

# St Osmund's Catholic Church, Gainford

Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle

**Parish Priest: Fr. Thomas Mason** e-mail: [gainford.stosmund@rcdbn.org.uk](mailto:gainford.stosmund@rcdbn.org.uk) Tel: 01833 631457

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

## Hogarth Partnership

St Anne, St Augustine, St Mary, St Osmund, Holy Family, St Teresa, St Thomas Aquinas, SS William & 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**

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

Pat Avison, Christopher Smith, Patrick Doherty, Joan Towers, and Toni Neville.

Please pray for: all those impacted by the turmoil in Afghanistan;

Please pray for the children and staff of our schools.

### 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](#)



## 28th Sunday of Ordinary Time 10th October

*Theme: The Kingdom is worth every sacrifice*

*'How hard it is for those who have riches to enter the kingdom of God!'*

### Coronavirus:

**Bishop Robert has issued new diocesan guidance on restrictions to help prevent the spread of Coronavirus. Some of the main points are given below. To read the full guidance [click here](#)**

•**Face coverings** - all those attending church are recommended to wear a face covering unless they are exempt from doing so.

•**Congregational Singing** of cantor groups and other choirs is now permitted.....face coverings should be worn  
**Hymns will be introduced gradually over the next weeks at St. Osmund's - Please wear a face covering while singing.**

•**One-way systems and movement of people** - "It is no longer necessary to have one-way systems or other restrictions on movement in churches.

•**Holy Communion** will continue to be under one kind and the ministers will continue to sanitise their hands beforehand and wear a face covering whilst distributing. Communion is recommended to be distributed in the hand but those who wish to receive on the tongue may do so."

**St Osmund's will be open for Parish Mass on Sundays at 9.30am and Tuesdays at 10.00am**

**It will be necessary to book for the Sunday Mass. It will no longer be necessary to book for the Tuesday Mass.**

**To book please text 07796 282216** giving your Name, Number of individuals or number in family group and a contact phone number.  
**(Please book by 7pm on Saturday evening)**

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

**The Weekly Bulletin is available online at:**  
[www.stosmunds.co.uk](http://www.stosmunds.co.uk)

**Readings and Reflections 10th October - 28th Sunday of Ordinary Time****First reading Wisdom 7:7-11****I esteemed Wisdom more than sceptres or thrones**

I prayed, and understanding was given me;  
 I entreated, and the spirit of Wisdom came to me.  
 I esteemed her more than sceptres and thrones;  
 compared with her, I held riches as nothing.  
 I reckoned no priceless stone to be her peer,  
 for compared with her, all gold is a pinch of sand,  
 and beside her silver ranks as mud.  
 I loved her more than health or beauty,  
 preferred her to the light,  
 since her radiance never sleeps.  
 In her company all good things came to me,  
 at her hands riches not to be numbered.

**Responsorial Psalm 89(90):12-17****Fill us with your love so that we may rejoice.**

Make us know the shortness of our life  
 that we may gain wisdom of heart.  
 Lord, relent! Is your anger for ever?  
 Show pity to your servants.

In the morning, fill us with your love;  
 we shall exult and rejoice all our days.  
 Give us joy to balance our affliction  
 for the years when we knew misfortune.

Show forth your work to your servants;  
 let your glory shine on their children.  
 Let the favour of the Lord be upon us:  
 give success to the work of our hands.

**Second reading Hebrews 4:12-13****The word of God cuts more finely than a double-edged sword**

The word of God is something alive and active: it cuts like any double-edged sword but more finely: it can slip through the place where the soul is divided from the spirit, or joints from the marrow; it can judge the secret emotions and thoughts. No created thing can hide from him; everything is uncovered and open to the eyes of the one to whom we must give account of ourselves.

**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!**

**Or: Mt5:3****Alleluia, alleluia!**

How happy are the poor in spirit:  
 theirs is the kingdom of heaven. **Alleluia!**

**Gospel Mark 10:17-30****Give everything you own to the poor, and follow me**

Jesus was setting out on a journey when a man ran up, knelt before him and put this question to him, 'Good master, what must I do to inherit eternal life?' Jesus said to him, 'Why do you call me good? No one is good but God alone. You know the commandments: You must not kill; You must not commit adultery; You must not steal; You must not bring false witness; You must not defraud; Honour your father and mother.' And he said to him, 'Master, I have kept all these from my earliest days.' Jesus looked steadily at him and loved him, and he said, 'There is one thing you lack. Go and sell everything you own and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me.' But his face fell at these words and he went away sad, for he was a man of great wealth.

Jesus looked round and said to his disciples, 'How hard it is for those who have riches to enter the kingdom of God!' The disciples were astounded by these words, but Jesus insisted, 'My children,' he said to them 'how hard it is to enter the kingdom of God! It is easier for a camel to pass through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God.' They were more astonished than ever. 'In that case' they said to one another 'who can be saved?' Jesus gazed at them. 'For men' he said 'it is impossible, but not for God: because everything is possible for God.'

Peter took this up. 'What about us?' he asked him. 'We have left everything and followed you.' Jesus said, 'I tell you solemnly, there is no one who has left house, brothers, sisters, father, children or land for my sake and for the sake of the gospel who will not be repaid a hundred times over, houses, brothers, sisters, mothers, children and land – not without persecutions – now in this present time and, in the world to come, eternal life.'

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**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*

**[Bidding Prayers - St Osmund's](#)****[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****28th Sunday of Ordinary Time****10th October**

*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.*

**Owned by our stuff - the monkey-trap**

*African hunters have a clever way of trapping monkeys. They slice a coconut in two, hollow it out, and in one half of the shell cut a hole just big enough for a monkey's hand to pass through. Then they place an orange in the other coconut half before fastening together the two halves of the coconut shell. Finally, they secure the coconut to a tree with a rope, retreat into the bush, and wait. Sooner or later, an unsuspecting monkey swings by, smells the delicious orange, and discovers its location inside the coconut. Slipping its hand through the small hole, the monkey grasps the orange, and tries to pull it through the hole. Of course, the orange won't come out, since it's too big for the hole. But the persistent monkey continues pulling and pulling to no avail, never realizing the danger it is in. While it struggles with the orange, the hunters approach and capture the monkey in a net. Looking on, we could see that as long as the monkey keeps its fist wrapped around the orange, it is trapped. The only way to save its life is to let go of the orange and flee.*

*Seeing the monkey struggling to get the orange while the hunters are closing up on it, an animal-lover would shout to make the creature abandon the stupid orange and run for dear life. This is rather like what Jesus advises the rich young man. He sees him in danger of losing his chance for eternal life on account of his fixation on money. So he advises him to turn his back on wealth and save his life. Why did the choice have to be so stark? Mark says it is because "Jesus looked at him and loved him" (10:21a). The advice of Jesus often seems hard to follow but it is always meant for our own good. It will change our way of thinking if we realise that these are the words of someone who loves us and who knows better than we can do what can lead us to eternal life.*

*If we approach the Lord, as the man in the gospel did, if we seek out the Lord and enter into a personal relationship with him, he will call out to us too. His particular call to us will probably not be the precise call the man in today's gospel received. However, his call to us will have something in common with that man's call. It will always be a call to give ourselves more fully to the Lord's way, and to let go of whatever it is that is holding us back from living according to the values of the gospel that Jesus proclaimed and lived. His call to us will be a call to go and do whatever it is we need to do in order to walk in the Lord's way more wholeheartedly. There will be moments when we will hear that call very strongly — perhaps when we are least expecting to hear it. If the particular call that the Lord is addressing to us seems daunting, we can find reassurance in the Lord's words to his disciples in the gospel, 'everything is possible for God.' What we cannot do on our own, we can do with the Lord's help. The Lord's grace at work within us can empower us to live as he is calling us to live.*

*The rich young man is like the monkey tragically clinging to the orange when its very life is in danger. So Jesus suggests another way to him: "Go and sell what you have, and give it to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow me." But the young man finds this teaching a hard pill to swallow since, like many others, he believed his wealth was a sure sign of God's blessing. Even today the "prosperity gospel" is widespread: the belief that wealth is a sign of God's approval, and poverty and hardship a sign of God's disapproval. Therefore when Jesus said how hard it would be for rich people to enter the kingdom of God, his disciples were astonished and asked, "Then who can be saved?" (v. 26). The real gospel challenges the prosperity gospel for God's love can go hand in hand with material poverty. In fact, voluntary, dedicated poverty can be a way of responding to God's love. Materialism is the belief that without wealth life is meaningless. The rich young man was a materialist at heart. We can pray today to have more wisdom than the monkey, and avoid materialism in all its forms. For what is the use of gaining the whole world and lose our life in the process?*

*associationofcatholicpriests.ie*

**Love Christmas - Christmas Box Appeal**

*Looking for a way to spread love, hope and kindness in your community this Christmas? Love Christmas is a national initiative to do just this. Together we are mobilising volunteers through local churches to sponsor and deliver a million Christmas Boxes to the most vulnerable and isolated. By partnering together, you will be joining thousands of churches from across the UK. It is easy for parishes to take part and it is an effective way to let your neighbourhood know that your parish cares! Join the Love Christmas webinar on Wednesday 6 October, 11am - 12pm to hear more and to find out how to get involved. Sign up here: <https://www.tfaforms.com/4917266>*

**Feast Days this week:**

**Monday 11th October: St John XXIII**

**Tuesday 12th October: St. Wilfred**

**Wednesday 13th October: Bl. Alexandria Maria da Costa, St. Edward the Confessor**

**Thursday 14th October: St. Callistus**

**Friday 15th October: St. Teresa of Avila**

**Saturday 16th October: St. Margaret Mary Alacoque, St. Richard Gwyn (Wales)**

**The Cycle of Prayer**

Throughout Ordinary Time: Autumn we are asked to pray for the following intentions: **The Harvest, the Fruits of Human Work, and the Reverent Use of Creation, Students and Teachers The Spread of the Gospel Justice and Peace in the World, Prisoners and their Families All Victims of War, Young People**

**Prisoners and their Families** (Especially on 2nd Sunday of October)

**Prayer**

*Almighty and merciful God,  
to whom alone the secrets of the heart lie open,  
who recognize the just and make righteous the guilty,  
hear our prayers for your servants held in prison,  
and grant that through patience and hope  
they may find relief in their affliction  
and soon return unhindered to their own.*

**Roman Missal****MarriageCare counsellors course.**

MarriageCare are looking for new volunteer relationship counsellors. Please see the notice in the porch for details of their training course and consider whether this is a way in which you would be able to help your brothers and sisters as they try to work through challenging moments in their relationships.

**Called to the Supper of the Lamb**

A Day of Reflection for Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion on Saturday 16 October 2021 or Saturday 30 October 2021 from 10.30am – 3.30pm, registration & refreshments from 10.00am. Being held at Ushaw College, Durham.

Book online (16/10/21 – here, 30/10/21 – here), phone (07375 934713) or email us. See poster for further information. [www.rcdhn.org.uk](http://www.rcdhn.org.uk)

**Hope for the Earth: A Different Way of Living for the Future of the Planet**

Friday 5 November starting at 6.00pm and ending on Sunday 7 November at 2.00pm.

This retreat is by Patrick Woodhouse, Jonathon Hewitt and the Minsteracres team to explore the Climate Crisis and the Ecological Crisis asking how we may all be involved in a different way of living for the future of the planet. [www.rcdhn.org.uk](http://www.rcdhn.org.uk)

**CHARIS – Catholic Charismatic Renewal International Service**

The diocesan branch of the international charismatic renewal is launching later this month. Please see the poster in the porch for more details. 16 October, 11am, English Martyrs, Stamfordham Road, Newcastle. Also, 13 November 11am, English Martyrs & SS Peter and Paul, Stockton.

**Helping hands – your parish needs your help**

Father Thomas has now moved to Barnard Castle to live permanently in the presbytery at St Mary's. This means that St Osmund's will no longer have a resident priest. Father Thomas will need to rely on parishioners to help to maintain the church, parish centre and grounds. We have been in this situation before, and parishioners have always rallied to look after our beautiful church and grounds.

We would ask that all parishioners take a little time to consider whether they might be able to help in anyway. 'Helping Hands' leaflets will be given out at mass over the coming weeks, please take the time to read this leaflet and hopefully return it with an offer of help.

The measures that were put in place at mass to help protect parishioners are now being gradually relaxed and mass is returning to a more normal format. We will need parishioners to participate in the mass again in the form of readers, greeters, and altar servers; and when it is permitted helping with children's liturgy and serving tea/coffee after mass. Please consider whether you would be able to offer help with any of these or with the more practical jobs such as: church cleaning, flower arranging, maintaining the church grounds.

Please either fill in and return the Helping Hands leaflet to church or contact Father Thomas directly to offer your help.

Thank you in anticipation.

**Please complete and return Helping Hands Form**

**October****Month of the Holy Rosary**

**On the Sundays of October, there will be October devotions with the Rosary and Benediction at St. Mary Barnard Castle, 5.30pm**

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

