

St Peter and Paul
The Parish Church of
St. Osyth

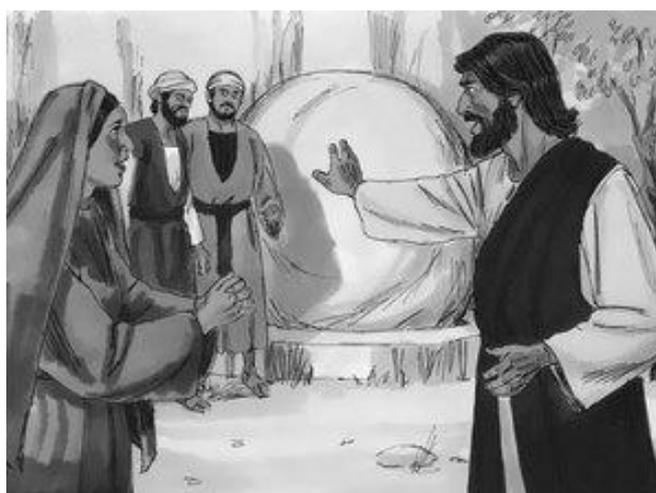
**In the Priory Benefice of
St. Osyth, Great Bentley, Weeley and Little Clacton**

***“SERVING GOD THROUGH
LOVE, WORSHIP AND WITNESS”***

Registered Charity Number: 1215560

22nd March 2026
5th Sunday of Lent
Passion Sunday

**There will be a 11am Sunday Service.
Refreshments will be served in the Church room after the Service.**



The Bible Readings

Romans 8. 6-11

John 11. 1-45

CHURCH CONTACTS

General enquiries, Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals please contact
Rev'd. Sharon Guest 01255 235700, Email: sharonguest07@btinternet.com

Church Warden and Safeguarding Officer: Mr Tony Page, Tel: 07730956414

Email: churchwarden@stosythparishchurch.co.uk

Church Warden: Sunny Bissenden,

Email : churchwarden1@stosythparishchurch.co.uk

Pastoral Care: Mrs Dianne Pile, Tel: 01255 820843

Administration: Mrs Emma Charnock, Email: info@stosythparishchurch.co.uk

PCC Secretary: Ms Belinda Liddle, Email: pccsecretary@stosythparishchurch.co.uk

The Gospel **John 11. 1-45**

The Death of Lazarus

Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. Mary was the one who anointed the Lord with perfume and wiped his feet with her hair; her brother Lazarus was ill. So the sisters sent a message to Jesus, "Lord, he whom you love is ill." But when Jesus heard it, he said, "This illness does not lead to death; rather, it is for God's glory, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it." Accordingly, though Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, after having heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was.

Then after this he said to the disciples, "Let us go to Judea again." The disciples said to him, "Rabbi, the Jews were just now trying to stone you, and are you going there again?" Jesus answered, "Are there not twelve hours of daylight? Those who walk during the day do not stumble because they see the light of this world. But those who walk at night stumble because the light is not in them." After saying this, he told them, "Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I am going there to awaken him." The disciples said to him, "Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will be all right." Jesus, however, had been speaking about his death, but they thought that he was referring merely to sleep. Then Jesus told them plainly, "Lazarus is dead. For your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him." Thomas, who was called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, "Let us also go, that we may die with him."

Jesus the Resurrection and the Life

When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, some two miles away, and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them about their brother. When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at home. Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him." Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again." Martha said to him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day." Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?" She said to him, "Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world."

Jesus Weeps

When she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary and told her privately, "The Teacher is here and is calling for you." And when she heard it, she got up quickly and went to him. Now Jesus had not yet come to the village but was still at the place where Martha had met him. The Jews who were with her in the house consoling her saw Mary get up quickly and go out. They followed her because they thought that she was going to the tomb to weep there. When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died." When Jesus saw her weeping and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. He said, "Where have you laid him?" They said to him, "Lord, come and see." Jesus began to weep. So the Jews said, "See how he loved him!" But some of them said, "Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?"

Jesus Raises Lazarus to Life

Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, "Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead four days." Jesus said to her, "Did I not tell you that if you believed you would see the glory of God?" So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upward and said, "Father, I thank you for having heard me. I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me." When he had said this, he cried with a

loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, "Unbind him, and let him go."

The Plot to Kill Jesus

Many of the Jews, therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what Jesus did believed in him.

Prayers

- † Pray for the worldwide Church; for persecuted Christians and those imprisoned for their faiths.
- † Continue to pray for peace in our war-torn world, asking God to help and protect the innocent, marginalised and vulnerable.
- † Pray that our nation turns to God, so that His kingdom may come to our land, knowing that 'righteousness exalts a nation, but sin is a reproach to any people'.
- † Pray for our parish, especially the staff and pupils of St. Osyth School and Pre School, the residents and visitors of Five Stacks and Vyntoner House, our local businesses and for the many social groups.
- † Pray for those in need of healing and long-term prayerful support including: George, Ray, Maureen, David, Nina Hatchett, Dominee, Jane Eade, Tiny Harding, Joy and John.
- † Pray for all who have recently passed away and those who mourn them.
- † Pray for those you know who need to experience the reality of God's grace and peace in their lives.
- † Father God, may my sacrifice during Lent remind me of my dependence on You for all the blessings I receive.
- † Lord Jesus Christ, grant that your Passion may be a power by which I am strengthened, protected and defended. May your wounds be my food and drink, and your blood a washing away of all my sins.

Please let Chris Pile, email pile.chris@gmail.com, know the name of anyone who you would like to be added or anyone who can now be taken off the prayers.

Thank you.

***** NOTICES *****

MOTHERING SUNDAY FLOWERS

Our grateful thanks to Jean Smith, who very kindly donated the little pots of Dianthus, which were given to us all those in Church last Sunday.



Jean, who ran Sunday School for many years, has given the flowers on Mothering Sunday for a number of years now. It is such a very kind gesture and was very much appreciated by us all. Thank you, Jean.

CONSULTATION FORMS

A gentle but important reminder

The deadline for Consultation forms for a Car Park for St. Osyth is 5pm on Monday 23rd March.

Please make sure your completed forms are returned to Church and placed in the file, on the table at the back of Church.

Alternatively, forms can be completed online.

[Tending District Council - Local Plan - Preferred Options Consultation Document \(Reg18\)](#)

Palm Sunday

On Sunday 29th March we will be walking with the Donkey from the Village Hall, Clacton Road to the Church where we will be met by Rev'd. Sharon.



The procession will be meeting at the Village Hall at 10.30am.

Easter Saturday Quarter Peel in Memory of Mark Roberts 4th April - 10am

On behalf of my sisters and myself, I would like to offer a big thanks to Sunny, Gill and all the bell ringers for arranging a quarter peel to be rung on the 4th April in tribute to our father, Mark Roberts.

The 4th would have been Dad's 90th birthday, so the timing is perfect. They will start ringing at 10am which also coincides with Pop-In at the Church Room so do please come along on Easter Saturday to listen whilst enjoying some refreshments. Dad was a bell ringer at St Osyth for many years so I'm sure he'll be looking down and feeling very honoured at this tribute.

Allison Bond

EASTER FLOWERS

Looking forward to Easter we will be arranging flowers in the Church on Friday 3rd April, after the 10am Last Hours on the Cross Service.

If you would like to donate, in memory, towards the Easter Lilies or flower arrangements please write your name, telephone number and the names of those you would like to be remembered on an envelope, it can be handed to Tony Page, Sunny Bissenden, Sonia Grantham or a side's person on Sundays.

I will require these names by **Wednesday 25th March** in time for the names to be included on the Easter pew sheet.

If you require more information,
please call 07855914064

or

email: blord286@gmail.com

Brenda

SUMMER RECITALS

There will be a meeting on Wednesday 25th March at 10.00am in the Church room to discuss the arrangements for Refreshments for this year's Recital programme. Any help would be much appreciated.

If you are interested in helping or finding out what's going on it would be lovely to see you. Or contact Sunny at the email address below if you cannot make this date. I promise that meetings are short & very focused.

Sunny



churchwarden1@stosythparishchurch.co.uk

DAY OUT AT PLESHEY

HOUSE RETREAT

Proposed date 27th June

Would you be interested in a one-day visit to Pleshey House Retreat.

If you would like to provisionally book, please contact
Rev'd. Sharon Guest
01255 235700 or Email:

sharonguest07@btinternet.com

There will be a cost for the retreat but this will depend on the number of people attending.

Can you help?

Pictures have been found of previous Vicars of St. Osyth dating back to 1864 but we are missing a couple. If you have a picture, preferably in Clerical Attire of any of the following Priests please could you send it to me, and I can pass onto Danny. Thank you.

Rev'd. John Allard 1986-1995,

Rev'd. Ian White 1996-2000

or

Rev'd. Martin Flowerdew 2001-2009

LENT COURSE

Rev'd. Sharon will be leading a Lent Course at St. Mary's Church, Great Bentley throughout March.

The course will take place on Thursday
5th, 12th, 19th and 26th.
From 11.30am – 1pm.

Everyone is welcome to attend.

ANNUAL REVISION OF THE CHURCH ELECTORAL ROLL

This year the revision will be from Sunday 15th March

If you are not on our current Roll and would like to consider being added to it, further information about the Roll and application forms are available on the table at the back of the church.

Completed forms can be handed to Chris Pile or left in a sealed envelope on the table.
New applications by 12th April please.

Note: If your name is on the current Roll, you need do nothing unless you wish to be removed from it or need to make any amendments to your details e.g. change of name/address

Any queries, please speak to our
Electoral Roll Officer, Chris Pile

FUNDRAISING FOR CHURCH MUSIC AND ORGAN FUND

Do you have an Anniversary or Special Occasion happening this year?

Would you like to dedicate a hymn or Organ Voluntary at the end of the 11am Sunday service?

All you have to do is to let Tony or Sunny know.
And Fiona would be very happy make this happen for you!

All we ask for is a small donation to the Church Music and Organ Fund and you will receive a mention on the weekly Pew Sheet.

Thank you to Phillip who requested
There is a Green Hill Far Away on Sunday 8th March.



A message from Rev'd. Judith Gibbons

"We have been asked by the RE department at Colne School to help them run GSUS Live for the Year 7 to Year 9 students. The project is running from 27th April to 29th April.

Very briefly during each session and working in pairs, the students discuss scenarios that may be resolved from a faith-based stance.

Volunteers from local churches are on hand to help the students during the scenario section of the session, and at the end to answer questions the students have arising from the work they've been doing."

If you are interested, please speak to Rev'd. Sharon, Tony, or email info@stosythparishchurch.co.uk

THE PARISH GIVING SCHEME

Please consider giving to our church through this scheme. Many of our congregation give in this way. It saves you bringing cash to services and saves time for our treasurers too.

It's a simple and secure way for our Church to receive gifts and donations by monthly, quarterly or annually by Direct Debit.

You can give anonymously if you prefer.

There is no fee payable as the diocese covers the admin costs. It's also easy to log in and make amendments if required.

If you are a UK tax payer, gift aid of 25% is added to your giving. And we get that back straight away too! Win-win.



Pew Notices & Diary

Notices – Emma Charnock info@stosythparishchurch.co.uk by latest Wednesday 5pm

Anything for the Church Diary – Emma Charnock info@stosythparishchurch.co.uk

Don't forget, you can always find out more by visiting the
CHURCH WEBSITE:

www.stosythparishchurch.co.uk



Many of you will know that I am involved with the Cursillo movement within the Anglican church and our last weekend was in May this year which was a fantastic time away together in God's presence. It is a time to share together in fellowship to draw closer to God and to deepen your own spirituality and there are many ways to do this and Cursillo is just one way to do all of these things. Coming together on a Cursillo weekend which are held in the retreat house, Pleshey in this diocese there will be plenty of opportunity to draw closer to God and each other as we share in short talks, meditations and communions together. You may be thinking what is this Cursillo? A short description of the weekend is as follows;

The word Cursillo (pronounced kur-see-yo) means short course and it began in Spain when young men were encouraged to pilgrimage together to draw close to God. Cursillo is a National and International community which encourages people in their faith and also renews and refreshes each person who comes on a weekend.

Cursillo is for those who wish to explore their faith and be open to what God is saying to them.

Cursillo runs in the diocese with the Bishop's permission and cannot run without it, the Bishop supports Cursillo which is a movement of the church.

It begins on a Thursday evening in June this year with people arriving after 5pm and ends the following Sunday afternoon with a service at 3pm.

During these three days, those attending live, work and worship together, listening to talks given by different people, both lay and ordained.

You will hear talks on the following: Grace, Obstacles to Grace, Faith, Study, Sacraments, Evangelism, and the Christian Community in Action amongst other short talks which lead to lively follow up in small groups.

Learning, praying, sharing, singing, laughing and living together is the basis for discovering what it means to say;

"We are the body of Christ"

The most recent weekend in May was very well received and the next Cursillo weekend will be:

11th-14th June 2026

If you are interested in coming along to a weekend and would like to speak to someone please contact:

Rev. Sharon Guest Tel: 01255 235700 sharonguest07@btinternet.com

As we seek to be followers of Christ may we encourage and build up our worshipping community through love and prayers, may God bless us in all that we do for Him.

Sharon
Spiritual director in Chelmsford diocese
www.chelmsfordcursillo.com

St. Osyth Parish Church

Diary for Week Beginning Sunday 22nd March 2026 – 29th March 2026

Sunday Fifth Sunday of Lent Passion Sunday	22nd	11am	Holy Communion Service led by Rev'd. Laurie Bond Sunday Club Refreshments will be served in the Church room after the Service
Monday	23 rd	11am	Finance Meeting in Church room
Tuesday	24 th	10am-12noon	CCS Course led by Rev'd. Sharon Guest in the Church Room
Wednesday	25 th	10am 6.30pm 7.30pm-9pm	Recital volunteers Meeting Suffolk University Bell Ringing Club Cluster Ringing Group
Thursday	26 th	10am	Holy Communion Service led by Rev'd. Sharon Guest
Friday	27 th	10am	St. Osyth Primary School Easter Service in Church
Saturday	28 th	10am-11.30am	Pop-In
Sunday Palm Sunday	29th	11am	Morning Praise Service led by Rev'd. Sharon Guest Sunday Club Refreshments will be served in the Church room after the Service

UPCOMING SERVICES

<u>Date</u>	<u>Service led by</u>
Thursday 2 nd April Maundy Thursday	7pm Holy Communion Service led by Rev'd. Sharon Guest
Friday 3 rd April Good Friday	10am Last Hours at the Cross led by Rev'd. Guy Thorburn
Sunday 5 th April Easter Day	There will be NO 8am Service in April 11am Holy Communion Service led by Rev'd. Laurie Bond
Sunday 12 th April 2nd Sunday of Easter	11am Holy Communion Service led by Rev'd. Sharon Guest