

Our Lady of Light & Saint Osyth

“Let us love Christ.

Then the name of Christ will burst forth from within us with impellent desire, with fervour, with divine eros.

We shall shout His name secretly, without spoken words. Let us stand before God in adoration, humbly, and in the footsteps of Christ – that Christ may free us from every trace of our fallen nature. Let us ask for tears to be given to us before prayer. But be careful! ‘Do not let your right hand know what the left is doing.’ Pray with contrition: ‘Am I worthy for You to give such grace, O Christ?’ And then these tears become tears of gratitude. I am deeply moved; I have not done the will of God, but I ask for His mercy.”

~ Saint Porphyrios ~



“If you wish, you can be a slave of passions, and if you wish, you can remain free and not submit to their yoke; for God has created you with that power.”

~ St Antony the Great ~

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“Silence is difficult, but it makes man able to allow himself to be led by God. Silence is born of silence. Through God the silent One, we can gain access to silence. And man is unceasingly surprised by the light that bursts forth then. Silence is more important than any other human work. For it expresses God. The true revolution comes from silence; it leads us toward God and others so as to place ourselves humbly and generously at their service.”

~ Cardinal Robert Sarah ~

National Shrine of Our Lady of Light, Spouse of the Holy Spirit

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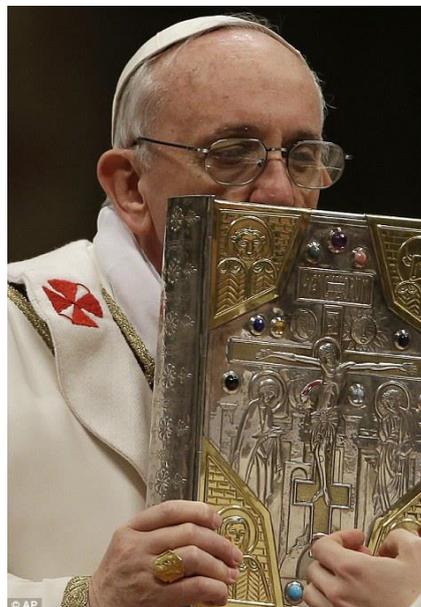
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THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER ~ 15TH APRIL, 2018

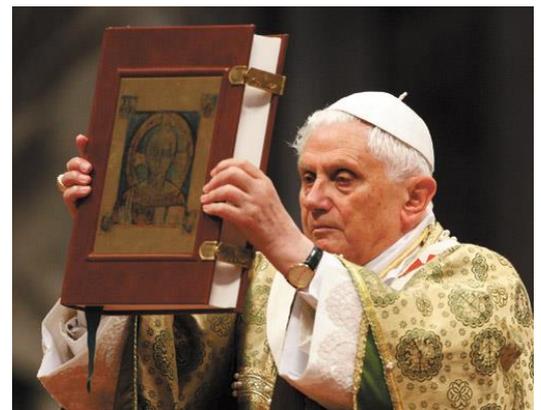
Canon Peter Writes...

Pope Francis catechesis on the Mass continued:

“The dialogue between God and his people, through the Liturgy of the Word of the Mass, culminates in the proclamation of the Gospel which helps us to understand the meaning of the biblical texts which preceded it. The liturgy distinguishes the Gospel from the other readings and surrounds it with particular honour and veneration: it is reserved to the ordained minister, who concludes by kissing the Book; it calls us to stand up to listen and to make the sign of the Cross on our forehead, our mouth and our breast; the candles and incense honour Christ, who, through the Gospel reading, makes His effective Word resonate. From these signs, the assembly recognises the presence of Christ who gives them the ‘Good News’ which converts and transforms. It is the Lord who is speaking to us.



“In the Mass we do not read the Gospel in order to know how things happened, but rather, we listen to the Gospel in order to realise what Jesus once did and said; and that Word is living, the Word of Jesus that is in the Gospel is alive and touches my heart. Therefore, listening to the Gospel is very important, with an open heart, because it is the living Word. Saint Augustine writes: ‘The Gospel is the mouth of Christ. He is seated in heaven, but He has not stopped speaking on earth’. If it is true that in the liturgy ‘Christ is still proclaiming His Gospel’, it follows that, by participating in the Mass, we must give Him a response. We listen to the Gospel and we must give a response in our life.





“In order to get His message across, Christ also makes use of the words of the priest who, after the Gospel, gives the homily which is taking up once more the dialogue which the Lord has already established with His people so it may find fulfilment in life. As the Word of the Lord enters through the ears, goes to the heart and passes to the hands, to good deeds, so the homily, following the Word of the Lord, should follow this path helping the Word of the Lord go to the hands, by passing through the heart. The homily should guide the assembly and the preacher to a life-changing communion with Christ in the Eucharist. The priest or deacon or the bishop who are ordained to preach must carry out his ministry well, by offering a real service to all those who participate in the Mass, but those who listen to it must also do their part. They ought to pay proper attention and assume the right interior disposition, without subjective criticisms, because every preacher has his merits and limitations. The preacher must be aware that he is not doing something of his own, but is giving

voice to Jesus; he is preaching the Word of Jesus. And the homily must be prepared well and it must be brief! It must be prepared with prayer, by studying the Word of God and by making a clear and brief summary.

“In conclusion we could say that in the Liturgy of the Word, through the Gospel and the homily, God dialogues with His people, who listen to Him with attention and veneration and, at the same time, recognise He is present and acting. Hence, if we listen to the ‘Good News’, we will be converted and transformed by it, and therefore capable of changing ourselves and the world. Why? Because the Good News, the Word of God, enters through the ears, goes to the heart and passes to the hands in order to do good deeds. *To be continued.*

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TEA AND COFFEE are available after the Sunday morning Masses. Everyone is welcome.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE REPOSE OF THE SOULS OF JEREMIAH CLIFFORD AND PATRICK O’NEAL who were called Home by God recently. Remember their families, too, in your prayers.

PARISH RENOVATION FUND Our **Second Collection** this weekend is for our Parish Renovation Fund. Do remember that if you are in the Gift Aid Scheme you can put your donation in any envelope with your personal Gift Aid number on and the parish will then claim back another 25% from ‘the tax man’ on your contribution.

IF YOU HAVE ANY UNWANTED JEWELLERY, no matter how battered and broken, please help the parish boost its funds by giving it to Julie Fitzgerald or the parish priest.

PARISH LOTTERY Bonus Ball No 28. Winner: Christina Grimsdale.

DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO WALSINGHAM FOR ALL AGES ~ 26TH MAY, 2018 Join Bishop Alan and other parishes around the Diocese of Brentwood in Walsingham as we honour Our Lady of Walsingham. We will celebrate Mass at the Basilica before walking the Holy Mile to the grounds of Walsingham Abbey to celebrate Vespers and Benediction on the site of the Holy House. If you would like to come please contact Theresa McCarron on 07824 996677 or email Shamrock0808@gmail.com. Alternatively hand your details on a piece of paper to Canon Peter, myself, or put it through the presbytery letterbox **by Sunday, 29th April with your fare money, £20**. This is a wonderful opportunity to meet other parishes within our diocese and celebrate as a community.

MASS FOR MIGRANTS Monday, 7th May (Bank Holiday Monday), 11.00am, Southwark Cathedral. For decades the Church has welcomed people from many shores, and this Mass celebrates the international diversity of our congregations. Celebrated by the Archbishop of Southwark, with our own Bishop Alan, and many priests and people from across London, Essex, Kent and Hertfordshire, this Mass is full of joy. All are welcome. More details on the poster at the back of the church.

From the Diary of Saint Faustina

“I adore You, Lord and Creator, hidden in the Blessed Sacrament. I adore You for all the works of Your hands, that reveal to me so much wisdom, goodness and mercy, O Lord. You have spread so much beauty over the earth, and it tells me about Your beauty, even though these beautiful things are but a faint reflection of You, Incomprehensible Beauty. And although You have hidden Yourself and concealed Your beauty, my eye, enlightened by faith, reaches You, and my soul recognizes its Creator, its Highest Good; and my heart is completely immersed in prayer of adoration. My Lord and Creator, Your goodness encourages me to converse with You. Your mercy abolishes the chasm which separates the Creator from the creature. To converse with You, O Lord, is the delight of my heart. In You I find everything that my heart could desire. Here Your light illumines my mind, enabling it to know You more and more deeply. Here streams of graces flow down upon my heart. Here my soul draws eternal life. O my Lord and Creator, You alone, beyond all these gifts, give Your own Self to me and unite Yourself intimately with Your miserable creature. Here, without searching for words, our hearts understand each other. Here, no one is able to interrupt our conversation. What I talk to You about, Jesus, is our secret, which creatures shall not know and Angels dare not ask about. These are secret acts of forgiveness, known only to Jesus and me; this is the mystery of His mercy, which embraces each soul separately. For this incomprehensible goodness of Yours, I adore You, O Lord and Creator, with all my heart and all my soul. And, although my worship is so little and poor, I am at peace because I know that You know it is sincere, however inadequate...” #1692

Saturday, 14 th April	9.45am-10.40am 9.45am 11.00am	CONFESSIONS Rosary, Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament & Midday Prayer Mass ~ Kevin Colman RIP (Sister Carmel)
	4.00pm-4.40pm 5.00pm	CONFESSIONS & Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament Vigil Mass ~ Mick Thurlow RIP (Brian Sorrell)
Sunday, 15 th April <i>3rd Sunday of Easter, Year B</i>	8.30am 10.30am	Mass ~ James Nicholls Intentions (Margaret Nicholls) Mass ~ Pat Killen Ints (Henley Family) & All Parishioners
Monday, 16 th April	9.45am	Novena to Our Lady, Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament & Midday Prayer
	11.00am	Mass ~ John & Clare Disney Intentions (T&C)
Tuesday, 17 th April to Thursday, 19 th April		<i>No Mass or Exposition</i>
Thursday, 19 th April	4.00pm	Reception of the body of Joan Hayter RIP
Friday, 20 th April	11.00am	Requiem Mass for Joan Hayter
Saturday, 21 st April <i>St Anselm of Canterbury</i>	9.00am 9.45am 10.10am-10.40am 11.00am 1.30pm	First Holy Communion Session beginning in the church Rosary, Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament & Midday Prayer CONFESSIONS Mass ~ Marie-Claire Intentions Mass in Malayalam preceded by the Rosary
	4.00pm-4.40pm 5.00pm	CONFESSIONS & Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament Vigil Mass ~ Vera Sweeny Intentions (Ellen Morrissey)
Sunday, 22 nd April <i>4th Sunday of Easter, Year B</i>	8.30am 10.30am 3.00pm	Mass ~ Ray Williams RIP (Williams Family) Mass ~ Joan Hayter RIP (Sister Carmel) & All Parishioners Secular Franciscan Meeting at St Clare's Convent

CHILDREN AND READING THE BIBLE

Don't say, "Bible-reading is for monks; am I turning my child into a monk?" No! It isn't necessary for him to be a monk. Make him into a Christian! Why are you afraid of something so good? It is necessary for everyone to know Scriptural teachings, and this is especially true for children. Even at their age they are exposed to all sorts of folly and bad examples from popular entertainments. Our children need remedies for all these things! We are so concerned with our children's schooling; if only we were equally zealous in bringing them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord! And then we wonder why we reap such bitter fruit when we have raised our children to be insolent, licentious, impious and vulgar. May this never happen; instead, let us heed the blessed Paul's admonition to bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord. Let us give them a pattern to imitate; from their earliest years let us teach them to study the Bible. ~ St John Chrysostom (c349-407AD)

SECRECY

The beginning of Judas' downfall was his secrecy. In the beginning of his discipleship, Judas Iscariot was, perhaps, more open, sharing with Jesus his thoughts, his dreams, his desires, and his fears. And then, little by little, Judas became disillusioned and jaded. He withdrew into himself. He dissimulated his temptations, his fears, his struggles, and his failures.

Something very similar happens when a soul stops going to confession, or confesses too infrequently, or puts off going to confession. One becomes accustomed to living with the sickness of one's secrets. One adjusts to living with them, and they poison us. This is something that the Church has always known. How important it is to lay bare our souls to a trusted spiritual father, to admit not only our sins, but also our temptations and our struggles. This act of humility disarms Satan, and renders him powerless. Only pride, and the secrecy that comes from pride and seeks to dissimulate sin, gives the Evil One a foothold in us. ~ Dom Mark Kirby

Useful Local Contacts: SVP telephone 07955203405 **HALL BOOKINGS** 01255 429032/hall@ourladyoflight.co.uk

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St Benedict's Catholic College Norman Way, Colchester CO3 3US, 01206 549222, www.stbenedicts.essex.sch.uk

~ *Items for the Newsletter to be delivered to the presbytery or by email by 10.00am on Wednesday* ~

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