



A warm welcome to

The Catholic Church of St Osmund in Barnes

Sunday 22nd February 2026 | First Sunday of Lent | Mass Book p151

MASS INTENTIONS & FEASTS

SUNDAY 22nd Feb

(p) *First Sunday of Lent (A)*
8:30am Ted and Brigid McCormack RIP
10:30am Susie Keen RIP
6:30pm Nora O'Donovan RIP

MONDAY 23rd Feb

(p) *Feria*
Holy Souls

TUESDAY 24th Feb

(p) *Feria*
Holy Souls

WEDNESDAY 25th Feb

(p) *Feria*
Pro-populo

THURSDAY 26th Feb

(p) *Feria*
Holy Souls

FRIDAY 27th February

(p) *Feast*
Stephen Nemeth RIP

SATURDAY 28th Feb

(p) *Feria*
Holy Souls

SUNDAY 1st March

(p) *Second Sunday of Lent (A)*
8:30am Fr Jim Egan RIP
10:30am Cathy Sacré-Eassie and James Sacré
6:30pm George Spicer Hiller RIP

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

A word from the presbytery...

As we begin the holy season of Lent, the Church invites us once again to enter into an ancient rhythm of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. These are not novel proposals but the tested disciplines of centuries, rooted in the practice of our Lord Himself, who fasted forty days in the wilderness. The First Sunday of Lent is a fitting moment to consider not merely what we are called to do, but why we do it.

Someone once asked me: what is the ultimate end of all this discipline? It is a fair question, because the loudest noise about Lent tends to concern the austere practices themselves — the giving up, the going without. A true disciple must resist this anæmic interpretation of fasting, not only intellectually but with a matured conviction of faith. The Lenten discipline is, at its heart, directional. It is directed away from oneself, towards the other, and ultimately towards the Divine. Fasting is not an end in itself; it is a means by which we are loosened from the grip of self-regard so that we may turn with greater freedom towards God and neighbour.

This is the vision offered by Pope Leo XIV in his Message for Lent 2026, *Listening and Fasting: Lent as a Time of Conversion* (5 February 2026). The Holy Father identifies two fundamental attitudes for this journey: listening and fasting.

Every path of conversion begins by allowing the Word of God to touch our hearts with a docile spirit, so that amid the competing voices of the world we may learn to recognise the cry of the poor and suffering.

Regarding fasting, Pope Leo describes it as an ancient ascetic practice that, because it engages the body, helps us discern what we truly hunger for. Drawing upon Saint Augustine, he observes that desire for God expands the soul. Fasting purifies and directs our longing towards God and the doing of good.

The Pope also proposes a striking form of abstinence: refraining from words that wound — urging us to disarm our language and cultivate kindness in our families, communities, and public discourse. Finally, he underlines the communal dimension of Lent, inviting parishes and families to walk together so that our communities become places where those who suffer find welcome.

May this Lent truly lead us beyond ourselves — towards attentiveness to God and to the least among us.

A full text of the Holy Father's Message for lent can be found at this link:

<https://press.vatican.va/content/salastamp/en/bollettino/pubblico/2026/02/13/260213d.html>



Welcome to the new design of our weekly newsletter. We have been working on this a while and we hope you like it. A massive thanks to Ella Coleman our Graphic Designer for her incredible work and commitment.



PARISH NOTICES

Sunday Stations of the Cross

The devotion of the Stations of the Cross will be held in the church on every Sunday of Lent, beginning at 4:15pm. Please note the earlier start time, as another activity follows in the church at 5:00pm. All parishioners are warmly encouraged to join in this beautiful Lenten practice as we accompany our Lord on His journey to Calvary.

No Mass on Monday 23rd February

We regret to announce that there will be no Mass on Monday 23rd February at 10:00am, owing to an unforeseen clash of events in the Parish Priest's diary. Mass will continue as normal for the remainder of the week. We apologise for any inconvenience.

Parish Book Club – Launch Meeting

The Parish Book Club will have its inaugural meeting in the Members' Room at Olympic Studios on Wednesday 25th February at 7pm.

Those who wish to take part are asked to complete the online registration form by scanning the QR code.



Upgraded Parish Audio System

We have recently upgraded the sound system and hope you notice an improvement in the clarity of the audio. The hearing-loop has also been renewed for those who rely on hearing aids. We would welcome your feedback on your experience of the new system, as this will assist the engineer with final adjustments. We are grateful for the generous donation from Pip Damby, given specifically to support this work.

CAFOD Fast Day – 27 February

The penitential season of Lent invites us to renew the three traditional practices of fasting, prayer and almsgiving. One concrete way to live this call is through the annual CAFOD Fast Day on Friday, 27 February. CAFOD is the official Catholic agency of the Bishops' Conference of England and Wales, working to alleviate poverty and respond to humanitarian crises around the world. Envelopes are available in the Narthex for those who wish to offer the value of what they give up in fasting to support those most in need. Posters and donation envelopes may be found at the back of the church.

Jubilee Year of Saint Francis of Assisi

A special Jubilee Year of Saint Francis of Assisi, proclaimed by Pope Leo XIV, takes place from 10 January 2026 to 10 January 2027, on the occasion of the eighth centenary of his death. The Holy Father has written: 'Dear brothers and sisters, may the example and spiritual legacy of this Saint, strong in faith, steadfast in hope and ardent in active charity towards his neighbour, inspire in everyone the importance of trusting in the Lord, of living a life faithful to the Gospel, and of accepting and illuminating every circumstance and action of life with faith and prayer. In this Year of Grace, I wish to offer you a prayer that Saint Francis of Assisi may continue to instil in all of us perfect joy and harmony.' A statue of St Francis, showing his stigmata, will be in the church during Lent this year.

Ambassadors for Christ: A Catholic apologetics resource

The Archdiocese of Southwark has launched a project to provide evidence-based answers to questions such as "Is Jesus God?" or "does prayer work?". Every Monday, a new video will be posted on YouTube, along with a worksheet to enable groups to use them as part of their faith formation.

For more information, please visit: rcaos.org.uk/ambassadorsforchrist



PARISH DIARY

First Holy Communion preparation class

No session this weekend

Confirmation preparation class

No session this weekend

Catholicism for the Curious

Mon 23rd Feb: 6:30pm (in the hall)

Mothers' Prayers Group

Tues 24th Feb 10:30am

Next Children's Mass

Sunday 8th March at 10:30am



PRAYER LIST

For parishioners who are unwell, especially:

| | |
|------------------------|-----------------|
| James and Audrey Smith | John Scott |
| Andrew Brodrick-Ward | Joan Moore |
| Phyllis O'Kelly | Charles Stiller |
| Janet Waddington | Maureen Carr |



IN REMEMBRANCE

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

| | |
|------------------------|-----------------|
| Margherita Maria Bruni | Joan Lewis |
| Sr Mairead Quigley | Gita Furber |
| Norah Margaret Pollard | John Chick |
| Frank Comerford | James Sacré |
| Jan Pienkowski | Margaret Murray |
| Joseph O'Neill | Kate Morgan |
| Frederick Wood | Daphne Barton |
| Colleen Lockstone | Ann Nugent |



NEWS FROM ST OSMUND'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

Welcome back after the half term break We hope you had a refreshing week and are ready for a great spring term.



VOLUNTEERING

Thank you to all who offer their time and service so generously: those who clean and care for the church, our flower arrangers, the choir and musicians, altar servers and Masters of Ceremonies, Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist, lectors, members of the Finance Committee, and the Social Events Committee. My sincere thanks also go to our parish Prayer and Formation groups which sustain and nourish our spiritual life.

If you are able to volunteer your time in any capacity, please speak to Father Ola.



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



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



AVE REGINA CAELORUM

'Ave Regina Caelorum' is one of four seasonal liturgical Marian hymns. It is sung from the Feast of the Presentation (Candlemas) until the Easter Vigil.

Ave, Regina caelorum,
Ave, Domina Angelorum:
Salve, radix, salve, porta
Ex qua mundo lux est orta:
Gaude, Virgo gloriosa,
Super omnes speciosa,
Vale, o valde decora,
Et pro nobis Christum exora.



THE POPE'S MONTHLY PRAYER INTENTION

February: For children with incurable diseases

Let us pray that children suffering from incurable diseases and their families receive the necessary medical care and support, never losing strength and hope.

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

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

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