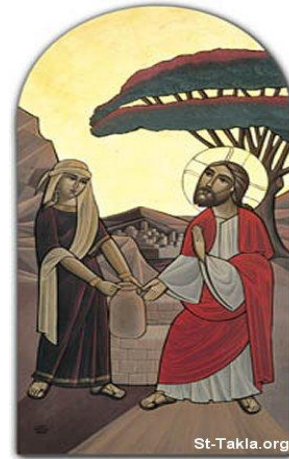


# St Mary's Catholic Church

## Surrenden Road, Preston Park, Brighton

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 St Mary's Parish Website: www.stmarysbrighton.com  
 St Mary's Church Hall: Telephone (01273) 557144  
 Hall and Cassidy Centre - Enquiries and Bookings -  
 Call John Morrison on 07511 799526.



All visitors to St Mary's are most welcome to Mass and to the parish

(The Arundel and Brighton Diocesan Trust is a Registered Charity No. 252878)

## Parish Newsletter for w/c Sunday 23 March 2014

|          | <b>Mass proper</b>   |              | <b>Intention</b>   |
|----------|--|--------------|--|
| Sat 22   |  | [Vigil Mass] | 7.00 p.m. <i>Anthony Thorpe</i>  |
| Sun 23   | <b><u>3<sup>rd</sup> SUNDAY OF LENT (A)</u></b><br><i>Gospel: John 4:5-42</i> <b>Parish Mass Book p. 158</b> |              | 10.00 a.m. <i>For the people of the Parish</i><br>12 noon <i>John McDonald, R.I.P.</i>   |
| Mon 24   | <i>3<sup>rd</sup> week of Lent</i>   |              | 10.00 a.m. <i>Paddy Flynn, R.I.P.</i>  |
| Tue 25   | <b><i>The Annunciation of the Lord</i></b> [Solemnity]   |              | 10.00 a.m. <i>In Thanksgiving (M. Smart)</i>   |
| Wed 26   | <b><u>MASS AT ST MARY'S HOUSE</u></b>  |              | 8.15 a.m. -  |
| Thurs 27 | <i>3<sup>rd</sup> week of Lent</i><br>[Traditional (Low) Mass]   |              | 10.00 a.m. <i>Dairmuir Downs, R.I.P.</i><br>7.00 p.m. <i>Fr Cyril Williams, R.I.P.</i>   |
| Fri 28   | <i>3<sup>rd</sup> week of Lent</i>   |              | 10.00 a.m. <i>Mary &amp; Agnes Jukes, R.I.P.</i>   |
| Sat 29   | <i>3<sup>rd</sup> week of Lent</i><br>[Vigil Mass]   |              | <b>7.00 p.m. STATIONS OF THE CROSS</b><br>10.00 a.m. <i>Jack &amp; Angela Merricks, R.I.P.</i><br>7.00 p.m. <i>Fr Jeff Scott, R.I.P.</i> |
| Sun 30   | <b><u>4<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY OF LENT (A)</u></b><br><i>Gospel: John 9:1-41</i> <b>Parish Mass Book p. 164</b> |              | 10.00 a.m. <i>Seamus Duffy, R.I.P.</i><br>12 noon <i>For the people of the Parish</i>  |

**There is Adoration 8.50 – 9.50 am Monday, Tuesday & Thursday before Mass**  
**Tea & Coffee is served in the hall after our Sunday 10 am Mass. All are welcome.**  
**Confessions every Saturday, 10.30-11 a.m. & 6.15-6.45 p.m.**

### THIS SUNDAY'S READINGS

'This year, on this third Sunday of Lent, the liturgy again presents one of the most beautiful and profound passages of the Bible: the dialogue between Jesus and the Samaritan woman. The Samaritan woman represents the existential dissatisfaction of one who does not find what she seeks. She has had "five husbands" and now she lives with another man; her going too and from the well to draw water expresses a repetitive and resigned life. However, everything changes for her that day, thanks to the conversation with the Lord Jesus. Like the Samaritan woman, let us open our hearts to listen trustingly to God's Word in order to encounter Jesus who reveals his love to us and tells us: "I who speak to you am he", the Messiah, your Saviour' [Pope Benedict XVI]. God bless you this week. Fr Bruno.

### STATIONS OF THE CROSS

During Lent these are on Friday's at 7pm in the Church. We are using the meditations written by St Alphonsus.

### LAST WEEKS COLLECTION

**£555.75**

### CAFOD FAST DAY (So far)

**£548.58**

### EASTER FLOWERS

The retiring collection next Sunday (30<sup>th</sup> March) will be for flowers for our beautiful church this Easter.

### SANCTUARY CENTENARY PROJECT

The diocesan Art and Architecture committee have (with some small recommendations) approved our project for the sanctuary as have the diocesan finance office. On Tuesday I went up to Douai Abbey and the Historic Churches Committee unanimously approved of the project. Nothing will happen till July and I will pin up more information as soon as I can.

### A YEAR WITH POPE FRANCIS

The magazine 'The Vatican, Past and Present' has dedicated their most recent issue to commemorating Pope Francis' first year. It is for sale in the porch.

## PARISH DIARY

| Date       | Time      | Place          | Event                                    | Contact                 |
|------------|-----------|----------------|--|-------------------------|
| Tuesdays   | 8-9 pm    | Cassidy Centre | Bible study & prayer group               | Luke Fernandes, 556927  |
| Thursdays  | 2 pm      | Cassidy Centre | Seniors Club                             | David Alfred, 540038    |
| Wed 26 Mar | 7.30-9 pm | Church hall    | Years 7-11 Youth club                    | Peter McDermott, 550187 |
| Sat 29 Mar | 12 noon   | Church         | Baptism of Jacob Dover                   |                         |
| Mon 31 Mar | 8-9 pm    | Cassidy Centre | 1 <sup>st</sup> H. Comm. Parents meeting | Charles Wookey          |

### FOR YOUR PRAYERS

Please keep in your prayers those in our parish, or family members, who need our prayers at this time: Ken Adsett, Mary Azzopardi, Nikki Braterman, Lorna Briggs, Christopher Brown, John Cullen, Gladys Dillon, Bradley Smith, Gerard Stone and Tracey Weller. Please also pray for their families and carers.

### 100 CLUB WINNERS

Congratulations to our March winners: 1<sup>st</sup> (£50) Mrs C. Wylie, 2<sup>nd</sup> (£30) Mrs T Larratt, 3<sup>rd</sup> (£20) Mr & Mrs Stewart. Also a list is now on display in the porch indicating the months when members' subscriptions are due.

### MARY'S MEALS

One of the charity boxes at the back of the church is now for Mary's Meals. This is a good charity to support in Lent. £12.20 will feed a child at school for a year.

#### Lent Reflection: 'The Portable Monastery'

*By Fr Robert Barron, at 'wordonfire.org'*

What is prayer? Saint John of Damascus said, "Prayer is the raising of one's mind and heart to God." When someone asked Thomas Merton to reveal the one thing he should do to improve his prayer life, Merton responded: "Take the time." During Lent, we must consciously take the time to raise our hearts and minds to God. We seek communion with God through friendship and conversation. But how do we do this in our busy lives?

One thing I often recommend is praying in the car (or in the subway, bus, train, etc.) For those of us distracted by a thousand things, and who are constantly on the move, the car can be a bit like a monastic cell. It encloses you within a quiet, meditative space conducive to prayer. Also, as an added bonus, when you treat your car as a monastery, traffic becomes a welcome opportunity for more prayer and silence, rather than a cause of frustration.

Now, I understand this will be easier for some than others. For example, mothers of young children may have a difficult time cultivating a quiet space. But to the extent that you're able, consider turning off the radio today. Put away your phone. Use your travel time to raise your mind and heart to God. Maybe you pray the Rosary, or perhaps you converse with God about your day. But whatever you decide, take the time. Turn your car into a monastery.

### PRAYER: 'SEEING THINGS AS THEY ARE'

*'O my God, I want to be able to understand you well. I beseech you, answer me when I humbly ask you: What is truth? Grant that I may see things as they are, that I may not allow myself to be blinded by anything. Amen'* [St Therese of Lisieux].

### ONLINE CATECHESIS

The Bishop of Portsmouth, Philip Egan, is offering online catechesis this Lent to help people in their spiritual preparation for Easter. A video is available each Monday at 'www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk' which includes the Gospel for the coming Sunday followed by his catechesis.

### 'SOLDIER TO SAINT'

Brighton Deanery are hosting RISE Theatre and their exciting, original play 'Soldier to Saint' at Cardinal Newman Catholic School on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> April at 7.30pm. The play is inspired by the true story of Saint Alban, Britain's first Christian Martyr - a compelling tale of courage, friendship and sacrifice. The performance is suitable for ages 12+. For tickets please see Fr Bruno.

### CATHOLIC BIBLE SCHOOL

The Catholic Bible School near Chichester regularly put on prayer/study days on the Scriptures. See the flyers in the porch for details.

### INTO SILENCE: THE INNER COMPASS

*Discovering the action of God within our everyday experience.* Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> March, 9:30am - 12pm at the Brighthelm Centre, North Road, Brighton. A morning seminar exploring Ignatian Spirituality with Fr Simon Bishop SJ, Director of Spirituality for the British Province of Jesuits. No booking necessary; refreshments provided; donation only. For more info please contact admin@wellspringbrighton.org.uk

### SOCIAL CONCERNS GROUP

Next meeting Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> March 8.30pm at Liz Woodhead's - 12, Bavant Road. Tel: 01273 556899. All most welcome.

### EASTER DUTIES

Like Charlie Brown we all need to learn to love more and ask forgiveness for our sins. One duty we all have during this season is to prepare for and then go to confession where Jesus waits for us, forgives our sins and gives us his grace.

