton@brcdt.org

The parish bank details are:

Bank Title: Catholic Church Clacton-on-Sea

Sort Code 401322 Account Number: 41020463. Funds received last week:

- Standing Order Offerings £222.00 of which £173.00 was gift aided.
- Collection Offering £769.77 of which £176.00 was gift aided.

Members of the gift-aid scheme should quote their name and Gift Aid number Thank you for your generosity, for Gift Aiding your offerings, and for your support of the Parish. Fr Patrick.

LUKE 15:1-3,11-33 In the Gospel from Luke, the Pharisees, and scribes attack Jesus for welcoming sinners and eating with them. Jesus replied, 'I came not to call the righteous but sinners.' Jesus gave the parable of the Prodigal Father.

The parable speaks of the son who rejects the love of his father – a son who rejects the comfort and safety of his father's house. We reject God's love and the safety of His house when we sin. The young son is us. The father is God. The son takes the father's inheritance and goes in search of freedom. The son believes he can have a better life without his father. He seeks independence and the pursuit of self-satisfaction in physical and material things. Everything goes wrong in the son's life. He finds that his independence is a disaster. His actions only lead to misery. The rejection of his father's love and home do not lead to happiness. There are illusions of freedom: the abandonment of the father's house; the extreme misery when all the money's gone; the deep humiliation at finding himself obliged to look after pigs; and the severe hunger leading to the desire to eat the husks given to the pigs for food. We seek the illusion of happiness in money, in wealth, in property, in power and in getting our way at the expense of others. We seek the illusion of happiness when we seek independence from God.

The son comes to his senses. He reflects on all he has lost. He seeks repentance and decides to declare himself guilty before his father. We come to our senses when we acknowledge our dependence on God. We come to our senses when we seek repentance and forgiveness from God. The father was looking out for the son. He sees his son in the distance and takes pity on him. God looks out for us and takes pity on us. The father does not wait for the son to reach his home; he runs to the son; he clasps the son in his arms and kisses him tenderly. He loves his son. God always welcomes the repentant sinner. There is great joy in heaven at our conversion to God's love. The beautiful robe, the ring and the festive banquet given to the son are symbols of that new life – pure, worthy, and joyful – of anyone who returns to God and to the bosom of His family, which is the Church. There is a Reconciliation Service with visiting priests on Monday 14th April 2025 at 7.30pm.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS: Every Friday at 7.00pm during Lent.

DATE FOR YOUR DIARY: Bishop Alan Williams will be celebrating Holy Mass in celebration of the Jubilee Year 2025, and the Feast Day of Our Lady of Light on Saturday 31st May 2025 at 11.00am. This is a very special event for the parish.

HOMELESS: Appeal for blankets and sleeping bags. Leave at the back of the church.

COFFEE, CAKE & BOOK SALE: St Charles Hall on Saturday 26th April at 10.30am. Proceeds to support 2 young people wanting to help the disabled in Lourdes this summer and the need to raise funds for travel.

SECOND COLLECTION: There will be a second collection at all Masses next weekend for the Society for the Protection of the Unborn Child.

BRASS CLEANING: The brass in the church needs cleaning for the Easter Services. Please may I have some volunteers to help. Any volunteer work we do for the parish, we do for God. Thank you for your support. Fr Patrick.

SCRIPTURAL MASS READINGS FOR LENT: For text and commentary go to www.whatgoodnew.org

EASTER SERVICES

Monday 14th April	Lent Reconciliation Service	7.30pm
Thursday 17th April	Maundy Thursday Mass	8.00pm
Friday 18th April	Walk of Witness	10.00am
Friday 18th April	The Passion of the Lord	3.00pm
Saturday 19th April	Polish Blessing of the food	12.00pm
Saturday 19th April	Easter Vigil	8.00pm
Sunday 20th April	Easter Day Mass	8.30am
Sunday 20th April	Easter Day Mass	10.30am.

THIS WEEK'S SERVICES

Saturday 29th March 2025.	9.30am.	MASS: Fr Jim RIP Doreen Lane.
Saturday 29th March 2025.	11.00am to 1.00pm.	EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT.
Saturday 29th March 2025.	11.00am.	DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET.
Saturday 29th March 2025.	11.00am to 12.00pm.	SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION.
Saturday 29th March 2025.	12.00pm.	THE ANGELUS AND THE HOLY ROSARY.
Saturday 29th March 2025. <i>Vigil of Fourth Sunday in Lent. (C).</i>	6.00pm.	MASS: Mary & Viv Carter Intentions. Paul Twyford.
Sunday 30th March 2025. <i>Fourth Sunday in Lent.(C)</i>	8.30am.	MASS: David Murray RIP Brendan Herlihy.
Sunday 30th March 2025.	10.30am.	MASS: Maureen Hughes

		RIP. Paul Twyford.
Sunday 30th March 2025.	2.00pm.	BAPTISM: Zion Mudiyanselage.
Monday 31st March 2025.	9.00am.	MASS: Mary Mullin & Family Intentions. Eugene Mullin.
Tuesday 1st April 2025.	9.00am.	MASS: Mary Flanagan RIP. Maria Flanagan.
Wednesday 2nd April 2025.	9.00am.	MASS: Paddy & Peter McDermott RIP.
Thursday 3rd April 2025.	9.00am.	MASS: Volodymyr Zelenskyy & people of Ukraine. Bernie Spoling.
Friday 4th April 2025.	9.00am.	MASS: Cait & Barry Gane Intentions. (Wedding Anniversary)
Friday 4th April 2025.	7.00pm.	STATIONS OF THE CROSS.
Saturday 5th April 2025.	9.30am.	MASS: Brian Madge Intentions. Tara.
Saturday 5th April 2025.	11.00am to 1.00pm.	EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT.
Saturday 5th April 2025.	11.00am.	DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET.
Saturday 5th April 2025.	11.00am to 12.00pm.	SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION.
Saturday 5th April 2025.	12.00pm.	THE ANGELUS AND THE HOLY ROSARY.
Saturday 5th April 2025. <i>Vigil of Fifth Sunday in Lent. (C).</i>	6.00pm.	MASS: Rose Daly RIP. Michael O'Donovan Intentions.
Sunday 6th April 2025. <i>Fifth Sunday in Lent.(C)</i>	8.30am.	MASS: Betty Sewell RIP. Joan McCarthy.
Sunday 6th April 2025.	10.30am.	MASS: Pauline Welham RIP. Julia Clarke.