

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: Saturdays: 10.30am to 11am.

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Saturdays 10.30am and after the 6.00pm Mass.

TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 7th October 2018 YEAR B

Parish Mass Book page: 140

RCIA

We invite adults who are interested in becoming Catholics and who wish to follow the RCIA programme to contact Fr. Eamonn or Deacon Duncan

CONFIRMATION

We also invite young people who wish to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation to contact Fr. Eamonn or Deacon Duncan.

PARISH COMMUNITY CLUB

In the Crypt. Entrance via blue door in The Bourne.
Mondays 10.30am to 12 noon.

October programme:

8th: Coffee and chat and some produce

15th: Hastings Voluntary Lifeguards,
talk by Di Cooke

22nd: Coffee & chat + used clothes - some vintage.

29th: talk by Roger: Friary Gardens on The Ridge.

Annual subscription only £3. Guests welcome at 50p per session. Coffee/tea & biscuit, 50p.

Talks free to members, 50p to guests.

MASS FROM TUESDAYS TO FRIDAYS

will be in the Day Chapel in the Parish House while work is being done on the Sanctuary of the church

ON WED, 10th OCTOBER there will be a

Liturgy of the Word instead of our 10am Mass, because Fr Eamonn is obliged to attend a Data Protection course on that day.

DIVINE MERCY GROUP

Do join us in the presbytery at 2.30pm on Mondays: 8.10.18, 22.10.18 and 5.11.18

A BLESSING AT COMMUNION TIME

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

IN MEMORIAM

Please pray for the repose of the soul of
JOHN BUMSTEAD
Funeral Mass: Friday October 19th at 11am
May he rest in peace

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

The Knights of St. Columba Autumn Charity Quiz, Saturday 13 October

at 7.45 promptly, Holy Redeemer Church Hall, Upper Church Road, St. Leonard's.

Includes light refreshments. Tickets £5.00

Family £12.00 On sale after Mass from mid-September or phone 754721 now.

Parking.

We kindly request parishioners not to block other cars in the church car park.

Hastings Bonfire Procession

On Saturday evening 13th October at 18:00 many of the roads around our church will be closed until 23:00. If driving, please arrive for Mass before 18:00 and when leaving the car parks please turn left as there is no right turn.
Nick Adie | HBBS Captain of Marshals

PARISH/SCHOOL HARVEST MASS

We will be welcoming pupils and staff of the Sacred Heart School to our 10am Sunday Mass on October 14th. The pupils' donations of non-perishable food at this Harvest Mass will be donated to the Food Bank. There will be no Children's Liturgy on this day.

BONFIRE NIGHT AT SACRED HEART SCHOOL

is on Friday 9th November. Members of the PTFA will be selling tickets after our 10am Masses on 14th October (Harvest Mass) and 28th October.

MASS INTENTIONS

Sat. 6th October, 6pm: Autumn Garwood RIP
Sun. 7th October, 10am: John Andrews RIP
11.30am: Gerry Mason RIP
Tues. 9th October, 10am: John Bumstead RIP
Wed. 10th October, 10am: Liturgy of the Word
Thurs. 11th October, 10am: John Bumstead RIP
Fri. 12th October, St Wilfrid, Bishop: Dawn McGrath RIP
Sat. 13th October, Our Lady on Saturday, 10.00am:

REFLECTION

A beautiful Friday afternoon. Walking the sea front by Pelham Beach in the direction of the Bathing Hut Café which never seems to be open and is exactly three miles from my door. It's a walk I do every other day, mostly in the evening. Six miles in total and it's really good for my head. I pray as I go and think as I pray and often just let my eyes and my mind float, taking in what's there. The beauty of everything. Every one.

September 28th. I remember it's exactly a year ago since I was inducted as Parish Priest of St. Mary Star of the Sea. 28 is a significant number – January and July. I was 28 years old the last time I became a Parish Priest in Galapo, Tanzania.

I don't know how to assess the last year, to know whether I'm doing well or not. There's always a bit of a shadow lurking to suggest I will never really get it right, that I never have in fact gotten it right. The shadow suggests that my mistakes - past and present - are bigger than they actually are.

The devil is an accuser. The Bible says that the accuser has been thrown down, that we have conquered him by the Blood of the Lamb. *"For the accuser of our brothers has been thrown down, he who accuses them day and night before our God. They have conquered him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony..."*

(Revelation 12:10-11) He may be down but is certainly not out. He still has what it takes to pull me down. But I don't give in and find myself living in the present quite a bit – it being the only thing I can be sure of and doing my best in every moment is all I have control over.

There are things I will never get right but it's not so much about me getting it right or getting it right at all. It's about us as a parish, what exists when we come together. There is certainly great warmth and happiness, and for me a sense of completion especially at weekend Masses.

Yesterday morning at eight I got a call from the hospital to go and see a man who is terminally ill. A young husband and father of three little children. He cried profusely at the unfairness of it all and he knows the prayer, speaks it in the face of such a hard reality. "My God, my God why have you forsaken me?" Only God has the answer to that and sometimes, as in the case of Jesus, the answer is silence.

This man has beautiful blue eyes that look directly into mine and offer me a vision of his soul. Beautiful soul.

Frightened and beautiful. And he is disappointed that he never got to do the Camino. I said he's on an altogether different kind of Camino now but, like the one that leads to Santiago, the principle towards every destination is the same – one step at a time, one moment.

Later I had a funeral at the crematorium. It's where older Catholics are brought by children who have no connection with the Church for a ceremony that has little connection with the faith of their parents. It's just the way things are and the challenge for me is to find the connection with God that is actually there.

The coffin came in draped in a beautiful multicoloured blanket that was knitted by her friends and included two pieces knitted by her young grand daughter and grandson. She was carried in to the sound of Dolly Parton singing "Coat of Many Colours" and it was in this that I found my connection. Jacob giving his beloved Joseph the coat of many colours, symbol of God the Father's favouritism, His lavish love, symbol too of the colour of the deceased woman's own love.

I would love every Catholic to have a funeral Mass in our church but I always offer Mass for them anyway. Perhaps there is something honest about a simple crematorium service and, of course, there are no restrictions and great freedom. People can play whatever kind of music they want and read whatever kind of readings they want. And no matter what is sung or read, there is usually a way to find God through it. I suppose that's what the Incarnation is about – God present in the reality of people's lives.

Today we had a funeral that was a beautiful blend of both church and crematorium. A 66-year-old man with Downs syndrome who loved the Church, especially its joyful music and loved Manchester United. It was my first time seeing a Man United coffin and I decided to wear red vestments in his honour.

At Mass we sang 'All Things Bright and Beautiful', two Gloria's, 'Bind Us Together', 'Shine Jesus Shine', 'Give Me Joy In My Heart'. In the Crematorium we had 'Football's Coming Home' and 'Glory Glory Man United!'

Eamonn Monson sac

DO YOU HAVE A CHILD BORN BETWEEN 1 SEPTEMBER 2014 AND 31 AUGUST 2015?

If so, they are due to start school for the first time in September 2019. Apply by 15 January 2019 at www.eastsussex.gov.uk/admissions You will also need to complete the Sacred Heart School's Supplementary Information Form available from the school office or download from website www.sacredheartastings.co.uk

THE BIG ENCOUNTER 2018 - FESTIVAL FOR 16-35s, NOV 10th Our annual festival for 16-35 year olds is happening at Worth Abbey (Performing Arts Centre) on Saturday November 10th at 6.30pm. It's open to anybody in that age group, and we've got an amazing line-up. The Youth 2000 Worship Band will be leading the music, and Bryony Wells will be our keynote speaker. Bishop Richard will also be with us. This is the second annual BIG ENCOUNTER, and we're expecting a few hundred people, so spread the word. Entry is free, and you don't need to book. For more info: Jack.Regan@dabnet.org