



The Catholic Church of St Osmund, Barnes

Parish Priest: Fr Oladele Craig

Parish Secretary: Cath Brizzell. Tel:020 8748 5833 or barnes@rcaos.org.uk

Office Hours: 10:00am - 2:00pm Tues, Wed, & Fri.

79 Castelnau, Barnes, London SW13 9RT

Website: <https://stosmunds.parishportal.net/>

Mass Times

Sundays: 8.30am, 10.30am, 6.30pm

Weekdays: 10am Mon, Tues, Wed, Fri, Thurs (6.30pm), Sat (**Latin**) 10am

Confessions: Friday 9-9.50am, Sunday 9:45am –

10:15am & 6pm - 6:20pm

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament: Fri 9-10am

Baptisms and Weddings: Contact the Parish Office.

Sunday Newsletter

Mass Book p130

Sunday 1 February 2026

Sun 1 st Feb	8.30am Mass 10.30am Mass 6.30pm Mass	Daithi (David) Holland RIP Jorge and Sergio Esposa and family intentions Noel McCormack RIP	(g) Fourth Sunday (A)
Mon 2 nd Feb	10.00am Mass	Mothers' Prayer Group Intentions	(w) The Presentation of the Lord
Tues 3 rd Feb	10.00am Mass	Gladys, Daisy and Cynthia Smith RIP	(w) St Laurence of Canterbury
Wed 4 th Feb	10.00am Mass	Fr Anthony Logan RIP	(r) St Henry Morse
Thur 5 th Feb	6.30pm Mass	Pro-populo	(r) St Agatha
Fri 6 th Feb	10.00am Mass	Holy Souls	(r) Sts Paul Miki and companions
Sat 7 th Feb	10.00am Mass	Holy Souls	(w/g) The Blessed Virgin Mary
Sun 8 th Feb	8.30am Mass 10.30am Mass 6.30pm Mass	Mr George RIP Jacquie Raggert RIP Mary Gray RIP	(g) Fifth Sunday (A)

Looking towards Candlemas

Next Monday's Feast of the Presentation of the Lord invites us to approach this Sunday readings with a renewed awareness of the rhythm of salvation that we are living together. We find ourselves forty days after Christmas, and this passage of time gently draws us back to the wonder of the Nativity. The Presentation of the Lord stands as a sacred hinge between the hidden intimacy of Bethlehem and the first public recognition of Christ in the Temple. When Mary and Joseph go up to Jerusalem in obedience to the Law and offer the modest sacrifice of two turtledoves, we witness a pattern of humble fidelity that has enduring meaning for us. They acknowledge that the child entrusted to them belongs first to God. Through their example, we are reminded that the gifts and responsibilities entrusted to us are not possessions for personal claim but blessings meant to serve the purposes of God.

Within the Temple, the narrative opens further as Simeon and Anna emerge from the quiet shadows of prayer and perseverance. Simeon, who has waited patiently for the Consolation of Israel, takes the child into his arms and recognises in Him the light destined for all nations. In that moment, we too are drawn to recognise the far-reaching radiance of Christ's presence. Anna, whose long years of fasting and prayer have refined her hope, becomes a messenger of redemption for all who look for God with sincerity. Their witness reminds us that a discerning heart is formed over time, through steadfast devotion and a willingness to remain attentive to God's subtle movements.

From Simeon's proclamation of light arises the tradition we know as Candlemas. As we bless candles for the coming year, we are not simply taking part in a cherished custom. We are acknowledging the light of Christ

entrusted to us and committing ourselves to bear that light into the world. As winter's shadows begin to soften, we are urged not only to contemplate the light but to become its carriers in places where hope may be fragile.

In the light of this approaching feast, the Gospel for Sunday speaks with particular depth. The Beatitudes describe the qualities that shape a community capable of carrying Christ's light: humility, mercy, purity of heart, and a desire for righteousness. As we hold the Presentation of the Lord and the Beatitudes together, we recognise a single invitation addressed to us. We are called to welcome the light revealed in the Temple and to allow that same light to form our daily living through the path Christ sets before His disciples.

Parish Diary:

First Holy Communion: Sun 1 Feb, 9am (Hall) and 5pm (Church).

Confirmation: Sun 25 Jan 4.30pm (Hall).

Catholicism for the Curious: Mon 2 Feb, 6:30pm (Hall).

Preparation Session for Parents of FHC and Confirmation Candidates: Thurs, 5 Feb, 7:15 pm (Church).

Feast of the Presentation of the Lord (Candlemas)

Tomorrow, Monday, we celebrate the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord, traditionally known as Candlemas. Although this is not a strict holy day of obligation, it is a feast of the Lord, and all are warmly encouraged to attend Mass if possible. As is customary on this feast, candles will be blessed during the liturgy. These candles symbolise Christ, the light of the nations, and their blessing is a cherished moment in the life of the Church. All parishioners are invited to take part in this celebration as we honour the mystery revealed when the infant Christ was brought to the Temple.

Evening Session for Parents of FHC and Confirmation Candidates

A reminder to all parents whose children are preparing for First Holy Communion or Confirmation that there will be a formation session for parents in the church on **Thursday, 5 February, at 7:15 pm**, following the evening Mass.

Attendance is obligatory for at least one parent of each candidate, as important material and guidance will be provided for the months ahead. This session is strictly for parents, so we ask that children are not brought to the meeting. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.

Praying for Our Confirmandis

As our young people prepare to receive the fullness of the Holy Spirit in the Sacrament of Confirmation, we are invited as a parish community to hold each candidate in prayer. We are asking individuals and families to commit to praying intentionally for one specific candidate during these weeks of preparation. On your way out after Mass, envelopes will be available. Each envelope contains the name of a candidate and a simple set of prayer points. Please take one as you leave the church and remember this young person in your prayers from now until the Confirmation Mass in April. Your spiritual support is a very real gift to them and to the parish.

Archdiocesan Pilgrimages for Young Adults

Young adults (aged 18 to 35) are invited to join Archbishop John on pilgrimage to Lourdes, from 7 to 13 June 2026. The cost is £789, which includes flights and full-board accommodation on a shared basis. To book, please visit: www.tinyurl.com/lourdes26

National Year of Reading - Parish Book Club

This year has been designated the National Year of Reading, an initiative intended to reconnect reading with the interests that already enrich our lives, from music and sport to film, food, and family life. As a parish, we are exploring the possibility of taking part in this campaign. There is a particular desire to foster a parish reading group or book club, working with the parish priest, which would gently encourage the expansion of our reading habits into works that engage thoughtfully with the life of faith, theology, and Christian spirituality.

Anyone who might be willing to assist in helping to shape, organise, or coordinate this initiative should speak with Father Ola after Mass, or contact the parish office by email. The commitment would not be onerous, and there is ample scope for creativity in how such a group might take form. Many thanks in advance for your interest and generosity.

Sick List

For the sick and the suffering especially Paddy Grafton-Green, James and Audrey Smith, Phyllis O'Kelly, John Scott, Janet Waddington, Andrew Brodrick-Ward, Joan Moore, Maureen Carr, Eddie Henshaw, and Charles Stiller.

In Remembrance

For those who have died recently, and those whose anniversaries occur around this time: Adrinna McDonald, Elizabeth McKenzie, Alfred Mannicks, Derek Mannicks, Camilla Codrington, Tim O'Connell, Mary and Sonnie O'Connell, David Crewe-Read, Juliette Qobty-Aboud and Patrick O'Neill.

Alma Redemptoris Mater

*Alma Redemptoris Mater, quæ pèrvia cæli
Porta manes, et stella maris, succùrre cadénti,
Súrgere qui curat pòpulo: tu quæ genuísti,
Natùra miránte, tuum sanctum Genítórem
Virgo prius ac postérius, Gabriélis ab ore
Sumens illud Ave, peccatórum miserére.*

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Account #: 11311096

Account Name - Barnes St Osmund Main Account