

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.

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER, 15th APRIL 2018 YEAR B

Parish Mass Book page: 262

NEXT SUNDAY, 22<sup>nd</sup> APRIL

there will be a special collection for the  
Education of Future Priests. Gift-aidable.

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.

April programme:

16th: Coffee & chat and view a few old  
documents: Inflation is the very devil.

23<sup>rd</sup>: Talk by Jane Jackson: Shakespeare and  
the poetic art.

30<sup>th</sup>: Coffee & chat: *You* bring some of *your* old  
documents.

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.

BAPTISM COURSE

Our next Baptism course will be on Saturday  
23<sup>rd</sup> June downstairs in the presbytery from  
10.30am to 12 noon, but of course you are also  
warmly welcome to come to our 10am Mass in  
the church beforehand. Parents requesting  
Baptism of babies and toddlers in the 3 months  
from 3<sup>rd</sup> March are required to attend. Babies  
and children welcome. Please have a possible  
date in mid for Baptism when you come.

IN MEMORIAM

Please pray for the repose of the soul of  
Marie Hollands RIP,

Funeral Mass: Friday 20th April at  
1.45pm.

May she rest in peace.

There will be no 10am Mass on this day.

Rosary on the Coast for Faith, Life & Peace in  
the British Isles:

On Sunday 29th April 2018 at 3pm. Rosary on  
the Coast is an initiative of the Lay Faithful  
across the British Isles inviting the faithful of  
our nations, with the support of our clergy and  
Bishops, to a Day of Prayer for Faith, Life and  
Peace which will surely be pleasing to the Holy  
Spirit, and to Our Blessed Mother. The Rectors  
of our two National Marian Shrines  
(Walsingham & Our Lady of the Taper) in  
England and Wales have given Rosary on the  
Coast their full backing  
and encouragement. You can find lots of  
information on their Facebook page  
and website where you can also read the  
Briefing Document for the event.  
Benediction will be celebrated after the Rosary.

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.

PARISH FINANCES

The offertory collection last weekend came to  
£842.19 including cheques and standing orders.  
Many thanks to all concerned.

### MASS INTENTIONS

Sat. 14<sup>th</sup> April, 6pm: Lauren Goldsmith, Kathleen Landsdale, Samuel, Rose & Stanley Beeney, Annie, John, Patrick, Lilly, John, Micheal & Daniel McCrossan, RIP

Sun. 15<sup>th</sup> April, 10am: Joan Edna Gunn, Mary Edith Bowles & Fr Seamus RIP  
11.30am: Joyce Bumstead RIP

Tues. 17<sup>th</sup> April, 10am: Philomena Jackson RIP, birthday remembrance

Wed. 18<sup>th</sup> April, 10am: John Drake & Katherine Carey RIP

Thurs. 19<sup>th</sup> April, 10am: Anna Maria Demarco RIP

Fri. 20<sup>th</sup> April, 1.45pm, Marie Hollands RIP, Funeral Mass

Sat. 21<sup>st</sup> April, 10am: Fr Thomas Hulhoven RIP & Fr Anthony Canning RIP, who received Michael Haywood into the Church 40 years ago

### I Ached For Her Touch

*Touch me and see for yourselves; a ghost has no flesh and bones as you can see I have.' And as he said this he showed them his hands and feet. Their joy was so great that they still could not believe it, and they stood there dumbfounded; so, he said to them, 'Have you anything here to eat?' And they offered him a piece of grilled fish, which he took and ate before their eyes. (Luke 23)*

When Maura died I ached for two things - the sound of her voice and her physical touch. We were always physically present to each other - when I returned home from Tanzania, having been away for two years, her hug was fierce and long; we sat shoulder to shoulder on the couch; she linked my arm when we walked. The ache for her touch was my prayer.

One night I dreamed there was a knock on the front door at home. I ran to open it and there stood Maura. She had come for a visit from her place in the great beyond. I hugged her tight and said with delight "I can actually *feel* you" and brought her to the kitchen where I asked her if she was able to eat. She said yes and I gave her a mug of tea and a piece of cake and we chatted.

When I woke from the dream, my ache for her touch was satisfied but what struck me most strongly is that we ate and drank together - she ate and drank. And this reminded me of the passage from Luke 23 which is today's gospel - where Jesus is trying to convince disciples that he is not a ghost but is physically alive. To prove the point, he asks for food.

At times I go on thinking that life after death is all about spirit but my dream and this gospel passage have reawakened my faith, my expectation, my anticipation of the resurrection of the body - my body, your body. We will touch each other again and we will touch Jesus. I don't know how but I know that God can do anything and it is what we profess in the Creed - "I believe in the resurrection of the body."

It suggests to me that the mother who has lost her baby will hold her baby again, the father his son, the husband his wife, the friend the friend. We will touch each other perfectly, will relate to each other with perfect and delightful love. The limitations of physical boundaries will no longer hold us back; the limitations of our frustrations with each other will be gone. Our wounds will be healed - present but transformed.

The prophecies of the heavenly banquet will be fulfilled. And we will enter into the eternal, infinite exploration of the mystery of who God is and who we are in Him.

*Eamonn Monson sac*

### 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.

NEWSLETTER NOTICES can be emailed (in a way that's easy to copy and paste) to [stmarystarofthesea.hastings.uk@gmail.com](mailto:stmarystarofthesea.hastings.uk@gmail.com) If you don't have access to email, please could you drop your notices in the box just outside the door to the presbytery. Many thanks.