

St Mary's Catholic Church

Surrenden Road, Preston Park, Brighton

Parish Priest: Fr Bruno Witchalls
 Priest's House, 5 Surrenden Road, Brighton, BN1 6PA
 Telephone: (01273) 554509
 E-Mail: stmarysprestonpark@yahoo.co.uk
 Parish Website (*being updated*) : www.stmarysbrighton.com
 Hall and Cassidy Centre - Enquiries and Bookings -
 Call John Morrison on 07511 799526.



All visitors to St Mary's are most welcome to the church and to our parish

(The Arundel and Brighton Diocesan Trust is a Registered Charity No. 252878)

Parish Newsletter for w/c Sunday 04 January, 2015

<u>Mass proper</u>		<u>Intention</u>
Sat	3 [Vigil Mass]	7.00 p.m. <i>Mary Murphy</i>
Sun	4 <u>THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD</u> Gospel: Matthew 2:1-12 Parish Mass Book p. 118	10.00 a.m. <i>Sarah Skilton, In Thanksgiving</i> 12 noon <i>Pro Populo – for the people of the parish</i>
Mon	5 <i>Weekday of Christmas Time</i>	10.00 a.m. <i>Lety Alfred, R.I.P.</i>
Tue	6 [Mass at St Mary's House]	8.15 a.m. -
Wed	7 <i>Weekday of Christmas Time</i>	10.00 a.m. <i>Andrew & Margaret Orr</i>
Thur	8 <i>Weekday of Christmas Time</i> [Mass in the Extraordinary Form]	10.00 a.m. <i>John Cullen, R.I.P.</i> 7.00 p.m. <i>Jose Antenor Arce, R.I.P.</i>
Fri	9 <i>Weekday of Christmas Time</i>	10.00 a.m. <i>Mary & Chris Fisher</i>
Sat	10 <i>Weekday of Christmas Time</i>	10.00 a.m. <i>Rolando, Teofilo & Milo Bangoy, R.I.P.</i>
Sun	11 <u>THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD</u> Gospel: Mark 1:7-11 Parish Mass Book p. 119	[Vigil Mass] 7.00 p.m. <i>Fr Frederick Hopper, R.I.P.</i> 10.00 a.m. <i>Pro Populo – for the people of the parish</i> 12 noon <i>Clare Dawson, R.I.P.</i>

Confessions every Saturday 10.30-11 a.m., 6.15-6.45 p.m. & at call
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament for 1 hour before 10 a.m. weekday Mass
Tea & Coffee (usually) after our Sunday 10 a.m. Mass. All are welcome to join us down in the hall after Mass

FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY

The birth of our Lord into this world was something God willed to be away from prying eyes. Most important things generally are so. However his coming was not something meant to be kept hidden. Today, with the feast of the Epiphany - which in fact means a 'revealing of God' - we see how God used open and enquiring hearts, a star and an old Testament prophecy from Micah to lead the wise men to Jesus Christ, the Saviour of the world and the most unlikely answer to all the deepest questions and longings of our human hearts. Who leads us along the sure path to that same Christ today? It is not the world but the Church, the Catholic Church. Both human and divine she is here to lead us to Christ and thereby to salvation. God bless each of you and your families this New Year, Fr Bruno.

A CHRISTMAS PRAYER

*The gladness of Christmas is hope.
 The spirit of Christmas is peace.
 The heart of Christmas is love.
 May All three be yours and may the New Year be rich in blessings for you and those you know and love.*

'Start by doing what is necessary, then what is possible, and suddenly you are doing the impossible' [St Francis of Assisi].

Last Sunday's Collection: £362.93, 2nd: £54.37(Crib)

CRIB COLLECTION

Archbishop Peter Smith has asked Parishes to donate Crib Box Collections to help our Christian brothers and sisters in the Holy Land especially in and around Bethlehem and the Holy Family Parish in Gaza. All the money raised will be distributed to named families in the greatest need. The bishop's there have also asked us to pray for them in their suffering and troubles. Offer a prayer for them this week.

RECEIVING THE NEWSLETTER VIA EMAIL

If you would like to be put on a (BCC) mailing list to receive the parish newsletter via email, send an email to the parish office (address above).

PARISH WEEKDAY MASSES

From this week I will, for a period, be changing my day off - or rather my day away from parish duties - from Wednesday to Tuesday. This means there will be no public Mass here at St Mary's on Tuesdays but there will be Mass here on Wednesdays at 10 am. Fr Bruno.

PARISH DIARY

Date	Time	Place	Event	Contact
Tuesdays	3-4 pm	Cassidy Centre	Bible study & prayer group	Luke Fernandes, 556927
Thursdays	2-4 pm	Cassidy Centre	Seniors Club	David Alfred, 01273 540038
Sat 10 Jan	5.30-7 pm	Cassidy Centre	Start of Confirmation Program	John Stone or Fr Bruno
Sun 11 Jan	9.30 am	Cassidy Centre	Children's 1 st H. Communion meeting	
Mon 12 Jan	8.00 pm	Cassidy Centre	Parent's 1 st H. Communion meeting	

FOR YOUR PRAYERS

Please keep in your prayers those in our parish, or family members, who need our prayers at this time: Nikki Braterman, Lorna Briggs, Ann Chandler, Gladys Dillon, Mary Connett, Peter Cornelius, Paul Green, Claire Hill, Monica McLauchlan & Trudy Wood.

BIBLE STUDY

This Tuesday the Scripture study group led by Luke Fernandes will be starting again. It is open to all members of the parish and is something worthwhile and nourishing too to our faith. The one change will be that the group will be meeting in the Cassidy Centre at 3 pm and not 8-9 pm as last year. Hopefully this time will be more convenient.

Homelessness Sunday Coffee Morning

Sunday 18th January - Bring and Buy sale in the hall after 10 am Mass: cakes, gifts and raffle plus the usual tea and coffee. In aid of St Anne's Day Centre. Please bring your cakes and unwanted Christmas gifts etc. to the hall before Mass. Many thanks from The Social Concerns Group.

ST MARY'S YOUTH CLUB - (for 11-16 year olds)

Our first session for the new year starts with some great team games on Wednesday 14th of January from 19:30-21:00 at St Mary's Church Hall. New members always welcome. Please see our website for more information: <http://smyclub.co.uk/> or call Peter McDermott on 550187.

St Mary's Youth Club Ice Skating Trip

Our winter trip to the Royal Pavilion Ice rink is on **Sunday 18th of January at 5.15pm**. You will need to complete a form for the day out which can be found on: <http://smyclub.co.uk/> This needs to be posted to Peter McDermott by the 9th of January, or handed in at the next Youth Club session Wednesday 14th of January. For more information please call Peter McDermott on 01273 550187

MARRIAGE PREPARATION 2015

If you are thinking of getting married next year then book your place for a marriage preparation course which will take place in at Cassidy Centre here at St. Mary's.

Course 1: Saturday 18th April 9.45 to 4.30pm

Course 2: Saturday 6th June 9.45 to 4.30pm

Course 3: Saturday 21st September 9.45 to 4.30pm

Please **Contact Angela Fishenden** on either 01273 386593 or 01273 859703 (8.30 to 4pm) to book.

CONFIRMATION PROGRAM

This will start in the New Year on Saturday 10 January. Meetings will start at 5.30 pm in the Cassidy Centre. Details will be sent out soon to the candidates. The date for the confirmations is Sat. 23rd May, at 3 pm here in St Mary's.

PRAYER FOR THE LIGHT OF TRUTH

'O my God, I confess that *You can* enlighten my darkness. I confess that You *alone* can. I *wish* my darkness to be enlightened. I do not know whether You will: but that You can and that I wish, are sufficient reasons for me to *ask*, what You at least have not forbidden my asking. I hereby promise that by Your grace which I am asking, I will embrace whatever I at length feel certain is the truth, if ever I come to be certain. And by Your grace I will guard against all self-deceit which may lead me to take what nature would have, rather than what reason approves' [Blessed John Henry Newman].

ST BERNADETTE'S SCHOOL FORMS

For parents wanting to apply to send their children to St. Bernadette's Primary School this September Fr Bruno will be in the presbytery to sign forms **Sat. 10 Jan., 11-12 noon and Monday 12th again 11-12 noon**.

Social Concerns Group – meeting this week

Next meeting Friday 9th January 8.30 at Liz Woodhead's, 12, Bavant Road. Tel: 01273 556899. All most welcome.

THE RUCKSACK PROJECT

If you would like to get involved with helping those living rough on the streets over these freezing winter months, please read on: The Rucksack Project is not a charitable organisation, but a worldwide movement born out of a simple idea to help those sleeping rough. The idea is a simple one: source items from a list - see below (either from charity shops or from rummaging around in your own wardrobe), get a rucksack and put all items inside. **Bring the rucksack to the BHT First Base Day Centre on Saturday 10th January 2015 between 12.00-15.00**. If however, you would like to get a rucksack together but cannot take it on the 10th, that is fine, you can pass it to me and I will take it for you. Maybe your child would like to take part in filling a rucksack? The rucksack does not need to be new or particularly large but in a usable condition with enough space to contain the following items: • A sleeping bag or warm blanket • A woolly hat • Warm gloves • A warm scarf • Underwear (new) • Several pairs of warm socks (new) • A fleece • A Thermos flask • A few tins of soup with ring-pulls (easy to open) • A spoon • Tissues

For more information, please take a look at the following link: www.therucksackproject.org. For those of you who use Facebook, I have set up an event on my page. Otherwise, please contact me on maynymoo@yahoo.co.uk or 07903 882909 if you have any questions. Please label your rucksack accordingly if you have filled it with items specifically for a female.

Many thanks for your support, Jermaine French

FROM THE SAINTS

"Our Lord does not look so much at the greatness of our actions, but at the love with which we do them" [St. Therese of Lisieux].

THE IMPORTANT FEASTS OF THIS YEAR

18th February - Ash Wednesday, the beginning of Lent

5th April - Easter Day and the Resurrection of the Lord

14th May - the Ascension of our Lord Jesus Christ

24th May - the feast of Pentecost

7th June - the feast of Corpus Christi

29th November - the first Sunday of Advent