

# 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 the church and to our parish**

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

## Parish Newsletter for w/c Sunday 06 March, 2016

| <u>Mass proper</u> |   | <u>Intention</u>   |
|--------------------|---|--|
| Sat                | 05 [Vigil Mass]   | 7.00 p.m. <i>Jean-Claude Peissel, R.I.P</i>  |
| Sun                | 06 <b>4<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY OF LENT (C), 'Laetare Sunday'</b><br>Gospel: Luke 15:1-3, 11-32 Parish Mass Book p168 | 10.00 a.m. <i>Pro Populo – for the people of the parish</i><br>12 noon <i>Don Luigi Gussani, R.I.P</i>     |
| Mon                | 07 <i>4<sup>th</sup> week of Lent</i>   | 10.00 a.m. <i>Pamela Sands, R.I.P</i>  |
| Tue                | 08 [Mass at St Mary's House]  | 8.15 a.m. -  |
| Wed                | 09 <i>4<sup>th</sup> week of Lent</i>   | 10.00 a.m. <i>Maurice &amp; Claude Depauw, R.I.P</i>   |
| Thur               | 10 [Traditional Mass, 1962 Missal]  | 10.00 a.m. <b>REQUIEM MASS - Claire Hill, R.I.P.</b><br>7.00 p.m. <i>Birgit Jansen</i>                     |
| Fri                | 11  | <b>12 noon REQUIEM MASS – John Topp, R.I.P.</b>  |
| Sat                | 12 <i>4<sup>th</sup> week of Lent</i>   | 10.00 a.m. <i>For the victims of Abortion</i><br>7.00 p.m. <i>Claire Hill, R.I.P</i>                       |
| Sun                | 13 <b>5<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY OF LENT (C)</b><br>Gospel: John 8:1-11 Parish Mass Book p176                          | 10.00 a.m. <i>In Thanksgiving (St Anthony)</i><br>12 noon <i>Pro Populo – for the people of the parish</i> |

**Confessions every Saturday 10.30-11 a.m., 6.00-6.45 p.m. & at call**  
**Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament for 1 hour before Wednesday 10 a.m. 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

'On this Fourth Sunday of Lent, the Gospel of the father and the two sons better known as the Parable of the 'Prodigal Son' is proclaimed. This passage of St Luke constitutes one of the peaks of spirituality and literature of all time. After Jesus has told us of the merciful Father, things are no longer as they were before. We now know God; he is our Father who out of love created us to be free and endowed us with a conscience, who suffers when we get lost and rejoices when we return. The two sons represent two immature ways of relating to God; rebellion and childish obedience. Both these forms are surmounted through the experience of mercy. Only by experiencing forgiveness, by recognizing one is loved with a freely given love, a love greater than our wretchedness but also than our own merit, do we at last enter into a truly filial and free relationship with God' [B. XVI]. God bless, Fr Bruno.

### MOTHERS DAY

A blessed and very Happy Mother's day to all of our Mothers this Sunday. Thank you for the gifts that you have made of your lives to your children and family.

Last Sunday's Collection: £488.53, 2<sup>nd</sup> coll: £97.82

### LENT

- # **Rosary** at 9.30 a.m. before Monday morning Mass.
- # **Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament** will be for 1 hour before **Wednesday** morning Mass. **The Chaplet of Divine Mercy** will be said at 9.40 a.m.
- # **Stations of the Cross** are at 7 p.m. on Friday evenings.

### REQUIEM MASS - CLAIRE HILL

The Requiem Mass for Claire Hill will be held here at St Mary's on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> March at 10 a.m.

### REQUIEM MASS – JOHN TOPP

This will be this Friday 11<sup>th</sup> at Midday. There will be no 10 a.m. Mass on this day and our usual Friday Morning time of Adoration will be on Wednesday this week.

### CHILDREN'S FIRST CONFESSIONS

Our 23 children who are preparing for their First Holy Communion in June will be receiving the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time after our 10 am Mass next Saturday (March 12<sup>th</sup>). Please keep them in your prayers.

*"We are not the sum of our weaknesses and failures: we are the sum of the Father's love for us and our real capacity to become the image of his Son" [St John Paul II].*

## PARISH DIARY

| <b>Date</b> | <b>Time</b> | <b>Place</b>   | <b>Event</b>                                   | <b>Contact</b>   |
|-------------|-------------|----------------|--|--|
| 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                               |
| Mon 7 Mar   | 8 pm        | Cassidy Centre | Parents 1 <sup>st</sup> Holy Communion meeting | Janet Silva/Charles Wookey                               |
| Tue 8Mar    | 7.30-9 pm   | Cassidy Centre | Confirmation candidates class                  | Fr Bruno   |
| Wed 9 Mar   | 7.30-9 pm   | Church Hall    | Youth Club Yrs 7-11                            | <a href="http://www.smyclub.co.uk">www.smyclub.co.uk</a> |
| Sat 12Mar   | 9.30 am     | Cassidy Centre | First Holy Communion Children Meeting          | Janet Silva  |

### **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, Tracy Larratt, Daphne Moffatt, Terry Rodrigues & Tracey Weller.

**PARISH ACCOUNTS FOR 2015** – These were sent to Bishop’s House this week. A summary of these are on the church noticeboard for you to look at.

### **Wellspring Community – Deep Waters**

All students and young adults are welcome to join ‘Deep Waters’. A group that meets for food, talks, prayers and fellowship every Thursday evening at 7 pm, and every Sunday lunchtime at 12.30 pm at 1, Elm Grove, Brighton (by St Joseph’s). For more info go to: [www.facebook.com/groups/deepwatersbrighton](http://www.facebook.com/groups/deepwatersbrighton)

**PARISH FOOD BANK** - Our Parish SVP team are extremely grateful for your generous donations which are given to individuals and families in urgent need. Please keep items coming in! Everything is taken from the box in the porch to the food bank working from St George’s, Hangleton. They now especially require Milk (UHT), Sugar, Fruit Juice, Tinned Meat; also Toiletries (soap, shampoo, toothbrushes, toothpaste, razors, shaving foam, deodorant, toilet rolls & feminine hygiene products). Thank you. *Luke Fernandes*

**QUIET DAY** – Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> March, at Storrington Priory, 10 am - 4 pm, Enquiry/registration: 01903 742 150. See Poster/leaflets in Church Porch.

### **A Reflection**

It was one of those beaches where the tide goes out a long way. A man was walking on the beach. In the distance he saw a boy near the water’s edge: every so often he bent down, picked up something and threw it into the sea.

As the man drew closer, he saw that the tide had brought in thousands of starfish, leaving them stranded when the tide went out; he knew that they would die before the next tide came in.

He said to the boy: “Why are you bothering? There are thousands of starfish. You can’t possibly make any difference.”

Without replying, the boy picked up another starfish, threw it into the sea, and said:

“It made a difference to that one, didn’t it?”

*“Thank you women who are mothers! You have sheltered human beings within yourselves in a unique experience of joy and travail. This experience makes you ... the one who is the anchor as the child makes its way along the journey of life” [St John Paul II].*

### **A Prayer for all Mothers**

Thank you, Lord that you fill a mother’s heart with love, that you have instilled in her very being the need to protect her children. Thank you for giving her the gift of nurturing her children, of teaching them, of comforting them, of feeding them and making a safe place for them. Thank you for guiding her to be all that God has created her to be.

Fill every mother with love, wisdom and endurance, with strength and patience and joy. Give her the ability to forgive again and again. Enable her to rely on You and call upon You, because You will give her all she needs. We ask this in Your precious and all powerful name, Amen.

**Preston Park Preschool** is still collecting Sainsbury’s Active vouchers – We would be very grateful for any you could let us have. Just pop them in an envelope addressed to the preschool and pop them into the Priest’s house. Thank you.

### **EASTER CANDLE.**

Many Thanks to Mr & Mrs Rowan who have paid for our Easter candle this year in loving memory of their Aunt and long-time parishioner of St Mary’s, Mary Ellen Barnes.

### **A & B Lourdes Pilgrimage, 29 July – 4 August, 2016**

This year, for the first time, there is an online application form for all helpers & pilgrims (with the exception of Assisted Pilgrims) on the website <http://www.ablourdes.org>. For those of you who find anything to do with computers challenging, please call the Pilgrimage Office to chat through your concerns, and they will make sure that you get the help you need. **Assisted Pilgrims** please contact the Pilgrimage Office in the usual way, by phone on 01403 740110 to request a paper application form. To avoid disappointment, please get your form in early and no later than the 30<sup>th</sup> April 2016.



### **Mothering Sunday**

Mothering Sunday or Mother’s Day is always celebrated on the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent. Its origin is from our Mass which

this day begins with an acclamation to the heavenly Jerusalem our home and ‘Mother’. This then was extended to the Church on earth, ‘our mother’ and then to all mothers.

Mother’s Day is a day to show your mother or the person who cares for you how thankful you are for all they do for you.

Don’t forget to say a special prayer to Our Mother Mary, who watches over all of us and intercedes on our behalf:

**Hail Mary, full of grace the Lord is with thee. Blessed art thou among women and blessed is the fruit of thy womb Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death. Amen**