

St Osmund's Catholic Church, Gainford

Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle

Parish Priest: Father Ian Grieves Tel: 01325 730191

Website: www.stosmunds.co.uk e-mail: enquiries@stosmunds.co.uk

Hogarth Partnership

St Anne, St Augustine, St Mary, St Osmund, St Teresa, St Thomas Aquinas, SS William & St Francis De Sale

Welcome back to Mass

St. Osmund's will re-open for parish Mass on Sunday 6th September 9.30 am, Tuesday 8th September 10.00am and each subsequent Sunday and Tuesday.

To meet the reduced capacity limit and the requirement for Track and Trace it will be necessary to book.

Parishioners will be socially distanced during Mass (2 people per pew) however, providing space is available family groups will be able to sit together.

How to Book

A special booking answer phone number has been set up:

07796 282216

Please **text** the number above stating:

Your Name:

Day you wish to attend

Number of individuals or

Number in Family Group and

Contact Phone Number

You will be contacted to let you know if a place is available.

See the back of this Bulletin on what to expect on return to church

The 21st Sunday of Ordinary Time



Theme: Built on Rock

You are Peter and on this rock I will build my Church. And the gates of the underworld can never hold out against it.

St. Osmund's Re-opened for Private Prayer

St. Osmund's Opened for Private Prayer on Friday 14th August and Friday 21st August. It will be open again for Individual Prayer on: **Friday 28th August 10am - 11am**

No booking will be necessary for Private Prayer however should the capacity of the church be reached (20) there would be a need to wait.

Re-opening for Mass

To ensure appropriate social distancing the capacity of the church is reduced to 20 people.

Thank you to all who completed the Parishioner Response Form that has been in the Bulletin for the past few weeks. The intention of the Form was to give Fr. Grieves an indication of the number of parishioners who wish to return to Mass at this point and the days and times when Mass could be offered that would enable most to attend on at least one occasion per week. On the basis of the responses received, Fr. Grieves will be offering Mass On Tuesdays and Sundays starting from:

Sunday 6th September 9.30 am and

Tuesday 8th September 10.00am

and each subsequent Sunday and Tuesday

As there is a capacity limit and to meet the requirements for Track and Trace it will be necessary to book in advance. See left

Readings for: 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time. 23rd August

In the Catholic tradition, a Homily, interprets the readings, shining a light on the present and asking each one of us what we must change in our lives, from today. The challenge is not so much about recounting the history or retelling the story, but living the gospel.

First reading Isaiah 22: 19-23**I place the key of the House of David on my servant's shoulder**

Thus says the Lord of Hosts to Shebna, the master of the palace:

I dismiss you from your office,
I remove you from your post,
and the same day I call on my servant
Eliakim son of Hilkiyah.

I invest him with your robe,
gird him with your sash,
entrust him with your authority;
and he shall be a father
to the inhabitants of Jerusalem
and to the House of Judah.

I place the key of the House of David
on his shoulder;

should he open, no one shall close,
should he close, no one shall open.

I drive him like a peg
into a firm place;
he will become a throne of glory
for his father's house.

Responsorial Psalm 137(138): 1-3.6,8**Your love, O Lord, is eternal: discard not the work of your hands.**

I thank you, Lord, with all my heart:
you have heard the words of my mouth.
In the presence of the angels I will bless you.
I will adore before your holy temple.

I thank you for your faithfulness and love,
which excel all we ever knew of you.
On the day I called, you answered;
you increased the strength of my soul.

The Lord is high yet he looks on the lowly
and the haughty he knows from afar.
Your love, O Lord, is eternal,
discard not the work of your hands.

Second reading Romans 11:33-36**All that exists comes from him; all is by him and from him.**

How rich are the depths of God – how deep his wisdom and knowledge – and how impossible to penetrate his motives or understand his methods! Who could ever know the mind of the Lord? Who could ever be his counsellor? Who could ever give him anything or lend him anything? All that exists comes from him; all is by him and for him. To him be glory for ever! Amen.

Gospel Acclamation Mt16:18

Alleluia, alleluia!

You are Peter
and on this rock I will build my Church.
And the gates of the underworld can never hold out
against it.

Alleluia!

Gospel Matthew 16:13-20**You are Peter and on this rock I will build my Church**

When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi he put this question to his disciples, 'Who do people say the Son of Man is?' And they said, 'Some say he is John the Baptist, some Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.' 'But you,' he said 'who do you say I am?' Then Simon Peter spoke up, 'You are the Christ,' he said, 'the Son of the living God.' Jesus replied, '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. So I now say to you: You are Peter and on this rock I will build my Church. And the gates of the underworld can never hold out against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven: whatever you bind on earth shall be considered bound in heaven; whatever you loose on earth shall be considered loosed in heaven.' Then he gave the disciples strict orders not to tell anyone that he was the Christ.

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Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Holy Sacrament of the altar. I love You above all things and I passionately desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my soul. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never let me be separated from You. Amen.

Mass on-line

St. Augustines Facebook - [Click here](#) Sun. 9.15
Other churches in the diocese [Click here](#)
Walsingham: www.walsingham.org.uk [Click here](#)
Other churches in the UK and Ireland [Click here](#)
Vatican - [Click here](#)

Mass by phone: 01642 130 120

Reflection on the readings

Who do you say I am?

In the gospels, Jesus says many wonderful things. But the questions that he asks are far more challenging. In the gospel today, as Jesus is walking with his followers, he turns and asks them a direct and somewhat strange question; 'Who do people say that the Son of Man is?' They offer him a list of names that they have probably heard in the market place and on street corners. None of these seems satisfy him.

Jesus responds with a more personal and demanding question; 'But you, who do you say that I am?' There is a sense that with this second question Jesus is not interested in gossip, rumours or hearsay. He is asking and looking for a very personal and heartfelt response from his closest friends. He doesn't want second hand or even fake news!

As always, we need to try to make sense of the gospels and scripture for ourselves today. Imagine standing with you Jesus right now. He looks at you, calls you by your name and asks, 'Who do people say that the Son of Man is?' Like those in the gospel, you might offer a list of names you have heard others use or read in books. Jesus looks directly at you and then asks, 'But you, who do you say that I am?' This is a very different and challenging question that requires some response on our part. You have heard the question, what is your response?

There comes a time when we need to make a personal choice about Jesus for ourselves. There are so many books that will help us to discover who Jesus is; these are very helpful and important and they have their place. But in the end, Jesus looks at you and me and asks, who do you say that I am? Who am I for you? This question from Jesus is not meant to trip us up or catch us out; he simply wants to enter into a personal and intimate relationship with each of us. Jesus asks us the question and waits patiently and tenderly for our response.

This question of faith is still one that is asked of each of us today. Hopefully we meet and encounter Jesus though each other, in the Word of God and through the life of the sacraments. We are also being called and invited by Jesus to have a deep personal relationship with him on a daily basis. This does not mean that this is private; just between myself and Jesus; my friendship with Jesus is personal but never private. As a follower of Jesus, I am always connected to something bigger and richer than just myself; the Church – the Body of Christ.

Today and over the coming days, take a little time to hear and listen to Jesus asking you personally, 'who do you say that I am?'

– **Br Michael Moore OMI oblates.ie**

Please remember in your prayers

Fr. Tony Duffy, and Elizabeth Leeman who died recently.

Our GCSE, A-level and BTEC students who have or are soon to receive their examination results

All healthcare and key workers

All who are impacted by the economic crisis caused by the pandemic

More than 750,000 people have been affected by the terrible explosion in Beirut which has left families out on the street with no food, shelter or emergency medical care. Cafod emergency appeal: cafod.org.uk. [Click here](#)

Help us to be aware of the fears, anxiety, pain, sorrow, difficulties and uncertainty all refugees suffer, and to remember that we all belong to the same human family.

The Sick of the Parish

Christopher Smith, Irene Mulholland, Cath Simpson, Patrick Doherty, Julie Hall, Joan Towers, Toni Neville and Fr. Wilfred Elkin.

Children's Liturgy:

A Children's liturgy from Cafod for this Sunday can be found on our website.

www.stosmunds.co.uk or directly at Cafod [Click here](#)

You might also like to try the following site for a Children's Liturgy. It is hosted by a Primary School teacher from the Dunkeld diocese in Scotland. [Click here](#)

Food Banks

The Well: 46 East Green, West Auckland. DL14 9HJ.

Opening times: Wednesday-Friday 9am - 3pm

Kings Food Bank: King's Church, Prospect Place, Whessoe Rd., Darlington. DL3 0QT Opening times: Mon, Wed, Fri, 1pm -3pm **St. Columba's:** St Columba's Church, Clifton Ave., Darlington DL1 5EE. Opening time: Fri 1pm -3pm.

If you happen to be passing, items may be left at the Foodbanks during their opening times or placed in St. Osmund's Church porch. **Please do not make any unnecessary journeys.**

Stay Safe

Offertory

If you wish to make your donations directly to St. Osmund's. Bank account details are: **HSBC:**

**D.H & N Gainford St. Osmund's Account No.
41164015**

Sort Code 40-34-18

This is the only account for donations to St. Osmund's.



Thank you to all who, in the absence of our usual weekly Offertory collections, have used the parish bank details in this Bulletin to continue their contributions. It is much appreciated.

Thanks also to those who have continued with their regular standing orders. These are simple and secure ways of making an offering to the parish. If you wish to save your offerings until we return to church, this is also ok.

Before Returning to Church

At this point, although the churches are beginning to open up it is important to stress that no-one should feel any compulsion to return. The Catholic Bishops urge that we must 'tread carefully' and the Sunday obligation remains suspended. We all still have the opportunity to keep Sundays Holy, for example through On-line Mass, reading and reflection on scripture and, of course, remembering that Christ will not refuse us in a sincere Act of Spiritual Communion. (This Bulletin provides a weekly source.)

Those who are **clinically extremely vulnerable or clinically vulnerable including those over 70**, are advised to stay at home as much as possible and, if they do go out, to take particular care to minimise contact with others outside of their household.

If you **suspect that you have Covid-19**, (high temperature, new persistent cough, lack of taste or smell) or if you are **living with someone who has or is suspected of having Covid-19**, you **MUST** self-isolate in accordance with HM Government guidance and contact the online 111 service to arrange for testing. If you have **returned from overseas** you should review the latest guidance from the Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

If you **test positive** for Covid-19 after having recently attended church, you **MUST** contact your Parish Priest.

On Return to Church

On return to church we will all have to become familiar with new routines and new seats!!

We will have to book before attending. Text 07796 282216 with the details on the first page of this Bulletin.

All must wear a face covering

A state of the art hand sanitiser on entry!

Be guided to our place by a steward - (Great service) social distancing- alternate pews will be used. Family groups will be able to sit together if space allows.

We will remain seated throughout: This is to maintain social distancing at all times during the prayer/service - for some of us our joints may welcome the break from kneeling.

Mass will be shorter: This is to minimise the time people are sharing the same indoor space.

Communion: The final blessing will be given before approaching Fr. Grieves. It will be socially distanced by receiving the Host on outstretched hands. No words will be spoken.

Post Communion: As the final blessing will have already been given, we will each immediately leave the church by the side door at the back of church.

We are advised not to touch furniture or objects including statues as we move and not to stay around too long before leaving for home. There will be hand sanitising stations at appropriate places.

Best wishes for a safe, happy and healthy week.

Until next time

