

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

TWENTY-FOURTH 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/>

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:

Offertory Collection £492.23 of which £165.00 was gift aided

Electronic Offerings £421.00 of which £246.00 was gift aided

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

RESUMPTION OF PUBLIC MASS: Please follow the instructions of the Church Stewards and allow plenty of time before Mass starts to sanitize your hands and complete registration. Attendance at Mass is restricted to 50 people. **I would, therefore, ask that those who are able to attend Mass in the week to refrain from attending Mass at the weekends to allow others the opportunity.** Thank you for your understanding and co-operation. Fr Patrick.

SECOND COLLECTION: Education Sunday in support of our Catholic Schools. Please use gift-aid envelopes/black buckets in church. You can also give via the donation button on the website or by a one-off electronic transfer.

SECOND COLLECTION NEXT WEEKEND: Home Mission Sunday in support of evangelization in England and Wales.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PROGRAMME 2020/21: We will be commencing the new programme by Zoom in October. Please introduce yourself and your child to me at Mass if you wish to join the programme. **Closing date for applications is Sunday 20th September 2020.**

UPDATE ON REPAIRS TO THE CHURCH ROOF: The work is progressing well. The missing lead is being replaced with Stainless Steel which has no scrap value. The parish is paying for the repairs.

MATTHEW 18:21-35

In the Gospel from Matthew, Peter asked Jesus, 'Lord, how often must I forgive my brother if he wrongs me? As often as seven times?' Jesus answered, 'Not seven, I tell you, but seventy-seven times!' Jesus then told the 'Parable of the unforgiving debtor' to the disciples.

A servant owned ten thousand talents to the king and had no means of repaying the debt. How much is ten thousand talents? I have tried to work out approximately the value in today's money. According to Google, a typical gold talent weighed approximately 75 pounds. I calculate that at today's price of gold at \$1,936.00 per ounce, ten thousand talents would be worth approximately 23 billion dollars or 18 billion pounds. This is a personal debt beyond our imagination! The servant threw himself down at his master's feet and said, 'Give me time' and 'I will pay the whole sum'. This was clearly an impossible and unrealistic promise. The king felt sorry for the servant and cancelled the debt. The king's mercy was beyond our comprehension. God's mercy is beyond our comprehension.

The servant then refused to forgive his fellow servant's debt of one hundred denarii. A denarius was one day's pay for a typical labourer. At a rate of £100 per day, this would represent a debt of approximately £10,000 or 2.4 millionth of the debt cancelled by the king! The servant had the debtor thrown into prison for the debt of one hundred denarii. The king found out and told the wicked servant, 'I cancelled all that debt of yours when you appealed to me. Were you not bound, then, to have pity on your fellow servant just as I had

pity on you'? The servant was handed over to the torturers until he paid all his debt. He could clearly never repay such a debt.

What does this parable mean to us? Jesus tells us that this is how his heavenly Father will deal with us unless we forgive each other from our hearts. God sent His Only Son into the world to die on a cross for the reconciliation of humanity. Jesus Christ, the Second Person of the Blessed Trinity, incarnated through the Blessed Virgin Mary and the Holy Spirit descended into humanity to be the perfect sacrifice for our sins. God has given His very self out of love for each one of us and the whole world. God's mercy has no limits. There is no offence, however serious, that cannot be forgiven through the Sacrament of Reconciliation. There is no one, however, wicked, and guilty, who may not confidently hope for forgiveness, provided he or she approaches God with honest repentance. True repentance demands that we forgive others that have hurt us.

We are all sinners. We are all debtors to the mercy of God. God has cancelled our debts. He has defeated death and sin. God has promised all that believe in His Son Jesus Christ will receive eternal life. He does not hold our many sins against us. We will shortly pray the prayer Jesus gave to us. In the Our Father we declare, 'forgive our trespassers as we forgive those who trespass against us'. St Paul tells us, 'Owe no one anything, except love'. Jesus has commanded us to 'love one another as I have loved you'. There can be no room for grievances, anger or resentment in a heart that genuinely loves God and our neighbour. Grievances, anger, or resentment destroy our relationship with God. They destroy our relationships with one another. We can only forgive others during our lives. It is too late when we are dead. If we just consider the gift of unlimited love and mercy we have received from God, we cannot but be people of love, mercy, and forgiveness. Our Christian faith demands that we give witness of love and mercy to the whole world.

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

Saturday 12 th September	9.30 am.	MASS: Personal Intentions of my family. (Mary Pearce)
Saturday 12 th September	11.00 am to 12.00 noon.	SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (In the presbytery garden)
Saturday 12 th September	11.00 am to 1.00 pm	Church open for private prayer with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament.
Saturday 12 th September <i>Vigil Mass of the Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time (A). Education Sunday.</i>	6.00 pm.	MASS: Anne Keston RIP (Mum & Family)

Sunday 13 th September <i>Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)</i>	8.30 am.	MASS: Bernie Byrne RIP (May, Noel, Theresa & Pauline)
Sunday 13 th September	10.30 am.	MASS: Pauline Young RIP (Matthew Young)
Sunday 13 th September	2.00 pm.	BAPTISM: Elsie & Ruby Glover
Monday 14 th September <i>Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross</i>	9.30 am.	MASS: Fred Wills RIP
Tuesday 15 th September <i>Memorial of Our Lady of Sorrows</i>	9.30 am.	MASS: Kitty Casey Intentions (T & C)
Friday 18 th September	9.30 am.	MASS: Stephen & Jill Morris & Family Intentions.
Saturday 19 th September.	9.30 am.	MASS: Archbishop Carlo Maria Vigano's Intentions. (Mary)
Saturday 19 th August	11.00 am to 12 noon.	SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: In the presbytery garden.
Saturday 19 th September	11.00 am to 1.00 pm.	Church open for private prayer with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament.
Saturday 19 th September <i>Vigil Mass of the Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time (A).</i>	6.00 pm.	MASS: Rob Armstead Intentions. (D Killen)
Sunday 20 th September <i>Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)</i> <i>Home Mission Sunday</i>	8.30 am.	MASS: Mary & Family Intentions. (Ruphina Babalola)
Sunday 20 th September	10.30 am	MASS: Bill Cross RIP (Angela Cook)
Sunday 20 th September	3.00 pm	CONFIRMATION MASS

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