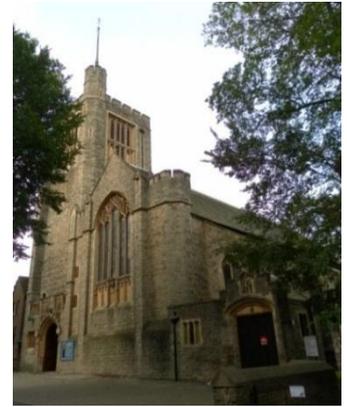


St Mary's Catholic Church

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 our church and to the parish

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

Parish Newsletter for w/c Sunday 07 December, 2014

<u>Mass proper</u>		<u>Intention</u>
Sat	06 [Vigil Mass]	7.00 p.m. Annie Kate Morrison, R.I.P.
Sun	07 2nd SUNDAY OF ADVENT (B) Gospel: Mark 1:1-8 Parish Mass Book p. 85	10.00 a.m. Ann Galbraith 12 noon Pro Populo – for the people of the parish
Mon	08 SOLEMNITY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION	10.00 a.m. Robert Reid, R.I.P.
Tue	09 <i>Advent Week 2</i>	10.00 a.m. Mary O'Donnell, R.I.P.
Wed	10 [Mass at St Mary's House]	8.15 a.m. -
Thur	11 <i>Advent Week 2</i> [Mass in the Extraordinary Form]	10.00 a.m. Teresa Powell, R.I.P. 7.00 p.m. Fr Donat
Fri	12 <i>Advent Week 2</i> TALK ON MARY, BENEDICTION, CONFESSIONS	10.00 a.m. Anthony Thorpe 7.00 p.m. PARISH ADVENT MISSION
Sat	13 <i>St Lucy, Virgin and Martyr</i> [Vigil Mass]	10.00 a.m. John & Judy Harrison, Golden Jubilee 7.00 p.m. Christina Macleod, R.I.P.
Sun	14 3rd SUNDAY OF ADVENT (B) Gospel: John 1:6-8,19-28 Parish Mass Book p. 87	10.00 a.m. Harvey Pereira, R.I.P. 12 noon Pro Populo – for the people of the parish

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 Holy Sacrifice of the Mass

Tea and Coffee after our Sunday 10 am Mass. All are welcome to join us down in the hall after Mass.

Last week's collections: 1st: £546.04, 2nd: £91.17

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

In the stress and agitation of this time of year it is important to find time to come to God's house and to schedule in quiet moments to prepare ourselves for the coming of the Lord at Christmas. His intention was not to come once in a place far away but to enter into the life of each one of us, without exception. 'Advent is that sacred season of anticipation and expectation in which we come to terms with the deepest yearning of our soul - a yearning fulfilled only in Jesus Christ. As we wait in longing for the coming of the Christ child at Christmas, we turn over to him all the false satisfactions - the compromises - of our life. To live Advent is to live in the awareness of a Presence that changes us. Our Advent preparation is marked by vigilance - custody of the heart in which we keep our soul fixed on the Lord. For what we see incarnate in the infant Jesus we desire for ourselves: purity, innocence, childlikeness restored.' In the birth of this child we see the promise and hope of our own being made new and whole. God bless you this Advent, Fr Bruno.

'However long the night, the dawn will break' [African Proverb].

PARISH MISSION NEXT WEEKEND

Next weekend, 12-14 December, Fr Michael Creech a Redemptorist priest will be here to preach a parish Advent mission. I hope as many of you as possible will be able to benefit from his wisdom, holiness and humour. He writes this for you this week: "*December is such a busy month it is easy to forget Advent, the joyful season preparing for the Birth of our Saviour. I look forward to being with you next weekend; celebrating Mass and spending time in the confessional to help celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation; such an important part of pre-Christmas preparation. As part of my visit there will be a service in honour of Our Lady and Benediction this Friday evening at 7 pm. This weekend is in my prayers daily. Please keep it in yours.*" Fr Michael Creech C.Ss.R

PARISH FEAST DAY ON MONDAY

Our parish is dedicated to our Lady and the feast of the Immaculate Conception this Monday, 8th December, is our feast day. A blessed feast day to you all and may our Lady continue to watch over all those in her parish.

PARISH DIARY

Date	Time	Place	Event	Contact
Tuesdays	8-9 pm	Cassidy Centre	Bible study & prayer group	Luke Fernandes, 556927
Thursdays	2-4 pm	Cassidy Centre	Seniors Club	David Alfred, 540038
Thur 11 Dec	8 pm		RCIA meeting	Fr Bruno
Sun 14 Dec	9.30 am	Cassidy Centre	Children's 1 st Holy Communion session	Janet, 01273 552900
Sun 21 Dec	6 pm	Church	Parish Christmas Carol Service	

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.

CHRISTMAS FAIR

'The Christmas fair committee would like to thank all those who helped with this year's fair. In particular we would like to thank the stall holders and their helpers, those who set up and cleared away, and all the children who donated jars. A very big thank you to you all, Eve.'

On behalf of the parish I would also like to say a big thank you especially to Eve and her close helpers, Henry, Tess, Nick & Vicky. After expenses we raised a grand total of £3380.93. A breakdown of what each stall raised is available in the church porch. From this the parish will make a donation to two local charities who work with the homeless, St Anne's Day Centre and the St Thomas Fund for the Homeless. Fr Bruno.

FOOD AND BEDDING FOR WINTER

Thank you for the prompt and generous response for food and blankets for the homeless people who often come to the presbytery door. They are always appreciative.

CHRISTMAS TREE FOR THE CHURCH

One of our former parishioners, Tanya Simmonds, used to buy and deliver the tree for the Church each Christmas but earlier this year emigrated to Australia. Would someone like to buy and deliver a (largish) tree for the church? Let Fr Bruno know first so we end up with a tree and not a forest of Christmas trees in the Church.

Advent Reflection - "The Unsatisfied Longing"

'I've always sensed that the Advent attitudes of waiting, expecting, hoping, and anticipating somehow speak to the deepest desires of our heart. That is probably because our whole existence here below is characterized precisely by these attitudes. The world is filled with wonderful things and experiences - deep joys and satisfactions. But we all know that nothing here finally satisfies us. No matter how much we know, we want to know more; no matter how much we love, we want greater love; no matter how much beauty we attain, we sense that there is a perfect beauty that we haven't seen. "O come O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel." That great Advent hymn catches our ache. As we move into this season of anticipation, allow that ache to develop, preparing you for the satisfaction that will arrive only in Christ' [Fr Robert Barron, www.wordonfire.org].

'BLESSING'

'In the midst of our complicated lives, we are humbled by the blessing of God taking on our humanity. In the midst of our problematic lives, we are humbled by the blessing of the innocence of a newborn child. In the midst of our individualistic lives, we are humbled by the blessing of the Holy Family of Nazareth and of our own families. Amen.'

ADVENT PENITENTIAL SERVICES

Opportunities to be reconciled with God this Advent:

Sacred Heart, Hove: Mon 08 Dec., 7.30 pm

St Mary's, Preston Park: Fri 12 Dec., 7 pm

O.L. of Lourdes, Rottingdean: Fri 12 Dec., 7.30 pm

St Joseph's, Elm Grove: Tue 16 Dec., 7.30 pm

St John the Baptist's, Kemp Town: Sun 21 Dec., 3 pm

Next Weekend and Saturdays here in St Mary's.

QUOTE

'Carry out a random act of kindness, with no expectation of reward, safe in the knowledge that one day someone might do the same for you' [Princess Diana].

SVP TWINNAGE COLLECTION TINS

Those who have these tins are requested to return them to the Church for collection over the next two weekends. The money is used to help the needy in Brighton as well as the twinned villages in India. Contact Luke Fernandes (01273 556927) or Mary Cornelius (558812)

PARISH CHRISTMAS CAROL SERVICE

The Annual Carol Service will be held here at St Mary's 6pm, Sun. 21 Dec. Anyone who would like to join the choir for this event would be very welcome. Rehearsals in Church 11am Sat 13th, 8pm Thur 18th, 11am Sat 20th.

ST BERNADETTE'S SCHOOL FORMS

For parents wanting to apply to send their children to St Bernadette's Primary School next September Fr Bruno will be in the presbytery to sign forms on the following dates: **Mon 15 Dec., 11am-12pm, 5-7pm, Fri 19 Dec., 5-7 pm.** There will be another date in the new year.

BAPTISM CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to baby Amelia Haroutunian who was baptized and became a child of God this last Saturday. If you would like for your child to be baptized pick up a form at the back of the church.

BOOK RECOMMENDATIONS

If you have read a good book and would recommend it to others write down it's title with a very short resume, drop it into the presbytery and it can be shared in the newsletter.