

St Osmund's Catholic Church, Gainford

Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle

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Hogarth Partnership

St Anne, St Augustine, St Mary, St Osmund, Holy Family, St Teresa, St Thomas Aquinas, SS William & Francis De Sale

FoodBank: The Well:

46 East Green, West Auckland. DL14 9HJ. Opening times: Wednesday-Friday 9am - 3pm
Items may be left at the Foodbanks during their opening times or placed in St. Osmund's Church porch.

Please Pray for:

The sick of the Parish: Patrick Doherty, Nico Human, Alexandra Jüngst, Kate Konig, Patrick Heffernan, Hilary Fletcher, Mike Griffiths, Luca Gallucci, Pat Aveson and Susan Hunton

Offertory

If you wish to make your donations directly to St. Osmund's. Bank account details are:

HSBC: D.H & N Gainford St. Osmund's.

Account No. 41164015.

Sort Code 40-34-18.

Safeguarding

The Parish operates in accordance with Statutory Safeguarding Guidance and Catholic Safeguarding Standards Agency (CSSA) and Diocese's policies and procedures at all times. Details of our Parish Safeguarding Representative can be found on the notice board in the porch and the Parish Centre, or alternatively the Diocesan Safeguarding Team can be contacted on [0191 2433305](tel:01912433305) or at safeguarding@diocesehn.org.uk

Jubilee 2025: We celebrate this year of pilgrimage and prayer, celebration and reconciliation, seeking to be Pilgrims of Hope There's more information about the Jubilee Year on the Diocesan website at <https://www.bit.ly/DHNjubilee2025>.

To aid your journey through this jubilee year, **copies of a companion booklet are available at the back of church.** A donation of £1 is suggested.



28th Sunday of Ordinary Time

Theme: Gratitude

Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice; and he fell on his face at Jesus' feet, giving him thanks. Now he was a Samaritan.

October: Month of the Holy Rosary

St Osmund's will be open for Parish Mass on

Tuesdays at 10.00am.

Sunday 12th October 9.30am

Saturday 18th October 6.30pm

Sunday 26th October 9.30am

Saturday 1st November 6.30pm

Children's Liturgy

The next Children's Liturgy this Sunday 12th October

Peace for the people of Ukraine

*We continue to pray earnestly for peace in Ukraine, joining the Holy Father in his consecration of Russia **and** Ukraine to Our Lady's Immaculate Heart – may her prayers bring a swift end to the conflict, and consolation to the bereaved and to the many thousands of refugees.*

Foodbank – a reminder that we collect for 'The Well' foodbank on a rolling basis. Sadly many people rely on foodbanks to feed themselves and their families. Donations can be left in porch, either as you come to Mass or at any other time, and will be taken across. Thank you for your support.

First Holy Communion – Forms for First Holy Communion are now available. If you have a child, or know of a child in Year 4 please do take one.

First reading 2 Kings 5:14-17

Naaman returned to the man of God and confessed his faith in the Lord.

In those days: Naaman the Syrian went down and dipped himself seven times in the Jordan, according to the word of Elisha, the man of God, and his flesh was restored like the flesh of a little child, and he was clean. Then he returned to the man of God, he and all his company, and he came and stood before him. And he said, 'Behold, I know that there is no God in all the earth but in Israel; so accept now a present from your servant.' But Elisha said, 'As the Lord lives, before whom I stand, I will receive none.' And Naaman urged Elisha to take it, but he refused. Then Naaman said, 'If not, please let there be given to your servant two mule-loads of earth, for from now on your servant will not offer burnt offering or sacrifice to any god but the Lord.'

Responsorial Psalm PS98(97): 1-4.R1a

The Lord has shown his salvation to the nations.

O sing a new song to the Lord,
for he has worked wonders.
His right hand and his holy arm
have brought salvation.

The Lord has made known his salvation,
has shown his deliverance to the nations.
He has remembered his merciful love
and his truth for the house of Israel.

All the ends of the earth have seen
the salvation of our God.
Shout to the Lord, all the earth;
break forth into joyous song,
and sing out your praise.

Second reading 2 Timothy 2:8-13

'If we endure, we will also reign with Christ.'

Beloved: Remember Jesus Christ, risen from the dead, the offspring of David, as preached in my gospel, for which I am suffering, bound with chains as a criminal. But the word of God is not bound! Therefore I endure everything for the sake of the elect, that they also may obtain the salvation that is in Christ Jesus with eternal glory.

The saying is trustworthy, for: If we have died with him, we will also live with him; if we endure, we will also reign with him; if we deny him, he also will deny us; if we are faithless, he remains faithful — for he cannot deny himself.

Gospel Acclamation 1 Thessalonians 5:18

Alleluia, alleluia.

In everything give thanks;
for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.

Alleluia.

Gospel Luke 17:11-19

'No one was found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner.'

On the way to Jerusalem Jesus was passing along between Samaria and Galilee. And as he entered a village, he was met by ten lepers, who stood at a distance and lifted up their voices, saying, 'Jesus, Master, have mercy on us.' When he saw them he said to them, 'Go and show yourselves to the priests.' And as they went they were cleansed. Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice; and he fell on his face at Jesus' feet, giving him thanks. Now he was a Samaritan. Then Jesus answered, 'Were not ten cleansed? Where are the nine? Was no one found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?' And he said to him, 'Rise and go your way; your faith has made you well.'

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Feast Days this week

Monday 13th October: St Edward the Confessor

Tuesday 14th October: St Callistus

Wednesday 15th October: St Teresa of Avila

Thursday 16th October: St Margaret Mary Alacoque, St Richard Gwyn (Walaes)

Friday 17th October: St Ignatius of Antioch

Saturday 18th October: St Luke

The Cycle of Prayer**Prisoners and their Families**

especially on Prisoners Sunday (2nd Sunday on October)
and in Prisons Week (2nd Week in October)

Background

Prisoner's week was a Catholic initiative begun in 1975 by Bishop Victor Guazelli which has since ecumenical support and observance. It reflects the work of the Prison Advice and Care Trust which builds on its origins as the Bourne Trust — the Catholic Prisoner's Aid Society. The Sunday and the following week seek to focus attention not only on the needs of prisoners but on all those involved the field of prison care, prisoners families, victims of crime, prison staff and many volunteers.

Prayer

*Almighty and merciful God,
to whom alone the secrets of the heart lie open,
who recognise the just and make righteous the guilty,
bear our prayers for your servants held in prison,
and grant that through patience and hope
they may find relief in their affliction
and soon return unhindered to their own.*

Roman Missal

Doing God's will

Sometimes we pride ourselves in having such a good democratic system, a claim which indeed is debatable. We value individual freedom and liberty, the right to choose and decide for ourselves how to live our lives. But the populace can be swayed by pressure groups and allow hardship and curtailment of liberty to be the lot of migrants and asylum-seekers. And while we do not suffer dictators gladly sometimes we seem to want to dictate to God, make God do things our way, and leave us masters of our own destiny. Some even abandon faith and prayer, because God has not granted their requests.

This was the inclination of Naaman the leper, an army commander from Syria, as he bargained with God. Hoping to be cured of leprosy by prophet Elisha, Naaman arrived laden with gifts of silver and gold, to pay for his cure. The prophet did not even come out to meet him, but sent a message telling him to wash seven times in the river Jordan. Naaman was so hurt that he prepared to return to Syria, raging with indignation. Why wash in this particular river, when there were so many bigger and cleaner rivers at home? "Here was I thinking Elisha would cure the leprous part," he fumed.

It was only when his servants pointed out how simple was the prescription that he was persuaded to try it and so was cured. Come to think of it, how often do we behave like Naaman. "Why do I have to go to church, when I can worship God out in the open air?" "Why does God send me the cross of sickness, when I could do so much good if I were healthy?" We even find such attitudes among the apostles. "Why do you not show us the Father?" Philip said to him. Some complained, "He says intolerable things and how could anyone accept it?" and they walked with him no more. This reaction of unbelief is often found. But it stands to Naaman's credit that he thought again, was cured and then returned to thank Elisha.

As Shakespeare wrote in King Lear, "How sharper than a serpent's tooth it is to have a thankless child." The Eucharist is a reminder never to forget God's greatest gift to us, his own Son, our Saviour. If we concentrate too much on asking for things, there is a danger that we may reduce our Mass to the level of magical thinking, a way of turning God to our way of thinking. How much better if we can open our hearts and our lives to whatever God wants for us, which is sure to be the best that can happen to us in the long run.

We are meant to pray "thy will be done", not demand to have our own way. When we need a favour, we must ask for it with prayer and thanksgiving, because God answers prayer, even if not precisely in the way we expect. Ultimately, says Jesus, God grants only what is for our good. We need to thank God from the heart, like Naaman after his cure, or like the leper who was grateful to Jesus. What a pity the other nine did not say a word of thanks for the blessing they received.

associationofcatholicpriests.ie

St Augustine's**Alpha Course**

Hogarth partnership is pleased to announce that an Alpha course will run in St Augustine's Parish Centre starting on Wednesday 17th September from 7-9pm for 10 weeks.

Alpha is a chance to explore the Christian faith and is open to adults from those taking first steps to those seeking to enhance it. The evenings start with sharing food, a short film and then discussion in small groups.

Please register by sending an email to hogarthalphaonline@gmail.com

We look forward to sharing this experience with you. Hogarth Alpha team.

School Governors – please take a moment to look at the poster in the porch regarding schools governors, and consider whether this could be a way in which you would be willing to help in the life and mission of the Church.

New e-mail address

Please note the new e-mail address: stosmund.gainford@diocesehn.org.uk . The old parish address continues to work for the moment, but please transfer across to using the new address. You can also use thomas.mason@diocesehn.org.uk

S. Edward the Confessor, last of the Anglo-Saxons

Regardless of how much we remember from history lessons at school, I'm sure that the year 1066 is well etched in most people's minds – the year of the Battle of Hastings and the Norman Conquest, what is not always so well known is the connexion between that battle and the death of a Saint. On Monday we celebrate S. Edward the Confessor, and it was his death which set in train various events which concluded with William the Conqueror being crowned King.

When Edward was born it wasn't obvious that he was going to be a major figure, he was the seventh son of the king (Æthelred the Unready), and this was a time of political instability in the country. He spent a large part of his childhood and early adult life in exile, living in Normandy. During this exile, he is reported to have developed a stronger than normal personal piety. It was also at this time that he is said to have made a vow, promising that if his house was restored to the throne of England he would make a pilgrimage to Rome in thanksgiving.

Leaving aside the complex politics, Edward became King in 1042, being crowned on Easter Day the following year. The situation in the country was tense, and therefore he felt that leaving to make the promised pilgrimage to Rome would be impossible; seeking advice from the Pope, he was told that building a church in honour of S. Peter would fulfil the vow. He found a suitable site, just to the West of London, where a small monastery existed, building a larger church (known as a 'minster') for the community it rapidly gained the nickname of 'Westminster'.

His reign as King was never quiet, the country had been through a series of different rulers from different dynasties and there were significant alternative powers in the kingdom. He managed to retain power and rule with broad popularity, reigning for a comparatively long 24 years, though always having to balance different forces within the kingdom. Lovers of the stage might be interested to know that this is the era of Macbeth, with Duncan's son Malcolm Canmore taking refuge at Edward's court (though it should be noted that Shakespeare's account is highly fictionalised).

He suffered a series of strokes in December 1065, being unable to attend the consecration of his new church, and finally died on 5 January 1066. He had no children, which caused the succession crisis of that year. The one point which all sides in that crisis agreed on was Edward's Saintliness; William the Conqueror promised that he would simply continue the good governance of the late king (one can dispute whether he lived up to his promise).

He rapidly joined a long list of members of the Anglo-Saxon royal families who were venerated as Saints, the title 'Edward the Confessor' is to distinguish him from his uncle S. Edward the Martyr (a confessor is a Saint who lived a holy life, but was not killed for the faith). In the atmosphere after the Norman take-over, an Anglo-Saxon Saint was undesirable politically, but devotion to him grew steadily. He was formally canonised by Pope Alexander III in 1161, and widely recognised as a Patron of England (S. George dislodged him in the mid-14th century).

The church which he founded remains at the centre of English national life. The present building is an enlargement of Edward's original, it has been used for all coronations since 1066 (right down to two years ago). When Henry II completed the new building in 1269, S. Edward's body was moved into a new shrine in the Abbey where it remains. Only two Saints shrines survived the Reformation untouched, S. Edward's being one – in the world of Henry VIII, being a Saint wasn't good enough, but being a King was.

S. Edward is a reminder of the deep Christian history of our country, we generally do not look to our national leaders to be Saints these days, but there once was a time when it happened. May his prayers assist us all – **Fr. Thomas**.

Communion from the chalice

At a recent P.P.C. meeting the question of receiving Communion from the chalice as well as the host was raised. This will require an extraordinary minister of Holy Communion to offer the chalice on those days when Fr. Butters is not with us. If you are interested in helping with the Mass in this way, please let Fr. Thomas know.

Make Your Giving Go Further with Gift Aid!

Did you know that if you're a UK taxpayer, your donations to the parish can go even further at no extra cost to you? With Gift Aid, the government adds 25% to your gift, helping us support our church, ministries, and community projects even more!

Sign up today by contacting your local parish Gift Aid Organiser or visit <https://forms.office.com/e/BrxQTPnn3a?origin=lprLink>

Together, we can strengthen our parish and continue our mission to serve God and our community. Thank you for your generosity!

Tea & Coffee after Mass

Tea and coffee are available after Mass in the parish centre– all are most welcome to join this moment of fellowship as a parish.

Best wishes for a safe, happy and healthy week ahead

