

# 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 08 January, 2017

		<u>Mass proper</u>			<u>Intention</u>
Sat	07		Vigil Mass	7.00 p.m.	<i>For the Intention of Dick &amp; Betty Morris</i>
Sun	08	<b><u>THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD</u></b>		10.00 a.m.	<i>Pro Populo - for the people of the parish</i>
		Gospel: Matthew 2:1-12	Mass Book p115	12 noon	<i>Mary Cosham, R.I.P.</i>
Mon	09	<b><u>THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD, Feast</u></b>		10.00 a.m.	<i>Fr Frederick Hopper, R.I.P</i>
Tue	10		[Mass at St Mary's House]	8.15 a.m.	-
Wed	11	<i>Week 1 in Ordinary Time</i>		10.00 a.m.	<i>Peter Hui, R.I.P</i>
Thurs	12		Mass in the Extraordinary Form	7.00 p.m.	<i>Michael O'Sullivan, R.I.P</i>
Fri	13	<i>Week 1 in Ordinary Time</i>		10.00 a.m.	<i>Baby William Knight, R.I.P</i>
Sat	14	<i>Saturday Morning Votive Mass to Our Lady</i>		10.00 a.m.	<i>Maurice &amp; Sophie Depauw, R.I.P</i>
			Vigil Mass	7.00 p.m.	<i>Holy Souls</i>
Sun	15	<b><u>2<sup>nd</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A)</u></b>		10.00 a.m.	<i>Pro Populo - for the people of the parish</i>
		Gospel: Matthew 4:12-23	Mass Book p.125	12 noon	<i>Maria Paz &amp; Claudia Luis</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 come and worship the newborn King. The birth of our Lord into this world was something God willed to be away from prying eyes and it was. However his coming into the world was not meant to be kept hidden forever. 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. Following those three kings it was inspiring to hear our own Queen publicly declare herself as a Christian in her message to the nation this Christmas and adding that Jesus is the 'guiding light' for her life. May he be so more and more for us, our parish and our families this year. God bless each of you this New Year, Fr Bruno.

### PARENTS FIRST COMMUNION MEETING

Due to the Southern Train issues the meeting scheduled for the 9<sup>th</sup> has been postponed till Monday 16<sup>th</sup> January at 8pm as usual in the Cassidy Centre.

January 1<sup>st</sup> Collection: £415.28, 2<sup>nd</sup> collection: £48.81

**Sanctuary Lamp** this week is burning for Mary Cosham, R.I.P. **Our Lady's Lamp** for the children in the parish preparing for their First Holy Communion. If you would like for either 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 Bruno.

### PEACE SUNDAY - 8<sup>th</sup> January

Next Sunday (Peace Sunday) the second collection will be for the charity *Pax Christi*. The work of *Pax Christi* is based on the gospel and inspired by faith. Their vision is of a world where people can live in peace, without fear of violence in all its forms. Rooted in Catholic Christianity, they work with all who share their values to abolish war and create communities of peace and justice. Please pick up a collection / gift aid envelope today.

## PARISH DIARY

<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Place</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Contact</b>
Tuesdays	3-4 pm	Cassidy Centre	Bible Study & Prayer Group	Luke Fernandes, 01273556927
Wed 11 Jan	7.30-9 pm	Church Hall	Yrs 7-11 Youth club	<a href="http://www.smyclub.co.uk">www.smyclub.co.uk</a>
Sat 14 Jan	12 noon	Church	Aoife Jane Cumberbatch - Baptism	Fr Bruno
Mon 16 Jan	8 pm	Cassidy Centre	Parents 1 <sup>st</sup> Holy Communion Meeting	Mrs Janet Silva
Wed 18 Jan	1-2 pm	Cassidy Centre	SVP meeting	Luke Fernandes, 01273556927

### FOR YOUR PRAYERS

Please keep in your prayers those in our parish, or family members, who need them at this time, especially: Lorna Briggs, Mary Connett, Paul Green, Dick Morris, Terry Rodrigues, Callum Stone, Diana Taylor, Tom Walsh & Tracey Weller

### SENIORS CLUB

The first meeting of the Seniors Club this year will be on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> January, 2-4 p.m. David Alfred has been running this important club for many years but is finding it more difficult to prepare and arrange things for the club each week by himself. Is there someone who would like to assist him each week in running the club? Please pray about this and if you feel you can help please see David or Fr Bruno. Thank you.

### Advent Carol Service

Thank you again to all those involved in this. The collection taken after the service and from the refreshments afterwards raised over £600 which has been sent to Mary's Meals. Thank you.

**Christmas Day Homeless Collection** - Thank you to everyone for the very generous response to this retiring collection. A total of £619.54 was collected which has been divided between the two Brighton Homeless charities.

### CHRISTMAS CARD RECYCLING

Rather than throw your Christmas cards in the recycling bin, could you perhaps leave them in a bag in the Church porch? A parishioner likes to recycle and make new ones from them with the proceeds going to charity. Thank you.

**St Bernadette's / Cottesmore Application Forms** - Fr Bruno will be in the presbytery to sign forms on **Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> Jan 6-7 p.m.** The completed forms will then be taken directly to the schools the next day.

### DIOCESAN DIRECTORIES FOR 2017

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.

### PRESTON PARK (St Mary's) PRE-SCHOOL

Long established community preschool with fully qualified, caring & experienced staff are now taking applications for September 2017. Age 2½ - 5 years old (There are a few sessions available for this school year). Open 9am-1pm with some funded sessions available. This lovely preschool is situated in the spacious Church Hall of St Mary's with a large secluded garden for the children to enjoy. Funding from 3 & for eligible 2 year olds. Visitors welcome - OFSTED Registration 130762  
Email: [prestonpark5@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:prestonpark5@yahoo.co.uk) or call 01273 557144

### A Prayer inspired by the Three Kings

Lord and God! You created us for a lifelong journey to you. Each one of us takes a different path over mountains and through valleys, through joy and sorrow and need. May the three Holy Kings guide us in our wanderings, as their faith, knowledge, and determination guided them through many perils on their journey to you. They saw you, knelt before you, offered up their gifts, and paid homage to you. They were filled with the joy of finding you.

Lord and God! We thank you for granting us the freedom to seek and find you, our life's goal. Grant us the faith, strength, and trust we need to follow in the path of the three kings. Give us courage when we are at risk of taking easier but false paths. Let us experience the joy of being with you at the end of our journey, so that we may be eternally surrounded by your love. We ask this, through Jesus Christ our Lord, the destination of every pilgrimage. Amen.

### Homeless Sunday Coffee Morning - Sunday

**22<sup>nd</sup> 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 Annes Day Centre for the Homeless. Please bring your **cakes** and **gifts** etc to the hall before Mass. Put those unwanted Christmas gifts to good use!

### Vocations Weekend for Young Women

**(20's & 30's)** - Discerning God's Call - 27<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup> January 2017. The weekend is organized by the sisters, Faithful Companions of Jesus (FCJ). There will be input from the FCJ sisters on different aspects of the consecrated life, time for prayer, reflection and discussion with other young women who are also considering a vocation to religious life. It's an opportunity to live community life for a weekend & meet some sisters! For more information contact Sr Lynne fcj at [lymfecj@hotmail.com](mailto:lymfecj@hotmail.com) or visit our website [www.fcjsisters.org](http://www.fcjsisters.org).

### Quiet Day - Wed. 1<sup>st</sup> February 10am-4pm

In the Footsteps of St Ignatius. Practising Ignatian Prayer & Discovering God within. Led by members of the Chemin Neuf Community. Light lunch provided. At Storrington Priory, RH20 4LN. Enquiry / Registration call 01903 742150.

**Quote:** 'The only cure for sagging or fainting faith is Communion. Though always itself, perfect and complete and inviolate, the Blessed Sacrament does not operate completely and once for all in any of us. Like the act of Faith it must be continuous and grow by exercise. Frequency is of the highest effect. Seven times a week is more nourishing than seven times at intervals' [JRR Tolkein].