

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 IN ORDINARY TIME 27th January 2019 YEAR C

Parish Mass Book page: 129

AUTUMN GARWOOD RIP

On Autumn's first anniversary, we pray in a special way for her parents and her brothers.

GOD BLESS

Those who have lost a child. Heal their hurting, aching hearts, and cradle them in your arms. God, give them peace and comfort in the knowledge that You will care for their child until they are reunited in their heavenly home.

IN MEMORIAM

Please pray for the repose of the soul of:

PATRICIA BAKER,

whose Funeral Mass will be celebrated on Friday Feb 1st at 10.00am.

and of

PETER BRASIER,

who died during the week.

and of:

NELSON GOLEZ

who died recently in The Philippines.

May they rest in peace.

SAFEGUARDING

If your children aged under 11 need to go to the toilet during Mass, we would advise you to accompany them.

PARISH FINANCES

The offertory collection last weekend came to £893.76 including cheques and standing orders. Many thanks to all concerned.

LIFE CHARITY'S BABY LOSS MATTERS

initiative takes place on or around Sunday 3rd February 2019. We are encouraged to spend time in either the Coventry Patmore Chapel for those who are bereaved or at the Lady Chapel in silent prayer and reflection to commemorate babies we or those we love have lost. Although the initiative is for next weekend, LIFE Charity hopes that parish communities will continue to commemorate their lost babies in this way.

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.

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:

28th: Respite care at the Hospice – talk by Felicity.

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

PRAY AS YOU GO

– the App for pray as you go is available for download at <https://pray-as-you-go.org/home/> Other prayer tools are to be found on the same website.

MASS INTENTIONS

Sat. 26th January, 6pm: Paul Murphy RIP (anniversary) and Autumn Garwood RIP (first anniversary)

Sun. 27th January, 10am: Margaret & John Conroy RIP
11.30am: Dennis Cullen RIP (anniversary)

Tues. 29th January: 10am: Bob Jennings RIP

Wed. 30th January, 10am: Joe Molloy RIP (recently deceased)

Thurs. 31st January, St John Bosco: 10am: Mrs O'Dowd RIP

Fri. 1st February, 10am: Funeral Mass: Patricia Baker RIP

Sat. 2nd February, Presentation of the Lord: 10am: Sr Marita Mullins (Sister of Mercy, recently deceased)

SUPER BLOOD MOON

It's something that won't happen again for another twenty years or so – the Super Blood Wolf Moon, a total lunar eclipse. So, I went out shortly before 5.00am to have a look. On this morning with a heavy white frost – minus 6 according to the weather app - the sky was clear and sitting over the rooftops of High Street was the full red moon.

Went up West Hill where three photographers seemed to be getting it right and further from them, almost unseen but for the glow of her cigarette, sat a woman inadequately dressed on a frozen bench. I said good morning then headed down to the sea, then up the East Hill where I found myself standing in the space between the setting moon and the rising sun.

I'm fond of these in-between spaces – the space between sound and silence, sirens and sea, city and coast. It's like an awareness of all of life, holding contrasts and contradictions in balance - those of many, many people.

There is something about being a priest that calls him to stand in the breach of life. It's a phrase that I read in Ezekiel many years ago and I think it means standing in the space between on behalf of people in a kind of intercessory way. A mediator in Christ who is *the* Mediator. The space is occupied by Christ. He is the space and sometimes I feel that I am in Him a space between.

In the intercessory role I have taken the way of St. Louis Marie de Montfort who advocates giving everything to Mary, every intercession, allowing her to decide how to present them to God, to Jesus her Son. That space which she occupies is one of the striking and puzzling aspects of the Wedding Feast at Cana. She sees the need and initiates the miracle. So, all my intercessions are contained in the phrase "Totus tuus" (totally yours) which I think is part of the spirituality of Louis Marie de Montfort.

That's what stirred in me in that lovely place, up there on the Hill looking on the old town below – its lights, the lives sleeping in the houses, slowly waking to another day, another week. The traffic was already on the move and the birds sang tentatively in the cold air.

And I found myself praying Psalm 63, singing it with wide open arms – the John Michael Talbot version – a prayer of desire. Over on the West Hill I had prayed the rosary, remembering how the young St. Francisco of Fatima spoke of the moon as representing Mary while the sun represents Jesus. The slow unveiling of the moon out of the shadows of eclipse is quite beautiful, its light intensely brilliant.

At 8.00 the sun rose a magnificent ball of red or more a dark pink and then I wandered back up High Street to home, to breakfast and a snooze. *Eamonn Monson sac*