

## 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 &amp; 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 König, 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.

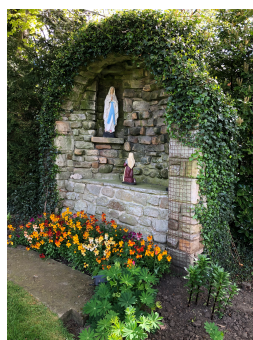
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**Safeguarding**

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 or at [safeguarding@diocesehn.org.uk](mailto: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.



## 27th Sunday of Ordinary Time

**Theme: Increase our faith**

*If it seems slow, wait for it; it will surely come; it will not delay. 'Behold, his soul is puffed up; it is not upright within him, but the righteous shall live by his faith.'*

**October: Month of Our Lady**

**St Osmund's will be open for Parish Mass on Tuesdays at 10.00am.**

**Saturday 4th October 6.30pm**

**Sunday 12th October 9.30am**

**Saturday 18th October 6.30pm**

**Sunday 26th October 9.30am**

**Children's Liturgy**

The next Children's Liturgy is 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 Habakkuk 1:2-3; 2:2-4**

**‘The righteous shall live by his faith.’**

O Lord, how long shall I cry for help, and you will not hear?

Or cry to you ‘Violence!’ and you will not save?

Why do you make me see iniquity, and why do you idly look at wrong? Destruction and violence are before me; strife and contention arise.

And the Lord answered me:

‘Write the vision; make it plain on tablets, so he may run who reads it. For still the vision awaits its appointed time; it hastens to the end — it will not lie.

If it seems slow, wait for it; it will surely come; it will not delay. ‘Behold, his soul is puffed up; it is not upright within him, but the righteous shall live by his faith.’

**Responsorial Psalm 95(94):1-2. 6-9. R7c,8a**

**O that today you would listen to his voice!**

**‘Harden not your hearts.’**

Come, let us ring out our joy to the Lord;  
hail the rock who saves us.

Let us come into his presence, giving thanks;  
let us hail him with a song of praise.

O come; let us bow and bend low.

Let us kneel before the Lord who made us,  
for he is our God, and we the people,  
the people of his pasture, the flock of his hand.

O that today you would listen to his voice!

‘Harden not your hearts as at Meribah,  
as on that day at Massah in the desert  
when your forebears put me to the test;  
when they tried me, though they saw my work.’

**Second reading 2 Timothy 1:6-8,13-14**

**‘Do not be ashamed of the testimony about our Lord.’**

Beloved: I remind you to fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of my hands, for God gave us a spirit not of fear, but of power and love and self-control. Therefore do not be ashamed of the testimony about our Lord, nor of me his prisoner, but share in suffering for the gospel by the power of God, Follow the pattern of the sound words that you have heard from me, in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. By the Holy Spirit who dwells within us, guard the good deposit entrusted to you.

**Gospel Acclamation 1 Peter 1:25**

**Alleluia, alleluia.**

The word of the Lord remains for ever  
and this word is the good news that was preached to you. **Alleluia.**

**Gospel Luke 17:5-10**

**‘If you had faith.’**

At that time: The Apostles said to the Lord, ‘Increase our faith!’ And the Lord said, ‘If you had faith like a grain of mustard seed, you could say to this mulberry tree, “Be uprooted and planted in the sea”, and it would obey you.

‘Will any one of you who has a servant ploughing or keeping sheep say to him when he has come in from the field, “Come at once and recline at table”? Will he not rather say to him, “Prepare supper for me, and dress properly, and serve me while I eat and drink, and afterwards you will eat and drink”? Does he thank the servant because he did what was commanded? So you also, when you have done all that you were commanded, say, “We are unworthy servants; we have only done what was our duty.” ’

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**Feast Days this week**

**Monday 6th October: St Bruno**

**Tuesday 7th October: Our Lady of the Rosary**

**Thursday 9th October: St John Henry Newman**

**Friday 10th October: St Paulinus of York, St Denis and his Companions (Wales)**

**Saturday 11th October: St Pope John XXIII**

**The Cycle of Prayer**

**Justice and Peace in the World**

especially on Harvest Fast Day: 1st Friday on October  
**Background**

The Harvest Fast day is one of two such days organised by CAFOD. The money offered from the fasting is usually collected at Mass on the following Sunday.

**Prayer**

*O God, who show a father's care for all,  
grant, in your mercy,  
that the members of the human race,  
to whom you have given a single origin,  
may form in peace a single family  
and always be united by a fraternal spirit.*

**Roman Missal**

**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.

***If they could only see me now***

*"If they could only see me now." What would our parents or friends think of us if they saw how we behaved in various circumstance, whether we were generous or mean. Many feel this need for the opinion by others, especially to be valued or praised. Unless there's an audience of some kind to validate us, we hardly think it worthwhile to make the effort. How easy it is to dress up things with a veneer of virtue. Yet only God sees the heart and knows our thoughts.*

*The opinions of others do matter to some extent. But what counts in the long run is not human opinion but how God sees us. Nothing compares with that judgment. The basic issue is whether we have been authentic human beings. Because of fidelity, the righteous will live. Life in the state of grace, does not depend on social reputation, but on our inner quality. As Paul says, one cannot even fully judge oneself. About righteousness, we can only trust in God's mercy, while making an honest effort to do what is right. Then the principle applies: "for those who loves God, all things work together unto good."*

*If we did things simply for God's approval, would we be exploited by others? So we won't commit to being just and generous until others doing so too. The rat-race is nobody's fault, and yet it's everybody's. Social solidarity can only begin when individuals choose it for its own sake. "Ask not what your country can do for you, ask rather what you can do for your country." Ultimately, this is the way to salvation. When our race has been run, and the Master comes to judge our service, only those who have been generous will feel at home in God's company. Then we will see that this was the right way to live. "Well done good and faithful servant," and we will say "It was no more than our duty."*

*Unprofitable servants? A better word might be "ordinary". The servants had just done their job, what was expected; they made their due contribution to life, to God and to others. With Jesus as our guide, we would do this as normal. The standards he sets for us are high. Our lives will be worthwhile and noble, if we also choose them for ourselves.* [associationofcatholicpriests.ie](http://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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:thomas.mason@diocesehn.org.uk)

**Universalis Ecclesiae – or happy birthday to the Diocese**

Last Monday saw the 175 anniversary of the foundation of the Diocese of Hexham & Newcastle (originally known simply as Hexham), and along with it of 12 other new Dioceses in England and Wales – a moment called the restoration of the hierarchy, as this was the first time since the Reformation that we had Dioceses here in England. An important moment in the resurgence of the Catholic Church in this country.

The first we hear of English (or to be more strictly correct Romano-British) Bishops is when four attended the local council of Arles in 314; then as the Anglo-Saxons were evangelised a network of Bishops and Dioceses was set up in the seventh century. With some adjustments after the Norman Conquest this continued until the Reformation (including our own S. Osmund as Bishop of Salisbury 1078-1099). The last Catholic Archbishop of Canterbury, Cardinal Pole, died in 1588 mere hours after Queen Mary.

In the following years the remaining Catholics were heavily persecuted which meant that a normal system of Bishops and Dioceses was entirely impossible. At first Rome gave a Priest the title 'Archpriest' and with it the power to govern missions in England; then from 1623 a Bishop was appointed, but not given a diocese, instead he governed directly in the name of the Pope as a Vicar Apostolic. The persecution meant that there were few Catholics, with few Priests to minister to them, and a great secrecy covering the whole project as even to be ordained a Priest or to give a Priest a hiding place was sufficient to sent to the gallows.

The legal restrictions on Catholics were significantly eased in the early nineteenth century, and at the same time numbers rose sharply. This was a time of large-scale migration from Ireland, and of conversions from Anglicanism (most notably including S. John Henry Newman). By this time, there were eight 'Districts' each having a Vicar Apostolic looking after it.

There had been a number of attempts to restore the more normal pattern of Diocese, but the strongly anti-Catholic attitude of the government as well as divisions within English Catholicism had prevented it. As part of the attempts, it had even been suggested that the government would be able to veto the choice of Bishops – fortunately that proposal never needed to be implemented. By 1850 Pope Pius IX considered that conditions were now stable and free enough to create new Diocese, which could build up the mission of the Church in this land.

Pope Pius issued the bull (the name for the type of papal legislation used) *Universalis Ecclesiae* (from its opening in Latin – “the power of ruling the universal Church”); it created Westminster with an Archbishop and twelve other Dioceses covering the whole of England and Wales. Notably it did not recreate the pre-Reformation dioceses, which would still have been illegal. For many Catholics this was a moment of joy representing a new future for the Church in this country.

The response was not universally happy, and anti-Catholic protests were held, including burning effigies of Cardinal Wiseman (the new Archbishop of Westminster). The Prime Minister publicly denounced the insolence of the 'Papal aggression', and Parliament passed the Ecclesiastical Titles Act, which banned any non-Anglican episcopal titles – though no prosecutions followed and the act was later repealed.

The move allowed Catholicism to live in a more normal fashion, and reflected its move out of the shadows of persecution. As Cardinal Wiseman wrote “Catholic England has been restored to its orbit in the ecclesiastical firmament.” We can give thanks to our forebears who kept the faith during the times of persecution, and of those who while not formally persecuted nonetheless still laboured in incredibly hostile times, we have inherited so much from them and should treasure their memory. – **Fr. Thomas.**

**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**

