

Our Lady of Light & Saint Osyth

National Shrine of Our Lady of Light, Spouse of the Holy Spirit

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SOLEMNITY OF SAINTS PETER AND PAUL (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.

CORONAVIRUS UPDATE: Please review the Parish Website for the latest updates: <https://ourladyoflight.uk/>

CHURCH OPENING FOR PERSONAL PRAYER: Thank you for those who have generously volunteered to help with stewarding and cleaning. I am delighted to confirm that the Church will be open for personal

prayer from 10.00 am to 2.00 pm each Saturday, commencing on 27th June 2020. Please note the following:

- You must wear a face covering
- The maximum number of visitors at one time is 5
- You must follow the instructions of the Parish Stewards
- You must not visit if you are at 'clinical risk' of COVID 19 or have been advised to shield
- You must follow 'social distancing'
- You must sanitise your hands on entering and leaving the Church
- You will be asked to provide your contact details in the event of the need for contact tracing.
- Children are welcome but must be accompanied by an adult.

This is an important first step towards normal services. Thank you for your support. Fr Patrick.

FR PATRICK will be absent from the Parish from 1st to the 12th July. Preparations for the opening of the church for Mass will continue while he is away.

MATTHEW 16:13-19

In the Gospel, Peter proclaims that: 'Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God'. Jesus acknowledges Peter's revelation and replies 'Simon son of Jonah, you are a happy man! Because it was not flesh and blood that revealed this to you but my Father in Heaven'. Jesus then commissions Peter to be the rock on which He will build His Church. He reassures us that the Church will never be overcome by the gates of the underworld. He gave Peter the keys of the kingdom of heaven.

If Jesus is the cornerstone of the Church, then Peter and Paul, together with the other Apostles, are the very foundation of the Church. How did Jesus select these two people and by what miracle did they achieve so much in their lives?

Peter was a simple fisherman and not a very successful one at that! When Jesus first met Peter, he had been out all-night fishing and had caught nothing. Peter had no formal education and struggled again and again to get things right. Peter's first words to Jesus included the sentence 'leave me Lord, I am a sinful man'. Peter would go on to deny even meeting Jesus on three separate occasions, when faced with the possibility of arrest. He deserted Jesus at the time of the Passion. Paul was a Pharisee. He was highly educated and would have had an incredibly detailed knowledge of Jewish Scripture. He stood at the stoning of Saint Stephen and gave his full approval to the brutal death of the young man, who had given witness to Christ. He despised the first Christian communities and was determined to eradicate the infant Church.

What was it that caused such a profound change in these two people? The change was initiated through an experience of the Resurrected Christ. Peter met Jesus Christ following His death and resurrection when He appeared to the disciples. Paul met the resurrected Jesus Christ on the Road to Damascus.

What do we learn from these two great men? We learn that God does not always choose the wise and good to complete His work. We also learn that faith is given to us by God. We learn that it is God that achieves great things through us. We learn that it is through God's grace that we find the strength to do His work. Paul tells us that through his weakness, God was able to act in him and make him strong. We also learn that for God to complete His work in us, we must respond to His gift of faith and co-operate with His Grace. When we receive the Holy Eucharist, the Body and Blood of Our Lord Jesus Christ, we also receive an experience of the Resurrected Jesus Christ in our lives. Let us pray that we will soon be able to come together as a community in the Holy Mass. Let us pray that we will be able to respond to God's love, in order to receive the graces to co-operate with God's plan in our lives. If we only respond, God will lose no opportunity

in exceeding all our expectations and to achieve the most wonderful things through us.

THE FOLLOWING MASSES WILL BE CELEBRATED BY THE PRIEST ONLY:

Saturday 27 th June.	9.30 am.	MASS: Brian & Joan Locker Intentions (The Parish)
Sunday 28 th June. Solemnity of SS Peter & Paul	10.30 am.	MASS: William Cox RIP (D. Lane)
Monday 29 th June	9.30 am.	MASS: John & Clare Disney (Tim)
Tuesday 30 th June	9.30 am.	MASS: Rachel Elizabeth (Tim)

Daily Offering

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 forever more. Our Lady of Light, Spouse of the Holy Spirit, pray for us. Amen