

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 on 07511 799526.



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

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

Parish Newsletter for w/c Sunday 30 November, 2014

| <u>Mass proper</u> | | <u>Intention</u> |
|--------------------|---|---|
| Sat | 29 [Vigil Mass] | 7.00 p.m. <i>Jessie Macleod, R.I.P.</i> |
| Sun | 30 1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT (B) Gospel: Mark 13:33-37 Parish Mass Book p. 82 | 10.00 a.m. <i>Pro Populo – for the people of the parish</i> 12 noon <i>Colburn Family</i> |
| Mon | 01 <i>Advent Week 1</i> | 10.00 a.m. <i>Leo Heath, R.I.P.</i> |
| Tue | 02 <i>Advent Week 1</i> | 9.30 a.m. <i>Deceased parents of Mary Marlow</i> |
| Wed | 03 [Mass at St Mary's House] | 8.15 a.m. - |
| Thur | 04 <i>Advent Week 1</i> [Mass in the Extraordinary Form] | 10.00 a.m. <i>Stuart Leat & Christopher Aston, R.I.P.</i> 7.00 p.m. <i>Private Intention (Armando Aguirre)</i> |
| Fri | 05 <i>Advent Week 1</i> | 10.00 a.m. <i>Oscar & Davida Bullock, R.I.P.</i> |
| Sat | 06 <i>St Nicholas, Bishop</i> [Vigil Mass] | 10.00 a.m. <i>Mary Booty, R.I.P.</i> 7.00 p.m. <i>Annie Kate Morrison, R.I.P.</i> |
| Sun | 07 2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT (B) Gospel: Mark 1:1-8 Parish Mass Book p. 85 | 10.00 a.m. <i>Ann Galbraith</i> 12 noon <i>Pro Populo – for the people of the parish</i> |

Confessions every Saturday 10.30-11 a.m., 6.15-6.45 p.m. & at call.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament for 1 hour before 10 a.m. weekday Holy Sacrifice of the Mass

Tea and Coffee after our Sunday 10 am Mass. All are welcome to join us down in the hall after Mass.

Last week's collections: 1st: £524.31, 2nd: £101.35

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

I came across this brief commentary on the new season of Advent which we enter into today: 'In Advent, Christians relive 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 hectically busy season Advent also invites each one of us to pause, be still, and open our hearts to the Lord's coming and quite presence in us. God bless you this Advent, Fr Bruno.

We have a Pastoral letter from Archbishop Peter Smith this Sunday. Paper copies are available in the porch.

PARISH MISSION WEEKEND IN ADVENT

Over the weekend of the 3rd Sunday of Advent, 12-14 December, Fr Michael Creech a Redemptorist priest will be here to preach a parish mission. Parish Missions, like retreats, can be important moments of grace. He writes this for you: "*I very much appreciate Fr Bruno's invitation to spend an Advent weekend in the parish focusing on preparing ourselves for the Big Feast spiritually. I will preach at a service in honour of Our Blessed Lady on the Friday evening, 12th Dec., (the service will conclude with Benediction) and also at the weekend Masses. But especially I will be available to celebrate the Sacrament of Penance with you, not only on the Friday evening but also before and after the Saturday and Sundays Masses. This weekend is in my prayers daily. Please keep it in yours.*"

TUESDAY MASS 9.30AM NOT 10.00AM

On Tuesday the clergy of the diocese are meeting Archbishop Peter Smith at Worth Abbey at 11am. Mass will be at the earlier time of 9.30am on that day.

'The world is thy ship and not thy home' [St Therese of Lisieux].

PARISH DIARY

| Date | Time | Place | Event | Contact |
|-------------|-------------|----------------|--|------------------------|
| Tuesdays | 8-9 pm | Cassidy Centre | Bible study & prayer group | Luke Fernandes, 556927 |
| Thursdays | 2-4 pm | Cassidy Centre | Seniors Club | David Alfred, 540038 |
| Mon 01 Dec | 8 pm | Cassidy Centre | Baptism Prep. Meeting for parents | Fr Bruno |
| Sat 06 Dec | 12 noon | Church | Baptism of Amelia Haroutunian | |
| Sun 07 Dec | 9.30 am | Cassidy Centre | Childrens 1 st Holy Communion session | |

FOR YOUR PRAYERS

Please keep in your prayers those in our parish, or family members, who need our prayers at this time: Nikki Braterman, Lorna Briggs, Ann Chandler, Gladys Dillon, Mary Connett, Paul Green, Claire Hill, Monica McLauchlan & Trudy Wood.

CHRISTMAS FAIR

Many thanks for all those whose hard work helped make this event possible. A fuller report will come next week.

ST MARY'S YOUTH CLUB - for 11-16 year olds

Christmas Card and Decoration Making **this Wednesday 3rd of December** from 19:30-21:00 at St Mary's Church Hall. New members always welcome. Please see our website for more information: <http://smyclub.co.uk/> or call Peter McDermott on 01273 550187

Social Concerns Catholaity Stall - We raised £122 from our stall at the Catholaity Fair. Raffle ticket sales in the parish raised £126.85 giving us a total of £248.55 for Uganda Hands For Hope. Many thanks to all those who sold tickets, made things for the stall and helped. Claire Shelton-Jones

FOOD AND BEDDING FOR WINTER

With the arrival of the colder weather there has been a greater trickle of homeless people coming to the presbytery door. If any of you have any spare blankets, sleeping bags or suitable food please drop them into the presbytery and I can give them out to those who come asking. Thank you.

BOOK RECOMMENDATION

I was recently lent a book called '*The Scent of Lemons*' by Jonah Lynch. It looks at how personal interactions via new technologies affects relationships. It is quite short and informative for anyone wondering about these things. A quote: '... the world is already beautiful the way it is. We do not need to create new worlds. It is more to live fully in this one. The shades of meaning in human relationships, even the more simple shades, are incommensurably richer than any mediation of those relationships.'

ABOUT THE SEASON OF ADVENT

Advent has a twofold character, for it is a time of preparation for the Solemnities of Christmas, in which the First Coming of the Son of God to humanity is remembered, and likewise a time when, by remembrance of this, minds and hearts are led to look forward to Christ's Second Coming at the end of time. For these two reasons, Advent is a period of devout and expectant delight (*Universal Norms, n 39*).

FROM THE SAINTS

I can nourish myself only on the truth. For this reason I have never longed for visions. On earth we cannot see heaven, the angels as they truly are. I prefer to wait until after my death' [St Therese of Lisieux].

PARISH ADMINISTRATION

We are looking to employ someone to help in the administrative work of the parish. It is a part time post (6 hours a week). Application forms from the parish office. Closing date for applications 8th December.

SVP TWINNAGE COLLECTION TINS

Those who have these tins are requested to return them to the Church for collection over the next two weekends. The money is used to help the needy in Brighton as well as the twinned villages in India. Contact Luke Fernandes (01273 556927) or Mary Cornelius (558812)

Christmas Karaoke fundraiser for Marys Meals to be held at St Joesph's Hall in Milton Road on Saturday 5th December. See poster in porch for details.

MARIAN PROCESSION IN BRIGHTON

Procession of Reparation in honour of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Sat. 6th Dec. 6:00pm, starting at St Mary Magdalen Church, Upper North Street, Brighton. Rosary Procession with a statue of Our Lady will go from the Church to the Clocktower.

PARISH CHRISTMAS CAROL SERVICE

The Annual Carol Service will be held here at St Mary's 6pm, Sun. 21 Dec. Anyone who would like to join the choir for this event would be very welcome. Please contact Charles Wookey (01273 554954) or Elizabeth Dunn (01273 507254) for further details. Rehearsals in Church 11am Sat 6th, 11am Sat 13th, 8pm Thur 18th, 11am Sat 20th.

CHILDRENS CHOIR

Preparing for Christmas and for singing at Mass we invite children to join our choir. Next practice 5pm, Sat 6th Dec., 17 Edburton Ave, at the Wookey House. Contact Charles (554954) or Elizabeth Dunn (01273 507254) for details.

THE SAINTS ON 'PRAYING TO THE EAST'

'We turn to the east when we stand to pray, since this is where the sun and the stars rise. It is not, of course, as if God were there alone and had forsaken the rest of creation. Rather, when these earthly bodies of ours are turned towards the more excellent, heavenly bodies, our minds are thereby prompted to turn towards the most excellent being, that is, to our Lord' [St Augustine].