

# St Mary's Catholic Church

## Surrenden Road, Preston Park, Brighton

**Parish Priest:** Fr Bruno Witchalls

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**Parish office e-mail:** stmarysprestonpark@yahoo.co.uk

Parish Website (*needs updating*): 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 19 November, 2017

	<u>Mass proper</u>	<u>Intention</u>
Sat 1	Vigil Mass	7 p.m. Roger Chandler, R.I.P.
8		
Sun 1	<b>33<sup>rd</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A)</b>	10 a.m. Pro Populo – for the people of the parish
9	Gospel: Matthew 25:14-30 Parish Mass Book p.155	12 noon Maura Fiorakis, R.I.P.
Mon 2	[Mass at St Mary's	8.15 a.m. -
0	House]	
Tue 2	[Mass at St Mary's House]	8.15 a.m. -
1		
Wed 2	[Mass at St Mary's House]	8.15 a.m. -
2		
Thur 2	[Traditional Mass, 1962 Missal]	7 p.m. Ricardo Cardinal Vidal, R.I.P.
3		
Fri 2	St Andrew Dung Lac & Companions, Martyrs	10 a.m. Mr Jeff Thomson, R.I.P.
4		
Sat 2	The Blessed Virgin Mary "on Saturday"	10 a.m. Peter Joseph Lowery, R.I.P.
5	Vigil Mass	7 p.m. Mrs June Mascarenhas, R.I.P.
Sun 2	<b>CHRIST THE KING (A)</b>	10 a.m. Pro Populo – for the people of the parish
6	Gospel: Matthew 25:31-46 Parish Mass Book p.158	12 noon Mary Cosham, R.I.P.

**Confessions every 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 GOSPEL THIS WEEK

During these final weeks of the liturgical year (it ends next week with Christ the King), the Church calls us to consider the eternal truths – life, judgment, Heaven and Hell. As we read in the 2<sup>nd</sup> reading of today's Mass, our encounter with the Lord will arrive without warning, *like a thief in the night*. No matter how prepared we are for its arrival, death always takes us by surprise. In today's Gospel the Lord teaches us that we must spend our earthly life in such a way as to win Heaven. In the parable of the Talents Jesus is speaking about the need to respond to grace and to keep the effort up our whole life long. All the gifts of nature and grace that we have received from God are given that they may yield fruit. It does not matter how many gifts we have received, what matters is our generosity in putting them to good use. St Gregory the Great said that those who do not love lose the love they have while those who do love receive even

**The Sanctuary lamp** this week is burning for the sick and housebound of the parish; **Our Lady's Lamp** for Mary Cosham, R.I.P.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> collection this weekend is for the Arundel Cathedral Maintenance Fund.

### CHRISTMAS FAIR – This coming Saturday

The Christmas fair is this Saturday. The bottle tombola still needs donations of alcoholic or non-alcoholic drinks. Raffle tickets still available with great prizes! Please take some tickets and see if you can sell some to friends. To all you Mary Berry's out there get baking! Remember to invite friends and neighbours. **We will be setting up from 2 p.m. on Friday 24th November, and also in the early evening. We will need help** with putting up decorations, setting up tables and sorting donations. If you can help please let me know. There is a complete list of stalls on the wall in the Porch and also

more to give. If people do not use their gifts, they will lose them. But one who uses their gifts diligently will gain even more of gifts in abundance. One who uses his or her gift, however great or small it is, for God and for others is doing the right thing. God bless you this week, Fr Bruno.

some printed copies. If you have any questions, please contact me on 07740 1277556 or [lizwoodhead123@gmail.com](mailto:lizwoodhead123@gmail.com) I will open up the hall on Saturday 25th at 8.00 am. Please keep the date free and I look forward to seeing you there. Many thanks Liz.

**“Darkness can only be scattered by light, hatred can only be conquered by love” St John Paul II**

<b>PARISH DIARY</b>				
<i>Date</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Place</i>	<i>Event</i>	<i>Contact</i>
Mondays	6.55-8 pm	Cassidy	WCCM Christian Meditation Group	Celia 01273 555967
Thursdays	2-4 pm	Centre Cassidy Centre	Seniors Club	David Alfred, 01273 540038
Sat 25 Nov	11 am	Church Hall	<b>CHRISTMAS FAIR</b>	
Wed 29 Nov	7.30-9 pm	Church Hall	Yrs 7-11 Youth Club	<a href="http://www.smyclub.co.uk">www.smyclub.co.uk</a>

**FOR YOUR PRAYERS**

Please keep in your prayers those in our parish and families who need them at this time: Jerry Alfred, Ann Chandler, Mary Connett, Paddy Cummiskey, Paul Green, Amy Grimes, John & Judy Harrison, Dick & Betty Morris, Glenn Rodrigues, Terry Rodrigues, Callum Stone, Diana Taylor, Tom Walsh, Tracey Weller & Michael Ward.

**ECHOES – Parish based training for handing on Faith**

Bishop Richard has encouraged all parishes to offer more opportunities for parishioners to grow in their faith. In response to this we shall be offering this popular course here at St Mary’s. On the back of the A4 Participants Book which we will follow and which all who attend receive (a copy of which is available for view in the porch) it says: *Have you ever wanted to ... Share about the Faith with your children more easily? Become more confident about what you need to do? Know more about your Faith to speak with others, at work, at home? Be involved in handing on the Faith to others? Well, this resource is designed to answer this need. Echoes offers a rounded formation in the central aspects of the Catholic Faith and how to transmit it to others in different contexts. This course is open to all parishioners and to all who may like to know more about our Catholic Faith – where it comes from, what it is and how it is lived. Adults who have asked to be baptised and received into the Church will be coming and it is something parents whose children are going through a sacramental programme may also wish to attend. It will be on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Fridays of the month, 7-8 p.m. starting Friday 01 December. Please see Fr Bruno if you would like to know more and also please contact the parish office if you would like to come so that we can have an idea of numbers and get sufficient books.*

**100 CLUB**

Regretfully a decision has been made to discontinue the 100 club which has been running at a loss for a while. Thank you to all those who loyally supported this initiative which has served the parish well for many years. The last draw will take place this weekend. Would members please contact the parish office by the end of the year if you would like a reimbursement (at £2.50 a month) for your remaining months’ subscription. Thank

**Saint Ignatius’ prayer against depression**

O Christ Jesus,  
when all is darkness  
and we feel our weakness and helplessness,  
and we feel our weakness and helplessness,  
give us the sense of Your presence,  
Your love, and Your strength.  
Help us to have perfect trust  
in Your protecting love  
and strengthening power,  
so that nothing may frighten or worry us,  
for, living close to You,  
we shall see Your hand,  
Your purpose, Your will through all things.

**MARY’S MEALS** - Between now and 31 December 2017, every gift to Mary’s Meals will be matched, penny for penny – up to a total of £1.9million. This means that every donation given during this period will go even further, providing twice as many hungry children with a nutritious daily meal and the opportunity of an education.

**‘Waiting in Wonder’ Retreat**

‘Waiting in Wonder’ is a retreat for young adults (aged 18-35) being held 1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> December at Worth Abbey, near Crawley. It is an opportunity to enter more deeply into the themes of Advent in preparation for the coming of Christ at Christmas, offering the chance of encounter with Christ in prayer through the Benedictine monastic tradition, talks from the monks and members of the Wellspring Community, space for reflection, participation in the rhythm of prayer with the monastic community, *Lectio Divina*, walks in the beautiful Sussex countryside, and time for building community and friendships. The cost is £62 for students/unwaged, £102 waged, and includes meals and accommodation. To book, or for more info, please email Katrina at [TOC@worthabbey.net](mailto:TOC@worthabbey.net)

**CATHOLIC DIRECTORY 2018**

After not being printed for a few years this directory is now back in print. Details and flyers to order your copy are in the church porch. To order your copy online visit [www.thecatholicuniverse.com/eccd](http://www.thecatholicuniverse.com/eccd)

**FROM THE SAINTS**

you also to Mary Cornelius for all her time and work given for the 100 club.

### ST BERNADETTE'S SCHOOL FORMS

For parents wanting to apply to send their children to St Bernadette's Primary School (or Cottesmore) next September Fr Bruno will be in the presbytery to sign forms on the following dates: **Fri 15 Dec., 6-7pm; Sat 16 Dec., 11am-12pm; Wed 20 Dec., 11am-12pm.** Please remember the supplementary forms are left with us for collating and taking into the respective schools. There will be another date in the new year before the deadline for handing in applications.

***'Let us always meet each other with a smile, for the smile is the beginning of love'*** Mother Teresa

'Don't give in to discouragement. If you are discouraged it is a sign of pride because it shows you trust in your own powers. Never bother about people's opinions. Be obedient to truth. For with humble obedience, you will never be disturbed' [*Mother Teresa of Calcutta*].

### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY, 2018

14 February, Ash Wednesday

01 April, Easter Sunday

Sunday 17 June, Parish First Holy Communion

Saturday 30 June, Deanery Confirmations at St Mary's

24-25 November, Bishop's Visitation to the parish