

St Osmund's Catholic Church, Gainford

Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle

Parish Priest: Father Ian Grieves Tel: 01325 730191

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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 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.

Children's Liturgy

A Children's Liturgy that has been a very useful resource for parents and children throughout our Covid restrictions can be found by

[Clicking here](#)

It is delivered by a Primary School teacher from Dunkeld.

A Children's Liturgy from Cafod is available on www.cafod.org.uk

[Click here](#)

Prayer Resources for Primary and Secondary age pupils can be found on the Carmel College /Bishop Hogarth website

[Click here](#)

Mass on-line

St. Augustines Facebook Sun 9.15 am-

[Click here](#)

Churches in the diocese - [Click here](#)

Other churches in the UK and Ireland

[Click here](#)

Mass by phone: 01642 130 120

The 23rd Sunday of Ordinary Time Education Sunday



Theme: As forgiving as God

For as the heavens are high above the earth so strong is his love for those who fear him. As far as the east is from the west so far does he remove our sins. Psalm 102: 11-12

St Osmund's has now re-opened for Parish Mass

Mass times: Sunday 9.30am and Tuesday 10.00am

The Masses last Sunday and Tuesday went well. Fifteen people booked for Sunday and thirteen on Tuesday. Prior to re-opening, the church had a deep clean and was sanitised again immediately after Mass. Subject to government advice there will be a Parish Mass each Sunday and Tuesday until further notice.

Many thanks to the volunteers who work to ensure that we can celebrate Mass in a Covid safe environment. Without the volunteers St. Osmund's would be unable to open.

Additional volunteers would be greatly appreciated. If you feel that you could spare some time on a Sunday or Tuesday please reply by e-mail to enquiries@stosmunds.co.uk or ring

Fr. Grieves

To ensure appropriate social distancing the capacity of the church is reduced to 20 people and to meet the requirements for Track and Trace:

It will be necessary to book in advance. See left

The Darlington Ordinariate aim to recommence their services at St. Osmund's from 4th October

Readings for: 24rd Sunday in Ordinary Time. 13th September

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 Ecclesiasticus 27:33-29:9**Forgive your neighbour the hurt he does you; and when you pray, your sins will be forgiven**

Resentment and anger, these are foul things, and both are found with the sinner. He who exacts vengeance will experience the vengeance of the Lord, who keeps strict account of sin. Forgive your neighbour the hurt he does you, and when you pray, your sins will be forgiven.

If a man nurses anger against another, can he then demand compassion from the Lord? Showing no pity for a man like himself, can he then plead for his own sins? Mere creature of flesh, he cherishes resentment; who will forgive him his sins? Remember the last things, and stop hating, remember dissolution and death, and live by the commandments. Remember the commandments, and do not bear your neighbour ill-will; remember the covenant of the Most High, and overlook the offence.

Responsorial Psalm 102(103) 1-4, 9-12**The Lord is compassion and love, slow to anger and rich in mercy.**

My soul, give thanks to the Lord.
all my being, bless his holy name.
My soul, give thanks to the Lord.
and never forget all his blessings.

It is he who forgives all your guilt,
who heals every one of your ills,
who redeems your life from the grave,
who crowns you with love and compassion.

His wrath will come to an end;
he will not be angry for ever.
He does not treat us according to our sins
nor repay us according to our faults.

For as the heavens are high above the earth
so strong is his love for those who fear him.
As far as the east is from the west
so far does he remove our sins.

Second reading Romans 14:7-9**Alive or dead, we belong to the Lord**

The life and death of each of us has its influence on others; if we live, we live for the Lord; and if we die, we die for the Lord, so that alive or dead we belong to the Lord. This explains why Christ both died and came to life: it was so that he might be Lord both of the dead and of the living.

Gospel Acclamation: Jn13:34**Alleluia, alleluia!**

I give you a new commandment:
love one another just as I have loved you,
says the Lord. **Alleluia!**

Gospel Matthew 18:21-35**To be forgiven, you must forgive**

Peter went up to Jesus and said, '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. 'And so the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who decided to settle his accounts with his servants. When the reckoning began, they brought him a man who owed ten thousand talents; but he had no means of paying, so his master gave orders that he should be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, to meet the debt. At this, the servant threw himself down at his master's feet. "Give me time" he said "and I will pay the whole sum." And the servant's master felt so sorry for him that he let him go and cancelled the debt. Now as this servant went out, he happened to meet a fellow servant who owed him one hundred denarii; and he seized him by the throat and began to throttle him. "Pay what you owe me" he said. His fellow servant fell at his feet and implored him, saying, "Give me time and I will pay you." But the other would not agree; on the contrary, he had him thrown into prison till he should pay the debt. His fellow servants were deeply distressed when they saw what had happened, and they went to their master and reported the whole affair to him. Then the master sent for him. "You wicked servant," he said "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?" And in his anger the master handed him over to the torturers till he should pay all his debt. And that is how my heavenly Father will deal with you unless you each forgive your brother from your heart.'

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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.

Reflection on the readings

Today's readings challenge us to forgive each other. Gathered here are some thoughts on forgiveness that reflect the teachings of St. Francis de Sales:

Forgiveness is hard to do. While we desire to forgive, we still let our feelings of anger sway us. Yet, if we let anger reign in our heart it grows from a twig to a large branch. The greatest motive for not harbouring anger in our heart is that it does not allow us to flourish as a healthy, lively human being. Forgiveness, on the other hand, leads to our wholeness in Christ, whose Spirit floods our hearts with eternal love.

Yet, deep hurts that return again and again remind us that they can never be fully eliminated. Just when we think we've been victorious in forgiving, we find our anger stirred up again in our hearts. We've thrown it out the front door, but like a strong wind, anger comes again through a back window in need of repair.

Nonetheless, we do not have to let our weaknesses control our lives. God does not order us to keep anger from coming into our heart, only that anger ought not to reign in our heart. Little by little we become forgiving as we very gently put our heart back into God's hands and ask God to heal it. Tell God how you desire to forgive as Jesus forgives. For it is in Jesus that we must place all our affections.

By nurturing sacred love in our heart through prayer and the sacraments, we become open to the power of forgiveness. Forgiveness comes more fully when we allow our Saviour to enter our hearts and explore the rooms that require repairing. We must not be disturbed but rather glory in our infirmities so that God's power may shine through us. Our deepest hurts remind us of our own weaknesses, and of our need to be more compassionate with others' weaknesses. In that lies the power of forgiveness.

Salesian Sunday Reflection (Adapted from the writings of St. Francis de Sales) oblates.org

Please remember in your Prayers

The Sick of the Parish

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

Bidding Prayers St. Osmund's [Click here](#)

Pastoral Message from Bishop Robert Byrne CO

Bishop Robert Byrne CO has released a pastoral video message regarding the reopening of our churches and how we are managing this throughout the diocese. www.rcdhn.org.uk

[Click here](#)

Education Sunday

This year Education Sunday takes on a particular significance. The pandemic continues to impact on our children, families and communities as our schools, colleges and universities re-open.

Prayer

God is the source of all wisdom and knowledge.

Let us ask him to bless those who seek to learn and their teachers.

For students, that the Spirit of God may grant them the gifts of wisdom of understanding.

For teachers, that they may share their knowledge with gentleness, patience, and concern for their students. (Book of Blessings)

Lord, we place the care of our young people, their families and communities during this time of pandemic into the cup of your loving hands.

Message from Bishop March Stock - Bishop of Leeds

[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. 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 Parish.

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. **Offerings can be left in the basket at Church at the Masses on Sunday and Tuesday.**

Charity Swim

On Sunday 13th September Matthew Mc Auley will be taking part in the 11 mile Windermere One-way Swim. Matthew is raising funds for two charities: **Young Minds and Spinal Muscular Atrophy**. You can donate on his Justgiving page by [Clicking here](#)

Best wishes for a safe, happy and healthy week.

