

# St Mary's Catholic Church

Surrenden Road, Preston Park, Brighton

Parish Priest: Fr Bruno Witchalls  
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 Hall and Cassidy Centre - Enquiries and Bookings -  
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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 14 February, 2016

	<u>Mass proper</u>	<u>Intention</u>
Sat 13	Vigil Mass	7 p.m. <i>Scott Family</i>
Sun 14	<b>1<sup>st</sup> SUNDAY OF LENT (C)</b> Gospel: Luke 4:1-13 Mass Book p.153	10 a.m. <i>John Raynard</i> 12 noon <i>Pro Populo - for the people of the parish</i>
Mon 15	<i>Lent, Week 1</i>	10 a.m. <i>Priest's Intention</i>
Tue 16	[Mass at St Mary's House]	8.15 a.m. -
Wed 17	<i>Lent, Week 1</i>	10 a.m. <i>Priest's Intention</i>
Thurs 18	<i>Lent, Week 1</i> Traditional Mass, 1962 Missal	10 a.m. <i>Priest's Intention</i> 7 p.m. <i>Fr K Millar Waugh, R.I.P</i>
Fri 19	<i>Lent, Week 1</i>	10 a.m. <i>Health &amp; Wellbeing of Maureen Allan</i> 7 p.m. <i>Stations of the Cross</i>
Sat 20	<i>Lent, Week 1</i> Vigil Mass	10 a.m. <i>For the victims of Abortion</i> 7 p.m. <i>Achim Jansen</i>
Sun 21	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> SUNDAY OF LENT (C)</b> Gospel: Luke 9:28-36 Mass Book p.156	10 a.m. <i>Pro Populo - for the people of the parish</i> 12 noon <i>Pierrette Barbara Atallah, R.I.P</i>

**Confessions Saturday 10.30 – 11 a.m., 6.00 – 6.45 p.m. & at call**  
**Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament before Mass Friday, 8.50-9.50 a.m.**  
**Tea & Coffee after our Sunday 10 a.m. Mass. All are welcome to join us down in the hall for this.**

### THE BEGINNING OF LENT

I came across this short meditation in the *Magnificat* prayer guide this week (p. 173) about the very real human need for silence, something essential for our life and growth. It is written by a lay woman from America, Beth Elfrey. This is what she writes: '... How often we are distracted from God's grace by the hectic, noisy demands of everyday family life? In a homily to the Carthusian monks in Serra San Bruno, Pope Benedict XVI explained, "By withdrawing into silence and solitude, human beings, so to speak, 'expose' themselves to reality in their nakedness, to that apparent 'void' ... in order to experience instead Fullness, the presence of God. ..." I need and crave silence and the solitude of prayer before the Blessed Sacrament when I become overwhelmed by the struggles in my marriage or caring for the needs of my children. It is there in the silence that I experience God's grace and love for me, in spite of my sinfulness and all my failings. It is there in the silence that I know for what I was truly made. It is there in the silence that I gain the strength to get back up again and try to love my husband and children the way they deserve to be loved; the way they are loved by Him.' God bless you

Last Sundays Collection: £545.85  
 Christmas Crib Collection: £377.37 - Thank you  
 Next week's 2<sup>nd</sup> coll will be for CAFOD Lenten Fast Day

### LENT

- # **Stations of the Cross** are at 7pm on Friday evenings.
- # **Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament** will be for 1 hour before Friday Morning Masses, 8.50 - 9.50am. The Chaplet of Divine Mercy will be said at 9.40am.
- # **Confessions** - The Church reminds us of our duty to receive the Eucharist and the Sacrament of Reconciliation at least once a year and we are now in the most appropriate time to do this. Fr Francis and I will try to make ourselves available for this as much as we can.
- # **The church** is kept open for prayer during the day.
- # **'Walk with me'** Lent prayer booklets are still available in the church porch and are a useful Lenten companion.

### CAFOD FAST DAY THIS FRIDAY

### BISHOP'S PASTORAL LETTER

We have the 2<sup>nd</sup> of Bishop Richard's pastoral letters for the Year of Mercy this Sunday. It is on Confession as the place

as we begin Lent, Fr Bruno.

where above all we are made new and receive the gift of mercy and forgiveness. Copies are in in the church porch.

#### **PARISH DIARY**

<b><i>Date</i></b>	<b><i>Time</i></b>	<b><i>Place</i></b>	<b><i>Event</i></b>	<b><i>Contact</i></b>
Tuesdays	3-4 pm	Cassidy Centre	Bible Study & Prayer Group	Luke Fernandes, 01273 556927
Thursdays	2-4 pm	Cassidy Centre	Seniors Club	David Alfred, 01273 540038
Wed 17 Feb	1pm	Cassidy Centre	SVP meeting	Luke Fernandes, 01273 556927
Sat 20 Feb	11 am	Church	Choir Practice	
Tue 23 Feb	7.30-9 pm	Cassidy Centre	Confirmation meeting	Fr Bruno
Wed 24 Feb	7.30-9 pm	Church Hall	Youth Club Yrs 7 - 11	<a href="http://www.smyclub.co.uk">www.smyclub.co.uk</a>
Fri 26 Feb	7 pm	Cassidy Centre	Baptism Preparation Class	Fr Bruno
Sat 27 Feb	12noon	Church	Baptism Edward Morrison	

## FOR YOUR PRAYERS

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

**A WELCOME TO FR FRANCIS, SJ**, who returned to the presbytery from his home in Uganda this week to continue his studies here in Brighton. He is generally busy with his studies during the day but in the evening has made it known that he would be happy to visit homes and share a meal with you. You can speak with him directly or you can arrange dates through the parish email.

## PARISH SURVEY – Prayer, Formation, Mission

Thank you to those of you who replied to this. Your responses are appreciated and of value.

**BAPTISM CONGRATULATIONS** to Felix Edmund Ironside who became a Christian and a child of God this last Saturday. Our prayers go out to him and his family.

**A THANK YOU FROM ST ANNE'S** to our Social Concern's Group for the £114 they recently raised at their coffee morning has been sent to the parish. St Anne's provide a great service to the homeless here in Brighton. You can visit their web site at 'stannedaycentre.org.uk'.

## REJOICE EVENING – Sat 27 February

You are invited to an evening of Prayer, Praise and a short talk by David Matthews on: 'Mercy has triumphed over judgement' on Saturday 27 Feb., in the Parish Room at Sacred Heart Church, Norton Road, Hove (BN3 3BF). Refreshments from 7pm for 7.30 start. Ends 9.30pm.

## A DAY WITH MARY – Sat. 5<sup>th</sup> March, 10 am – 5.50 pm

A day of instruction, devotion and intercession, based on the message given at Fatima in 1917 will take place at Arundel Cathedral on the 5<sup>th</sup> March. Please see the poster for further details in the church porch.

### DID YOU KNOW?

The custom of '*bona opera* / good works' for Lent comes from St Benedict (480-547). In his Rule [Ch. 49] he says that during Lent the monk should add to the usual measure of his service something by way of private prayer and abstinence from food or drink. This is so that each will have something of his own will above the assigned measure to offer God with joy at Easter.

## Penitential Prayer of St. Ambrose of Milan

*O Lord, who hast mercy upon all,  
take away from me my sins,  
and mercifully kindle in me  
the fire of thy Holy Spirit.  
Take away from me the heart of stone,  
and give me a heart of flesh,  
a heart to love and adore Thee,  
a heart to delight in Thee,  
to follow and enjoy Thee, for Christ's sake, Amen.*  
*St. Ambrose of Milan (AD 339-397)*

**LOCAL FOODBANK** – Thank you to those who have been regularly dropping food items into the box we have in the porch. These are taken to the local Foodbank in Hangleton and given to local families in need. They are so appreciative. Please keep your donations coming.

## Preston Park Preschool (St Mary's) Active Kids Vouchers

It's that time of year again where Sainsbury's offer school vouchers for your purchases. If you shop at Sainsbury's, or have friends and family that do, please ask them to collect the vouchers for us. These vouchers really help in supplying equipment for our school. The vouchers can be put in an envelope, through the presbytery door, marked preschool. Thank you in advance for all your support. Sally M.

## CAFOD Lent Fast Day Friday 19<sup>th</sup> February

This Lent the UK government has promised to match every pound we give to CAFOD's Lenten appeal (from 10 Feb - 9 May) up to the value of £3.5M. Our donations can be used to bring water to more villages of the world's poorest families, meaning girls don't have to walk hours every day to collect it. Gift Aid applies to this and envelopes are in the church. Many thanks for your compassion towards those living in poverty and for your prayers and fasting in solidarity with them.

### LENT



The word Lent comes from the Anglo Saxon word meaning Spring or Springtime.

Lent is a very special time in the church year and lasts for 40 days, the same number of days Jesus spent in the wilderness where He went to fast and pray.

Sundays in Lent are not counted because they are the day of the Resurrection and always a day of worship.

**And finally ...** "Why couldn't they play cards on the Ark? Because no one could get the elephant off the deck."

*"Trials are nothing else but the forge that purifies the soul of all its imperfections"* [St Mary Magdalene de'Pazzi]