



A warm welcome to

The Catholic Church of St Osmund in Barnes

Sunday 13 September | Twenty-Fourth Sunday | Mass Book p128

MASS INTENTIONS & FEASTS

SUNDAY 13th Sept

Twenty-Fourth Sunday (A) (g)

8:30am Mark O'Connor RIP

10:30am Pro-populo

6:30pm Holy Souls

MONDAY 14th Sept

The Exaltation of The Holy Cross (r)

Holy Souls

TUESDAY 15th Sept

Our Lady of Sorrows (w)

Nicóla Sforza RIP

WEDNESDAY 16th Sept

Sts Cornelius and Cyprian (r)

Holy Souls

THURSDAY 17th Sept

St Robert Bellarmine (w)

Holy Souls

FRIDAY 18th Sept

St Edith of Kemsing (w)

Holy Souls

SATURDAY 19th Sept

The Blessed Virgin Mary (w/g)

Holy Souls

SUNDAY 20th Sept

Twenty-Fifth Sunday (A) (g)

8:30am Georgina Chevallier
RIP

10:30am Mary Donovan RIP

6:30pm Pro-populo

(r) red (g) green (w) white (p) purple

A word from the presbytery...

The Gospel for the Twenty-fourth Sunday comes from Matthew 18, a chapter concerned with the character of life within the community of Christ's disciples. Jesus has spoken about seeking the one who has wandered, restoring a brother who has caused offence, and the communal work of reconciliation. Peter's question therefore arises naturally: "How often must I forgive my brother?" Yet its precision remains intriguing. Why seven times? Had someone repeatedly injured him? Or did Peter want to know when mercy had fulfilled its obligation and he might justly say, "Enough"?

Jesus answers by telling of a servant released from an unimaginable debt who then violently demands a far smaller sum from a fellow servant. Our instinct condemns him, and rightly so. Yet his behaviour may be more recognisably human than we care to admit. Perhaps, having nearly lost his freedom and family, he is desperate to recover financial security. Fear drives him back towards the familiar world of accounts, demands and repayment.

His decisive failure is deeper than ingratitude. He treats the mercy he has received as an isolated escape, rather than as an experience capable of reshaping his life. The biblical scholar Ulrich Luz observes that the parable concerns the necessary connection between God's forgiveness and the forgiveness extended to others.

R. T. France similarly argues that the servant's failure lies in receiving mercy without allowing it to transform his treatment of others. He has been released from a debt he could never repay, but his freedom never enters his imagination.

Three lessons follow. First, forgiveness begins in memory. We forgive, not because another person's offence is trivial, but because we remember how generously God has dealt with us. The servant remembers that his debt has disappeared, yet forgets what its cancellation means.

Secondly, mercy must enter ordinary decisions. We may thank God for his goodness in prayer while continuing to measure people by their failures, usefulness or debts to us. Grace becomes fruitful when it passes from worship into conversation, family life, judgement and action.

Thirdly, forgiveness requires a transformed imagination. Peter asks for a number because numbers provide a limit. Christ offers a life no longer governed by calculation. This does not deny injury, abolish responsibility or forbid wise boundaries. It means that injury does not possess the final word.

Perhaps our difficulty in forgiving reveals that we have not recognised the mercies already surrounding us. The Lord's magnanimity is not merely something that happens to us. It is meant to continue through us.



PARISH NOTICES

Lawrence Dunham is off to Rome:

On Tuesday, Lawrence, our resident seminarian, will leave for the Venerable English College in Rome to begin his first year of formation for the priesthood. The VEC is one of the seminaries to which the bishops of England and Wales send men for priestly formation. There, Lawrence will join other seminarians from other various English dioceses who are already undertaking their formation at the College. We wish Lawrence every blessing as he embarks on his formation journey. Please keep him and all our seminarians in your prayers, that they may grow in friendship with Christ and receive the grace of perseverance in responding faithfully to his call.

The Season of the Care of Creation: Living Water

Throughout September, we join Christians around the world celebrating the Season of Creation, a time to dedicate prayer and practical commitment to the care of our natural world. This year's theme, Living Water, reminds us of the gift of water and the importance of ensuring access to clean water and sanitation for all. We will be supporting WaterAid through donations in the narthex or online ('Care of Creation – Water Aid' tab) and continuing our Toilet Twinning project (www.toilettwinning.org). We hope to raise funds for the remaining hall toilets at a coffee morning after 1030 mass this Sunday. Toilet Twinning is a charity that helps fund safe toilets in vulnerable communities by encouraging people to 'twin' toilets with one in a developing country.

Let Us Pray Together

Join us on Monday 14 September, at 6.30 pm in the church, for an evening of prayer. Using Bishop Robert Barron's Rosary video series, we shall pray the Rosary together, followed by Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, closing with Benediction. Come and know the peace and grace of prayer in the presence of the Lord.



NEWS FROM THE ARCHDIOCESE & BEYOND

St Osmunds Parish Youth Club - Launching Sunday 20th September, 4:30pm

After several months of careful preparation, we are delighted to announce the launch of our Parish Youth Club, which begins this Sunday the 20th of September at 4:30pm in the parish hall. This is a space where the young members of our congregation can come together, build friendships, enjoy themselves, and grow in their love for Christ — in short, a place to flourish. The club is open to all parishioners aged twelve and above who have not yet reached eighteen, and sessions will take place during term time. All coordinators and facilitators are members of our own parish community. We warmly encourage parents of young people in this age group to consider enrolling their children in what we hope will become a cherished and lasting part of parish life. To register, please follow the link below or scan the QR code.



Synod update - Can You Represent Our Parish?

The Synod on Synodality has reached its third phase, Implementation, which runs until December 2026. Parishes across the Archdiocese are being asked to consider how synodality — listening, praying and discerning together — already shapes our life as a community, and how it might be strengthened in the service of the Church's mission. Sadly, we sent no delegate to the summer gatherings. Would anyone be willing to represent us at the online meeting with Archbishop John Wilson on 26 November at 7.30pm, and keep the parish informed? Resources are available at aec.rcaos.org.uk/synod-implementation. Please speak to me after Mass.



PARISH DIARY

Pray the Rosary:

Mon 14 September: 6.30pm (Church)

Mothers' Prayers Group:

Tues 15 September: 10:30am (Presbytery)

Parish Youth Club:

Sunday 20th September: 4:30pm (Hall)

St Osmunds Reading Club:

Wed 14 October September: 7pm
(Presbytery) - (Next book is *The Finest Hotel in Kabul: Lyse Doucet*). All welcome.

Secondary School Applications: Certificate of Catholic Practice

We have received a number of enquiries from parents regarding the Certificate of Catholic Practice for children applying to Catholic secondary schools this autumn. We wish to assure all concerned families that this process has not yet commenced at St Osmund's: parents will be notified in good time when we are ready to proceed. In the meantime, please keep an eye on the newsletter and parish notices for further announcements.

Volunteer Opportunity: Parish Hall Supervisor

Our Parish is looking for a friendly and organised volunteer to manage our parish hall bookings. The volunteer role involves responding to hire enquiries, showing prospective hirers around the facilities, coordinating dates to avoid clashes with parish events, and ensuring that the relevant hire and payment forms are submitted. After each hire, the Supervisor carries out a brief inspection before authorising the return of the deposit. Approximately 3-4 hours per week are required, all necessary training is provided, and the role would particularly suit someone who is semi-retired or looking for a gentle return to work. If you are interested, please contact the parish office at or speak with Father Ola after Mass.



PRAYER LIST

For those parishioners who are unwell, especially:

Audrey Smith	John Scott
Andrew Brodrick-Ward	Joan Moore
Phyllis O'Kelly	Charles Stiller
Janet Waddington	Maureen Carr
David Stabb	Nora Timmins



IN REMEMBRANCE

For those who have died recently, and those whose anniversaries occur around this time:

Canon Jeremiah Cronin	Robina Brown
Jonathan Goodall	Patrick Hayes
Leonard Brajou	Edward Ryan
Lily McLoughlin	Vera Strobera
Margueritte Glennie	Julie Dean
Patsy Crudden	Jim Carr
John Kennedy	



USEFUL INFORMATION

Tea, coffee and cake!

Join us in the Church Hall every Sunday after the 10:30am Mass. Donations welcome.

Car parking

Limited car parking is available at the back of the church.

Recycling

Parish recycling is co-ordinated by the Green Team. Please contact the parish office if you would like to get involved.

Food bank collections

Items for our local food bank can be placed in the container in the Narthex.

Homemade jam and marmalade

Made by one of parishioners, these are available to purchase in the Narthex. Cash or contactless payments welcome.

Sunday Mass Times

8:30am, 10:30am, 6:30pm

Weekday Mass Times

Mon, Tues, Wed, Fri 10:00am

Thurs 6:30pm

Sat (Latin) 10:00am

Confessions

Fri 9:00-9:50am

Sun 9:45-10:15am & 6:00-6:20pm

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Fri 9:00-10:00am

For baptisms, weddings and Mass intentions, please contact the Parish Office



SALVE REGINA

Salve Regina, mater misericordiae, vita, dulcedo, et spes nostra salve. Ad te clamamus, exules filii Evae. Ad te suspiramus, gementes et flentes, in hac lacrimarum valle. Eia ergo, advocate nostra, illos tuos misericordes oculos, ad nos converte. Et Jesum, benedictum fructum ventris tui, nobis post hoc exilium ostende. O Clemens, o pia, o dulcis virgo Maria.



THE POPE'S MONTHLY INTENTION

For the care of water:

Let us pray for a just and sustainable management of water, a vital resource, so that everyone may have equal access to it.



PARISH GIVING

Thank you for supporting St Osmund's. Your generosity helps maintain our church and sustain parish life.

Full details on all ways to give, including standing orders and Give As You Live (donations when you shop online) can be found on our website or by using the QR code below.

If you are eligible, please consider Gift Aid, which increases your donation by 25% at no extra cost.

Contactless payments: We have several payment portals in the Narthex for easy, instant donations.

BANK DETAILS

Account name:

Barnes St Osmund Main Account

Sort code: 60-01-39

Account number: 11311096

Reference: Surname/Donation Purpose



SECOND COLLECTION

Catholic Education Service (CES)

Today's collection will be for the Catholic Education Service which acts on behalf of the Catholic Bishops' Conference to support Catholic education. The Catholic Church and the Church of England together provide one-third of all the schools in the country. There are over 2000 Catholic schools, academies and colleges in England and Wales educating over 800,000 students. The CES is the chief negotiating and advisory body on all matters relating to Catholic education. For more information see: (<https://www.catholiceducation.org.uk/>)

Parish Priest: Father Oladele Craig | Parish Administrator: Cath Brizzell

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

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