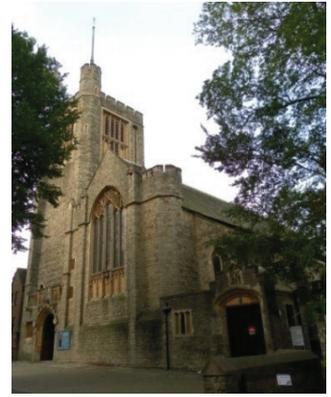


# St Mary's Catholic Church

## 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 (*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 26 November, 2017

	<u>Mass proper</u>	<u>Intention</u>
Sat 2	Vigil Mass	7 p.m. Mrs June Mascarenhas, R.I.P.
5		
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.
Mon 2	<i>Feria</i>	10 a.m. Holy Souls
7		
Tue 2	[Mass at St Mary's House]	8.15 a.m. -
8		
Wed 2	<i>Feria</i>	10 a.m. Patrick & Anne Loakman, R.I.P.
9		
Thur 3	[Traditional Mass, 1962 Missal]	7 p.m. Armando Aguirre Olivares, R.I.P.
0		
Fri 0	<i>First Friday- Mass of the Most Sacred Heart</i>	10 a.m. Fr Gerry Coates, R.I.P.
1		
Sat 0	<i>The Blessed Virgin Mary "on Saturday"</i>	10 a.m. Avril Collins, R.I.P.
2	Vigil Mass	7 p.m. Deceased Parents of Mary Marlow
Sun 0	<b>FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT (B)</b>	10 a.m. Walter Rodrigues & Jenny Martin, R.I.P.
3	Gospel: Mark 13:33-37 Parish Mass Book p.82	12 noon Pro Populo – for the people of the parish

**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

Today's feast of Christ the King brings the Church's liturgical year to a close. In celebrating our Lord Jesus Christ as the King of the Universe we recognize the dignity that is his and also the final goal of the mystery of Salvation – Christ wanting to bring us, his flock, into his kingdom, 'a kingdom of truth and life, ... of holiness and grace, ... of justice, love and peace.' We hear today how those who will belong to the kingdom of God are not the powerful and successful of this world but rather those who have followed Christ through a life of faith, love and of real service. Just as he did not come to be served but to serve this is what we try to do – to be people of hidden yet real service. He tells us today in the gospel that he sees and remembers all that we do: 'whatever good deed, whatever act of love that you did to another, even if you thought it very small, you did it to me.' But he also warns us of the danger of the sins of omission, that is, not doing the good that we could do: "I tell you solemnly, in so far

**The Sanctuary lamp** this week is burning for vocations to the Priesthood; **Our Lady's Lamp** for Elisabeth Newton, R.I.P.

**The 2<sup>nd</sup> collection this weekend is for the Brighton Parishes Night Shelter being run at the Sacred Heart, Hove, and at St Joseph's, Elm Grove.**

#### CHRISTMAS FAIR

As I write this the final preparations are being made for our Christmas Fair in the church hall. It is an important event for the parish and the local community. I'd like to take this opportunity to thank Liz Woodhead & her team of volunteers for all the time and effort they have put into making this such a great parish community event and all the helpers who have brought it all together on the day. May God bless the day and all those who will take part.

#### ADVENT BEGINS NEXT WEEK

as you neglected to do this to one of the least of these, you neglected to do it to me.” May Jesus and Mary make us into people able to truly love God and our neighbour. God bless you this week, Fr Bruno.

This short season to help prepare us inwardly for Christmas begins soon. The ‘Walk with Me’ booklets are available in the porch (£1) and are filled with prayers and reflections to help guide you through this holy season.

**'Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word'**

Mary, at the Annunciation, Luke 1:38

PARISH DIARY				
Date	Time	Place	Event	Contact
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
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>
Fri 01 Dec	7-8.15 pm	Cassidy Centre	'Echoes' Introductory Session	Fr Bruno

**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 Cumiskey, 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 course here at St Mary's. The lady who wrote the course will be coming for **the first session this Friday** to introduce the course and lead the first session. This is a great privilege for us. There will be no tests or exams but simply an opportunity to learn more about our faith. You are welcome to come to this first session to see what it is like. The course is open to all parishioners and to all who may like to know more about our Catholic Faith – where it comes from, where we learn about it 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 may also wish to attend. It will be on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Fridays of the month, **7-8.15 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. A sample copy of the book we will be using is in the church porch.

**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. Would members please contact the parish office by the end of the year if they would like a reimbursement (at £2.50 a month) for their remaining months' subscription. Thank 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

**Saint Theresa's Prayer**

May today there be peace within.  
 May you trust God that you are exactly where you are meant to be.  
 May you not forget the infinite possibilities that are born of faith.  
 May you use those gifts that you have received, and pass on the love that has been given to you.  
 May you be content knowing you are a child of God. Let this presence settle into your bones, and allow your soul the freedom to sing, dance, praise and love.  
 It is there for each and every one of us.

**PARISH DIARY, 2018** – Free copies of the Parish Diary for 2018 are available for you in the church porch.

**A THANK YOU** – to the kind parishioner who donated an almost new laptop to the parish to replace our old one.

**FOODBANK** – As you go about your shopping in these days before Christmas please remember those in need. All Foodbank contributions can be left in the box in the church porch and all donations are always gratefully received and make more of a difference to others than we realize.

**St Vincent's Tower House Update**

This Community Centre in Preston Park is now offering activities to older, isolated people in the mornings before lunch – every Wednesday Arts & Crafts and Just for Fun Quiz on Thursday. In addition a Men's Support Group meets on Tuesday mornings and a Counsellor will host a Wellbeing Support Group on Thursday mornings. Our new Café is open during these times and we welcome any enquiries. Minibus transport is available, if necessary. We are also still looking for volunteers to help around Christmas. You owe it to your Friends and neighbours in need! So contact Jason at Tower House for further information on 01273 549604.

**Quiz Night** – Many thanks to everyone who supported our very enjoyable and successful quiz night on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> November. The seven teams battled it out with their usual great enthusiasm. We raised £277.10 (including a

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.

**QUOTE** – ‘Christ asks for a home in your soul, where he can be at rest with you, where he can talk easily to you, where you and he, alone together, can laugh and be silent and be delighted with one another’ [Caryll Houselander].

**'In forgiving the unforgivable, man comes closest to divine love'** St Gertrude the Great

generous donation) for Uganda Hands For Hope. From The Social Concerns Group.

**S.V.P.** – Our next quarterly collection is the weekend of 2nd & 3rd December. Please bring your box contents in a bag with your box number. **THANK YOU** to everyone for your generous support.

#### **DATES FOR YOUR DIARY, 2018**

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