

# St Osmund's Catholic Church, Gainford

Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle

Parish Priest: Father Ian Grieves Tel: 01325 730191

Website: [www.stosmunds.co.uk](http://www.stosmunds.co.uk)

## Hogarth Partnership

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

### FoodBanks

**The Well:** 46 East Green, West Auckland.

DL14 9HJ. Opening times: Wednesday-

Friday 9am - 3pm

**Kings Food Bank:** King's Church,

Prospect Place, Whesoe 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 when attending Mass on Sunday or Tuesday*

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### Please Pray for the sick of the Parish:

Christopher Smith, Cath Simpson,

Patrick Doherty, Julie Hall, Joan Towers,

Toni Neville and Fr Wilfred Elkin.



## The 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time - 31st January Racial Justice Sunday

**Theme: The crowds stare**

*'The people were so astonished that they started asking each other what it all meant. 'Here is a teaching that is new' they said 'and with authority behind it:'*

**St Osmund's will be open for Parish Mass on  
Sundays at 9.30am**

**It will be necessary to book**

**To book please text 07796 282216 giving your Name, Number of individuals or number in family group and a contact phone number.**

In considering attending Mass please particularly bear in mind your own health situation, that of others and current travel restrictions.

### 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](http://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](#)**

**Readings and Reflection for 31st January - The 4th Sunday of Ordinary Time****First reading Deuteronomy 18:15-20****I will raise up a prophet and put my words into his mouth**

Moses said to the people: ‘The Lord your God will raise up for you a prophet like myself, from among yourselves, from your own brothers; to him you must listen. This is what you yourselves asked of the Lord your God at Horeb on the day of the Assembly. “Do not let me hear again” you said “the voice of the Lord my God, nor look any longer on this great fire, or I shall die”; and the Lord said to me, “All they have spoken is well said. I will raise up a prophet like yourself for them from their own brothers; I will put my words into his mouth and he shall tell them all I command him. The man who does not listen to my words that he speaks in my name, shall be held answerable to me for it. But the prophet who presumes to say in my name a thing I have not commanded him to say, or who speaks in the name of other gods, that prophet shall die.”’

**Responsorial Psalm 95(95): 1-2,6-9****O that today you would listen to his voice! ‘Harden not your hearts.’**

Come, ring out our joy to the Lord;  
hail the rock who saves us.  
Let us come before him, giving thanks,  
with songs let us hail the Lord.

Come in; let us bow and bend low;  
let us kneel before the God who made us:  
for he is our God and we  
the people who belong to his pasture,  
the flock that is led by his hand.

O that today you would listen to his voice!  
‘Harden not your hearts as at Meribah,  
as on that day at Massah in the desert  
when your fathers put me to the test;  
when they tried me, though they saw my work.’

**Second reading 1 Corinthians 7:32-35****Give your undivided attention to the Lord**

I would like to see you free from all worry. An unmarried man can devote himself to the Lord’s affairs, all he need worry about is pleasing the Lord; but a married man has to bother about the world’s affairs and devote himself to pleasing his wife: he is torn two ways. In the same way an unmarried woman, like a young girl, can devote herself to the Lord’s affairs; all she need worry about is being holy in body and spirit. The married woman, on the other hand, has to worry about the world’s affairs and devote herself to pleasing her husband. I say this only to help you, not to put a halter round your necks, but simply to make sure that everything is as it should be, and that you give your undivided attention to the Lord.

**Gospel Acclamation Mt11:25****Alleluia, alleluia!**

Blessed are you, Father,  
Lord of heaven and earth,  
for revealing the mysteries of the kingdom  
to mere children.

**Alleluia!****Mt4:16**

Alleluia, alleluia!  
The people that lived in darkness  
has seen a great light;  
on those who dwell in the land and shadow of death  
a light has dawned.  
Alleluia!

**Gospel Mark 1:21-28****Unlike the scribes, he taught them with authority**

Jesus and his disciples went as far as Capernaum, and as soon as the sabbath came he went to the synagogue and began to teach. And his teaching made a deep impression on them because, unlike the scribes, he taught them with authority.

In their synagogue just then there was a man possessed by an unclean spirit and it shouted, ‘What do you want with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are: the Holy One of God.’ But Jesus said sharply, ‘Be quiet! Come out of him!’ And the unclean spirit threw the man into convulsions and with a loud cry went out of him. The people were so astonished that they started asking each other what it all meant. ‘Here is a teaching that is new’ they said ‘and with authority behind it: he gives orders even to unclean spirits and they obey him.’ And his reputation rapidly spread everywhere, through all the surrounding Galilean countryside.

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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](http://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 for 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time - 31st January

*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.*

### **The authority, words and action of Jesus**

*In the gospel today the impact of the words of Jesus are seen in real concrete action. He heals a man who is sick and who has neither control nor authority over his own body. Not so with Jesus. When Jesus speaks he orders the evil spirits to leave the man. Jesus speaks and immediately the man is healed and liberated. This is when the crowd begin to question Jesus. They wonder about him; 'they were astonished and started to ask what it all meant.' In Matthew's gospel they even said, 'Where did he get such wisdom? What about his miracles? Isn't he just the carpenter's son? Where did he get all this?' (Mt. 13. 55) Clearly not all those who met Jesus appreciated his teaching, healing or authority.*

*Earlier in Mark's gospel when Jesus was baptised we read that the Holy Spirit descended on him and a voice was heard to say, 'this is my beloved. With you I am well pleased.' This is the source and origin of Jesus' authority. The authority with which he teaches, heals and forgives comes from God. The authority that the people experience and witness from Jesus is the very authority of God. What Jesus says happens. When Jesus says to a person that they are healed, the person is actually healed. When he tells a person that their sins are forgiven they are actually forgiven. The words of Jesus are seen in and through his actions. When Jesus teaches and speaks things actually happen! His words are effective. Those who listen to and hear Jesus experience the change and effect of these words in their lives; this is real power and authority. Jesus exercised his power to heal, liberate and forgive people, not to enslave them. He uses his authority to lift people up, not put them down. This is the powerful uniqueness of his sacred and divine authority. When people saw the impact of his teaching in and through his actions, they began to ask who he really was, because they said, 'here is a teaching that is new and with authority behind it.' The message that Jesus brings is not only good, it is also new.*

*Sadly, not all people exercise their authority with such care and concern for others. Even in our own recent history we have witnessed many dictators who have abused not only their authority but also those they were meant to serve. Power corrupts, absolute power corrupts absolutely.*

*As Christians we are called to follow the example of Jesus, not just his teaching. Jesus, the One with ultimate power and authority, came to serve, not to be served. To show this explicitly, Jesus took the place of a slave and washed his friend's feet. This is Christian power and authority. To reinforce this gesture, Jesus said and still says to us today; 'If I then, the Lord and Master, have washed your feet, you should wash each other's feet. I have given you an example so that you may do what I have done to you.' (John 13.15)*

*No matter who we are, we each have some power and authority. The question for us is how we exercise this authority. Do we follow the example of Jesus; do we use it to serve others, to help and support them, to lift them up or to put them down? As always, the choice is ours. – Br Michael Moore OMI oblates.ie*

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

#### **Cycle of Prayer Intentions**

*Ordinary Time: Winter*

*We are asked to pray for Peace on Earth; Christian Unity; Victims of Human Trafficking; The Sick and those who care for them; The Unemployed*

#### **Prayer for Christian Unity**

*(Octave of Prayer 11th -25th January)*

*May the divisions among Christians be overcome  
so that we may hasten  
to your eternal Kingdom in the perfect communion  
of the Church.  
cf. Roman Missal.*

#### **A PRAYER FOR HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL DAY**

To mark HMD 2020, Chief Rabbi Ephraim Mirvis, Archbishop of Canterbury Justin Welby and Senior Imam Qari Asim have come together and written a special prayer which is intended to be used by people of any faith at their HMD activity. (27th January)

*Loving God, we come to you with heavy hearts, remembering the six million Jewish souls murdered during the Holocaust. In the horrors of that history, when so many groups were targeted because of their identity, and in genocides which followed, we recognise destructive prejudices that drive people apart.*

*Forgive us when we give space to fear, negativity and hatred of others, simply because they are different from us.*

*In the light of God, we see everyone as equally precious manifestations of the Divine, and can know the courage to face the darkness.*

*Through our prayers and actions, help us to stand together with those who are suffering, so that light may banish all darkness, love will prevail over hate and good will triumph over evil.*

**Amen**



## A Novena for the Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes

*Beginning on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> February, Fr Stephen Watson (Lourdes Pilgrimage Director) will lead a novena for the Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes on 11th February. Fr Stephen will lead us daily in a few minutes of prayer which can be accessed via the 'Hexham and Newcastle Pilgrimage to Lourdes' Facebook page. [Click here](#) Daily prayers will be shared at 8am and can be viewed at any time after that. You are invited to join in this time of prayer.*



## Literary Competition 8-10 Year-Olds

The North East Catholic Writers` Guild are running a literary competition for schoolchildren – the theme is:

**“Compose a hopeful prayer for this difficult time”**

Maximum 20 lines. The lines don` t have to rhyme. Open to 8-10 year-olds.

Please include your age, name, address and phone number and send to:

Veronica Whitty, Secretary, Catholic Writers` Guild (NE), 51 Queen`s Crescent, Wallsend, NE28 8DW

Or e-mail: [veronicawhitty@hotmail.com](mailto:veronicawhitty@hotmail.com)

Deadline: 8th April 2021

NB: Entries: excludes anyone related to any member of the Guild or related to anyone connected with the Northern Cross.

## Racial Justice Sunday – 31 January 2021

This weekend we celebrate Racial Justice Sunday with this year`s theme is ‘A Time to Act’ and it is perhaps more important than ever for us to actively oppose racism and pursue racial justice with renewed vigour.

Bishops` Conference have produced some resources, which can be [found here](#). It also includes a [message](#) from Bishop Paul McAleenan, the lead Bishop for Racial Justice.

*Best wishes for a safe, happy and healthy week ahead*

