

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.

BAPTISM OF THE LORD 13th January 2019 YEAR C

Parish Mass Book page: 118

IN MEMORIAM

The remains of Bob Jennings will be received into the church today, Sunday January 13th, at 4.00pm. His funeral Mass will be celebrated on Monday 14th January at 10.00am
May he rest in peace.

Flyers explaining the Bishop's Pastoral Plan for the diocese are available at the church door. Please take one.

The White Flower appeal will take place today, Sunday January 13th

Second collection for Pax Christi will be taken up on January 20th.

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.

January programme:

14th: Hastings Part 3 by Mike Plumble.

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

CHURCH TOGETHER

Annual Christian Unity Service at Hastings Centre (King's) on The Ridge on Sunday January 20th at 3pm.
Guest speaker: Charles Whitehead of Catholic Charismatic Renewal.

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.

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

Applications for the Youth Service Group in the A&B Lourdes Pilgrimage

AKA 'The Redshirts' - will open soon.

Applications will open at New Year and places will be allocated on a first-come-first-served basis, with 60 spaces available.

Apply online - ABLourdes.org

PARISH FINANCES

The offertory collection last weekend came to £926.70 including cheques and standing orders.

The crib collection came to £14.06.

Many thanks to all concerned.

JUSTICE & PEACE ASSEMBLY 2019:

Slavery on our doorstep, Sat. 26th January, from 10am (coffee from 9.30am). Learn about the slave trade hidden under your nose and how you can help those affected. Speakers from the Santa Marta Group and Sussex Police. To book, contact Rosie Read, Formation Secretary at rosie.read@dabnet.org
01293 651161

MASS INTENTIONS

Sat. 12th January, 6pm: Autumn Garwood RIP

Sun. 13th January, Epiphany, 10am: Robert Jennings RIP, recently deceased

11.30am: Holy Souls

Mon. 14th January, 10am: Funeral Mass: Bob Jennings RIP

Tues. 15th January: 10am: Lizzie Logue, 100th Birthday

Wed. 16th January, 10am: Joseph Sampayo RIP, 2nd anniversary

Thurs. 17th January, 10am: Hazel Fischer, for healing of spine

Fri. 18th January, 10am: Lilian Stroud RIP, anniversary

Sat. 19th January, 10am: Colette Cullen intentions

BAPTIZING THE BELOVED:

Human beings need to be recognized, noticed, acknowledged for who they are and what their lives mean, that the experiences we have gone through have a meaning. This is not just a nicety of life – it is essential for our complete development.

It's one of the basic principles at work in the Baptism of Jesus. God the Father might have said that Jesus knows who & what he is, that he doesn't need to be told. But that's not how God works. To Him every human person, every human life is worthy of notice and acknowledgement and so he looks at Jesus and tells him "you are my Son the Beloved, my favour rests on you."

This is at the heart of the Christian life – that each one of us in Baptism is seen by God, approached by God, spoken to by God – "you are my Beloved". And part of our Baptism also is that we become the eyes and the mouth of God; that we represent Him and that we notice and acknowledge every human life. The Church, each baptized person cannot ignore one single life, cannot be indifferent to one single life, must cherish every single life from the moment of its conception up to the moment of its natural death.

Archbishop Diarmuid Martin reminds us the "The Christian message is a message of life. It is about how every human life is a reflection of the very life of God. Every human life has the right, from its very beginnings, to flourish and develop as God wants it to."

But there's a feeling that we have become indifferent, lazy about life in many ways. Even when you look at how we have not reacted strongly to the austerity imposed by government on so many people.

If we were Greeks or Spaniards we would passionately demonstrate but we have surrendered to what we are told is inevitable – the austerity and the unnecessary killing of the child in the womb. And ultimately we will allow our government to take the place of God, giving it control over life and death in a way that should not be given to any human power.

Are we indifferent because maybe we don't actually believe or hear God's word that we are Beloved? Perhaps we don't actually value our own lives so that it's difficult for us to truly value the life of another.

Diarmuid Martin says again, "any society which attempts to define certain lives as being of lesser worth and of lesser protection betrays the common good. All should be equal in the face of the law. This is a fundamental principle of our Constitution – and indeed of democracy – to be maintained and protected."

In the time of economic recession the lives of the poor have been defined in practice as being of lesser value and in the recession of the soul the life of the child in the womb is also being defined as being of lesser value. This is not of God. *Eamonn Monson sac*

Invitation to St Leonard's Deanery

Next Eastbourne Deanery Initial Safeguarding Awareness Training at Our Lady of Ransom, Eastbourne, BN21 4EU is tomorrow, Monday, 14th January, 2019 from 7. - 9 p.m. Do join us if you volunteer at Star of the Sea.

Next planned Initial Session for our Deanery is in September 2019 and Refresher Session for those who did their initial training in 2016, in March '19.