

Our Lady of Light & Saint Osyth

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

Parish Priest: Fr Patrick Daly

Parish Priest Email: ClactonCatholicChurch@gmail.com

Steward of the Gospel: Paul Twyford ~ email:

paultwyford@btinternet.com

Parish website: www.ourladyoflight.uk ~ Diocesan website:

+www.dioceseofbrentwood.net

1 Church Road, Clacton-on-Sea, CO15 6AG, Tel: 01255 423319, Office

email: clacton@dioceseofbrentwood.org

SVP contact number: 07955203405 Linda Swinbourne President

SIXTEENTH 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.

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

GIFT AID ENVELOPES: The boxes are available at the entrance to the church. Please take your box home. You do not have to use the envelopes if you are giving through standing order and quoting your gift aid number.

OFFERTORY COLLECTION / DONATIONS

Offerings can be made by standing order or electronic payments using the following details: **Bank Title: Catholic Church Clacton-on-Sea, Sort Code 401322, Account Number: 41020463** or by debit card using the donation button on our website. Members of the gift-aid scheme should quote their name and gift aid number in the Reference. Thank you for your support. Fr Patrick.

CHURCH OPENING FOR PERSONAL PRAYER: Following the introduction of public Mass, the opening of the Church for personal prayer on Saturdays has been reduced to 2 hours from 11.00am to 1.00pm. There will be exposition of the Blessed Sacrament during this period.

RESUMPTION OF PUBLIC MASS: I am delighted to confirm that public Mass has resumed on Friday 17th July. Thank you for the volunteer Stewards and Cleaners, who have made it possible to resume Mass. Please note the following:

- We are not in normal times and will not be for the foreseeable future
- The Sunday obligation has not been reinstated at this time
- The maximum number of people permitted at any one Mass will be 60
- The maximum number of 60 has been calculated based on social distancing below 2 meters
- **I would ask that those who are able to attend Mass in the week, refrain from attending Mass at the weekends to allow others the opportunity**

- You must wear a face mask or covering
- You must follow the instructions of the Parish Stewards
- You must not attend Mass 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
- Forms will be available to allow you to provide your contact details in the event of the need for contact tracing. The completed forms will be held for 21 days and will then be destroyed. Please bring your own pen.
- Children are welcome but must be accompanied by an adult
- Please allow plenty of time before the commencement of the service to prevent queuing
- At Holy Communion, you must remain in your pew until asked by a Parish Steward to come forward to receive the Blessed Sacrament
- Holy Communion must be received in silence
- It is only possible to receive Holy Communion in the hand
- You must follow the one-way system in the church
- It is not possible to allow access to the Parish Hall Toilets at the present time
- It will be possible to place your offering in a bucket, but I would request that, 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
- There will be no Readers, Servers, Sacristans or Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion at this stage.
- Do not enter the sacristy.
- Please leave the church after Mass promptly to allow us to complete sanitizing and cleaning.

Thank you for your understanding and support. Fr Patrick.

DEEP CLEAN OF PARISH HALL: I am still seeking volunteers for the deep clean of the Parish Hall. PPE will be provided to helpers. We need the kitchen, the sitting area, the main hall, toilets, and entrance area all cleaned. Can you help? Each area can be cleaned separately at a time and date convenient to the volunteers. Fr Patrick.

THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION will resume in the presbytery garden on Saturday 18th July from 11.00 am to 12.00 pm. Please remain in your car or wait in the car park until you are called into the garden through the rear gate.

MATTHEW 13:24-43

This week's Gospel follows on from 'The parable of the sower' last weekend. God is the Sower and the seed is the Word of God. Jesus Christ is the Word of God incarnate. Jesus brings the message of love, mercy, and eternal life. He is the supreme gift of love from God the Father. He gave His Only Son to us to take upon Himself all our sins. We are forgiven, redeemed and united with God through the perfect sacrifice of the Cross. This is the message of the Kingdom of God. The message of the Kingdom of Man competes with the message of the Kingdom of God. The message of the Kingdom of Man is selfishness, pleasure in this life, and acquisition of power and material wealth. We must choose which Kingdom we wish to belong to in this life and for eternity. Our God is a being of total love. He is the source of all the love that we experience in this life and for eternity. He has paid a great price for our redemption. He wishes all humanity to be saved through the sacrifice of His Son. The price has been paid for our sins. God does not, however, impose the gift of His Son on us. He respects our freewill. God never judges us. We judge ourselves. God never excludes anybody from the gift of eternal life. We exclude ourselves. The Gospel tells us that the separation of the dandelion and the wheat will not take place until the harvest. God gives us every opportunity to turn

to Him in repentance and to accept the gift of His love. This life is not a rehearsal. The decisions and choices of this life have eternal consequences. We can only repent and accept the Gift of God's love in this life. At the end of our lives we face our own judgement which is final.

The Gospel tells us that 'The Kingdom of Heaven is like a yeast a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour till it was leavened all through'. It is like 'a mustard seed which a man took and sowed in his field. It is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the biggest shrub of all and becomes a tree so that the birds of the air come and shelter in its branches'. The Kingdom of Heaven arrived with the Incarnation of Our Lord Jesus Christ through the Holy Spirit and the Blessed Virgin Mary. The Kingdom of Heaven was accomplished on a Cross on Calvary. The Kingdom of Heaven will be completed at the end of time with Our Lord Jesus Christ coming in glory. The Church is the symbol of the Kingdom of Heaven, which has never ceased to grow on earth. We are the birds who shelter in the branches of the Church. It is through the Church that we receive the most perfect means of repentance and access to the redemptive sacrifice of Our Lord Jesus Christ. It is through the Church that we receive the gift of the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

MASSES WILL BE OPEN TO A MAXIMUM OF 60 PEOPLE IN THE CHURCH

Saturday 18 th July	9.30 am.	MASS: Lisa Andrews Intentions. (Tim & Catherine)
Saturday 18 th July	11.00 am.	SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: In the presbytery garden.

Saturday 18 th July	3.00 pm.	WEDDING: Joan and Brian Locker.
Saturday 18 th July <i>Vigil Mass Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time A</i>	5.00 pm.	MASS: Mary Coughlan RIP (Angela O'Neill)
Sunday 19 th July <i>Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time A</i>	8.30 am.	MASS: Betty Smith RIP (Harry)
Sunday 19 th July	10.30 am.	MASS: Denis Cunningham RIP (Pat & Breda)
Monday 20 th July	9.30 am.	MASS: John Gamble RIP (D Lane)
Tuesday 21 st July	9.30 am.	MASS: Cathleen Byrne Intentions (Barbara De La Nouguede)
Friday 24 th July	9.30 am.	MASS: Joe Byrne Anniversary (May, Noel, Theresa, Pauline & family)
Saturday 25 th July Feast of St James, Ap.	9.30 am.	MASS: Rob Armstead Intentions (Ann Killen)
Saturday 25 th July	11.00 am.	SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: In the presbytery garden.
Saturday 25 th July	5.00 pm.	MASS: Kathleen Kellegher Intentions

Vigil Mass Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time A.		(Sarah Cooper)
Sunday 26 th July Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time A.	8.30 am.	MASS: Nicola Christy Intentions (Lee Family)
Sunday 19 th July	10.30 am	MASS: Michael Treacy RIP (Sarah Cooper)

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