

St Osmund's Catholic Church, Gainford

Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle

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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, 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.

Children's Liturgy at home

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](#)

Please Pray for:

The sick of the Parish: Pat Avison, Christopher Smith, Patrick Doherty, Joan Towers, Toni Neville, Ian Burns and Nico Human.

Celebrating the gifts of the Holy Spirit: A Mass for Pentecost

Date: Saturday 28th May 2022 Time: 1:00 pm

Venue: The Cathedral Church of St Mary Clayton Street West, Newcastle Upon Tyne, NE1 5HH

Other information: 1:00 pm Praise and worship 1:20 pm Mass

After the Mass members of the Charismatic Diocesan Service of Communion will offer a Pentecost blessing.



6th Sunday of Easter

22nd May

Theme: Peace

A peace the world cannot give is my gift to you Jesus said to his disciples:

May - The Month of Our Lady

Crowning of Our Lady. As we celebrate May as the month of Mary, at the end of Mass today we will crown the statue of Our Lady as a sign of our love for her as our mother and queen.

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

**Feast of the Ascension- Thursday 26th May
Parish Mass 12.00 noon**

The Catholic Bishops of England and Wales have reintroduced the Sunday Obligation to attend Mass from Pentecost Sunday

See details at the back of this bulletin

Peace for the people of Ukraine

We continue to pray earnestly for peace in Ukraine, joining the Holy Father in his consecration of Russia and Ukraine to Our Lady's Immaculate Heart – may her prayers bring a swift end to the conflict, and consolation to the bereaved and to the many thousands of refugees.

Children's Liturgy

There are weekly sheets with activities for children available at the back of church. They can be used by children during the service.

There will be a Children's Liturgy on Sunday 29th May

Tea & Coffee after Mass

As we are able to continue relaxing our Covid measure and progress safely toward normality; our weekly tea and coffee has been able to resume following the 9.30 Mass – all are most welcome to join this moment of fellowship as a parish.

Bulletin available online at: www.stosmunds.co.uk

First reading Acts 15:1-2,22-29

It has been decided by the Spirit and by ourselves not to burden you with any burden beyond these essentials. Some men came down from Judaea and taught the brothers, 'Unless you have yourselves circumcised in the tradition of Moses you cannot be saved.' This led to disagreement, and after Paul and Barnabas had had a long argument with these men it was arranged that Paul and Barnabas and others of the church should go up to Jerusalem and discuss the problem with the apostles and elders.

Then the apostles and elders decided to choose delegates to send to Antioch with Paul and Barnabas; the whole church concurred with this. They chose Judas known as Barsabbas and Silas, both leading men in the brotherhood, and gave them this letter to take with them:

'The apostles and elders, your brothers, send greetings to the brothers of pagan birth in Antioch, Syria and Cilicia. We hear that some of our members have disturbed you with their demands and have unsettled your minds. They acted without any authority from us; and so we have decided unanimously to elect delegates and to send them to you with Barnabas and Paul, men we highly respect who have dedicated their lives to the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. Accordingly we are sending you Judas and Silas, who will confirm by word of mouth what we have written in this letter. It has been decided by the Holy Spirit and by ourselves not to saddle you with any burden beyond these essentials: you are to abstain from food sacrificed to idols; from blood, from the meat of strangled animals and from fornication. Avoid these, and you will do what is right. Farewell.'

Responsorial Psalm 66(67):2-3,5-6,8

Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you.

O God, be gracious and bless us
and let your face shed its light upon us.
So will your ways be known upon earth
and all nations learn your saving help.

Let the nations be glad and exult
for you rule the world with justice.
With fairness you rule the peoples,
you guide the nations on earth.

Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.
May God still give us his blessing
till the ends of the earth revere him.

Second reading Apocalypse 21:10-14,22-23

He showed me the holy city coming down out of heaven

In the spirit, the angel took me to the top of an enormous high mountain and showed me Jerusalem, the holy city, coming down from God out of heaven. It had all the radiant glory of God and glittered like some precious jewel of crystal-clear diamond. The walls of it were of a great height, and had twelve gates; at each of the twelve gates there was an angel, and over the gates were written the names of the twelve tribes of Israel; on the east there were three gates, on the north three gates, on the south three gates, and on the west three gates. The city walls stood on twelve foundation stones, each one of which bore the name of one of the twelve apostles of the Lamb.

I saw that there was no temple in the city since the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb were themselves the temple, and the city did not need the sun or the moon for light, since it was lit by the radiant glory of God and the Lamb was a lighted torch for it.

Gospel Acclamation Jn14:23

Alleluia, alleluia!

Jesus said: 'If anyone loves me he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we shall come to him.' **Alleluia!**

Gospel John 14:23-29

A peace the world cannot give is my gift to you

Jesus said to his disciples:

'If anyone loves me he will keep my word,
and my Father will love him,
and we shall come to him and make our home with him.
Those who do not love me do not keep my words.
And my word is not my own:

it is the word of the one who sent me.

I have said these things to you while still with you;
but the Advocate, the Holy Spirit,
whom the Father will send in my name,
will teach you everything
and remind you of all I have said to you.

Peace I bequeath to you, my own peace I give you,
a peace the world cannot give,
this is my gift to you.

Do not let your hearts be troubled or afraid.

You heard me say: I am going away, and shall return.

If you loved me you would have been glad to know that
I am going to the Father,
for the Father is greater than I.

I have told you this now before it happens,
so that when it does happen you may believe.'

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Reflection on the Readings**6th Sunday of Easter****22nd May**

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.

A goodbye

French vocabulary is sometimes more precise than English. "Goodbye" is a case in point. The French use Au revoir for those everyday temporary separations, while Adieu is reserved strictly for final departures; it means roughly "until we meet in heaven." Life is a succession of Au revours and Adieus. The number of the latter grows with the passing years. Our hearts and memories are peopled with faces that once were dear to us. Some, like our parents, died. Others moved away out of our lives never to reappear again. If their names crop up in conversation we say, "I wonder what became of so-and-so." They may say the same about us too. Life is a series of little deaths until our own death which for us will be the last great Adieu. We are, as never before, a pilgrim people, on the move. We need faithful friends who travel with us. In today's gospel, Jesus alerts his disciples to his imminent departure, his ascension into heaven. He doesn't say Adieu but Au revoir. "I am going away, but I shall return." We never really say goodbye to God, for God always goes with us. Notice how immigrants who leave their families, friends, language and cultures and settle, often penniless and in a hostile environment, on the other side of the globe, begin by building houses of worship. Such was the case with the Irish in America or Australia. Such is the case today with immigrant Muslims building mosques all over Europe. God is what they cling on to. God keeps his promise to be with us always. He will always keep his side of the bargain. It is up to us to keep ours. And when we come to the end of our pilgrimage here and have to make our last goodbye, it will be literally Adieu, "going to God." associationofcatholicpriests.ie

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

Corpus Christi

Sunday 19 June is the feast of *Corpus Christi*, as he mentioned in his recent pastoral letter, Bishop Robert is organising a diocesan celebration of this great feast. There will be Adoration, a Procession, and Benediction given at Ushaw beginning at 3pm; he hopes that it will draw people from right across the diocese as a sign of our gathering together in love for our Eucharistic Lord.

Feast Days this week

Wednesday 25th May: St. Bede the Venerable

Thursday 26th May: The Ascension of the Lord

Friday 27th May: St. Augustine of Canterbury

**The Cycle of Prayer
New Members of the Church**

In many communities and dioceses the Easter Season is a privileged time to celebrate the Sacraments of First Communion and Baptism.

Prayer

Father,

*you give your Church
constant growth*

*by adding new members
to your family.*

*Help us put into action
in our lives*

the baptism

we have received in faith

Roman Missal

Accommodation for Ukrainian Refugees

Thank you for your generous support for the emergency relief appeal during Lent, this raised £280 which has been passed on to Caritas Ukraine.

The Parish Pastoral Council met to discuss the possibility of making a direct and practical contribution to ease the suffering of innocent Ukrainians. As the first floor flat of the presbytery, and another parish-owned property in the village are currently vacant; it was felt that these should be offered to house Ukrainian refugees. We are working to make sure that they are suitably furnished &c., and we have registered them with the Diocese which is working to match-up refugees with suitable accommodation. We are confident that the parish would provide a strong welcome to refugees. Further appeals may be forthcoming to assist with the various practicalities.

Mystagogical Catechesis and The Year of the Eucharist – Part 5

We have reflected on the way that the first part of the Mass fulfils two functions: like all worship it gives glory to God, but it also prepares the faithful for what will come next. It gathers individuals into the worshipping congregation, they turn their hearts and minds to God in repentance, they hear his word, and offer prayers for the good of all. Having been prepared, we now move into the Liturgy of the Eucharist, where the actual sacramental part of the service takes place.

In many ways the Liturgy of the Word is easy for us to understand. That we read from the Bible to hear and learn about God's word is intuitive. But as we enter into the Liturgy of the Eucharist it takes a bit more unpacking to grasp what's happening. The Liturgy of the Eucharist has four elements, each of which 'does' something slightly different: the Offertory, the Eucharistic Prayer, the Communion Rite, the thanksgiving.

The Offertory is when bread and wine are placed on the altar. This can seem like an almost trivial point – clearly they need to be placed there, but it might not seem like a major point, rather just a simple piece of logistics. However, there is something more significant going on, because these are not merely being placed there, but they are being offered to God ready for their consecration.

In a sacrifice, something is taken and set apart – this is the origin of the word 'holy', something which is set apart for a particular

sacred purpose. By giving something to God we acknowledge that we are taking something which we only have because of his goodness, we aren't able to give anything to him which isn't already his (e.g., see Psalm 49/50 verse 10 "For every beast of the forest is mine, the cattle on a thousand hills").

As the Priest prepares the bread and wine to be offered, the faithful should also prepare for the sacrifice; in particular prepare for the sacrifice which they make of themselves. The true sacrifice of the Mass is not bread and wine, but Christ himself into which the bread and wine are transformed; those who wish to unite themselves to Christ also offer themselves to God as a living sacrifice. The offertory can be a moment to consider how we are offering ourselves to God, how we are making our selves set-apart, holy.

This rite concludes with the Priest asking for the prayers of the people. He specifically makes reference to 'my sacrifice and yours' – the sacrifice which he is offering (which will become Christ's Body and Blood) is linked to the sacrifice which all present make of themselves.

The preparation has now been made. The congregation prepared through the Liturgy of the Word, and the oblations (the bread and wine to be offered) have been prepared by the Offertory. The Priest can now proceed to the Eucharistic Prayer, by which the great mystery of the Eucharist is made real. **Fr. Thomas.**

Sunday Mass obligation

During the pandemic the Bishops of England & Wales decided that the obligation to hear Mass on Sundays and other major holy days should be suspended – it was not reasonable to expect that the Catholic faithful all gather in those circumstances. They have decided that as matters have improved, particularly given high levels of vaccination, it is appropriate for the obligation to be reintroduced beginning on Pentecost (Sunday 5 June).

In doing this the Bishops note that it applies to gathering for Mass, and that watching it via a live-stream does not fulfil the obligation. Very importantly, they also stress that the obligation does not require us to do that which is impossible or to risk our safety; and therefore where people are unable to attend Mass, they should feel no guilt at all about missing it; where people feel safe enough to return to Mass, similarly they are not bound by the obligation (for such people, the availability of streamed Masses will be a great benefit). The obligation is fulfilled by attending any Catholic Mass on either a Saturday evening or all day Sunday, even where this is not a Mass of the Sunday (e.g., a wedding Mass on Saturday evening would still fulfil the obligation).

Full details of the Bishops' resolution are available on the diocesan web-site: <https://diocesehn.org.uk/news/returning-to-mass-at-pentecost/>



Best wishes for a safe, happy and healthy week ahead

Laudato Si' Week

Laudato si' is the second encyclical of Pope Francis. The encyclical has the subtitle "on care for our common home". "The urgent challenge to protect our common home includes a concern to bring the whole human family together to seek a sustainable and integral development, for we know that things can change. The Creator does not abandon us; he never forsakes his loving plan or repents of having created us. Humanity still has the ability to work together in building our common home..... I urgently appeal, then, for a new dialogue about how we are shaping the future of our planet....All of us can cooperate as instruments of God for the care of creation, each according to his or her own culture." **Pope Francis**

The full encyclical can be found on the Vatican website www.vatican.va [Click here](#)

Pope Francis invites Catholic communities around the world to participate in Laudato Si' Week 2022 from May 22-29.

The weeklong global event will mark the seventh anniversary of Pope Francis' landmark encyclical on creation care and unite the world's 1.3 billion Catholics to listen and respond to the cry of God's creation. We will celebrate Laudato Si' week within our Diocese by holding a Mass at St Mary's Cathedral at 7pm on Monday May 23. Bishop Robert will preside at the Mass and Fr Chris Hughes will give the homily on hearing the cry of the poor and the earth. Music will be provided by pupils from Sacred Heart High School, Fenham. Everyone is welcome to attend this special Mass focusing on creation care.