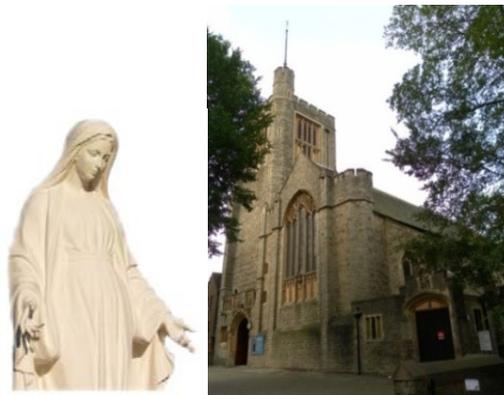


St Mary's Catholic Church

Surrenden Road, Preston Park, Brighton

Parish Priest: Fr Bruno Witchalls
 Priest's House, 5 Surrenden Road, Brighton, BN1 6PA
 Telephone: (01273) 554509
 Parish office e-mail: stmarysprestonpark@yahoo.co.uk
 Parish Website (being updated): www.stmarysbrighton.com
 Hall and Cassidy Centre - Enquiries and Bookings -
 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 17 January, 2016

| | <u>Mass proper</u> | <u>Intention</u> |
|----------|---|---|
| Sat 16 | Vigil Mass | 7.00 p.m. <i>Noel Kealy, R.I.P</i> |
| Sun 17 | 2nd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (C) Gospel: John 2:1-11 Mass Book p127 | 10.00 a.m. <i>Colette Colman, R.I.P</i> 12 noon <i>Pro Populo - for the people of the parish</i> |
| Mon 18 | <i>Feria</i> | 10.00 a.m. <i>Joan Pelling, R.I.P.</i> |
| Tue 19 | <i>Feria</i> | 10.00 a.m. <i>Priest's Intention</i> |
| Wed 20 | [Mass at St Mary's House] | 8.15 a.m. - |
| Thurs 21 | [Mass at St Mary's House] Traditional Mass, 1962 Missal | 8.15 a.m. - 7.00 p.m. <i>Francisco's Intentions</i> |
| Fri 22 | <i>Feria</i> | 10.00 a.m. <i>Priest's Intention</i> |
| Sat 23 | <i>The Blessed Virgin Mary "on Saturday"</i> Vigil Mass | 10.00 a.m. <i>Priest's Intention</i> 7.00 p.m. <i>Holy Souls</i> |
| Sun 24 | 3rd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (C) Gospel: Luke 1:1-4, 4:14-21 Mass Book p.129 | 10.00 a.m. <i>Pro Populo - for the people of the parish</i> 12 noon <i>Angela Mathias, R.I.P (1st Anniv.)</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.

A REFLECTION

Jesus brought the wine of God's love into the world.
 Everywhere he went the old was made new.
 For the couple at Cana he changed water into wine.
 For the widow of Nain he changed tears into joy.
 For Zacchaeus he changed selfishness into love.
 For the thief on Calvary he changed despair into hope.
 And on Easter morning he changed death into life.
 Lord, be present with us today and throughout our lives.
 And when through human weakness
 the wine of love is found wanting,
 touch our hearts and strengthen our wills,
 so that we may taste the wine of unselfish love.

PRAYER CARDS AND PARISH SURVEY

We had the visit of the Icon of Our Lady of Consolation during the week. There are prayer cards of this Icon in the church porch for you to take home and keep. Thank you also for some of the responses that are beginning to come back from the parish survey asking for your thoughts about how we can grow as a parish in our prayer, our formation and our mission work. Please pick one up if you have not done so yet. God bless you this week, Fr Bruno.

Last Sundays Collection: £ 507.26 , 2nd coll: £92.34
 This week's 2nd collection is for Pax Christi

The retiring collection this week is for **PAX CHRISTI**
Pax Christi works for 'People Putting Peace Into Action - Sharing the Peace of Christ with our world.'

- **Peace** - based on justice. A world where human rights are respected, basic needs are met and people feel safe and valued in their communities.
- **Reconciliation** - a process which begins when people try to mend relationships - between individuals or whole countries after times of violence or dispute.
- **Nonviolence** - a way of living and making choices that respects others and offers alternatives to violence and war

SANCTUARY WORKS

The stonework was finished this week. You can see the white marble tops on top of the Bath Stone bases. The final steps are to put back the carpet, adjust the lights and move the Tabernacle and Sanctuary lamp.

N.B. There will be a 10am Mass this week on Tuesday but no 10 am Mass Wednesday & Thursday.

PARISH DIARY

| Date | Time | Place | Event | Contact |
|-------------|-------------|----------------|---|------------------------------|
| 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 |
| Sun 17 Jan | 9.30 am | Cassidy Centre | Children's 1 st Holy Comm. Session | Janet Silva |
| Mon 18 Jan | 8 pm | Cassidy Centre | Parents 1 st Holy Comm. Meeting | Janet Silva |
| Tue 19 Jan | 7.30-9 pm | Cassidy Centre | Confirmation Meeting | Fr Bruno |
| Wed 20 Jan | 1 pm | Cassidy Centre | SVP Meeting | Luke Fernandes |
| Wed 27 Jan | 7.30-9 pm | Church Hall | Youth Club | www.smyclub.co.uk |

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 CRIB

We have a beautiful set of figures in the parish for our crib and you may have noticed they are still with us. It is an ancient custom in the Church that they stay displayed until the 2nd February, 40 days after Christmas, and the feast of the purification of our Lady (Candlemas). Make the most of these last days the crib is with us.

'MY SPIRIT SANG ALL DAY'

There will be a concert on Saturday 6th February in memory of Nikki Braterman. It will be at 7.00 pm at St George's Church, Kempton. The performance will be by the Vox Angeli Choir. There will be a varied program, including pieces by Finzi, Monteverdi, Parry, Mendelssohn and Elgar, along with some lighter popular pieces. All proceeds will be donated to Delete Blood Cancer, which supported Nikki throughout her illness. For tickets (£10, concessions £5) and more information please go to: www.billetter.co.uk/nikkibraterman or email: contact@voxangeli.co.uk. Please continue to keep her and her family in your prayers.

BIBLE STUDY & PRAYER GROUP:

An Invitation: We welcome you to share the fellowship of our relaxed and friendly group. Help us to unlock the truths of the Bible - which we need for our salvation - and give real meaning to our life. No preparation, no pressure! Just come along on Tuesdays 3-4 pm to the Cassidy Centre. (Contact Luke Fernandes on 01273 556927)

Part time cook required.

Our elderly residents love plain, traditional food and we are seeking a part time cook to join us at St. Mary's House in Preston Park Avenue. Hours are Monday to Friday 8.30am - 1.30pm. If you may be interested and/or would like further information, please call Diana Maple on 01273 556035. Thank you.

HOMELESSNESS SUNDAY COFFEE MORNING

Sunday 24th January. Bring and Buy sale in the hall after the 10 am Mass: cakes, gifts and raffle plus the usual tea and coffee. In aid of St Anne's Day Centre. Please bring your **cakes** and **gifts** etc. to the hall before Mass. A chance to put any unwanted Christmas presents to good use! Many thanks from The Social Concerns Group.

'It's not how much we give but how much love we put into giving' [Mother Teresa, 1910-1997]

A Prayer - In the Gospel this week it is Our Lady who notices that the wine has run out. Mary revealed her care and compassion for the lasting joy of the bridal party. Her maternal concern continues for every person through her powerful intercession. A popular Marian devotion, the *Memorare*, states;

"Remember, O most gracious Virgin Mary, that never was it known that anyone who fled to your protection, implored your help, or sought your intercession was left unaided. Inspired with this confidence, I fly unto you, O Virgin of virgins, my Mother. To you I come, before you I stand, sinful and sorrowful. O Mother of the Word incarnate, despise not my petitions, but in your mercy hear and answer me. Amen."

CHRISTMAS FAIR 2016 -

Yes you read that right! Thousands of unwanted Christmas presents will be thrown away in the coming weeks, but what is the best way to get rid of gifts? To Us! All of us have received a gift at some point which isn't our cup of tea ... but it may be someone else's. We have a box in the Church porch and would be really grateful to receive any items, especially toiletries, which have long expiry dates.

YOUNG ADULTS (18-35) LENT RETREAT -

Dying and Rising in Christ Fri 12th - Sun 14th February
@ Worth Abbey Benedictine Monastery, Sussex. Talks - Space - Mass - Prayer - Friendship. For more info or for booking contact: toc@worthabbey.net

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 & make new ones from them to give & sell. Last year she raised over £500 for the local St Thomas Fund for the homeless.

Wisdom of Padre Pio

"Do not anticipate the problems of this life with apprehension, but, rather, with a perfect hope that God, to whom you belong, will free you from them accordingly. He has defended you up to now. Simply hold on tightly to the hand of his divine providence, and he will help you in all events, and when you are unable to walk, he will lead you; don't worry ... Don't think about tomorrow's events because the same heavenly Father who takes care of you today will do the same tomorrow and forever. ... Live tranquilly. Remove from your imagination that which upsets you, and often say to the Lord, "Oh, God, you are my God, and I will trust in you. You will assist me and be my refuge, and I will fear nothing."