



The Catholic Church of St Osmund, Barnes

Parish Priest: Fr Oladele Craig

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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.

Christ the King (C) Mass Book p 167 Sunday 23 November 2025

Sun 23 rd Nov	8.30am Mass 10.30am Mass 6.30pm Mass	Jadwiga Langiewicz RIP Laszlo Gibbons Phoebe Buchanan RIP	(w) Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe (C)
Mon 24 th Nov	10.00am Mass	Justine Estaphanos RIP/ For the welfare of Josephine Estaphanos	(r) Sts Andrew Dung-Lac and companions
Tues 25 th Nov	10.00am Mass	John Buchanan RIP	(r) St Catherine of Alexandria
Wed 26 th Nov	10.00am Mass	Rudolph Messel RIP	(g) Feria
Thur 27 th Nov	6.30pm Mass	Holy Souls	(g) Feria
Fri 28 th Nov	10.00am Mass	Holy Souls	(g) Feria
Sat 29 th Nov	10.00am Mass	Colm McAtarsney RIP	(r) Sts Cuthbert Mayne and companions
Sun 30 th Nov	8.30am Mass 10.30am Mass 6.30pm Mass	Susan Cuss RIP Leonora Messel RIP Raymond Hallet RIP	(p) First Sunday of Advent (A)

Christ the Universal King

The Solemnity of Christ the King, instituted by Pope Pius XI in 1925 through the encyclical *Quas Primas*, emerged as the Church's response to a world increasingly rejecting divine authority. Confronted by secularism, totalitarian ideologies, and the relegation of Christ to the sphere of private devotion, the Holy Father proclaimed that Christ, the Incarnate God, holds universal sovereignty over all creation, nations, and human hearts. This feast invites us to contemplate not merely a theological abstraction, but the concrete implications of Christ's dominion over every aspect of our existence.

We are indeed fortunate in this realm to possess a living connection to the ancient concept of monarchy. The institution of kingship, properly understood, entails a relationship of profound depth between sovereign and subject, one largely forgotten in our democratic age.

At the coronation of King Charles, a young chorister greeted him with the words: 'Your Majesty, as children of the Kingdom of God we welcome you in the name of the King of Kings.' The King then replied: "In his name, and after his example, I come not to be served but to serve."

In these words, the liturgy placed the earthly monarch under the higher sovereignty of Christ. This acclamation reminds us that all earthly authority derives from and is subordinate to a higher power; the eternal throne of Christ.

In ages past, the monarch's dominion was total and absolute. All property within the realm belonged to the Crown; subjects held their lands and goods merely at the sovereign's pleasure. The king possessed the power to require any possession, to grant or withdraw freedom, even to decree life or death. This is the authentic extent of royal authority, the fullness of earthly dominion.

Yet when we contemplate Christ's kingship, we encounter a profound paradox. Here is a King who submitted to execution, who bore insults in silence, whose kingship was acknowledged only by a common thief hanging beside Him on Calvary. The crown offered was plaited with thorns; the throne, a cross; the sceptre, a reed of mockery. Even in His Passion, the King of Kings reveals that His dominion operates not through coercion but through love.

Herein lies the revolution of Christ's sovereignty: power utterly transformed by charity. His dominion demands not our possessions but our hearts; not our servile fear but our willing love. The King who could command legions of angels chose instead the way of self-emptying service. This is the kingdom we proclaim - eternal, universal, and founded upon the triumph of sacrificial love over every earthly power.

Holy Souls Masses in November

The Book of Remembrance remains in the Narthex for parishioners to inscribe the names of their departed loved ones, who will be remembered at all Masses throughout November. Envelopes are available for those who wish to include names together with Mass offerings. Please return these to the Parish Office.

World Youth Sunday

Today is World Youth Sunday. Our second collection will especially support the work of the Southwark Catholic Youth Service, which provides a variety of activities for youth and young adults. For more information, visit (www.tinyurl.com/scys1) or join the Southwark Catholic Youth network for regular updates at (www.tinyurl.com/scysnetwork).

Adult Prayer Group meeting

You are warmly invited to join us for a simple prayer session to help prepare our hearts for the Advent season, guided by Sophie Saunderson who will lead us in praying with the Sunday readings in the Ignatian tradition. The group will meet on 3 consecutive Fridays (28 Nov, 5 and 12 Dec), after the morning Mass in the Presbytery at 79 Castelnau. All who wish to take part are most welcome.

Parish Vision Meetings

The final session will take place on Thursday 27 November at 7.15 pm, after the evening Mass, in the Church Hall. All parishioners are warmly encouraged to attend to help shape a pastoral and communal vision for the Parish. Please read the summary of our earlier consultation beforehand (linked here). Your presence and reflections will help shape the future direction of our parish community in Barnes.

Confirmation Programme 2026

Parents who have registered their children for the 2026 Confirmation Preparation Programme are reminded that they will meet with the programme coordinators and catechists on Sunday 30 November, immediately after the 6.30 pm Mass, in the Church Hall. **Attendance at this meeting is essential in order to access the programme.** Parents who have not yet registered but wish to do so are invited to complete the online form through this link: (<https://forms.gle/7seV57AN7PpkQBxs7>).

Catholicism for the Curious

Those who have already signed up will have received correspondence about the sessions, which begin on Monday 1 December, from 6.30 pm to 8.00 pm. The invitation remains open to anyone who would like to explore the Catholic Faith more deeply, whether considering becoming Catholic or simply wishing to grow in understanding. A sign-up sheet is available at the back of the Church for those who would like to join the programme.

First Holy Communion Preparation Session

A reminder that parents who have registered their children for the First Holy Communion preparation will meet the programme co-ordinators on Thurs 4 Dec at 7pm in the Church Hall. **Attendance at this meeting is essential, and it is for parents only.** Children are not expected to attend. If you haven't yet registered your child, please use the link: (<https://forms.office.com/e/m09xvZzw67?origin=lprLink>.)

'Art and Faith Lecture' Series 2

Dr Teresa Lane, Art Historian and Lecturer, will deliver the second edition of our Advent Art and Faith series on Thurs 11 Dec at 7.15pm in the church hall. Her lecture, The Birth of Christ - through the eyes of classic painting and other works of art, will explore how master painters across the centuries have portrayed the mystery of the Nativity. All are welcome to attend, whether rooted in faith or simply curious. Refreshments will be served, and donations welcomed.

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, Susan Kelsey, Maureen Carr, Eddie Henshaw, Charles Stiller, and Bridget Jabour.

In Remembrance

For those who have died recently, and all those whose anniversaries occur around this time: Susan Sardell, John Gibbons, Richard O'Mahoney, Bridget Keane, Diana Thompson, Pamela Carrigan, Julia Sullivan, Stephen Kiselick and Carlos Jose-Menendez.

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 exsiliu ostende. O Clemens, o pia, o dulcis virgo Maria.

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Please use the QR code below to make a contactless donation to the parish.



You can also set-up a one-off donation or stipend online directly from your bank. Use the following details and include your surname and type of donation in the reference field. (ie Surname/Mass Intention, Surname/FHC, Surname/General Donation)

Name of Bank: Natwest

Sort Code: 600139

Account #: 11311096

Account Name - Barnes St Osmund Main Account