

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

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FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT C)

(Expectant Mothers)

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: England has moved to Plan B measures in the response to the new Omicron variant of COVID-19. HM Government has made the wearing of face coverings mandatory in Places of Worship from Friday 10th December 2021.

OFFERTORY COLLECTION / DONATIONS: Offerings can be placed in one of the orange buckets or at the Sunday Mass collection, but I would request wherever possible, all offerings are made electronically by 1. Standing order; 2. Using the Smart Bar Codes; or 3. 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 £598.69 of which £215.00 was gift aided.

Collection Offerings £470.00 of which £120.00 was gift aided.

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

GIVE WITH YOUR SMARTPHONE: You can now give to the Parish with your smartphone using the bar codes displayed at the entrance and exit doors of the church. You can give from £3 to £20 with or without Giftaid. Simply scan the chosen bar code.

CHRISTMAS OFFERINGS: The Christmas offerings are your personal gift to the Parish Priest. Only the following qualifies for the personal offering: Electronic payments with the word 'Christmas' included in the reference details, the 'Christmas Offering' gift-aid envelopes, and cash placed in the orange buckets at the Christmas Masses. Thank you for your generosity. Fr Patrick.

LUKE 1: 39-45

In the Gospel from Luke, we are told of the visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary to her cousin Elizabeth. There are five persons in this beautiful scene. The first character is Mary, who in her great act of faith said Yes to the Archangel Gabrielle and agreed to be the Mother of Jesus Christ. In this one great act of perfect faith, Mary co-operated completely with God's plan for the salvation of humanity. She agreed to be the Mother of the Messiah.

The second person in this scene is Elizabeth. The Archangel Gabrielle had also appeared to Zechariah, the husband of Elizabeth, to announce the birth of John the Baptist. Elizabeth was barren and childless. They were both getting on in years. Elizabeth was now with child.

The third person in the scene is Jesus Christ – Mary's unborn child: The 2nd person of the Holy Trinity and the Son of God.

The fourth person in the scene is John the Baptist – the last of the great prophets of God. John was Elizabeth's unborn child. John would be born to prepare the way for Jesus Christ and to announce the coming of the Messiah.

The fifth person in the scene is the Holy Spirit, the 3rd person of the Holy Trinity. It was through the Holy Spirit that Mary conceived the Son of God. It was through the action of the Holy Spirit that Elizabeth became fertile and conceived her son – John the Baptist. We are told that the child in Elizabeth's womb leapt for joy on hearing Mary's greeting, and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. Elizabeth sings out, 'Of all women you are the most blessed, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. Why should I be honoured

with a visit from the mother of my Lord'? God the Father through the incarnation of the Son of God and the action of the Holy Spirit had commenced His great plan for our salvation.

CHRISTMAS CAROLS AND MINCE PIES: You are invited by the Parish Choir to join them for mince pies and coffee, followed by carols immediately after the 10.30 am Mass on Sunday 19th December. Please note that masks must be worn for singing.

CHRISTMAS RECONCILIATION SERVICE: Will be held in the Church at 7.00 pm on Monday 20th December with visiting priests. This is a wonderful way to prepare for the coming of Christ at Christmas.

WELCOME BACK: To anybody returning to Mass this Christmas. Please consider completing the following questionnaire to help the Parish to understand your needs:

1. When was the last time you attended Mass?
2. What prevents you from coming to church?
3. What could we do to welcome you back to church?

Please respond in confidence by email to: Eileen.OLOLsynod@gmail.com

THIS WEEK'S SERVICES.

Saturday 18 th December 2021.	9.30 am.	MASS: Thomas Ropohan RIP Margaret & John.
Saturday 18 th December 2021.	11.00 am to 12.00 pm.	SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: Confessions will be heard in the Sacristy.
Saturday 18 th December 2021.	11.00 am to 1.00 pm.	Church is open for private prayer with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament.
Saturday 18 th December 2021.	12.00 pm.	THE HOLY ROSARY.
Saturday 18 th December 2021. <i>Vigil of The Fourth Sunday of Advent (C). (Expectant Mothers).</i>	6.00 pm.	MASS: Gary Bottrill & Family Intentions Shane Andrews.

Sunday 19 th December 2021. <i>The Fourth Sunday of Advent</i>	8.30 am.	MASS: John Todd & Family RIP
Sunday 19 th December 2021.	10.30 am. FAMILY MASS.	MASS: Marian Lewis & Barbara de la Nougerede Intentions Kathleen Tibbs.
Monday 20 th December 2021.	9.00 am..	MASS: Mary Christina Avery RIP B Nunn.
Monday 20 th December 2021.	1.15 pm	FUNERAL: Ronald Jobling.
Monday 20 th December 2021.	7.00 pm	CHRISTMAS RECONCILIATION SERVICE.
Thursday 23 rd December 2021.	9.00 am.	MASS: Milla Jovovich & Family Intentions. Shane.
Friday 24 th December 2021.	9.00 am.	MASS: Kathleen Reilly RIP Theresa & Family.
Friday 24 th December 2021. The Solemnity of The Nativity of The Lord	5.00 pm. FAMILY VIGIL MASS	MASS: John & Mary Coyne RIP Teresa Coyne.
Friday 24 th December 2021.	9.30 pm.	CHRISTMAS CAROLS.
Friday 24 th December 2021.	10.00 pm. CHRISTMAS VIGIL	MASS: Matthew Kanippillil RIP Mini Matthew.
Saturday 25 th December 2021. Solemnity of Christmas Day.	8.30 am.	MASS: Thomas Ropohan RIP Brendon Herlihy.
Saturday 25 th December 2021.	10.30 am. FAMILY MASS.	MASS: Terry Lewis RIP Marian Lewis.
Sunday 26 th December 2021. <i>Feast of The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph.</i>	8.30 am.	MASS: Tina Killen RIP Harry Killen.
Sunday 26 th December 2021.	10.30 am. FAMILY MASS.	MASS: Family & Friends Intentions Deirdre & John.