

# St Mary's Catholic Church

## 5 Surrenden Road, Preston Park, Brighton

**Parish Priest:** Fr Bruno Witchalls  
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**Hall and Cassidy Centre** – Enquiries and Bookings –  
 call J. 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 January, 2019

Mass proper		Intention	
Sat 05	Vigil Mass	7 p.m.	<i>Holy Souls</i>
Sun 06	<b>THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD (C)</b> Gospel: Matthew 2:1-12      Mass Book p.115	10 a.m. 12 noon	<i>In Thanksgiving for Lety Alfred, R.I.P.</i> <i>Pro Populo – for the people of the parish</i>
Mon 07	<i>Monday after Epiphany</i>	10 a.m.	<i>Wanda McRae &amp; Family</i>
Tue 08	Mass at St Mary's House	8.15 a.m.	-
Wed 09	Mass at St Mary's House	8.15 a.m.	-
Thurs 10	Low Mass in the Extraordinary Form	7 p.m.	<i>Joan &amp; Kazimierz Golunski, R.I.P.</i>
Fri 11	<i>Friday after Epiphany</i>	10 a.m.	<i>Fr Frederick Hopper, R.I.P.</i>
Sat 12	<i>Saturday after Epiphany</i>	10 a.m. 7 p.m.	<i>Private Intention.</i> <i>Holy Souls</i>
Sun 13	<b>THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD (C)</b> Gospel: Luke 3:15-16,21-22      Mass Book p.118	10 a.m. 12 noon	<i>Pro Populo – for the people of the parish</i> <i>Bernard Wilson, R.I.P.</i>

**Confessions every Saturday 10.30-11 a.m., 6.15-6.45 p.m. and at call**  
**Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament for 1 hour before Friday Morning's Mass**

PARISH DIARY				
Date	Time	Place	Event	Contact
Mondays	6.55-8 pm	Cassidy Centre	WCCM Christian Meditation Group	Celia 01273 555967
Wed 9 Jan	7.30-9 pm	Church Hall	Youth Club Yrs 7-11	www.smyclub.co.uk
Fri 11 Jan	10.30 am	12 Bavant Rd	Social Concerns Group	Claire S-J: 01273 505642
Sat 12 Jan	5.45-6.45pm	Cassidy Centre	Confirmation Class#3	Parish Office
Sun 13 Jan	10 am	Church	Baptism: Thomas Harrison	
Wed 16 Jan	1-2 pm	Cassidy Centre	SVP Meeting	Luke F.

### THE FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY

The birth of our Lord into this world was something God willed to be away from prying eyes – and it was, just Mary, Joseph and the animals in the stable. However his coming was not something meant to be kept hidden forever. Today, with the feast of the Epiphany – which means a ‘revealing of God’ – we see how God used open and enquiring hearts, a star and an old Testament prophecy from Micah to lead the wise men from the East to Jesus Christ, the Saviour of the world. In the newborn child they found God's answer to our brokenness and to all the deepest questions and longings of our human hearts. In this new year that is opening up before us pray for the Church – we the Body of Christ – as we continue to preach Christ and bring him and his message of peace, forgiveness of sins and joy to the people of today who need him so much.

### CHRISTMAS THANKS

Many thanks for all the cards and gifts that were given to me over the Christmas period. I was very touched and grateful for each of them. Thank you also for the offerings given during the Christmas Masses. Finally thank you again to all those who contributed their time and effort to make our celebration of the Lord's Nativity so special for us and the many visitors who came to our Masses. With my prayers for a blessed New Year, Fr Bruno.

**Christmas Day Retiring Collection:** Thank you for your generous response. A total of £607.13 was collected. This has now been sent to the Brighton & Hove Deanery Night Shelter Fund which provides a meal and a bed for the homeless here in Brighton and Hove during the winter months.

## PARISH

### **FOR YOUR PRAYERS**

Please keep in your prayers Gerry Alfred, Mary Connett & Peter Walsh.

### **ADVENT CAROL SERVICE**

Many thanks to all who prepared and gave us a beautiful Carol service before Christmas. Many people commented on what a joyous occasion it was and a moving witness to the beauty of our Christian faith. A collection was taken and £581 was raised and shared between the charity 'Mary's Meals and 'St Bart's'. Thank you all.

### **CHRISTMAS FLOWERS**

The second collection just before Christmas raised £274.08 and many parishioners & visitors alike commented on how beautiful our church looked this year. We are blessed to have generous volunteers in the parish who fill the church with beautiful flowers throughout the year and for our various feasts. Thank you.

**ORDINARY TIME** - The Christmas Season ends today on the feast of the Epiphany. Decorations are removed but by custom the crib may remain in place until February 2<sup>nd</sup>, the feast of the Presentation of our Lord in the Temple, 40 days after his birth.

### **CHILDRENS LITURGY**

The signup sheets for Preschool & School Age Children are now in the church porch. We have 12 slots to fill between January and May.

### **Social Concerns Group**

Next meeting Friday 11<sup>th</sup> January 10.30am at Liz Woodhead's, 12 Bavant Road. New members most welcome. If you'd like to find out more please phone Claire S-J on 01273 505642.

### **SENIORS CLUB**

The first meeting of the Seniors Club in the New Year will be on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> January, 2-4 p.m. in the Cassidy Centre

### **SCHOOL FORMS**

For parents wishing to apply to send their children to St Bernadette's Primary School (or Cottesmore) in September Fr Bruno will be in the presbytery to sign forms on **Friday 11<sup>th</sup> January 11am-12pm**. The forms will then be delivered to the respective schools.

### **DATES FOR YOUR DIARY, 2019**

Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> May, Deanery Confirmations at St Mary's  
Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> June, Parish First Holy Communions.

#### **THE IMPORTANT FEASTS OF THIS YEAR**

06 March - Ash Wednesday, the beginning of Lent  
21 April - Easter and the Resurrection of the Lord  
30 May - The Ascension of our Lord Jesus Christ  
09 June - The feast of Pentecost  
23 June - The feast of Corpus Christi  
24 November - The feast of Christ the King  
01 December - The First Sunday of Advent

### **A Prayer inspired by the Three Kings**

Lord and God! You created us for a lifelong journey to you. Each one of us takes a different path over mountains and through valleys, through joy and sorrow and need. May the three Holy Kings guide us in our wanderings, as their faith, knowledge, and determination guided them through many perils on their journey to you. They saw you, knelt before you, offered up their gifts, and paid homage to you. They were filled with the joy of finding you.

Lord and God! We thank you for granting us the freedom to seek and find you, our life's goal. Grant us the faith, strength, and trust we need to follow in the path of the three kings. Give us courage when we are at risk of taking easier but false paths. Let us experience the joy of being with you at the end of our journey, so that we may be eternally surrounded by your love. We ask this, through Jesus Christ our Lord, the hope and destination of every pilgrim. Amen.

## DIOCESAN

### **DIOCESAN DIRECTORIES FOR 2019**

These are available in the church porch. They are £5 each and provide much useful information about our diocese. They include names, addresses and telephone numbers of priests, parishes and schools, all the diocesan agencies, a calendar for the coming year and much more.

### **CRIB OFFERINGS**

*"This Christmas please help children and families in crisis"* Bishop Richard Moth. This year, again, Bishop Richard has asked that every penny raised through our crib offerings will go to the Catholic Children's Society's A&B Crisis fund. This fund provides emergency grants for children and families in our Diocese who are facing a crisis in their lives. Every single penny donated to the Crib will be given out via these grants.

### **New Name for DABCEC**

The Diocese of Arundel & Brighton Christian Education Centre (formerly Dabcec) in Crawley is now known as the St Philip Howard Centre for Education, Formation & Mission (The St Philip Howard Centre for short).

### **Lourdes Redshirts 2019**

Applications for the Youth Service Group in the A&B Lourdes Pilgrimage - AKA 'The Redshirts' - will open soon. Please tell 16-18 year olds who might be interested that applications will open in the New Year and that places will be allocated on a first-come-first-served basis, with 60 spaces. Parish sponsorship available. See [ABLourdes.org](http://ABLourdes.org)

## OTHER

**National Day Of Prayer & Fasting For Life - 12 January**  
Sunday 13th January is the 22nd anniversary of the founding of The Good Counsel Network in the UK, thousands of Lives has been saved. Please pray and fast for the end of abortion and euthanasia on the eve of this anniversary. [www.goodcounselnetwork.com](http://www.goodcounselnetwork.com)

*Give yourself fully to God. He will use you to accomplish great things on the condition that you believe much more in His love than in your own weakness' [St Mother Teresa of Calcutta]*