

# 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 (being updated): www.stmarysbrighton.com  
 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 07 February, 2016

<u>Mass proper</u>		<u>Intention</u>
Sat	06 Vigil Mass	7 p.m. <i>Tim Cahill, R.I.P</i>
Sun	07 <b>5<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (C)</b> Gospel: Luke 5:1-11 Mass Book p.135	10 a.m. <i>Pro Populo - for the people of the parish</i> 12 noon <i>Bamin Family</i>
Mon	08 [Mass at St Mary's House]	8.15 a.m. -
Tue	09 <i>Feria</i>	10 a.m. <i>John McEvoy, R.I.P</i>
Wed	10 <b>ASH WEDNESDAY – The beginning of Lent</b> <b>* A DAY OF FASTING AND ABSTINENCE *</b>	10 a.m. <i>Peter Sloan, R.I.P</i> 7 p.m. <i>Pro Populo – for the people of the parish</i>
Thurs	11 <i>Our Lady of Lourdes</i> Traditional Mass, 1962 Missal	10 a.m. <i>Susan Campbell, R.I.P</i> 7 p.m. <i>Holy Souls</i>
Fri	12 <i>Friday after Ash Wednesday</i>	10 a.m. <i>Fr John O'Leary</i>
Sat	13 <i>Saturday after Ash Wednesday</i> Vigil Mass	10 a.m. <i>Priest's Intention</i> 7 p.m. <i>Scott Family</i>
Sun	14 <b>1<sup>st</sup> SUNDAY OF LENT (C)</b> Gospel: Luke 4:1-13 Mass Book p.153	10 a.m. <i>John Raynard</i> 12 noon <i>Pro Populo – for the people of the parish</i>

**Confessions Saturday 10.30 – 11 a.m., 6.15 – 6.45 p.m. & at call**  
**Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament before Mass Friday, 8.50-9.50 a.m.**  
**Tea & Coffee after our Sunday 10 a.m. Mass. All are welcome to join us down in the hall for this.**

### OUR SANCTUARY AT ST MARY'S

I am very pleased - and quite relieved also - that the work on our Sanctuary is almost complete. This week the last bit of carpet was laid and the Tabernacle was relocated from below the stained glass window to the center of the Sanctuary. It is fitting that the living presence of our blessed Lord be at the heart of our parish church just as we try to keep him at the center of our own lives. The church is kept open, as far as possible, during the week so that visitors and parishioners can come and pray. At the back there is a new prayer noticeboard where you can place your prayers allowing others to pray for you. God bless you and good luck as we begin Lent this week, Fr Bruno.

### PARISH SURVEY – Prayer, Formation, Mission

Thank you to those who have replied so far. Copies of this survey are still available in the porch and all your responses are appreciated and of value.

### 'WALK WITH ME' Lent Prayer Booklets

These prayer booklets are available from today and cost £1 each. They are on sale in the Church porch. This popular prayer booklet can help guide you and your family on a Lenten journey of prayer.

Last Sundays Collection: £555.02, 2<sup>nd</sup> Coll: £88.75  
 This Sundays 2<sup>nd</sup> collection is for the Lourdes Pilgrimage Fund (Gift Aid envelopes are in the pews).

### LENT BEGINS THIS WEEK

# Lent begins with **Ash Wednesday this week**. This is a day of fasting and abstinence (meaning one normal meal and two significantly smaller ones and no meat). **Mass is at 10am and also there is an extra Mass at 7pm**. Ashes will be distributed at the two Masses on the day.  
 # During Lent **Stations of the Cross will be at 7pm on Friday evenings** in the church.  
 # **Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament** will be for 1 hour before Friday Morning Masses, 8.50 – 9.50am. The Chaplet of Divine Mercy will be said at 9.40am.  
 # There will be a time for **Confessions** after the Ash Wednesday evening Mass and after daily Mass during Lent (as well as Saturdays). Fr Francis, or I, will try to make ourselves available for this as much as we can.

Please note there will be **no Mass here on Monday** but there will be a 10am Mass on Tuesday instead.

I am very happy to **welcome back Fr Francis Anyanzu, SJ**, from Uganda who will be back with us from this Monday.

## 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 8 Feb	8 pm	Cassidy Centre	Parent's 1 <sup>st</sup> Holy Comm. meeting	Janet Silva
Wed 10 Feb	7.30-9 pm	Church Hall	Youth Club Yrs 7-11	<a href="http://www.smyclub.co.uk">www.smyclub.co.uk</a>
Sat 13 Feb	11.30 am	Church	Baptism of Felix Edmund Ironside	
Tue 23 Feb	7.30-9 pm	Cassidy Centre	Confirmation meeting	Fr Bruno
Fri 26 Feb	7 pm	Cassidy Centre	Baptism Preparation Class	Fr Bruno

### 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, Claire Hill, Tracy Larratt, Daphne Moffatt, Resi Michel, Terry Rodrigues & Tracey Weller.

**YOUNG ADULTS (18-35) LENT RETREAT - Dying and Rising in Christ Fri 12th - Sun 14th February @ Worth Abbey Benedictine Monastery, Sussex. Talks - Space - Mass - Prayer - Friendship. For more info or for booking contact: [toc@worthabbey.net](mailto:toc@worthabbey.net)**

#### ‘THE MISSION OF MY LIFE’

‘God knows me and calls me by my name. ...  
 God has created me to do Him some definite service;  
 He has committed some work to me  
     which He has not committed to another.  
 I have my mission – I never may know it in this life,  
     but I shall be told it in the next.  
 Somehow I am necessary for His purposes...  
     I have a part in this great work;  
 I am a link in a chain, a bond of connection  
     between persons.  
 He has not created me for naught. I shall do good,  
     I shall do His work;  
 I shall be an angel of peace, a preacher of truth  
     in my own place, while not intending it,  
     if I do but keep His commandments  
     and serve Him in my calling.  
 Therefore I will trust Him.  
     Whatever, wherever I am,  
     I can never be thrown away.  
 If I am in sickness, my sickness may serve Him;  
 In perplexity, my perplexity may serve Him;  
 If I am in sorrow, my sorrow may serve Him.  
 My sickness, or perplexity, or sorrow may be  
     necessary causes of some great end,  
     which is quite beyond us.  
 He does nothing in vain; He may prolong my life,  
     He may shorten it;  
     He knows what He is about.  
     He may take away my friends,  
     He may throw me among strangers,  
     He may make me feel desolate,  
     make my spirits sink, hide the future from me—  
     still He knows what He is about...  
 Let me be Thy blind instrument. I ask not to see—  
     I ask not to know—I ask simply to be used.’

[Blessed John Henry Newman]

### PRAYER TO OUR LADY OF LOURDES

*Gracious and loving God, inspired by the compassion of Our Lady of Lourdes, we pray for healing in mind, body and soul for ourselves and for all who suffer. Through the intercession of Mary, may your healing touch bring comfort and grace to the sick and to all those who care for them, through Christ Our Lord. Our Lady of Lourdes, pray for us. Amen.*

### EMPTY JAM JARS STILL NEEDED ...

#### St Mary's Preschool – Active Kids Vouchers

It's that time of year again where Sainsbury's offer school vouchers for your purchases. If you shop at Sainsbury's, or have friends and family that do, please ask them to collect the vouchers for us (Feb 3 - May 3). These vouchers really help in supplying equipment for our school. The vouchers can be put in an envelope, through the presbytery door, marked preschool. Thank you in advance for all your support. Sally M.

#### CAFOD Lent Fast Day Friday 19<sup>th</sup> February

This Lent the UK government has promised to match every pound we give to CAFOD's Lenten appeal (from 10 Feb - 9 May) up to the value of £3.5M. Our donations can be used to bring water to more villages of the world's poorest families, meaning girls don't have to walk hours every day to collect it. Gift Aid applies to this and envelopes are in the church. Many thanks for your compassion towards those living in poverty and for your prayers and fasting in solidarity with them.

#### ASH WEDNESDAY

 In Church on Ash Wednesday the priest uses ashes made from the palm leaves left over from last year's Palm Sunday. The palms are burnt and mixed with holy water and imposed to make the sign of the cross on our foreheads. The ashes represent our sinfulness and mortality but the Cross shows Jesus' victory over this. Ash Wednesday is the beginning of the 40 days of Lent - a time to ask pardon for our sins, to do penance and show we are truly sorry and to return to the Lord as we prepare for Easter.

**And finally ...** A police officer spotted what seemed to be a slightly meandering car and pulling it over was surprised to meet the local priest at the wheel. "Hello Father," he said. "Hello Officer," came the reply. "Have you been drinking, Father?" "Yes," came the answer. "And what have you been drinking?" "Water," came the reply. "Then how come I can smell wine?" "Goodness gracious, Officer, he's done it again!"

*‘Man is only great when he is on his knees before God’ [Cardinal Robert Sarah, Book ‘God or Nothing’].*