



# The Catholic Church of St Osmund, Barnes

Parish Priest: Fr Oladele Craig

Parish Secretary: Cath Brizzell. Tel:020 8748 5833 or barnes@rcaos.org.uk

**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:** 10.00am Mon, Tues, Wed, Fri, Thurs (6.30pm)

**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.

## Seventeenth Sunday (B) Sunday, 28 July 2024 Mass Book p 112

Date	Time	Intention	Feast
Sun 28 <sup>th</sup> July	8.30am Mass 10.30am Mass 6.30pm Mass	Fr Anthony Logan RIP Pro-populo	Seventeenth Sunday (B)
Mon 29 <sup>th</sup> July	10.00am Mass		Sts Mary, Martha and Lazarus
Tues 30 <sup>th</sup> July	10.00am Mass		St Peter Chrysologus
<b>Wed 31<sup>st</sup> July</b>	<b>10.00am</b>	<b>Service of the Word</b>	<b>St Ignatius of Loyola</b>
Thur 1 <sup>st</sup> Aug	6.30pm Mass		St Alphonsus Liguori
Fri 2 <sup>nd</sup> Aug	10.00am Mass		St Eusebius of Vercelli
Sun 4 <sup>th</sup> Aug	8.30am Mass 10.30am Mass 6.30pm Mass	Pro-populo	Eighteenth Sunday (B)

### Reflection

In the fourth instalment of his catechesis on prayer, the late Pope Benedict XVI reflected on a significant incident from the Book of Genesis, highlighting an important experience for faith and prayer. The story of the Patriarch Jacob, who had previously deceived his twin brother Esau and obtained his father Isaac's blessing through trickery.

Jacob, now returning to his homeland, prepared to face Esau and found himself alone at the ford of the Jabbok, where he was attacked by an unknown man, leading to a night-long struggle. This episode, shrouded in darkness and ambiguity, symbolized a profound encounter with God.

The outcome of the struggle was uncertain, with the text describing actions in a contradictory manner, making it hard to discern which contender had the upper hand. Despite being injured, Jacob refused to release his opponent without a blessing, indicating his growing awareness of the divine nature of his assailant.

When asked his name, Jacob revealed it, signifying a form of surrender. In response, he received a new name, Israel, marking a transformation and the recognition of his victory by God.

Pope Benedict acknowledged the various interpretations offered by biblical scholars, recognizing the literary complexity of this passage. He emphasized that the struggle at the Jabbok served as a paradigm for understanding the dynamics of prayer as a battle of faith and perseverance. It symbolized the night-long search for God's presence and the transformative power of divine blessing.

Our entire lives, according to the late Pope, are like this long night of struggle and prayer, spent in desiring and asking for God's blessing, which cannot be grabbed or won through our own strength but must be received with humility from Him as a gratuitous gift that ultimately allows us to recognize the Lord's face. And when this happens, our entire reality

changes; we receive a new name and God's blessing.

Furthermore, Jacob, who receives a new name and becomes Israel, also gives a new name to the place where he wrestled with God, where he prayed; he renames it Peniel, which means "The Face of God." With this name, he recognizes that this place is filled with the Lord's presence, making that land sacred and thus leaving a memorial of that mysterious encounter with God.

Pope Benedict concluded that whoever allows himself to be blessed by God, who abandons himself to God, who permits himself to be transformed by God, renders a blessing to the world. He prayed that the Lord may help us to fight the good fight of the faith, and that God may renew us in the expectation of beholding His face.

St Osmunds School has now closed for Summer Break. Happy holidays to Mrs Lunney, teachers, parents, support staff and pupils.

There will be no 10 am Masses on Wed 31 August and Wed 7 August. There will be Service of the Word at 10am. There will be no Holy Hour on Friday 2 August.

**World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly**

In 2021, Pope Francis established a Church-wide celebration World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly. He wanted to highlight that those in their older years are a great gift to our world and that every generation has something to give. The fourth World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly is celebrated this Sunday, 28 July 2023. Pope Francis inaugurated this World Day to be celebrated by the universal Church each July, either on or near the liturgical Memorial of Saints Joachim and Anne, grandparents of Jesus, to help “treasure the spiritual and human wealth that has been handed down from generation to generation”. Pope Francis has this year provided the theme: Do not cast me off in my old age, Psalm 71:9.

**Prayer for the Fourth World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly**

Lord, faithful God,  
 You who created us in Your image,  
 You who never leaves us alone and who accompanies us through every season of life,  
 Do not abandon us, take care of us,  
 and grant us, once again, the ability to discover ourselves and recognise that we are Your children.  
 Renew our hearts with your Word and do not allow anyone to be cast aside.  
 May your Spirit of love fill us with Your tenderness and teach us to say: “I will not abandon you!”  
 To those we meet on our journey, with the help of your beloved Son, may we not lose the taste for fraternity and may we not conform to the sadness of loneliness. Help us to look to the future with renewed hope, and make the World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly a day without loneliness, and a day abundant with the first-fruits of Your peace.  
 Amen.

**Divine Mercy Retreat Aylesford 26 August 2024**

The Divine Mercy Apostolate is holding a Celebration of St Faustina Birthday at Aylesford Priory, Aylesford, Kent on Bank Holiday Monday 26 August 2024 from 10 am to 4:30 pm. The reflection day will include teachings on the Message of Divine Mercy, Holy Mass, Hour of Mercy with Stations of the Cross, Adoration and Benediction and Veneration of the Image of Merciful Jesus. All welcome. Call Millie on 07957594646 for more information. Coaches from Ealing Broadway and Victoria.

**Pope Francis Prayer Intentions for July**

For the pastoral care of the sick. We pray that the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick confer to those who receive it and their loved ones the power of the Lord and become ever more a visible sign of compassion and hope for all.

**Ursuline High School, Wimbledon**

We welcome parents, carers and students seeking Year 7 entry in 2025 to this outstanding Catholic all girls school. Please sign up to open evenings/mornings via website:  
 ([www.ursulinehigh.merton.sch.uk/admissions/open-events](http://www.ursulinehigh.merton.sch.uk/admissions/open-events))

**QR code for DONA portal donations St Osmunds**

There are now posters in the church porch with a QR code which will take you to our ‘Dona’ portal – this will enable you to make a contactless donation to the parish without using the devices inside the church. This may be particularly useful if there is a queue for these devices, or they are not working properly. You can find the same QR code below:



As always, we are very grateful for all your support.

**Food Bank Appeal**

Long-life or tinned good as well as all toiletries are greatly appreciated.

**Sick List**

For the sick and the suffering especially Audrey Smith, Nina Antonia, Andrew Brodrick-Ward, Joan Moore, Susan Kelsey, Maureen Carr, Eddie Henshaw, Charles Stiller, and Bridget Jabour.

**In Remembrance**

For those who have died recently especially Barbara Doherty, and those whose anniversaries occur around this time: Sean Devery, Margaret King Kato, Francesca Dallaglio, Bridget Grafton-Green, Lucy Robbins, Muriel Cuss and Bishara Abboud.

**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 exsilium ostende. O Clemens, o pia, o dulcis virgo Maria.*