

St Mary's Catholic Church

Surrenden Road, Preston Park, Brighton

Parish Priest: Fr Bruno Witchalls
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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 21 February, 2016

	<u>Mass proper</u>	<u>Intention</u>
Sat 20	Vigil Mass	7 p.m. Achim Jansen
Sun 21	2nd SUNDAY OF LENT (C) Gospel: Luke 9:28-36 Mass Book p.156	10 a.m. Pro Populo - for the people of the parish 12 noon Pierrette Barbara Atallah, R.I.P
Mon 22	The Chair of St Peter, Feast	10 a.m. Marcel & Adele Depauw, R.I.P
Tue 23	[Mass at St Mary's House]	8.15 a.m. -
Wed 24	Lent, Week 2	10 a.m. Fr Reggie Clancy, R.I.P
Thurs 25	Lent, Week 2 Traditional Mass, 1962 Missal	10 a.m. In Thanksgiving (MS) 7 p.m. Mary & Joseph O'Donnell, R.I.P
Fri 26	Lent, Week 2	10 a.m. Lily Marie Jansen 7 p.m. Stations of the Cross
Sat 27	Lent, Week 2 Vigil Mass	10 a.m. Priest's Intention 7 p.m. All at Cardinal Newman School
Sun 28	3rd SUNDAY OF LENT (C) Gospel: Luke 13:1-9 Mass Book p.160	10 a.m. Pro Populo - for the people of the parish 12 noon Michelle Lucciani

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.

OUR LENTEN JOURNEY

Lent could be considered a 40-day retreat. During a retreat we 'step back or retreat from' our daily life. Stepping back can help us see more clearly where we are and what may need changing in our lives. Few of us can take a 40 day break from our duties so instead we must do what we can. The Church invites all of us to set aside time for **prayer** during Lent. This can include Scriptural or spiritual reading. **Fasting** and the fact of denying ourselves lawful things helps detach ourselves from pleasures which can so easily dominate our lives. Fasting can help us hunger more for our true good, God. **Almsgiving** teaches us to be loving and generous to others. God bless you this week, Fr Bruno.

24 HOURS WITH THE LORD - 4/5 March

During this Year of Mercy Pope Francis has asked that each diocese on the Friday/Saturday 4/5 March celebrate 24 hours of prayer before the Blessed Sacrament and during which the Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) will be available to the faithful. **This will take place here in Brighton at St Mary Magdalene's** from 6pm on Friday 4th to 6pm on Saturday 5th. Details to follow and see posters in porch.

Last Sundays Collection: £ 472.28; 2nd Coll: £ 75.96
 Lourdes Pilgrimage Fund: £ 455.00
 This week's 2nd Coll will be for CAFOD Lent 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 need to receive the Eucharist and the Sacrament of Reconciliation at least once a year. We are now in the most appropriate time to do this. Fr Francis and I will try to make ourselves available for this for you.
- # **Fasting**: a reminder that Friday's throughout the year are meat free, but during Lent extra fasting, especially on Friday's, as penance, is part of our Lenten practice.
- # **The church** is kept **open for prayer** during the day. Some of the 'Walk with me' prayer books are available in the church porch. They are free - please take one.
- # **Almsgiving**: part of our Lenten observance is to give alms to the poor or to some worthy charity. It could also be responding to the needs of any needy person.

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
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	www.smyclub.co.uk
Fri 26 Feb	7 pm	Cassidy Centre	Baptism Preparation Class	Fr Bruno
Sat 27 Feb	12 noon	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.

Pax Christi – We have received a letter of thanks for our *Pax Christi* collection which came to £121.10. Thank you for your continued support of this work.

‘WELCOMING ASYLUM SEEKERS – In the light of the Syrian Refugee Crisis’. Aidan Cantwell from the diocese will lead a session on this Tuesday evening, 23 Feb., from 7 pm at the Mass Centre, Vale Gardens, Portslade. See poster in porch for more details.

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.

EVENING OF REFLECTION – Sat 27 Feb 6-9pm

Bishop Richard is inviting 11-18yr olds to join him for an evening at St Paul’s Catholic College, Burgess Hill. The evening will include live music, a talk from Bishop Richard and time of prayer with him, stalls, interactive activities and a Fairtrade tuck shop. The Sacred Heart Church has organised free coach transportation to leave from St Peter’s Church at 5.25pm & return at around 9.30pm. Please contact LMsacredheart@gmail.com for more information and to book a place.

QUIZ EVENING - Sat. 27 February - with light supper

at Our Lady of Lourdes Hall, Rottingdean, starting at 7.30pm. Teams of about 6 people, so bring your friends or join a table for this fun evening, all ages welcome! Cost - £6 and all proceeds go to **Mary’s Meals**. For more details or to book a place contact Kay on: 01273 673818

A Lenten day in Prayer with Fr Serafino Lanzetta & the Franciscan Friars of the Immaculate, **Saturday 27 Feb., 10am - 4pm, at St Mary Magdalene’s**, Upper North St, BN1 3FH. Everyone welcome, see poster in porch.

A DAY WITH MARY – Sat. 5th 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 5th March. Please see the poster for further details in the church porch.

“When you look at the Crucifix, you understand how much Jesus loved you. When you look at the Sacred Host you understand how much Jesus loves you now” [Blessed Mother Teresa of Calcutta].

Lent Fast Day Prayer

Merciful God, source of all that is good, wash us clean of all that prevents us from seeing you in each of our sisters and brothers around the world.

Transform our hearts this Lent, through our prayer, fasting and almsgiving, to be open to the needs of all those who thirst.


Spirit of compassion, move us to share with all people the water of life. We ask this through Christ our Lord, Amen.

Women’s World Day of Prayer – Friday 4th March, Stanford Avenue Methodist Church, 2pm. The service this year has been prepared by ‘The Women of Cuba’, and the guest speaker is Maura Lesser.

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 in especially tinned, dried & jarred goods, which they need on a regular basis. Thank you.

SAINSBURY’S SCHOOL VOUCHERS are being collected for our Preschool. Please drop them in to the Presbytery. Thank you.

BOOK RECOMMENDATION ... esp. for Lent
‘The 15 Minute Prayer Solution’ – How one per cent of your day can transform your life! by Gary Jansen A good & helpful tool for everyday prayer life.



FASTING

Lent is a time for fasting which means having less food than we would normally have. Jesus fasted from all food for 40 days in the desert before beginning his public ministry. It’s not good for children to give up all food but you could give up something like sweets or chocolate, things you like to eat but can do without, as penance.

And finally ... A little boy opened his big old family Bible with fascination, and looked at the old pages as he turned them. Suddenly, something slipped out of the pages. He picked it up and looked at it closely. It was an old fig leaf that had been pressed between the pages. “Mum, look what I found,” the boy called out. “What have you got there, dear?” his mother asked. With astonishment in the young boy’s voice, he answered: “I think I’ve found Adam’s shorts!”