

St. Mary Star of the Sea 1 High Street, HASTINGS TN34 3EY
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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.

OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE 26th NOVEMBER 2017 YEAR A

Parish Mass Book page: 158

SECOND COLLECTION TODAY

for the Cathedral Maintenance Fund.

COLLECTION FOR CHRISTMAS FLOWERS

each Sunday in Advent.

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

Thank you very much to Susan and Dominic and all the helpers who made the bazaar such an enjoyable social occasion and to everyone who supported the parish by coming along. The amount raised will be in next week's newsletter.

Today, 26th November after the 10am Mass

there will be a coffee morning and cake sale to raise money for the refurbishing of the Marianne Patmore Chapel, which is to the left of the sanctuary as you face down the church. The intention is to remove the old plaster and re-plaster and paint the walls and improve the flooring so that this space can be used for quiet prayer particularly for those who have died. We hope to place in this small chapel some memorial of the parishioners who have died recently. This will not be a shrine and this space will return to the original intention of Coventry Patmore who left money for prayers to be said for the repose of the soul of his second wife, Marianne. These prayer chapels were called chantry chapels in pre-Reformation times as Masses would have been chanted for the dead.

A special treat will be on sale at the coffee morning of jars of pure honey from Westfield. There will be only eight jars available and they will cost £5 per jar. If you look at the cost of single origin honey in any supermarket, you will realise that this is a bargain. Please support this appeal as many people have expressed the desire for a quiet place to remember their deceased loved ones within our beautiful church.

THIS WEEKEND OF 26th NOVEMBER

is Remembrance Weekend
for all of our deceased.

Confirmation 2018

Bishop Richard Moth will celebrate this Sacrament in St Mary Star of the Sea Church on Sunday 24th June at 3.00 p.m. Young people of the Parish in Year 10 or above who wish to be confirmed are invited to contact Fr Eamonn or Deacon Duncan as soon as possible. Classes will commence in January.

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:

27th: Coffee and chat.

PARISH FINANCES

The offertory collection last weekend came to £970.84 including cheques and standing orders.
Many thanks to all concerned

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 and FEASTS:

Saturday, 25th November, 6pm: Holy Souls

Sunday 26th November, Christ the King, 10am: May Kelly RIP

11.30am: Sean De Peitid RIP 1st anniversary

Tuesday 28th November, 10am: Holy Souls

Wednesday 29th November, 10am: Holy Souls

Thursday 30th November, St Andrew, 10am: D'Souza & Andrews Family RIP

Friday 1st December, 10am: Margaret Terrill RIP

Saturday 2nd December, BVM on Saturday, 10am: In thanksgiving in honour of St Peregrine

DIVINE MERCY GROUP

All are warmly welcome to join us in the presbytery on the following Mondays at 2.30pm:

4-12-17, 18-12-17, 15-1-18, 29-1-18, 12-2-18, 26-2-18, 12-3-18

There will be no meeting on Monday 1st January.

THE SHEPHERD KING

In celebrating the feast of Christ the King, we honour a King who is a shepherd, one who looks after all His people, with emphasis on the word ALL. Not just SOME but ALL - each and every one!

*"The Lord says this: I am going to look after my flock myself and keep **all** of it in view. As a shepherd keeps **all** his flock in view when he stands up in the middle of his scattered sheep, so shall I keep my sheep in view. I shall rescue them from wherever they have been scattered during the mist and darkness. I myself will pasture my sheep, I myself will show them where to rest—it is the Lord who speaks. I shall look for the lost one, bring back the stray, bandage the wounded and make the weak strong. I shall watch over the fat and healthy. I shall be a true shepherd to them."* (Ezekiel 34:11-12,15-17)

As Jesus Himself is, so we are called to be; we who are the Body of Christ in our time. And when it comes to the end of time and our lives are assessed and judged by God then the bottom line will be *"whatever you did to one of the least of these you did it to me and whatever you neglected to do to one of the least of these you neglected to do it to me"* (Matthew 25:31-46)

There is one group of people that has stirred my conscience from today's gospel - the prisoners. Jesus says *"when I was in prison you visited me!"* Sadly, I have never visited a prison and so have never visited Christ in this way. And I'm not suggesting that we all need to go running off to start visiting prisons because there are people called to this ministry but we are all called to be aware of the prisoner, to be concerned for the prisoner.

The prisoner is the criminal, the wrongdoer, the guilty one who deserves to be punished. And the prisoner is one who needs to be saved, to see the face of Christ, to experience that love that God has for every single person. Jesus the innocent person died for the guilty, so that he could bring us to God (1 Peter 3:18)

While the world leaves the prisoner in his condemnation, God is saying I will rescue him from his darkness, I will look for him in the place where he is lost. That's the extent of Christianity's reach - that we have a heartfelt desire to save the guilty, the criminal, the most detestable of people.

And though most of us cannot do this face to face with the person in prison, we can and must do it for the guilty people we meet in the ordinary course of life. To be the face of Christ so that Christ Himself can transform guilty lives.

It occurs to me that we can't always reveal the smiling, kind face of Christ. Sometimes the true face of Christ is the wounded, hurt face and perhaps the guilty one needs to see this hurt face in order to come to his senses, to be saved, rescued and brought to God.

It's what Pope Francis is trying to inspire us to do as Church - to be the face of Christ for those who find themselves in difficult situations, whose lives are at odds with the Catholic and Christian teachings, those who are stuck in destructive ways of living.

Eamonn Monson SAC

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.
