

St. Mary Star of the Sea 1 High Street, HASTINGS TN34 3EY  
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PARISH WEBSITE: [www.stmarystarofthesea.net](http://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.

HOLY FAMILY, 31st December 2018 YEAR B

Parish Mass Book page: 105

MONDAY JANUARY 1st

is the Solemnity of Mary the Mother of God. There will be Mass at 10am on this day.

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SPECIAL COLLECTION FOR PAX CHRISTI

on Peace Day, Sunday 14th January.

WHITE FLOWER APPEAL

On Sunday 21st January there will be a collection for the Society for the Protection of Unborn Children.

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PLEASE NOTE:

There will be no newsletters on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> January or Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> January. Next newsletter: Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> January.

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Anyone intending to get married in the diocese of Arundel & Brighton is required to give notice of one year.

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CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP

We now meet on Tuesday evenings from 7.30pm to 8.30pm. In the presbytery. All are warmly welcome.

World Gathering of Families

Join Bishop Richard on a Diocesan Pilgrimage to the World Meeting of Families with Pope Francis in Dublin 21-26 August 2018. It's for families of all sizes, and all age groups are welcome. We'll be staying together in Dublin City University accommodation and travelling to events together by coach. A 3-day congress will be followed by a Festival of Families and a Solemn Eucharistic Celebration with Pope Francis.

If you can't make it to Dublin, do join the gathering at Christ the King, Eastbourne on Sat. 19<sup>th</sup> May.

For booking forms and more details, email [wmof2018@dabnet.org](mailto:wmof2018@dabnet.org)

CATHOLIC ONLINE RADIO

BROADCASTING 24/7 WORLDWIDE

300+ podcasts to browse. 250 live Masses weekly. Prayers, reflections, features and music. Providing a positive Catholic voice to promote our Catholic faith. Showcasing Catholic talents and more. Website: [www.heavensroadfm.com](http://www.heavensroadfm.com)

Email: [admin@heavensroadfm.com](mailto:admin@heavensroadfm.com)

'The internet offers immense possibilities... this is something truly good ... a gift from God.'

*Pope Francis*

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THANK YOU

For your generous offerings in the collections at the Christmas Masses.

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Non Catholics and those who have not received

First Communion

are invited to seek a blessing by crossing their arms over their chest.

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SNOWFLAKE NIGHT SHELTER

Please keep our guests and volunteers in your prayers.

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COLLECTIVE PRAYER MEETING

on the second Tuesday of the month at 7pm in the parish rooms. All are warmly welcome. Our next meeting is on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> January.

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TEMPORARY PART-TIME TEACHER

OF RE / ENGLISH

Required for the spring and summer terms 2018 to teach mainly KS3 classes. Further details and an application form are available at [www.strichardscc.com](http://www.strichardscc.com) Apply immediately for a January start.

## MASS INTENTIONS:

Saturday 30th December, 6pm: Irena & Franciszek Jarocki RIP & Alexander Stetkevych

Sunday 31st December, Holy Family, 10am: Malcolm Swaffer & Joyce Bumstead RIP

11.30am: Angelo Di Francesco

Monday, 1st January: Mary, Mother of God: Stephen Lauder RIP

Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> January, Ss Basil the Great and St Gregory Nazianzen, 10am: Eileen McIvor RIP

Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January, Most Holy Name of Jesus, 10am: Raymond Moss RIP

Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> January, Feria in Christmastide, 10am: Margaret Terrill RIP

Friday 5<sup>th</sup> January, Feria in Christmastide, 10am: Kathleen Smith Intention

Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> January, 10am: Feria in Christmastide, 10am: In Thanksgiving: Linda

## REFLECTION

On Christmas night we had a beautiful Mass and carol service. Midnight Mass at 10! This was the tranquil adult event – proud parents with returned sons and daughters. Loved ones leaning into each other in the warmth that is offered in the birth of Jesus, delightful homecomings! Few things surpass the beauty of God's people in a church at Christmas. Every one of us there knows that we are blessed by being there.

It is a kind of Transfiguration. Lord, it is good for us to be here!

I find myself abiding in gratitude for all that is. I'm not looking for anything for myself in prayer and I feel a completeness that is immensely satisfying.

I find myself abiding in the present – neither looking back nor forward nor away. Simply here right now, holding in my heart all who belong to me! And in this present I am grateful for the church building in which I stand and the community that fills it. The beauty of it and the goodness of those who prepared it for this night! Beautiful as a bride prepared – the cleaning, polishing, the beautiful flowers and tree, the lovely crib. All done so quietly and humbly, with no demand for praise or recompense! All I do is turn up! There is so much hidden service done here on a daily basis.

And there is the music, the exquisite singing which has been born of much labour, a labour that I have witnessed with my own eyes and felt with my heart.

All these aspects are in their way a new birth – Jesus being born for us again in them; we being born anew in Him.

Earlier we had an altogether different Christmas Mass that was no less transforming and, while the later one was uplifting in a tranquil way, the early one was shot through with joy, the joy that is to be experienced most especially in children.

And there were lots of them. The church overflowed with the young families who are so central to the life of this community. I sometimes refer to these Masses as a holy chaos but there was in fact no chaos at all – just a tumult of life. And for all the tumult we also have the capacity as a community – both young and old – to enter together into moments of profound silence. The children do my heart so much good – the delight and the joy they bring! *Eamonn Monson SAC*

## 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.

January programme: 1: New Year's Day: closed; 8: Pillar Box Red – illustrated talk by Steven Whitford; 15: Coffee & chat; 22: In the Steps of St Paul by Anna Witham; 29: Coffee & chat, Bring & Buy

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## DIVINE MERCY GROUP

All are warmly welcome to join us in the presbytery on the following Mondays at 2.30pm: 15-1-18, 29-1-18, 12-2-18, 26-2-18, 12-3-18. There will be no meeting on Monday 1st January.