

# 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 March, 2015

<u>Mass proper</u>		<u>Intention</u>
Sat	7 [Vigil Mass]	7.00 p.m. <i>Pro Populo – for the people of the parish</i>
Sun	8 <b>3<sup>rd</sup> SUNDAY OF LENT (B)</b> Gospel: John 2:13-25 Parish Mass Book p.158	10.00 a.m. <i>In Thanksgiving (D'Souza family)</i> 12 noon <i>Louisa Binks, R.I.P</i>
Mon	9 3 <sup>rd</sup> week of Lent	10.00 a.m. <i>Nancy Hart, R.I.P</i>
Tue	10 [Mass at St Mary's House]	8.15 a.m. -
Wed	11 3 <sup>rd</sup> week of Lent	10.00 a.m. <i>Elisabeth Creedon, R.I.P</i>
Thur	12 3 <sup>rd</sup> week of Lent [Traditional Mass, 1962 Missal]	10.00 a.m. <i>For Vocations</i> 7.00 p.m. <i>In Thanksgiving (Francisco Aguirre)</i>
Fri	13 3 <sup>rd</sup> week of Lent	10.00 a.m. <i>Pam Sands, R.I.P</i> <b>7.00p.m. Stations of the Cross [in the Church]</b>
Sat	14 3 <sup>rd</sup> week of Lent	10.00 a.m. <i>Mary Hannaby, R.I.P.</i> 7.00 p.m. <i>Joseph Pirolli, R.I.P.</i>
Sun	15 <b>4<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY OF LENT (B)</b> Gospel: John 3:14-21 Parish Mass Book p166	10.00 a.m. <i>Tom McEvoy, R.I.P.</i> 12 noon <i>Pro Populo – for the people of the parish</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 after our Sunday 10 a.m. Mass. All are welcome to join us down in the hall for this**

#### THE GOSPEL THIS WEEK

Again and again the readings and prayers given to us at Mass in Lent direct our attention to the Cross and try to prepare each one of us to enter more deeply into its mystery. Here is a commentary I found about today's readings: "The words of the Apostle Paul, which today the liturgy proposes for our meditation, resound in my mind: "We preach Christ crucified: a stumbling block to Jews and folly to Gentiles, but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ [is] the power of God and the wisdom of God". I have nothing to propose or give to those whom I shall meet except Christ and the Good News of his Cross, a mystery of supreme love, of divine love that overcomes all human resistance and even makes forgiveness and love for one's enemies possible. This is the grace of the Gospel that is capable of transforming the world. The Church, therefore, does not pursue economic, social or political objectives; the Church proclaims Christ, certain that the Gospel can move the hearts of all and transform them, thereby renewing people and societies from within' [Benedict XVI]. God bless you, Fr Bruno.

Last Sunday's Collection: £561.07,  
 CAFOD Family Fast Day 2<sup>nd</sup> Collection: £363.09  
 Next week's 2<sup>nd</sup> coll. for The Comboni Missionaries

#### GENERAL ELECTION 2015

The Bishops have written a joint letter to all Catholics in England and Wales encouraging us to participate and vote in the election and offering some key issues and questions for reflection on where candidates stand. Copies available in the porch and at [www.catholicnews.org.uk](http://www.catholicnews.org.uk).

#### MOTHER'S PRAYERS Day, Sat. 14 March

This well-known and important group is organizing a 'Mothers prayers day' next Saturday, 14<sup>th</sup> March 10 - 3.30pm at St Mary Magdalene's, Upper North Street, Brighton. It begins with Mass at 10am and then continues with prayers, support & friendship. All are welcome.

#### BAPTISM PREPARATION EVENING

This Friday Evening there is our next Baptism Preparation evening for parents, 7-7.40pm, in the Cassidy Centre. As well as regular attendance at Mass this short evening is offered to parents wishing to have their children baptized.

*'Let nothing trouble you, Let nothing scare you, All is fleeting, God alone is unchanging' – St Teresa of Avila*

## 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, 556927
Thursdays	2-4 pm	Cassidy Centre	Seniors Club	David Alfred, 01273 540038
Wed 11 Mar	7.30-9 pm	Cassidy Centre	Yrs 7 - 11 Youth Club	'smyclub.co.uk'
Thur 12 Mar	8 pm		RCIA meeting	Eve Morrison
Fri 13 March	7 pm	Cassidy Centre	Baptism Preparation class for Parents	Fr Bruno
Sat 14 March	11 am	Church	Choir Practice	Charles Wookey
Sat 14 March	5.30 pm	Cassidy Centre	Confirmation Class	John Stone
Mon 16 Mar	8 pm	Cassidy Centre	Parents 1 <sup>st</sup> Holy Communion Meeting	Janet Forte/Charles Wookey

### 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, Anne Chandler, Paul Green, Claire Hill, Monica McLaughlan & Dennis Palmer.

### CHURCH TRANSFIGURED: **Renewing Ourselves & Our Parishes in the Light of Christ**

Sat 14<sup>th</sup> March 10am-3.30pm at Card. Newman Catholic School. Hosted by the Wellspring Community: talks, Q&A, Mass, Adoration & Reconciliation. For info email: [admin@wellspringbrighton.or.uk](mailto:admin@wellspringbrighton.or.uk) or call 07975 845 193

### A DAY WITH MARY

Westminster Cathedral - Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> March, 2015.

A day of instruction, devotion & intercession, based on the message given at Fatima in 1917. Starts at 9.45am with procession & Mass. Please bring a packed lunch. Tea / coffee provided. See poster in church porch for details.

**SOCIAL CONCERNS GROUP** - Next meeting Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> March 8.30 at Liz Woodhead's - 12 Bavant Road. Tel 01273 556899. All most welcome

### 'ENCOUNTER' Evening for Young Catholics (15-30)

ENCOUNTER evenings are proving really popular. We have live music, adoration and some brilliant talks, and we usually get a lot of people. Everyone is welcome. It's totally free, just turn up! It's a great way to explore your faith & make new friends. The next one is on Friday March 20<sup>th</sup> at 7pm at St Wilfrid's School in Crawley (RH11 8PG). Search 'Two:42 Young Adults' on Facebook for more information.

### **WORD STUDY - 'MEDIATOR' (Heb 12:24)**

*Mesites (Gk.):* a middleman who tries to resolve differences between two parties or help them work together toward a common end. The term is used six times in the NT, twice in reference to Moses and four times for Christ. Moses was the mediator of the Old Covenant who stood in the gap between Israel and the Lord. He spoke the word of God to Israel in the Law, and he spoke to God on behalf of Israel as an intercessor. Christ is a more perfect mediator between God and his people because he unites in himself both humanity and divinity. He therefore mediates and administers a more excellent covenant than did Moses and the priests of Israel, a covenant that brings the Father and the human family together through an eternal redemption from sin and perpetual intercession in heaven.

### A PRAYER

'O Lord, remember not only the men and women of good will, but also those of ill will. But do not remember all the suffering they have inflicted on us; remember the fruits we have brought, thanks to this suffering - our comradeship, our loyalty, our humility, our courage, our generosity, the greatness of heart which has grown out of all this, and when they come to judgement let all the fruits which we have borne be their forgiveness'.

*[Prayer written by an unknown prisoner in Ravensbruck concentration camp and left by the body of a dead child]*

### STATIONS OF THE CROSS

During Lent these are on Friday at 7 pm in the Church.

### HEALING & FORGIVENESS - A Retreat

Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March - Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> March - This retreat explores the stages of forgiveness, and how better understanding of those processes can help us to focus our efforts to forgive more effectively - for ourselves & for those around us. Cost £185 residentially / £98 non-residentially. Email: [enquiries@stcuthmans.org](mailto:enquiries@stcuthmans.org) / Tel: 01403 741220. St Cuthman's Retreat & Meeting Centre, Cowfold Road, Coolham, RH13 8QL.

### CALLING MARRIED COUPLES

Marriage Encounter is a weekend away to explore where you are going & to enliven your relationship, bringing you closer & deepening your commitment to your lifetime together. Marriage Encounter is for anyone who believes they made the right choice on their wedding day & every day after. This is not relationship counselling or a retreat. The weekend is presented from a Catholic Christian perspective but any married couple is welcome to attend. There are spaces available on the weekend at Park Place (Wickham, near Fareham, Hampshire) on 19-21 June. For information & online booking visit [www.wwme.org](http://www.wwme.org) or contact Chris & Mary Farrall - 02380 275 401

### RECENTLY MARRIED?

A new initiative is being launched in Brighton aimed at recently married Catholic (and 'half' Catholic couples). Lara Merk, the pastoral assistant at the Sacred Heart, is arranging get-togethers for these couples every 2 months or so for friendship, prayer, a meal and some short teaching input. If you are interested please contact her directly at [lmsacredheart@gmail.com](mailto:lmsacredheart@gmail.com)'.

**And finally ...** After church one Sunday morning, a mother commented, 'The choir was awful this morning'. The father commented 'The sermon was too long'. Their seven-year-old daughter added, 'But you've got to admit it was a pretty good show for 10p'.