

St. Mary Star of the Sea 1 High Street, HASTINGS TN34 3EY
Tel: 01424 421263 **Email: stmarystarofthesea.hastings.uk@gmail.com**

PARISH WEBSITE: www.stmarystarofthesea.net
(Arundel and Brighton Diocesan Trust – Registered Charity 252878)
Society of the Catholic Apostolate (Pallottines)

Parish Priest: Fr Eamonn Monson, SCA

Parish Deacon: Rev. Duncan Brown

Normal Mass Times

Sundays: 6.00pm (Sat), 10.00am, 11.30am. Tuesday to Saturday: 10.00am
Adoration: First Friday of Month 10.30am to 12 noon. Saturdays: 10.30am to 11am.
Sacrament of Reconciliation: Saturdays 10.30am and after the 6.00pm Mass.
THIRTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 12th NOVEMBER 2017 YEAR A
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RCIA

begins on Tuesday 14th November at 5.30pm.

MASS FOR DECEASED CLERGY
TUESDAY 14th NOVEMBER AT ST
THOMAS'S CHURCH, ST LEONARDS.

You are warmly encouraged to attend this Mass.
Please note there will be no Mass or
Liturgy of the Word with Communion
at St Mary Star of the Sea on this day.

Safeguarding Basic Awareness Training for the
Eastbourne and St Leonard's Deaneries

on Wednesday, 29th November at St Mary
Magdalene, Bexhill, TN40 1RH from 7 pm-9 pm.
The training is for everyone but particularly for
those who have a role which requires a DBS check
within the parishes and are working with vulnerable
groups (children and adults at risk). It is for those
who have **not** already attended the previous
sessions. Please book by *Wed, 22nd November* by
contacting Chris Emary on 07518 521286. Or book
via the Arundel and Brighton Diocesan Website in
the Safeguarding Section under Courses & Events.
If you prefer to undertake on-line training, email
safeguarding@dabnet.org with your name,
parish and role. We can register you with EduCare,
the national on-line training provider.

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR, NOVEMBER 25th

Please could you leave donations of good quality
toiletries and bric-a-brac at the back of the church.
Raffle tickets will be sold on
12th and 19th November.

QUIZ NIGHT

St Richard's Catholic College. Friday 17th
November 7pm for a 7.30pm start. Adults £3,
children £1. Tables of 6. Prize for the winning
team. Bring your own refreshments. To book a
table, please phone St Richard's on 01424 731070

PARISH COMMUNITY CLUB

In the Crypt. Entrance via The Bourne. Mondays
10.30am to 12 noon. Doors open 10am. Annual
subscription £3. Coffee/tea & biscuit, sometimes
cake 50p. Guests for talks 50p.

November programme:

13th: Air Ambulance talk plus raffle.
20th: Coffee and wrapping for our Christmas Bazaar
on 25th November.
23rd: Gang Show outing by courtesy of Hastings
Scouts.
27th: Coffee and chat.

PARISH FINANCES

The offertory collection last weekend came to
£956.14 including cheques and standing orders.
Many thanks to all concerned

Knights of St Columba Charity Quiz Night.

7.30 pm 25th November at Holy Redeemer church
hall, Upper Church Road, St. Leonards. In aid of
Missio, Snowflake, Mary's Meals and other causes
including pro-life. Tickets for sale at the back of
church after mass or phone 754721/250743. It's a fun
night and all in a good cause – Please join us.

Waiting in Wonder

is a retreat for young adults (aged 18-35) being held 1st-
3rd December at Worth Abbey, near Crawley. It is an
opportunity to enter more deeply into the themes of
Advent in preparation for the coming of Christ at
Christmas, offering the chance of encounter with Christ in
prayer through the Benedictine monastic tradition, talks
from the monks and members of the Wellspring
Community, space for reflection, participation in the
rhythm of prayer with the monastic community (The
Divine Office), Lectio Divina, walks in the beautiful
Sussex countryside, and time for building community and
friendships (plus mulled wine and minced pies!)
The cost is £62 for students/unwaged, £102 waged, and
includes meals and accommodation. To book, or for more
info, please email Katrina at TOC@worthabbey.net

MASS INTENTIONS:

Saturday, 11th November, 6pm: Kevin Power, RIP

Sunday 12th November, 10am: Helen Connor, RIP, Month's Mind

11.30am: Clare Nin-nin Cullen, RIP

Tuesday 14th November, 11am: MASS FOR DECEASED CLERGY AT ST THOMAS'S CHURCH, ST LEONARDS AT 11am. PARISHIONERS ARE ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND THIS MASS.

Wednesday 15th November, 10am: Sr Josephine Gaffney, RIP (18th anniversary)

Thursday 16th November, 10am: Vincenza & Nicola Casciozo RIP & Adele & Valentino Moscateli RIP

Friday 17th November, 10am: Margaret Devis, RIP

Saturday 18th November, 10am: Holy Souls

BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE FOR THE HOLY SOULS Please take a sheet from the back of the church and enter the names of the deceased whom you wish to remember in November. If you wish, you may make a donation for the restoration of the Marianne Patmore Chancery Chapel, which will be dedicated to our deceased relatives and friends.

The Real Presence of Jesus

Sitting at the back of an empty church on a dark evening, I look up the distance to the tabernacle and think of Judith Hearne (from the novel by Brian Moore).

Judith Hearne was a woman lost in alcoholism and absolutely lonely at 40-something. She had prayed all her life and had gotten a raw deal and she comes in the end to a similar church demanding some answer from Jesus in the tabernacle but He remains silent and her faith is weakening rapidly. The sacristan and later the priest come out into the sanctuary and their attitude in front of the tabernacle suggests to her that they don't believe that there's anyone there. We who are familiar with the sacred can become so casual that we forget the Presence and maybe stop believing in reality, without ever thinking about it.

Faith in the Real Presence of Jesus! Saint Faustina had a vision in prayer of looking at the Blessed Sacrament and seeing the face of Jesus in all its glory and He tells her that He is pleased with those who see Him by faith and not by vision. **"Oh, how pleasing to me is their great faith! You see, although there appears to be no trace of life in Me, in reality it is present in its fullness in each and every Host. But for me to be able to act upon a soul, the soul must have faith. Oh, how pleasing to me is living faith!"** (Divine Mercy In My Soul: Diary, N.1420).

We tend to think of faith in terms of vision and consolation but the reality is that faith is exercised and lives in desolation. It is a labour a lot of the time, a labour of love.

Faustina had her experiences of desolation. **"I feel such desolation in my soul that I do not know how to explain it even to myself. No one understands a heart wounded by love, and when such a heart feels itself abandoned interiorly, no one can comfort it."** (Diary N. 943).

No comfort! At times there is no comfort, a sense that God is standing back in silence, doing nothing. The abandonment of Jesus on the Cross is the abandonment of us all. WHY have you forsaken me? And the Father says absolutely nothing in that moment. Faith is moulded, carved into shape in this desolate and dark abandonment.

"Patience, silence and prayer - these are what give strength to the soul." We might easily run away from desolation. We DO run away sometimes. And the Hound of Heaven chases us down until we face it. Then faith grows like a seed in the dark soil, like a piece of china that comes shining out of the burning kiln. It is a lovely thing that comes out of the fire and the dark earth.

Eamonn Monson SAC

DIVINE MERCY GROUP

All are warmly welcome to join us in the presbytery on Monday 20-11-17.

St Richard's Catholic College is looking to recruit a practising Catholic with an interest in education and a knowledge of finance, to serve as a Foundation Governor. For more information please contact the Principal, Miss Cronin at misscronin@strichardscc.com or Chair of Governors, Alison Horan at ahoran@strichardscc.com

Candlelit Advent Service of Music and Prayer from Taize and Iona, Sunday 10th December, at 4 pm, at St. Thomas of Canterbury, Magdalen Road, St. Leonards-on-Sea, TN37 6ET. You are all warmly invited to attend.