

Diocesan Pastoral Strategy – St Osmund’s Gainford

What is our Mission?

As part of the consultation towards the Diocesan Pastoral Strategy, we at St Osmund’s along with each parish of the diocese are being asked to reflect and report back on ‘What is going well?’ and ‘Where are the challenges?’ We are asked to consider the five areas set out below. There are some prompts to aid us.

Please take time to reflect and pass on your views – all are important. You may respond by:

- Writing down your comments and placing them in the box at the back of Church. (A sheet at the end of this document is provided for anyone who may find this helpful)
- Placing a Post-It note on the board at the back of Church
- Sending replies by email to: stosmundsfuture@gmail.com

Further copies of this document can be found on the parish website at: www.stosmunds.co.uk

What is going well?

Where are the challenges?

There will be an Open Meeting in the Parish Centre after Mass on Sunday 12th April to share views

E1. WORSHIP — Celebrating the Sacraments

Prompts:

- *How do people experience our Masses and sacramental celebrations?*
- *How might this change in the next 5–8 years?*
- *How do we support families before and after sacraments?*
- *What helps people stay connected?*
- *What prayer opportunities exist beyond the Mass?*
- *What will it look like if there were three or two or even one priest in your area?*
- *What three Sunday Masses could be offered by each Priest?*
- *How might worship continue if we had no resident Priest?*
- *Are we burying more parishioners than we baptise?*

E2. TEACH — Handing on the Faith

Prompts:

- *How are people of all ages in the community growing in faith and understanding?*
- *How might this look in 5–8 years?*
- *How are young people learning, leading, and serving today, and how might we strengthen this over the next few years?*
- *How are we working with our Catholic schools now, and how might that partnership develop in the years ahead?*
- *How are we preparing future leaders and catechists?*

E3. SERVE — Sharing Christ's Love in Action

Prompts:

- *What needs in the community do we currently respond to?*
- *How do we work with other groups to respond to the needs in the area?*
- *What might these needs look like in 5–8 years?*
- *What concrete social action does your community provide for the area?*
- *Even with fewer clergy and volunteers, how could we maintain and develop our social action?*
- *How well do we include younger generations in service?*
- *How well is lay leadership supporting our outreach now, and what will be needed for long-term sustainability?*

E4. COMMUNITY — Building a Family of Faith

Prompts:

- *How do people experience welcome and belonging?*
- *How do we support the vulnerable and isolated?*
- *What strengthens our resilience and joy?*
- *What might threaten our future vitality?*
- *How are decisions and responsibilities shared today, and what patterns of leadership will we need for the future?*
- *How well do we support Priests, Deacons, volunteers, and staff today, and what support will be needed for a healthy community in the future?*
- *In what ways do we embrace the differences we see in our community?*
- *In what ways are we building community ecumenically and with inter-faiths?*

E5. STEWARDSHIP – Using Our People, Buildings and Finances Wisely

Prompts

- *Are finances transparent and understood?*
- *How well are buildings used?*
- *What opportunities exist to reduce carbon impacts from our buildings?*
- *Do we have enough volunteers?*
- *Are we developing future leaders and Vocations?*
- *Are the places of worship conveniently located to serve the existing centres of population and are there any expected changes e.g. significant local house building?*
- *What is essential for the Mission of St Osmund's?*
- *Are there any other sources of income that could be utilised?*
- *What opportunities exist to reduce carbon impacts from clergy and parishioner travel?*

E1. WORSHIP — Celebrating the Sacraments as Places of Encounter	
What is going well?	Where are the challenges?
E2. TEACH — Handing on the Faith	
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E3. SERVE — Sharing Christ's Love in Action	
What is going well?	Where are the challenges?
E4. COMMUNITY — Building a Family of Faith	
What is going well?	Where are the challenges?
E5. STEWARDSHIP – Using Our People, Buildings and Finances Wisely	
What is going well?	Where are the challenges?

Please fill in as much or as little as you like- all responses are important. You may write on the back of this sheet or use additional paper if you wish and place in the box at the back of Church.

Our parish will complete the Diocesan Form by 23rd April