

**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.

**PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD, 25<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2018 YEAR B**

Parish Mass Book page: 180

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION IN LENT

Praise to You, O Christ  
King of eternal glory.

EASTER TRIDUUM

HOLY THURSDAY, 29<sup>th</sup> March:

Mass of the Lord's Supper at 7pm

GOOD FRIDAY, 30<sup>th</sup> March:

Day of Fasting and Abstinence.

3pm: Solemn Liturgy  
of the Lord's Passion

With a special collection for the Holy Places.

Not giftaidable.

HOLY SATURDAY:

Easter Vigil, 8pm

EASTER SUNDAY:

Masses at 10am and 11.30am

PROCESSION OF WITNESS

on Good Friday 30<sup>th</sup> March starts at  
10.00 am at St Clement's Church.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation

Individual confessions will be available here at St. Mary's Star of the Sea after Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday, after the Celebration of the Lord's Passion on Good Friday afternoon and on Holy Saturday from 12noon to 1pm.

Anyone intending to get married

in the diocese of Arundel & Brighton is required to give notice of one year.

Non-Catholics and those who have not received First Communion are invited to seek a blessing by crossing their arms over their chest.

Confirmation candidates' meeting, new date

on Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> March at 6.00pm in the presbytery.  
The Deanery Confirmation will now be on Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> July at St Martha's Church, Little Common at 3.00pm.

IN MEMORIAM

the funeral Mass of  
VERONICA CROSS

Will take place on Tuesday April 3<sup>rd</sup> at  
11.45 am in the Hastings Crematorium.

May she rest in peace.

BLESSING OF FOOD FOR THE POLISH

COMMUNITY takes place on Sat 31<sup>st</sup> at 3.30pm

Becoming a Secondary RE teacher

The University of Sussex offers full and part time PGCE and School Direct Courses in Religious Education resulting in qualified Teacher Status (QTS) and a PGCE of up to 90 Masters Level Credits For more information visit

<http://www.sussex.ac.uk/education/ite/pgceandschooldirectsecondary/religiouseducation>

To discuss further contact either Sally Dudley, Initial Teacher Education Recruitment, Selection and Admissions Lead at Sussex University [s.e.dudley@sussex.ac.uk](mailto:s.e.dudley@sussex.ac.uk) or Claire Rooney, RE Curriculum Tutor [c.rooney@sussex.ac.uk](mailto:c.rooney@sussex.ac.uk)

PARISH FINANCES

The offertory collection last weekend came to £688.17 including cheques and standing orders.

Many thanks to all concerned.

THE KNIGHTS OF ST COLUMBA

invite Catholic men to join their organization. We help in parishes, fundraise for charities and have a social programme. If interested, please take a leaflet from our section on the noticeboard at the back of the church or phone 754721 for more information.

COOKED BREAKFAST WILL BE SERVED

after the 10am Mass today, Palm Sunday, in the hall.

Price: £3. Do join us! Profits to Snowflake.

Home and nursing home visits before Easter

Could Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion and others write down the names of those who need a visit on the page in the church porch so that I can visit them.

Fr Eamonn

MASS INTENTIONS:

Saturday 24th March, 6pm: Paul Murphy RIP

Sunday 25th March, 10am: Patrick Hackett RIP

11.30am: Thanksgiving for God's love

Tuesday 27th March, 10am: Special intention

Wednesday 28th March, 10am: Viveanne DePass & Family Special Intention

REFLECTION: ENTERING INTO HOLY WEEK

*"My soul at once becomes recollected and I enter the state of quiet. Everything is stilled and the soul is left in a state of great quiet." (St. Teresa of Avila)*

As we enter into Holy Week we are invited by God into a state of quiet recollection in prayer as we contemplate Jesus in His Passion, as we "look upon the one they have pierced." (Zechariah 12:10). The appropriate form of prayer is that of silent gazing, a silent gazing on the person of Jesus, a loving gaze and a total surrender to Him in which I put aside my own thoughts, my agenda and my struggles. I surrender my self-preoccupation and allow love for Him to be stirred, awakened within me in the silence.

Fr. Luigi Giussani, founder of Comunione e Liberazione, speaks about spending Holy Week simply looking on the face of Christ as the way to being changed or transformed. If we spend our energy in this sacred time getting caught up in our sins or wanting to be perfect we will end up tired and unchanged at the end of it.

"Looking Christ in the face changes us. But to be changed we need to really look into his face with the desire for good, desiring truth."

Looking steadily at the face of Jesus suffering and crucified we are drawn to Him to enter into Him as He himself has entered into us so that we experience everything as He does. We see as He sees, understand as He understands that in the awfulness of suffering, in abandonment, He is not alone. We are not alone. The Father who seems absent is with us in hidden form sustaining Jesus, sustaining me, sustaining you!

There are many things that keep us on the outside, at a distance from God and perhaps our greatest obstacles are guilt and fear. Guilt keeps us from coming to the table of mercy; we feel unfit, unworthy to take our place because we are ashamed. Yet, it was the worst of sinners who sat at table with Jesus in the gospel and perhaps this was made possible because they shifted their gaze from themselves to Him.

Fear of suffering – the thought that God might ask too much of us - also keeps us at a distance, the prospect of unbearable suffering puts us off, turns us away, creates a resistance in us. Maybe we cope better when we are actually suffering.

It helps to allow the Spirit of Jesus in His Passion to pray within us. In the garden of Gethsemane his distress, terror and agony give expression to ours; his darkness expresses ours; his struggle our struggle. In His abandonment on the cross he cries out our feeling of being abandoned by God – "my God, my God why have you forsaken me?" And because we are in Him and He in us, we are ultimately led to the moment of surrender to the Father which is the goal of all life and the point of all gazing, all prayer. Not my will but yours be done. Father into your hands I commend my spirit!

*Eamonn Monson sac*

DIVINE MERCY GROUP Do join us in the presbytery on the following Mondays at 2.30pm: 23.4.18, 7.5.18, 21.5.18 and 4-6-18. NB: No Divine Mercy prayer group on 9-4-18.

Service of Taize Music and Prayer on Good Friday (30th March), at 8 pm, in the Church of St. Thomas of Canterbury and English Martyrs, Magdalen Road, TN37 6ET. All are warmly invited.

PARISH COMMUNITY CLUB In the Crypt. Entrance via blue door in The Bourne. Mondays 10.30am to 12 noon. Annual subscription £3. Coffee/tea & biscuit, 50p. Guests welcome to talks for 50p.

March programme: 26<sup>th</sup> coffee and chat.

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ALTAR SERVERS NEEDED

for our 10am Sunday Mass. If you have made your First Holy Communion and would like to serve, please speak to Dominic Cockerton to find out more.