

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

Office Hours for Hall Bookings and Baptism Certificates 10am-2pm Mon-Fri
(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.

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT, GAUDETE SUNDAY 16th December 2018 YEAR C

Parish Mass Book page: 87

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES &

Confessions

24th December 2018

Children's Mass of the Nativity of Our Lord

Jesus Christ: 5pm

Carols: 9.30pm

Vigil Mass of the Nativity of Our Lord

Jesus Christ: 10pm

Christmas Day 25th December 2018

Masses of the Nativity of Our Lord Jesus

Christ:

10am and 11.30am

Fr. Eamonn will be available for individual Confessions/Sacrament of Reconciliation on Sat 22nd between 10.30am and 1.00 pm, at 5.30pm and after the 6pm Mass; December 24th between 12noon and 1pm. You can also make an appointment outside of these hours.

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS

There is a second collection this weekend Christmas Flowers for our church.

There will be no Mass

on Thursday Dec 20th or Friday Dec 21st

Fr Eamonn is giving a retreat and will offer Mass for the intentions of those two days at the retreat.

LOST PROPERTY

Please contact the parish office if either of these items are yours: A £10 note with a LIDL receipt was found in the church at the weekend. An MOT test certificate was found in the church carpark.

SEAVIEW

Many clients of the Seaview charity do not qualify for the Foodbank and also need clothing and toiletries.

Please leave donations of ring-pull cans (but not drinks), warm clothing and toiletries next to the Foodbank crate in the church porch.

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.

The Divine Mercy group meetings will not take place on the dates given in last week's newsletter.

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

PARISH FINANCES

The offertory collection last weekend came to £1068.68 including cheques and standing orders.

Many thanks to all.

BAPTISM COURSE, SATURDAY

22nd DECEMBER

from 10am to 12 noon

Parents requesting Baptism for their babies or toddlers in the 3 months from 22nd December are requested to attend. Starts with Mass in the church and continues in the presbytery.

Babies and children welcome.

MASS INTENTIONS AND FEASTS

Sat. 15th December, Third Sunday of Advent, 6pm: Paul Murphy RIP

Sun. 16th December, 10am: Bill Derwin RIP, anniversary

11.30am: Michael Lambourne RIP, recently deceased

Tues. 18th December, O Adonai' 10am: Hazel Fisher, special intention for healing

Wed. 19th December, O Radix Jesse, 10am: Jill Kemp RIP, recently deceased

Sat. 22nd December, O Rex Gentium, 10am: In thanksgiving

REFLECTION

Awaking what is dormant...giving sound to the silence

I'm thinking about the arrival of Jesus, the new arrival for this time in my life, for all our time and I wonder in what space will he choose to be born again. There are the usual suspects - my sin, the areas of my life where I'm not in control, my vulnerability.

In Shankill every December I celebrated Mass with a group of special needs adults and their families. Most of the residents are not able to speak in the conventional way. Some make no sound at all and some make a lot of noise, different people would let out a spontaneous roar from time to time. I had no idea if I was communicating or not but I said what I had to say and had to shout a lot of the time to be heard.

After Mass I went down to Eugene, a man I anointed a couple of months earlier because he was dying and here he is, revived, his beautiful blue eyes smiling. He has been silent for a long time but his sister sitting beside him said he was very animated and excited by the Mass. She hadn't seen him so animated for a long time. He was one of the ones who let out a roar from time to time. And I understood the connection that had taken place. It was pure joy!

There was part of Eugene that had gone silent, something that lay dormant within him. At Mass God came and awakened that which was dormant and gave a sound to the silence within him. There is part of me that lays dormant, a fear and a love choked within me. This is perhaps my special need. It reminds me to allow God himself to choose what part of my life He will enter and touch this Christmas or at any other time. Like King David, the most noble part of me wants to provide Him with the most appropriate dwelling place but God insists that He will make the choice and, like Mary I will now let Him do just that.

My prayer for the remainder of Advent is simply, "Maranatha! Come Lord Jesus, let it be done to me according to your Word!" *Eamonn Monson sac*

PARISH COMMUNITY CLUB

In the Crypt. Entrance via blue door in The Bourne. Mondays 10.30am to 12 noon. Annual subscription only £3. Guests welcome at 50p per session. Coffee/tea & biscuit, 50p. Talks free to members, 50p to guests.

Only members paid up on 1st Nov. entitled to subsidized Christmas lunch.

December Programme:

17th: Sing to taped carols and eat mince pies.

24th (Christmas Eve): closed. 31st (New Year's Eve): closed.

January programme:

7th: Christmas experiences chat.

14th: Hastings Part 3 by Mike Plumbe.

21st: Coffee and chat. 28th: Respite care at the Hospice – talk by Felicity.
