

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: 07799104874 Linda Swinbourne President

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT (B)

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.

SANCTUARY LAMP DEDICATIONS: This week:

❖ *Our Lady of Light Chapel: Danny & Julie Fitzgerald.*

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. 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 £125.00 of which £88.00 was gift aided.

Collection Offerings £582.29 of which £98.00 was gift aided.

Brentwood Catholic Youth Service £292.17 of which 47.00 was gift aided.

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

MATTHEW 13:33-37

Today we celebrate the First Sunday of Advent. What is Advent and what are we celebrating?

The word Advent comes from the Latin word *Adventus*, which means 'coming'. It is a period of expectant waiting for the Lord. It is a period of preparation for the celebration of the birth of Our Lord Jesus Christ at Christmas, and a reminder that Jesus will return in glory at the end of time. This is an opportunity to invite Jesus to come into our hearts and our souls.

In the Gospel from St Mark, Jesus tells us to 'Be on your guard, stay awake, because you never know when the time will come'. No one, except the Father, knows the time of the Second Coming of Jesus Christ. Jesus has told us that there will be a Second Coming. We pray at each Mass for the Lord to return at the Second Coming. It is a reality of our faith. I believe that Jesus is also encouraging us to be constantly prepared for our personal meeting with Christ at the end of our lives.

It is a tradition in the Church that the Priest wears purple vestments in Advent. The colour purple signifies repentance and renewal of our relationship with God. We should, therefore, use the opportunities given to us in Advent to open our lives to Jesus, in order that we may grow into a deeper and more meaningful relationship with Him. The Advent wreath and candles are also a great tradition at this time of year. The first candle is lit today on the First Sunday in Advent and is called the 'Candle of Hope.' This is the hope founded in the promises of our faith. The hope in a God who loves us and who sent His Only Son to redeem us.

CHRISTMAS CAROL SERVICE WITH MINCE PIES: The Choir and the Young Persons Choir will lead a Carol Service in the Parish Hall on Sunday 10th December 2023 at 12.00am immediately following the 10.30am Mass. All are welcome.

LOTTERY WINNERS: Congratulations to David Latto £100.00 and to Sheila Young £50.00.

CHRISTMAS SERVICES:

Monday 18th December 7.00 pm Christmas Reconciliation Service with visiting priests.

Sunday 24th December 5.00 pm Children's Vigil Mass

Sunday 24th December 8.00 pm Christmas Carols

Sunday 24th December 9.00 pm Christmas Vigil Mass

Monday 25th December 8.30 am Christmas Day Mass

Monday 25th December 10.30 am Christmas Day Mass

SUNDAY MASSES OVER CHRISTMAS WEEKEND

Saturday 23rd December 6.00 pm Vigil

Sunday 24th December 10.30 am.

(There is no 8.30 am Mass)

BCYS SUMMER LOURDES YOUTH PILGRIMAGE JULY 2024: Bookings are now open online www.bcys.net The pilgrimage is open to all in school year 10-13, and youth leaders 18 years old and over.

ESCORTED PILGRIMAGE TO KNOCK: 7th April 2024. Contact Patricia or Natali on 01268 762278 or 07740175557 or email knockpilgrimages@gmail.com.

THIS WEEK'S SERVICES

Saturday 2 nd December 2023.	9.30 am.	MASS: Stephen Stennings Intentions. Steven Bann.
Saturday 2 nd December 2023.	11.00 am to 12.00 pm.	SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION
Saturday 2 nd December 2023.	11.00 am to 1.00 pm.	EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT.
Saturday 2 nd December 2023.	11.00 am.	DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET.
Saturday 2 nd December 2023.	12.00 pm.	THE ANGELUS AND THE HOLY ROSARY.
Saturday 2 nd December 2023. <i>Vigil of the First Sunday of Advent (B).</i>	6.00 pm.	MASS: Mary & Al Powell RIP Joe.

Sunday 3 rd December 2023. <i>First Sunday of Advent (B).</i>	8.30 am.	MASS: John & Carnel Mullin Intentions. Eugene Mullin.
Sunday 3 rd December 2023.	10.30 am.	MASS: November Dead List.
Monday 4 th December 2023.	9.00 am.	MASS: Matthew Clarke RIP.
Tuesday 5 th December 2023.	9.00 am.	MASS: Amy Acker & Family Intentions. Andrews Family.
Friday 8 th December 2023. <i>The Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary.</i>	9.00 am.	MASS: Rose Lindsey Intentions. Tara.
Saturday 9 th December 2023.	9.30 am.	MASS: Bernie Burne RIP. May, Noel, Theresa & Pauline.
Saturday 9 th December 2023.	11.00 am to 12.00 pm.	SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION
Saturday 9 th December 2023.	11.00 am to 1.00 pm.	EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT.
Saturday 9 th December 2023.	11.00 am.	DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET.
Saturday 9 th December 2023.	12.00 pm.	THE ANGELUS AND THE HOLY ROSARY.
Saturday 9 th December 2023. <i>Vigil of the Second Sunday of Advent (B).</i>	6.00 pm.	MASS: Mrs Jo Gilmore Intentions. Angela Cook.
Sunday 10 th December 2023. <i>Second Sunday of Advent (B).</i>	8.30 am.	MASS: Tina Cronin RIP Joan McCarthy.
Sunday 10 th December 2023.	10.30 am.	MASS: Sadie Smith RIP Harry & Marie.