

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

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**TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (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 STEP 4: The revised guidelines are being implemented in the parish. Please note that face masks remain mandatory in the church.

OFFERTORY COLLECTION / DONATIONS: Offerings can be placed in one of the orange buckets or at the Sunday collection, 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 £519.39 of which £380.00 was gift aided.

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

#### MARK 7: 31-37

In the Gospel from Mark, a deaf and dumb man was brought to Jesus. Jesus took him aside to a place of privacy. There in that private space there was just the man and Jesus Christ. The man was given a grace filled moment to be with the Son of God. It was just Jesus Christ and him. Jesus places His fingers into the man's ears and touches the man's tongue with His spittle. The man encounters the bodily presence of Jesus Christ. He is touched by the physical presence and body of Our Lord Jesus Christ. Jesus then looks up to heaven and said to the man "Ephphatha" that is "Be Opened". The man can hear and is given the gift of speech. The man is healed by the bodily contact with Jesus Christ.

Jesus Christ's mission on earth was a mission of healing. There are many stories of healing following the physical contact of people with Jesus in the Gospels. Jesus' body and presence brought healing to all who met Him. The greatest act of healing achieved through the body of Jesus Christ was His death and bodily sacrifice on the cross. Through His physical death on the cross, Jesus healed and reconciled the relationship between God and humanity. Through his death on the cross, Jesus offers every person the healing gift and forgiveness of their sins.

Following His resurrection and ascension into heaven, Jesus Christ is no longer visible on earth in His bodily form. Jesus Christ is present in heaven at the right-hand of the Father and will return in judgement and glory at the end of time. Jesus does not, however, leave us alone and His healing ministry continues in the Church. Jesus Christ continues to offer his healing bodily contact to each of us today. As Jesus expired His earthly spirit, the Father sent the Holy Spirit at Pentecost into His Church to continue Christ's bodily contact through the Sacraments with mankind. During Jesus' presence on earth, His acts were divine acts in human form. They had saving and divine power. They bestowed grace realized in human form. Christ is now no longer visible in His bodily form. The Sacraments are the earthly extension of the body of Our Lord. The Sacraments bridge the gap between the Christ of heaven and humanity on earth.

Sacraments make human encounter possible after the Ascension and not simply by faith with the Risen Christ. It is the Risen Christ who mediates grace through His Church. The sacraments are not things but encounters of men and women with Jesus Christ in visible form. The sacraments are the earthly extension of the Body of Our Lord. This is the Church. The personal healing presence of Jesus Christ is in all the seven sacraments.

The mystery of Christ's presence is at its greatest in the Sacrament of the Eucharist: where we encounter the Body and Blood of Our Lord Jesus Christ.

**FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PROGRAMME:** The programme will formally commence on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> September at 9.30 am. The Invitation Letter, Parish Registration Forms and Application Forms are available at the back of the church. Completed forms must be returned by Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> September.

**ADULT CATECHESIS:** A formal programme of adult catechesis will commence on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> October 2021 at 7.00 pm in the parish hall. The course is strictly for the following:

1. Adults interested in becoming Catholics.
2. Adults wishing to receive their First Holy Communion and Sacrament of Reconciliation.
3. Adults wishing to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation.

The sessions will be held every two weeks during term time. There is no need to register in advance, simply turn-up on the evening. Please speak to Fr Patrick for further information.

**FUNERAL:** The funeral of Rachael Talbot Dec'd is taking place on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> September. Please pray for the repose of her soul and for her family.

**SECOND COLLECTION:** Next weekend is Education Sunday. There will be a second collection. You can give in the orange buckets or on-line quoting 'education'.

#### **THIS WEEK'S SERVICES.**

Saturday 4 <sup>th</sup> September.	9.30 am.	MASS: Pat Morita RIP.
Saturday 4 <sup>th</sup> September.	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 4 <sup>th</sup> September.	11.00 am to 1.00 pm.	Church is open for private prayer with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament.
Saturday 4 <sup>th</sup> September.	12.00 pm.	THE HOLY ROSARY
Saturday 4 <sup>th</sup> September. Vigil of Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)	6.00 pm.	MASS: John Todd RIP

Sunday 5 <sup>th</sup> September. Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)	8.30 am.	MASS: John-Joe Byrne & Bernie Byrne RIP. May, Noel, Theresa & Pauline.
Sunday 5 <sup>th</sup> September.	10.30 am. FAMILY MASS This Mass is for families with young children.	MASS: Joseph Iderse Vincatassin RIP Laura Sainte Marie
Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> September.	9.00 am. <b>Please note earlier time.</b>	MASS: Barry Larson & Family Intentions.
Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> September.	9.30 am.	MASS: Ernest Borgnine Intentions.
Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup> September. The Feast of the Nativity of The Blessed Virgin Mary	9.30 am.	MASS: Linda Madge Birthday Brian Madge.
Saturday 11 <sup>th</sup> September.	9.30 am.	MASS: Family Intentions Gaelle Saint Marie.
Saturday 11 <sup>th</sup> September.	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 11 <sup>th</sup> September.	11.00 am to 1.00 pm.	Church is open for private prayer with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament.
Saturday 11 <sup>th</sup> September.	12.00 pm.	THE HOLY ROSARY
Saturday 11 <sup>th</sup> September. Vigil of Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)	6.00 pm.	MASS: Kitty Casey Birthday Catherine.
Sunday 12 <sup>th</sup> September. Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time (B) <i>Education Sunday</i>	8.30 am.	MASS: Louise Jardine Intentions John Duffy.
Sunday 12 <sup>th</sup> September.	10.30 am. FAMILY MASS	MASS: Breda Mitchell Intentions Parish.