

St Mary's Catholic Church

Surrenden Road, Preston Park, Brighton

Parish Priest: Fr Bruno Witchalls
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 Call John Morrison 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 10 January, 2016

	<u>Mass proper</u>		<u>Intention</u>
Sat 09		Vigil Mass	7.00 p.m. <i>Claire Ashing, R.I.P</i>
Sun 10	<u>THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD</u>		10.00 a.m. <i>Pro Populo - for the people of the parish</i>
	Gospel: Luke 3: 15-16,21-22	Mass Book p118	12 noon <i>William & Christopher Aston, R.I.P.</i>
Mon 11	<i>Week 1 in Ordinary Time</i>		10.00 a.m. <i>Noreen Irwin, R.I.P</i>
Tue 12		[Mass at St Mary's House]	8.15 a.m. -
Wed 13	<i>Week 1 in Ordinary Time</i>		10.00 a.m. <i>Thomson Family</i>
Thurs 14	<i>Week 1 in Ordinary Time</i>		10.00 a.m. <i>Priest's Intention</i>
		Traditional Mass, 1962 Missal	7.00 p.m. <i>Private Intention (Miroslawa)</i>
Fri 15	<i>Week 1 in Ordinary Time</i>		10.00 a.m. <i>Priest's Intention</i>
Sat 16	<i>The Blessed Virgin Mary "on Saturday"</i>		10.00 a.m. <i>Priest's Intention</i>
		Vigil Mass	7.00 p.m. <i>Noel Healy, R.I.P</i>
Sun 17	<u>2ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (C)</u>		10.00 a.m. <i>Colette Colman, R.I.P</i>
	Gospel: John 2: 1-11	Mass Book p.127	12 noon <i>Pro Populo - for the people of the parish</i>

Confessions Saturday 10.30 – 11 a.m., 6.15 – 6.45 p.m. & at call

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament on hold while work going on in the church

Tea & Coffee after our Sunday 10 a.m. Mass. All are welcome to join us down in the hall for this.

THE GIFT OF BAPTISM

St Louis of France used to sign his documents not, 'Louis IX, King' but 'Louis of Poissy.' Someone asked him why, and he answered: 'Poissy is the place where I was baptised. I think more of the place where I was baptised than of Rheims Cathedral where I was crowned. It is a greater thing to be a child of God than to be the ruler of a Kingdom: this last I shall lose at death, but the other will be my passport to an everlasting glory.' God bless you this week, Fr Bruno.

Parish Survey: Prayer, Formation, Mission

Bishop Richard has asked for all of us to look at three areas of our life as Christians – Prayer, Formation and Mission. I would be grateful for your feedback about how we can best go forward with this in the parish. If you could pick up a survey from the porch and return it to the presbytery by Ash Wednesday (10 February) I would be most grateful.

SANCTUARY WORKS:

The stonemasons have been in the church this week putting in the stone support for the Tabernacle. It is Bath Stone and at the moment it is drying out. Weekday Masses will continue to be in the Cassidy Centre until the work is done.

December 27th Collection : £371.85, 2nd coll: 121.72
 January 3rd Collection: £494.53, 2nd coll: £70.10
 Next Week's 2nd collection will be for Pax Christi

School Supplementary Information Forms

Fr Bruno will be in the presbytery to sign forms on Monday 11th Jan 11am-12. The completed forms will then be taken to the schools before the closing date.

YEAR OF MERCY – VISIT OF THE ICON

The icon of Our Lady of Consolation, representative of the Year of Mercy, is travelling around the diocese visiting all the schools and parishes. **St Mary's will welcome the Icon this Thursday 14th January.** The Image will be on display in the church during the day as well as down in the Cassidy Centre for Mass. You are invited to come into the church anytime to venerate the image, light a candle and pick up a prayer card.

Prayer to Our Lady of Consolation

O God, who through the Virgin Mary has willed to give to your people the true consolation, Jesus Christ; grant to us who venerate her, under the title of Our Lady of Consolation, the grace to co-operate with her in the work of Redemption. We ask this through Christ Our Lord. Amen.

PARISH DIARY

Date	Time	Place	Event	Contact
Tuesdays	3-4 pm	Cassidy Centre	Bible Study & Prayer Group	Luke Fernandes, 01273556927
Thursdays	2-4 pm	Cassidy Centre	Seniors Club	David Alfred, 01273 540038
Wed 13 Jan	7.30-9 pm	Church Hall	Yrs 7-11 Youth club	www.smyclub.co.uk
Fri 15 Jan	7 pm	Cassidy Centre	Baptism Preparation Class	Fr Bruno
Sun 17 Jan	9.30 am	Cassidy Centre	Children's 1 st Communion meeting	Janet Silva
Mon 18 Jan	8 pm	Cassidy Centre	Parents 1 st Holy Comm. Meeting	Janet Silva
Tues 19 Jan	7.30 pm	Cassidy Centre	Confirmation Meeting	Fr Bruno
Wed 20 Jan	1 pm	Cassidy Centre	SVP Meeting	Luke Fernandes

FOR YOUR PRAYERS

Please keep in your prayers those in our parish, or family members, who need them at this time: Lorna Briggs, Anne Chandler, Mary Connett, Harry Cross, Paul Green, Claire Hill, Tracy Larratt, Daphne Moffatt, Resi Michel, Dick Morris, Terry Rodrigues & Tracey Weller.

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? Verity Cross recycles and make new ones from them, to give and sell. Last year she raised over £500 for the local St Thomas Fund for the homeless in this way.

SENIORS CLUB

Every Thursday, 2-4 pm, in the Cassidy Centre behind the Church, we have our 'Seniors Club.' It is generally for retired people and is an opportunity to come together, to enjoy the company of others, share a cup of tea and play games such as Bingo. New members are always welcome. Simply come along and you will be made most welcome

A MEDITATION

"One night there rang out over the stillness of an evening breeze the cry of the heart of God in the voice of a child. And when the Babe grew in grace and wisdom, He went into the public lanes and market places, and began to teach a new doctrine to men - the doctrine of the Divine Sense of Humour. Everything He said, everything He did could be summed up in these words: Nothing in the world is to be taken seriously, nothing - except the salvation of a soul. Such is the history of the Divine Sense of Humour, and now that we know what it is, we may ask who are they who understand and possess it, and here the answer must be that those who possess it in its fullness are saints. I do not mean canonized saints, but rather the great army of solid Christians to whom everything speaks a story of God's love. A saint can be defined as one who has a Divine Sense of Humour, for a saint never takes the world seriously as the lasting city. To him the world is like a scaffolding up through which souls climb to the Kingdom of Heaven, and when the last soul shall have climbed up through it, then it shall be torn down, not because it is base, but simply because it has done its work. He who came to this earth to teach us the Divine Sense of Humour showed us everything that was lovely and beautiful in His Character - except one thing. He showed us his power; He showed us his Wisdom; He showed us His melting kindness; He showed us His sorrow; He showed us His tears; but there was one thing He saved for Heaven that will make heaven, Heaven, and that was - His Smile!" Archbishop Fulton Sheen (Manifestations of Christ)

New Year Prayer

*Thank You Lord for giving me the brand new year ahead.
Help me live the way I should as each new day I tread.
Give me gentle wisdom that I may help a friend,
Give me strength and courage so a shoulder I might lend.
The year ahead is empty, help me fill it with good things
Each new day filled with joy & the happiness it brings. Amen*

Christmas Day Homeless Collection - Thank you to everyone for the very generous response to this collection. A total of £450 was collected. Thank you.

SVP New Members always welcomed

Meetings - 3rd Wed. in the month, 1pm, Cassidy Centre. The St Vincent de Paul Society (or as it is often known - the SVP) is an international Christian voluntary organisation dedicated to tackling poverty and disadvantage by providing practical assistance to those in need. Our members make visits to individuals and families, to the sick at home or in hospitals & hospices and to residential homes. Loneliness, especially among the elderly is growing, so members spend a lot of time visiting housebound people to prevent them from feeling isolated. Many appreciate a friendly face and enjoy a chat over a cup of tea, knowing that someone cares. If you are interested in joining our parishes SVP group come along to our next meeting on Jan 20th or contact Luke Fernandes for further information.

The Social Concerns Group Needs You!

We urgently need new members! Could you be one of them? At present we focus on fundraising for charities by organising coffee mornings, quiz nights and a stall at the annual Catholaity Fair, also encouraging social involvement. **But** we are limited by being a very small group! With a few new people we could get involved in further projects and link up with other groups. New ideas and suggestions are always very welcome. For more information please contact Claire Shelton-Jones 01273 505642 claire.shelton-jones@virgin.net or just come along to our next meeting on Wednesday 13th January 8.30pm at Liz Woodhead's, 12, Bavant Road

THE IMPORTANT FEASTS OF THIS YEAR

10 February - Ash Wednesday, the beginning of Lent
27 March - Easter and the Resurrection of the Lord
5 May - The Ascension of our Lord Jesus Christ
15 May - The feast of Pentecost
29 May - The feast of Corpus Christi
20 November - The feast of Christ the King
27 November - The First Sunday of Advent
[NB the dates in the diocesan directory (p. 254) have been listed incorrectly]

'Christians are made, not born' [St Jerome].