

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

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THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT (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.

COVID 19 REGULATIONS: Tier 5 Regulations Update: Communal worship is a permitted event. The Church is open for the celebration of Mass and Private Prayer. Please follow the instructions of the Church Stewards and allow plenty of time before Mass starts to sanitize your hands and complete registration. Face Masks are mandatory. Attendance at Mass is restricted to 50 people.

OFFERTORY COLLECTION / DONATIONS

Offerings can be placed in one of the orange buckets, but I would request wherever possible, all offerings are made electronically by standing order or 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. 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. Funds received last week:

Electronic Offerings £280.00 of which £240.00 was gift aided.

Collection Offerings £417.90 of which £240.00 was gift aided.

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

JOHN 2:13-25

In the Gospel of John, we are told that Jesus went up to the Temple just before the Jewish Passover. The Jewish people celebrated the Passover in the Temple in remembrance of their liberation by God from slavery in Egypt. At that time, an unblemished lamb or 'Paschal Lamb' would have been offered as a sacrifice and would have been slaughtered in the Temple. Jesus Christ is our Passover. He is the Lamb of God who was sacrificed for our sins. His death and resurrection liberated us from the slavery to sin.

Jesus drove out the cattle, sheep, and money changers from the Temple. The temple sacrificial system involved the sacrifice of animals, to reconcile the people to God. The death of an animal could never be sufficient to reconcile mankind to God. By driving out the cattle, sheep and money changers from the Temple, Jesus was declaring an end to this practice. The Temple itself would be destroyed by the Romans in AD 73. The Jewish authorities demanded a sign from Jesus to justify His actions. Jesus replied, 'Destroy this sanctuary, and in three days I will raise it up again'. The Jewish authorities assumed that He was referring to the Temple, but He was referring to his own body. It is through the death and Passion of Our Lord Jesus Christ, that we are reconciled to God. It took the death of God Himself in sacrifice to reconcile the world to Himself. Jesus was the sacrificial lamb that was crucified on the Cross for our salvation. There cannot be any Resurrection without the Cross. Jesus died on the Cross and rose from the dead on the third day. Jesus' Cross is the gateway through which we must all pass to receive the life of God intended for us. Although we may struggle to come to terms with the Cross, this is the truth of our salvation. As Christians we must embrace the Cross in our lives to inherit the resurrection and the promise of eternal life.

WEEKLY LENTEN REFLECTIONS: From Missio at

<https://www.youtube.com/c/MissioUK/videos> Recommended by Fr Patrick.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS: Every Friday at 7.00 pm.

OPEN YOUR GARDEN FOR ST HELEN'S HOSPICE: visit sthelena.org.uk/opengardens or telephone 01206 931468 or email fundraising@sthelena.org.uk

MRS CAROLE BARTLE FORMER DUPUTY HEAD AT ST CLARE'S SCHOOL: Died on 24th February following a short illness. Mrs Bartle was a devoted teacher and head for 20 years. Deepest sympathy to her family. Any shared memories to Frances @ two bookers.com.

NOVENA OF MASSES IN HONOUR OF ST JOSEPH 10TH-18TH MARCH: Pope Francis has made this year "the Year of St Joseph." To celebrate this, there will be a novena of Masses in preparation for his feast (19th March) at Our Lady Immaculate Church, Chelmsford. These will be at 7pm each day from 10th March - 18th March at OLI church. You can watch the Mass via the church livestream link - tinyurl.com/OLIchelmsford . During the Mass, there will be a short homily about St Joseph and the Mass will include the novena prayer. If you would like to send petitions for the novena, please send them to: St Philips Priory, 178 New London Road, Chelmsford, Essex, CM2 0AR.

THE FOLLOWING MASSES WILL BE OPEN TO A MAXIMUM OF 50 PEOPLE IN THE CHURCH.

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| Saturday 6 th March | 9.30 am. | MASS: Tim O'Donovan RIP. Sarah Cooper |
| Saturday 6 th March | 10.30 am. | Sacrament of Reconciliation for Children making their First Holy Communion in May 2021. |
| Saturday 6 th March | 11.00 am to 12.00 am. | SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: Confessions will be heard in the Sacristy. Please tell the Steward that you wish to go to confession. |
| Saturday 6 th March | 11.00 am to 1.00 pm. | Church is open for private prayer with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament. |
| Saturday 6 th March Vigil Mass of the Third Sunday of Lent (B) | 6.00 pm. | MASS: Lilibeth Whiteley RIP Harry & Tina |

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| Sunday 7 th March Third Sunday of Lent (B) | 8.30 am. | MASS: Elizabeth 'Bernie' Michael RIP Barrie Michael |
| Monday 8 th March | 9.30 am. | MASS: Edward O'Brien RIP Josie O'Brien |
| Tuesday 9 th March | 9.30 am. | MASS: Marjorie Talbot RIP Eileen Morley |
| Friday 12 th March | 9.30 am. | MASS: Holy Souls Parish |
| Friday 12 th March | 7.00 pm. | STATIONS OF THE CROSS |
| Saturday 13 th March | 9.30 am. | MASS: Brian & Jennifer Coates Intentions Parish |
| Saturday 13 th March | 11.00 am to 12.00 am. | SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: Confessions will be heard in the Sacristy. Please tell the Steward that you wish to go to confession. |
| Saturday 13 th March | 11.00 am to 1.00 pm. | Church is open for private prayer with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament. |
| Saturday 13 th March Vigil Mass of the Fourth Sunday of Lent (B) | 6.00 pm. | MASS: Jeffrey Smiles RIP Jean Frounhold |
| Sunday 14 th March Fourth Sunday of Lent (B) <i>Laetare Sunday</i> | 8.30 am. | MASS: Jenny Cotter RIP Caroline, James, Lisa Cotter |
| Sunday 14 th March | 10.30 am. FAMILY MASS | MASS: Philomena McMahon Intentions L Hanna |