

# St Mary's Catholic Church

Surrenden Road, Preston Park, Brighton

**Parish Priest:** Fr Bruno Witchalls

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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 07 January, 2018

<u>Mass proper</u>		<u>Intention</u>
Sat	0 Vigil Mass	7 p.m. <i>Pro Populo - for the people of the parish</i>
	6	
Sun	0 <b><u>THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD</u></b>	10 a.m. <i>Lety Alfred, R.I.P.</i>
	7 Gospel: Matthew 2:1-12 Mass Book p118	12 noon <i>Germana Tenore, R.I.P.</i>
Mon	0 <b><u>THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD, Feast</u></b>	10 a.m. <i>Holy Souls</i>
Tue	8 [Mass at St Mary's House]	8.15 a.m. -
Wed	0 <i>Feria</i>	10 a.m. <i>Fr Frederick Hopper, R.I.P.</i>
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Thurs	1 Mass in the Extraordinary Form	7 p.m. <i>Tadeusz Kwiatkowski, R.I.P.</i>
	1	
Fri	1 <i>Feria</i>	10 a.m. <i>Private Intention</i>
Sat	2 <i>Saturday Morning Votive Mass to Our Lady</i>	10 a.m. <i>Holy Souls</i>
	1 Vigil Mass	7 p.m. <i>Pro Populo – for the people of the parish</i>
	3	
Sun	1 <b><u>2<sup>nd</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (B)</u></b>	10 a.m. <i>For the Wellbeing of Sabina D'Souza</i>
	4 Gospel: John 1:35-42 Mass Book p.127	12 noon <i>Wellbeing of Norina Ramos</i>

**Confessions Saturday 10.30 – 11 a.m., 6.15 – 6.45 p.m. & at call**  
**Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament for 1 hour before Friday Morning Mass**  
**Tea & Coffee after our Sunday 10 a.m. Mass. All are welcome to join us down in the hall for this.**

### THE FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY

The Christmas season ends today with the feast of the Epiphany when the wise men from the East arrive and worship the newborn King. With the feast of the Epiphany – which means a 'revealing of God' – we see how God's desire is not just to reveal his saving power to a chosen few, but to the whole world. During the Christmas Midnight Mass we had this reading from St Paul which explained what Jesus' birth brought to the world: 'God's grace has been revealed, and it has made salvation possible for the whole human race and taught us that what we have to do is to give up everything that does not lead to God, and all our worldly ambitions; we must be self-restrained and live good and religious lives here in this present world, while we are waiting in hope for the blessing which will come with the appearing of the glory of our great God and Saviour Christ Jesus.

**Christmas Day Retiring Collection:** Thank for your generous response. A total of £858 was collected. This has been sent to the St Thomas Fund for the Homeless.

**Sanctuary Lamp** this week is burning for the sick and housebound of the parish; **Our Lady's Lamp** for Frederick Mckay. If you would like one of these lamps to burn for a particular intention contact the parish office.

### CHRISTMAS THANKS

Many thanks for all the cards and gifts that were given to me over the Christmas period. I was very touched and grateful for each of them. Thank you also for the offerings given during the Christmas Masses. Finally thank you again to all those who contributed their time and effort to make our celebration of the Lord's Nativity so special for us and the many visitors who came to our Masses. Fr

He sacrificed himself for us in order to set us free from all wickedness and to purify a people so that it could be his very own and would have no ambition except to do good' (Titus 2:11-14). This we could say is our 'mission' as Christians. God bless you this New Year, Fr Bruno.

Bruno.

**ORDINARY TIME** - The Christmas Season ends today, on the feast of the Epiphany. Decorations are removed but by custom the crib may remain in place until February 2<sup>nd</sup>, the feast of the Presentation of our Lord in the Temple and 40 days after his birth.

PARISH DIARY				
Date	Time	Place	Event	Contact
Mondays	6.55-8 pm	Cassidy Centre	WCCM Christian Meditation Group	Celia 01273 555967
Wed 10 Jan	7.30-9 pm	Church Hall	Yrs 7-11 Youth club	<a href="http://www.smyclub.co.uk">www.smyclub.co.uk</a>
Fri 12 Jan	7-8.15 pm	Cassidy Centre	Echoes (3) 'Why the Church?'	Fr Bruno
Wed 17 Jan	1-2 pm	Cassidy Centre	SVP meeting	Luke Fernandes, 01273556927
Thur 18 Jan	2-4 pm	Cassidy Centre	1 <sup>st</sup> Seniors Club of the New Year	David Alfred, 01273 540038
Fri 19 Jan	7-8.15 pm	Cassidy Centre	Echoes (4) 'Why the Catechism?'	

#### Christmas Quote

'I'm so glad that Jesus was born in a stable, because my soul is so much like a stable. It is poor and in unsatisfactory condition because of guilt, falsehoods, inadequacies and sin. Yet I believe that if Jesus can be born in a stable, maybe he can also be born in me' [Dorothy Day, Servant of God].

#### FOR YOUR PRAYERS

Please keep in your prayers those who need them at this time including: Jerry Alfred, Ann Chandler, Mary Connett, Paddy Cumiskey, Amy Grimes, John & Judy Harrison, Dick & Betty Morris, Liz Regan, Glenn Rodrigues, Terry Rodrigues, Joe Standen, Callum Stone, Diana Taylor, Tom Walsh, Tracey Weller & Michael Ward.

#### CHILDRENS LITURGY

The signup sheets for Preschool & School Age Children are now in the church porch - Just 10 slots to fill January-April.

#### SCHOOL FORMS

For parents wishing to apply to send their children to St Bernadette's Primary School (or Cottesmore) in September 2018, Fr Bruno will be in the presbytery to sign forms on **Friday 12<sup>th</sup> January 11am-Midday**.

#### ECHOES – Parish based formation in the Faith

The next sessions will be on Fridays 12<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup> January 2018, 7-8.15 pm in the Cassidy Centre. Session 3 (12<sup>th</sup> Jan) is Titled 'Why the Church?' Anyone wanting to learn more about the faith in a small friendly group welcome on a come and see basis. Materials will be provided. A copy of the course book is in the porch for you to look at.

#### SENIORS CLUB – Thursdays 2-4 p.m.

The first meeting of the Seniors Club in the New Year will be on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> January, 2-4 p.m. As the New Year begins the club is always happy to welcome new members from the parish or the local community. Just come along or speak to Fr Bruno or David Alfred if interested.

#### DIOCESAN DIRECTORIES FOR 2018

These are available in the church porch. They are £5 each and provide much useful information about our diocese. They include names, addresses and telephone numbers of priests, parishes and schools, all the diocesan agencies, a calendar for the coming year and much more.

#### Heavens Road Radio – Monday 8<sup>th</sup> Jan 2018

You can listen to Bishop Richard speaking about the Catholic Church and its work around mental health on

#### Readers Day – Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> February

Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> February 11 am – 12.30 pm, in Church. Coral Olson, who is the 12 o'clock readers co-ordinator, has organised a day of reflection, prayer and re-commissioning for the 12 o'clock readers. If any readers from the 7 pm Saturday or 10 am Sunday Mass would like to participate please call Coral on 01273 500944

#### FLOWERS IN CHURCH

We are blessed to have generous volunteers in the parish who fill the church with beautiful flowers throughout the year and for our various feasts. They would be grateful though for some assistant helpers. If you feel this is something you would like to do, or learn to do, (often on a Thursday or Friday morning) please speak to Chris Rodrigues, Joan Spells or Fr Bruno.

#### The New Year

'Last year I gave up making resolutions. Seriously. I realised I needed to stop setting up unrealistic expectations for myself. Failing to keep them only made me feel discouraged, which did me no good at all. So now I just take it one day at a time. Little things: the small stuff that divine providence takes delight in throwing at me, just to make sure I'm paying attention. If marriage benefits from spontaneity, then surely our relationship with God does too. So here's a New Year's resolution to try for: letting Him ring the changes in us, in a multitude of different ways, each new day of this new year. After all, the best ideas are not our own' [Leonie Caldecott, editor of the Magnificat prayer booklet. Her Jan. 2018 editorial].

**DEEPENING OUR FAITH** – For deepening our faith and our prayer a resource many find useful is the

Heaven's Road Radio via the web  
[www.heavensroadfm.com](http://www.heavensroadfm.com)  
on this day or by using the listen again button.

**Homeless Sunday Coffee Morning** - Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> Jan  
Bring and Buy sale in the hall after 10 am Mass: cakes, gifts & raffle plus the usual tea and coffee, in aid of St Anne's Day Centre for Homeless & Lonely People. A chance to put any unwanted Christmas presents to good use! Please bring your **cakes** & **gifts** to the hall before Mass. Thanks.

'Magnificat' monthly booklet. Visit '[magnificat.co.uk](http://magnificat.co.uk)' for information and yearly subscription details. Another is 'A moment with Mary', a short and enlightening daily email, free of charge, to discover and love the Virgin Mary. Visit '[www.mariedenazareth.com/en/a-moment-with-mary/](http://www.mariedenazareth.com/en/a-moment-with-mary/)' for subscription details.

**'Give yourself fully to God. He will use you to accomplish great things on the condition that you believe much more in His love than in your own weakness'** [St Mother Teresa of Calcutta]