

St Mary's Catholic Church

Surrenden Road, Preston Park, Brighton

Parish Priest: Fr Bruno Witchalls
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 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 29 November, 2015

		<u>Mass proper</u>		<u>Intention</u>
Sat	28		Vigil Mass	7.00 p.m. <i>Pro Populo – for the people of the parish</i>
Sun	29	<u>FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT (C)</u>		10.00 a.m. <i>Patrick & Anne Agnes Loakman, R.I.P</i>
		Gospel: Luke 21: 25-28, 34-36	Mass Book p.82	12 noon <i>Roger Chandler, R.I.P</i>
Mon	30	<i>St Andrew, Apostle</i>		10.00 a.m. <i>Priest's Intention</i>
Tue	1		[Mass at St Mary's House]	8.15 a.m. -
Wed	2	<i>1st week of Advent</i>		10.00 a.m. <i>Deceased Parents of Mary Marlow</i>
Thurs	3	<i>St Francis Xavier, Priest</i>		10.00 a.m. <i>Leo Heath, R.I.P</i>
			Traditional Mass, 1962 Missal	7.00 p.m. <i>For vocations to the Priesthood</i>
Fri	4	<i>1st week of Advent</i>		10.00 a.m. <i>Priest's Intention</i>
Sat	5	<i>1st week of Advent</i>		10.00 a.m. <i>Priest's Intention</i>
			Vigil Mass	7.00 p.m. <i>Oscar & Davida Bullock, R.I.P</i>
Sun	6	<u>SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT (C)</u>		10.00 a.m. <i>Pro Populo – for the people of the parish</i>
		Gospel: Luke 3: 1 – 6	Mass Book p.84	12 noon <i>Marie Booty, R.I.P</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

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

We enter into the short yet important season of Advent today. Here is a short commentary about this time: 'In Advent, Christians re-live a dual impulse of the spirit: on the one hand, they raise their eyes towards the final destination of their pilgrimage through history, which is the glorious return of the Lord Jesus; on the other, remembering with emotion his birth in Bethlehem, they kneel before the Crib. The hope of Christians is turned to the future but remains firmly rooted in an event of the past. In the fullness of time, the Son of God was born of the Virgin Mary: "Born of a woman, born under the law", as the Apostle Paul writes.' In what can be a busy season Advent invites each one of us to pause, be still, and open our hearts to the Lord's quiet yet real presence among us. God bless you this Advent, Fr Bruno.

SANCTUARY WORKS

Work on the Sanctuary took a break this week so as to allow the plaster to dry. Painting begins on Monday. While this work is going on the Blessed Sacrament is kept in the safe in the Sacristy and weekday Masses are at the usual time in the Cassidy Centre. I hope all will be ready by Christmas.

Last Sundays Collection: £569.32 2nd Collection £117.57
 This Week's 2nd collection will be for the Arundel Cathedral Maintenance Fund

CHRISTMAS FAIR: As I write this the final preparations are being made for our Christmas Fair. It is an important event for the parish and the local community. I'd like to take this opportunity to thank Eve Morrison for all the time and effort she puts into making this such a magnificent parish community event and to her team of helpers for bringing it all together on the day. It is a joy to see a strong parish spirit come together. May God bless the day and all those who will take part.



JOIN OUR CHOIR

According to a BBC survey singing in a choir is scientifically proven to be good for you: 1) It gets more oxygen to the blood, 2) It increases the flow of feel good hormones, 3) It improves mental health. Our Sunday 10am Choir is looking for more voices. Why not join them and reap the benefits? Also you are invited to join in the choir preparing for the Advent Carol Service. They meet on Saturdays at 11am in the Church.

A&B NEWS - The latest edition of the A& B News has arrived. Free copies are available in the porch.

PARISH DIARY				
Date	Time	Place	Event	Contact
Tuesdays	3-4 pm	Cassidy Centre	Bible Study & Prayer Group	Luke Fernandes, 556927
Thursdays	2-4 pm	Cassidy Centre	Seniors Club	David Alfred, 01273 540038
Wed 2 Dec	7.30-9pm	Church Hall	Years 7-11 Youth Club	'smyclub.co.uk'
Fri 4 Dec	7 pm	Cassidy Centre	Baptism Preparation Class	Fr Bruno
Sat 5 Dec	11 am	Church	Choir Practice	Charles Wookey
Sat 5 Dec	12 noon	Church	Baptism of Alice Wilson	
Sun 6 Dec	9.30 am	Cassidy Centre	Children's 1st Holy Comm. class	Janet Silva, 07732917705

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, Mary Cosham, Harry Cross, Paul Green, Claire Hill, Tracy Larratt, Daphne Moffatt, Resi Michel, Dick Morris & Terry Rodrigues.

ADVENT CAROL SERVICE – Sun 20 Dec. 6pm

Parishioners from St Mary's and St Thomas More's choirs will be coming together to put on our Advent Carol Service. This will be on Sunday 20 Dec. at 6pm here at St Mary's. There will be mulled wine and mince pies after.

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMS

The Children's First Holy Communion classes begin next Sunday 6th December. Class begins at 9.30am in the Cassidy Centre. The 3rd Confirmation preparation meeting will be Tues. 8th December, 7.30-9 pm, in St Joseph's Hall, Milton Rd, BN2 9TQ.

TAIZE Prayer Evenings in Advent

St Barnabas Church, Hove - Sunday 29th Nov., 6.15 pm.
Cardinal Newman CS, Hove - Friday 4th Dec., from 6 pm.
See Posters in Church porch for further details

POPPY APPEAL - The Royal British Legion have written to thank us for the £38.91 we raised for them.

S.V.P - Our next quarterly collection is the weekend 5th & 6th Dec. Please bring your box contents in a bag with your box number. **THANK YOU** to everyone for your generous support.

THE GOOD COUNSEL NETWORK

Claire McCullough will be talking about the inspiring Pro-life work of The Good Counsel Network that is bringing hope to women and saving countless babies' lives from abortion. You can watch episode 5 of *Three Wise Women* on EWTN at 11am, Mon 30 Nov. or at 8pm on Wed. 2 Dec. You can watch EWTN on Sky 589 or online www.EWTN.co.uk. For more information about the Good Counsel Networks life changing & lifesaving work see: www.goodcounselnetwork.com

ABOUT THE SEASON OF ADVENT

The season with which the liturgical year begins is not penitential, like Lent. Advent is a time of preparation and reflection, hope and anticipation. The coming of the eternal Son of God is celebrated in the three ways we experience time: past, present and future. He came for us in our flesh through the Incarnation; he comes to us in the Church through grace; he will come at the end of time to judge us, living or dead.

Prayer for the First Sunday of Advent

*Jesus, you are light even in the darkest places.
Help us to trust in you when we are lost or lonely.
Shine hope into our hearts we pray. Amen.*

REJOICE EVENING! Saturday 5th December, Sacred Heart parish room, Norton Road, Hove BN3 3BF. 7.30pm start (7pm refreshments). This is a donation only event...but donations are very welcome! There will be praise & worship and a short talk: plus an opportunity for prayer ministry. All welcome.

Pontification Sung Vespers – 6th December

Arundel Cathedral, 6.30pm - The Friends of Arundel Cathedral invite everyone to join them for this celebration. Presided by Bishop Richard.

YEAR OF MERCY PROCESSION – 8th Dec

You are invited to a Procession followed by Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament to start the Year of Mercy. The Procession will begin at St Mary Magdalene Church on Tuesday 8th December at 7 pm. Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament will take place upon our return to the Church from the Clocktower.

QUIET DAY at Storrington Priory with the Chemin Neuf Community - Saturday 12th December 9.45am-4.00pm. Make a space before Christmas for the Lord - a day with talks, guided prayer, simple lunch... Spiritual accompaniment is available for those who would like it. Enquiries/Registration: ccn.storrington.desk@gmail.com

CHRISTMAS TREE FOR THE CHURCH

It has been the custom here in the parish for one (or some) parishioners to provide the Christmas Tree for the Church for Christmas. Would someone like to buy and deliver a (largish) tree for St Mary's this year? Let Fr Bruno know first so we end up with a tree and not a forest of trees in the Church.

BAPTISM PREPARATION EVENING

Before bringing their children for baptism parents are asked to come to a preparation evening with Fr Bruno. The next one is this Friday (4th December) at 7pm in the Cassidy Centre.

And finally - A seven year old child was drawing a picture of the nativity. The picture was very good, including Mary, Joseph and, of course, baby Jesus. However, there was a fat man standing in the corner of the stable that just did not seem to fit in. When the child was asked about it, she replied, 'Oh, that's Round John Virgin.'

'[After Communion] It is now no longer I who live; but Christ lives in me' [St Therese of Lisieux]