

St. Mary Star of the Sea 1 High Street, HASTINGS TN34 3EY
Tel: 01424 421263 Email: stmarystarofthesea.hastings.uk@gmail.com

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.

TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, 20th October 2019 YEAR C

Parish Mass Book page: 152

Deacon Duncan and his family wish to thank
everyone who attended June's Funeral Mass and
for the many messages of support and assurances of
prayers at this sad time.

A Mass will be offered for your intentions.
May God bless you all.

BAZAAR

This annual fundraiser takes place on Saturday 30th
November in the hall from 10.30am. Please leave
donations of books, bric-a-brac and toiletries in the
box at the back of the church (which is under the
table near the doors leading to the toilets).

Next weekend Snowflake leaders
will speak at all Masses.

FOODBANK

Please leave donations of in-date, non-perishable
foods in the crate at the back of the church.

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.

October 2019 Programme:

21st: Inside Local Government – the Cogs – one woman's
view, Tania Charman
28th: Coffee & Chat

Members free with annual £5 subscription.

Guests welcome: £1 per talk. Tea or coffee with biscuit 50p.

Blessing of graves in Fairlight

will take place on Sunday November 10th at 3pm

BONFIRE NIGHT AT SACRED HEART
SCHOOL

Is on Friday 15th November. Members of the PTFA
will be selling tickets after our 10am Masses on
27th October and 3rd and 10th November

IN MEMORIAM

Please pray for the repose of the soul of
ARCHBISHOP MICHAEL BOWEN,
former archbishop of Southwark and Bishop of Arundel
and Brighton from 1971-1977
who died on Thursday 17th October
May he rest in peace.

The RCIA course

**to prepare adults for Baptism or reception into
the Catholic Church will begin on Tuesday
November 6th at 7.00pm. Anyone interested in
joining the course should contact Father Eamonn
or Deacon Duncan.**

Bible Study Group

Anyone interested in setting up or joining a Bible Study
group should contact Father Eamonn or Deacon Duncan.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

**We need a group of people to look after the parish hall.
This is such an important ministry.
Please contact Mary at the parish house.**

Knights of St. Columba Grand Autumn Charity Quiz
Holy Redeemer Church Hall. Saturday 26 October @7.30
for 7.45. Raising funds for local charities including
Snowflake night shelter and the Hastings food bank.
Tickets £5.00 each or £12.50 2 Adults and 2 children
under 16
Light snacks provided, please bring your own wine/beer
Tickets from Patrick 439871 or David 754721

NEXT BAPTISM COURSE

is on Saturday 23rd November, starting with 10am Mass.
Course ends 12 noon. Babies and children welcome.

JUMBLE SALE WILL NOW BE ON

SUNDAY 27th OCTOBER 11am to 2pm. In the church
hall. Entrance 30p. Under-12s go free. Fundraiser for the
Snowflake Charity and St Mary Star of the Sea Church. If
you have any jumble donations, please could you phone
Tilly on 01424 718493 or leave at back of church.
after weekend Masses.

MASS INTENTIONS AND FEASTS Please note that if your Mass intention is replaced by a funeral Mass, your Mass will be moved to the next available date.

Sat. 19th October, 6pm: Intentions of Rendle & Fisher Families

Sun. 20th October, 10am: Special Intention

11.30am: Margaret (known as Peggy) O'Brien RIP

Tues. 22nd October, St John Paul II, Pope, 10 am: Eileen Keane RIP (recently deceased)

Wed. 23rd October, 10am: Annie Dover RIP (recently deceased)

Thurs. 24th October, 10am: John Bate RIP

Fri. 25th October, 10am: Patrick Ramsay RIP

Sat. 26th October, Our Lady on Saturday, 10am: For young people with Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder

Please remember in your prayers all who are ill, including: Jenny Rowley, Peter Ashwood, Barry Amar, Win Goldsmith, Linda Fox, Linda Deeley, Helen Surges, David McIntosh, James Grant, Martin Kavanagh, Lucy Marlowe, Hazel Gordon, Tracy Fischer, Yve, Maggie Burnes, Phyl Fritchley, Mrs Mulvaney, Katie Killane, Nelson Brojan, Stephanie Morris, Young Tessa-Mae, Stephen Gurden, Maureen McKenna, Christine Jennings, Freda Barrell, Beverley Lambeth, Alan Turner, Margaret Aris, Sheila Black, Debbie Wood, Jacob, Lila Brooker, Tracy Coal, Christopher Browne, Michael Ramsay, Spencer Ramsay, Michelle Spencer, Rosa Santos and Tommy Gaynor.

Reflection

In the Missionary Church from the 1960's onwards it was understood that you couldn't preach the Gospel to empty stomachs and so it was necessary to feed the hungry before preaching to them. This is in keeping with the concern that Jesus had for the hungry when he multiplied the loaves and fish, though I think He fed them after they had listened to Him preach. The problem was that the hunger never went away and the material development of the people seemed to become the dominant feature of missionary life - not that the spiritual ministry didn't exist but it seemed to have become less central.

I found myself out of place in this environment, not having the skills of the more seasoned missionaries and the people wondered why I wasn't building, farming, digging wells etc. It was around this time that I became aware of Acts 6 and the crisis that arose in the early Church. The apostles were overwhelmed with the distribution of food. It was demanding so much of their attention that the preaching of the Gospel was put at risk. The Church then discovered the importance of the various roles that ministers could and should fulfil in the community life. Deacons were chosen to look after the material needs and the apostles devoted themselves to "prayer and the service of the word", though some of the early deacons also became great preachers. All the different ministries, roles, services are expressions of the one priesthood, the one mission of Christ. As Peter points out we are "a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a consecrated nation, a people set apart". We are not individuals doing our own separate thing. We are a *people* for God and for each other.

Prayer and the service of the Word of God became my identity as a priest in my mid-twenties and when I explained this to the people, they understood and accepted and even came to value the power of prayer and the Word in their lives. Prayer and preaching don't always have visible results; it's a life lived in faith, trusting that God will make something of our efforts.

We reach moments of crisis in our personal lives, family life and church life. Such moments demand that we assess and discern how we are to move forward into the future. We decide who and what we are to become. As Christians this assessment and discernment has to have Jesus at its centre and reference point. Set yourselves close to Him, St. Peter says. It is He who determines the shape of things to come and we are not left to our own devices in moving forward into uncertain futures. "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God still and trust in me..." (John 14:1ff)

Society and many Catholics now treat Jesus as if He were simply one of many options and we water down His importance, the importance of His Gospel. In Jesus Himself there is great clarity, no ambiguity. He says of himself "I am the way, the truth and the life". He is not one way, one truth, one life among many others. He is THE way, THE truth and THE life and *we who profess to follow Him* are called to hold fast to Him - to follow the WAY, to live by the TRUTH and to experience the LIFE that is only to be found in Jesus.

What St. Paul says to the young St. Timothy, he says to the Church and especially to those of us entrusted with preaching: "Before God and before Christ Jesus...I put this duty to you...proclaim the message and, welcome or unwelcome, insist on it...with patience and with the intention of teaching." (2 Timothy 3:14 - 4:2) *Eamonn Monson sac*

THINKING OF TEACHING?

Find out more about how to start your teaching career by attending an event at St Richard's Catholic College, 4-6pm on

Tues, 26 November. Local training providers will be there. Find out about bursaries and funding at

getintoteaching.education.gov.uk/funding-my-teacher-training

To get more information and register your interest at thinkingofteachingeastsussex.eventbrite.co.uk

Parish Finances The offertory collection last weekend came to £1010.10, including cheques and standing orders. The CAFOD collection came to £34.63. The Prisoners' Sunday collection came to £16.76.

Many thanks to all concerned.

DIVINE MERCY PRAYER MEETINGS All are welcome to join us at 2.30pm on Mondays: Oct. 28th, Nov. 11th.

REMEMBERING TOGETHER: Remembrance Sunday, 10th November 2019 at 3pm at Unitarian Church, South Terrace, Hastings TN34 1SA with Jewish Songs of Remembrance