

# 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 08 November, 2015

<u>Mass proper</u>		<u>Intention</u>
Sat	07 Vigil Mass	7.00 p.m. <i>Pro Populo – for the people of the parish</i>
Sun	08 <b>32<sup>nd</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (B)</b> Gospel: Mark 12: 38-44 Mass Book p154	10.00 a.m. <i>Deceased of World Wars</i> 12 noon <i>Holy Souls (Novena 7)</i>
Mon	09 <i>Dedication of the Lateran Basilica, Feast</i>	10.00 a.m. <i>Holy Souls (Novena 8)</i>
Tue	10 [Mass at St Mary's House]	8.15 a.m. -
Wed	11 <i>St Martin of Tours, Bishop</i>	10.00 a.m. <i>For the Diocese</i>
Thurs	12 <i>St Josaphat, Bishop &amp; Martyr</i> Traditional Mass, 1962 Missal	10.00 a.m. <i>Margaret McGoldrick, R.I.P</i> 7.00 p.m. <i>Priest's Intention</i>
Fri	13 <i>Feria</i>	10.00 a.m. <i>John Berry, R.I.P</i>
Sat	14 <i>The Blessed Virgin Mary 'on Saturday'</i> Vigil Mass	10.00 a.m. <i>Winifred Lord, R.I.P</i> 7.00 p.m. <i>Fr Martin Breen, R.I.P</i>
Sun	15 <b>33<sup>rd</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (B)</b> Gospel: Mark 13: 24-32 Mass Book p.157	10.00 a.m. <i>Family of Sr Anne</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 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.**

### THE READINGS THIS WEEK

In today's gospel reading about the poor widow's mite the tables are in a sense turned on us. Usually we look to Jesus to see what he does but in this episode Jesus is looking at us and observing what we do. He is looking at what is going on and in particular he is looking at people as they make their offerings into the Temple treasury. We may think that he would applaud those who make great monetary offerings but instead we learn the lesson that God does not see the surface of things as men see but God sees the heart. Jesus commends to us the poor widow who puts in not only her two copper coins but in a very real way also puts all her trust and hope - indeed her whole life - into God's hands. This is what makes her offering the most acceptable one to him. Putting our life into his hands is here what Jesus is calling all of us to. 'Jesus, I trust in you; Jesus, help me to trust in you even more' is a prayer we can pray and it seems it is one particularly pleasing to him. God bless you this week, Fr Bruno.

### REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY AND POPPIES

We have poppies for sale at the back of the church for Remembrance Sunday this Sunday. Put the money in the official tin which will then be collected. Thank you.

Last Sundays Collection : £453.30 2<sup>nd</sup> Coll: £87.12  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Collection this week is for 'The Retired Priests Fund'

### SECOND COLLECTION FOR RETIRED PRIESTS

At present, there are 32 retired priests cared for by the Diocese. They have given many decades of service to the people of Arundel & Brighton. Although a priest "retires" from parish duties many carry on assisting parishes. We want our retired priests to live independent lives for as long as possible but as time goes by like others more help is needed and a nursing home may be necessary. Caring for the elderly, as we all know, is costly but not something to skimp on. To the priests the diocese is their family. In 2014, the Diocese spent £253,000 on our retired priests. Please help by giving generously.

**SANCTUARY WORKS:** Work on the Sanctuary continues on schedule. Behind the material which was put up for a wedding we had on Friday the plasterboard has begun to go up and this will continue this week. If anyone would like to make a cake it would make the builders happy. 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 but in the Cassidy Centre. 5 weeks to go. Thank you for the donations we have so far received.

## 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, 556927
Thursdays	2-4 pm	Cassidy Centre	Seniors Club	David Alfred, 01273 540038
Sat 14 Nov	10.30 am	Racecourse	CATHOLAITY FAIR	Glen & Chris Rodrigues
Wed 18 Nov	7.30-9pm	Church Hall	Years 7-11 Youth Club	'smyclub.co.uk'
Wed 18 Nov	1 pm	Cassidy Centre	SVP meeting	
Mon 22 Nov	8 pm	Cassidy Centre	Parents 1 <sup>st</sup> Holy Communion meeting	Charles Wookey, Janet Silva

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

**CATHOLAITY FAIR, SAT 14<sup>th</sup> NOV.** 10.30-3.30 **THIS WEEK** - Thank you to everyone for selling tickets. Don't forget to come and join us in The Grandstand Hall at Brighton Racecourse, your support is appreciated.

### SMILE QUIZ NIGHT

Many thanks to everyone who supported our quiz night on Friday 30th October. We had a record turn-out with 9 enthusiastic teams. Everyone had a good time and we raised £200.80 for St Anne's Day Centre. **Thank you from The Social Concerns Group.**

**SUNDAY TEA & COFFEE** - We are still in need of more volunteers willing to offer their time and services to prepare, serve and tidy up for this. If you are able to do this please contact Liz Woodhead on 01273 556899.

### ART AND CRAFT EXHIBITION

St Mary's House, 38 Preston Park Avenue, invites everyone to their Art and Craft Exhibition on Friday 13 November at 11am. All donations will go to the Ugandan Emergency Famine Appeal.

### THE CHRISTMAS FAIR

Is less than 3 weeks now! - Sat 28 November  
Sending out an urgent S.O.S this week!!!

We desperately need people to man the popular pre-loved/ bric-a-brac stall - Is there anyone who can fill this void for us? It's a firm favourite with the punters

CALLING ALL PARISH CHILDREN or the young at heart!

It's time to fill a jar with Christmas goodies!

The Jars with instructions are in the Porch

**THIS WEEKS BIG PUSH REQUEST -  
CHILDREN'S BOOKS!**

PLUS....

Mulled Wine Stall

We need RED WINE &

Mince pies

Please mark these for the mulled wine stall - in case they accidently end up on the bottle tombola! Thank you

**GRAND DRAW TICKETS NOW AVAILABLE!**

**A great way to support us especially if you can't be there on the day - please return tub & monies to presbytery**



### PRAYER

'Grant to us, O Lord, not to mind earthly things, but rather to love heavenly things, that while all things around us pass away, we even now may hold fast those things which last forever' [Pope St Leo the Great].

### DEVOTION TO THE HOLY SOULS

One of the ancient traditions of the Church during **November** is to pray for those who have died. On November 1<sup>st</sup>, **All Saints day**, we look to the saints now in heaven and seek their prayers and intercession for us. On November 2<sup>nd</sup>, **All Souls day**, it is the other way round; it is the holy souls now in purgatory who seek our prayers to help them speedily enter heaven.

Pope Benedict said that **purgatory**, the temporary place where the holy souls are, is "the inwardly necessary process of transformation in which a person becomes capable of Christ, capable of God, and thus capable of unity with the whole communion of saints". He added, "I would go so far as to say that if there was no purgatory then we would have to invent it, for who would dare to say of himself that he was able to stand directly before God. And yet we do not want to be, to use an image from Scripture, 'a pot that turned out wrong', that has to be thrown away; we want to be able to be put right. Purgatory basically means that God can put the pieces back together again, that he can cleanse us in such a way that we are able to be with him and stand there in the fullness of life. Purgatory strips off from one person what is unbearable and from another the inability to bear certain things, so that in each of them a pure heart is revealed, & we can see that we all belong together in one enormous symphony of being."

### START OF SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMS

Our First Holy Communion program begins with a parents meeting in the Cassidy Centre, 8-9 pm, Mon. 23 November. Our Confirmation preparation this year will combine with the parishes of St Joseph's, St John the Baptist's and St Thomas More's. The first meeting for the candidates (and parents) will be on Tues. 17 November, 7.30-9 pm, in St Joseph's Hall, Milton Road, BN2 9TQ.

### BOOK RECOMMENDATION

On December 8<sup>th</sup> we begin in the church a Jubilee year of Mercy. I have been catching up on the Divine Mercy message and have been particularly helped by books (& youtube videos) by Fr Michael Gaitley, MIC. He writes in a very accessible style and his book 'The Second Greatest Story Ever Told' is a good one to start with.

*'The state of marriage is one that requires more virtue and constancy than any other: it is a perpetual exercise of mortification' [St Francis de Sales].*