

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

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THIRTY FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (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.

SANCTUARY LAMP DEDICATIONS: This week:

- ❖ *Blessed Sacrament Chapel:*
- ❖ *Our Lady of Light Chapel:*

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 £312.00 of which £279.00 was gift aided.

Collection Offerings £510.86 of which £100.00 was gift aided.

Missio Second Collection £211.44 of which £8.00 was gift aided.

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

MATTHEW 23: 1-12

In the Gospel from Matthew, Jesus reprimanded the scribes and the Pharisees. Why is He being so severe with the religious leaders?

These men had studied scripture and would have known many of the Old Testament Books by memory. They would have known in detail the Word of God. These men would have presided at many liturgies in synagogues and the Temple. They would have spent long periods in prayer. They had given so much but failed to give their hearts to God. Jesus called them hypocrites. This is a Latin word which means actor. The scribes and Pharisees acted the part of 'the holy men'. They were the saddest of people. Their intentions may have been worthy, but they failed God, themselves, and others in their lives. They had failed to understand that God is a God of total love and not a God of rules and regulations. They had failed to recognise God incarnate in the person of Jesus Christ.

What does this Gospel mean to us today?

This Gospel is a warning to people in positions of authority or influence within the Church or a Christian community. Jesus judges each person by the motives of their hearts. We must give our hearts completely to God. We must be genuine in our faith. We must approach God with humility and love. We must love our neighbour. Jesus had summarised all the commandments: 'To love the Lord your God with all your heart, mind and strength; and to love your neighbour as yourself'. Jesus gave us His new commandment: 'To love one another as I have loved you'.

At the end of our lives, we take only one thing with us into the next world. That one thing is love. The love we have given to God and others. The love we have received from others. St Paul tells us that only love is eternal. There is no other currency in heaven.

NOVEMBER MONTH OF THE HOLY SOULS: The November Dead List envelopes and sheets are now available at the back of the Church. Please place a list of the names of those deceased family members and friends you wish to be remembered during the month of November.

VACANCIES FOR WALSINGHAM HOUSE VOLUNTEER TEAM: For those 18-23 considering a gap year. Email clairebailey@brcdt.org for more information.

PARISH LOTTERY WINNERS: Congratulations to Tracey Watts £100 prize and Janina Buda £50. There are still some lottery numbers available if you would like to join. Speak to a Church Steward at the back of the church.

PARISH YOUNG PERSONS' CHOIR: Next Practices 6th November 2023 – Guitar 4.45pm to 5.30pm. Choir 5.30pm to 6.30 pm. Contact Julie Lee or text 07949087427.

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR: Saturday 4th November 11.00 to 2.00pm. Please come and support this great Parish tradition. Fr Patrick.

FUNERAL: The funeral of James Michael Newton will take place on Wednesday 8th November 2023 in the Church at 10.45 am. Please pray for the repose of his soul and for his grieving family.

WORKING PARTY: A big thank you for those who attended the working party on Saturday 28th October 2023 to clear the cold-water drains. Fr Patrick.

THIS WEEK'S SERVICES

Saturday 4 th November 2023. <i>Memorial of St Charles Borromeo, Bp</i>	9.30 am.	MASS: Rachel Strongetham Intentions. Julia Clarke.
Saturday 4 th November 2023.	11.00 am to 12.00 pm.	SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION
Saturday 4 th November 2023.	11.00 am to 1.00 pm.	EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT.
Saturday 4 th November 2023.	11.00 am.	DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET.
Saturday 4 th November 2023.	12.00 pm.	THE ANGELUS AND THE HOLY ROSARY.
Saturday 4 th November 2023. <i>Vigil of the Thirty First Sunday in Ordinary Time A.</i>	6.00 pm.	MASS: Fr Dominic McKenna RIP. Theresa McCarron.

Sunday 5 th November 2023. <i>Thirty First Sunday in Ordinary Time A.</i>	8.30 am.	MASS: Christine & Violet Bidmead Intentions. John Bidmead.
Sunday 5 th November 2023.	10.30 am.	MASS: Victor Haven Russell RIP.
Monday 6 th November 2023.	9.00 am.	MASS: Annie Monteiro RIP Tara.
Tuesday 7 th November 2023.	9.00 am.	MASS: Dominic Henley RIP Andrews Family.
Wednesday 8 th November 2023.	9.00 am.	MASS: Sylvia Stanley RIP Tara.
Wednesday 8 th November 2023.	10.45 am.	FUNERAL MASS: James Michael Newton.
Saturday 11 th November 2023. <i>Memorial of St Martin of Tours, Bp.</i>	9.30 am.	MASS: Bishop Joseph Strickland Intentions Andrews family.
Saturday 11 th November 2023.	11.00 am to 12.00 pm.	SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION
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Saturday 11 th November 2023.	12.00 pm.	THE ANGELUS AND THE HOLY ROSARY.
Saturday 11 th November 2023. <i>Vigil of the Thirty Second Sunday in Ordinary Time A.</i>	6.00 pm.	MASS: Breda Cunningham RIP Pat Cunningham.
Sunday 12 th November 2023. <i>Thirty Second Sunday in Ordinary Time A.</i>	8.30 am.	MASS: Holy Souls Mary.
Sunday 12 th November 2023.	10.30 am.	MASS: November Dead List.