

30TH NOVEMBER -
21ST DECEMBER 2025

Proclaim!

Parish Newsletter!



Parish Vision Statement

Seeking God in Prayer, Growing Together in Faith, Reaching Out in Love.

SAVE THE DATE

- **30/11** Altar Servers - MC's & Senior Acolytes Group 5pm Presbytery
- **3/12** 6.30pm The Seekers (Parish Hall)
- **7/12** Altar Servers Christmas Party
- **7/12** RCIA Meeting - 5pm
- **10/12** 6.30pm The Youth Club Yrs 5,6 & 7(Parish Hall)
- **12/12** 6pm - FHC Group 2 -Session #5 (Upper Parish Room-Presbytery)
- **13/12** 9.30am - FHC Group 1- Session #6 (Cassidy Centre)
- **14/12** Altar Servers - MC's & Senior Acolytes Group 5pm Presbytery
- **14/12** 7pm - Christmas Carol Concert - Joint Choirs & Children's Choir
- **17/12** Altar Servers -New & Novice Acolytes Group 5pm Presbytery
- **17/12** 6.30pm The Seekers (Parish Hall)

Christmas Mass Times

Christmas Eve 24th December

5pm - Shepherds & Angels Vigil Mass
We'd like as many Children as possible to join us at this mass & come dressed as Shepherds, Angels, Sheep etc..

Christmas Eve 24th December

9pm "Midnight" Mass with Carols from 8.30pm

Christmas Day 25th December

10am Family Mass
12 noon Mass

Boxing Day 26th December

****11am Mass****



Donations for our Roof fund will be gratefully accepted
Including via this QR Code

Visit our **brightonstmary.com**
WEBSITE

Brighton and Hove Catholic Parish – Vision and Mission statements

The Vision and Mission statements were inspired through the work of parish representatives from each of our communities meeting together. In the synodal style set out by Pope Francis and Pope Leo, they discerned the values that were key to our lives as Catholics across the Parish from Southwick to Rottingdean and from Kemptown to Patcham. With help from the character of Zacchaeus in the Gospel of Luke. A chief tax collector who wanted to see Jesus, who was to pass his way. However, he was short and his view of Jesus was blocked by the crowd, so he climbed a sycamore tree to get a better view. Seeing him up the tree Jesus stopped and invited himself into Zacchaeus' home. Our Vision and Mission statements are designed to help us get a better view of Jesus who we believe is often 'passing our way' and longs to be 'at home' with us. **With my best wishes and prayers, Canon David Parmiter**

Vision Statement

Seeking God in Prayer, Growing Together in Faith, Reaching Out in Love.

These three short phrases above are the Parish Vision Statement. In the Diocesan Pastoral Plan Bishop Richard asks us to make prayer the foundation of all our work. He talks about the Church's idea of 'formation' as writes that this is a life-long journey of closer conformity to Christ which is the very purpose of our lives. Something we do together. He challenges us further when he says, "Mission calls us outward, beyond the safety of that with which we are comfortable." That is to actively participate in the life and work of our Parish.

Mission Statement

Seeking God in Prayer : We centre our lives on Christ, encountering God daily through prayer and Scripture.

We worship together with joy, drawing strength from the Eucharist to live as missionary disciples.

We open our hearts to the Holy Spirit, allowing grace to renew, transform, and empower us for mission.

Growing Together in Faith: We are a welcoming, vibrant, multi-generational Church where all may belong and find a home.

We learn, share, and grow together as disciples, deepening our understanding of the Gospel and Catholic life.

We joyfully witness to the life we share in Christ, inviting others into the beauty of faith & the warmth of our community.

Reaching Out in Love : We are sent to serve, bringing Christ's compassion to those in need, the vulnerable & searching.

We work to transform our city and world through lives of seeking justice, solidarity, and generous action.

We proclaim the Gospel in our homes, workplaces & communities; inviting others into the joy of faith & the family of the Church.

A Message from Charles Wookey, chair of finance and property committee

The tile replacement of the roof is proceeding to plan. As you know, we have unfortunately had some water ingress while the work continues, but the tile replacements are now well advanced, and the interior work will also soon be completed. Unfortunately, close inspection with the scaffolding up has revealed more weathering and damage than anticipated to the stonework, and so there is a need for significantly more extensive renovation of external stone work. Given the lead time in ordering the necessary stonework, this will result in a likely increase in the overall project costs and an extension of the scaffolding around the church until February/March.

There has been some wonderful early support for the fundraising needed to pay for the roof.

The September event raised around £2.5k, and we have received donations of around £12.5k, including new standing orders which will raise £8k each year. Whilst a great start, these sums are only scratching the surface of the £500k target we set over 10 years. We urgently need as a community to do more. Alongside occasional events (and the carol service at 7pm on 14th December 2025 is the next opportunity to raise funds), we also need more people to commit standing orders. 250 people committing £15 per month will raise over £50k a year (with gift aid). Do please consider what you may be able to afford on a regular basis.

We will be publicising the amounts raised towards the target in the church porch

Thank you

Keep in your prayers.....

Please Join us in Pray for the Sick

God of compassion, please bring peace and comfort to those who are suffering.

Let them feel your love and care. Amen.



Maureen Ashing, William Barrett, Tom Cullimore, Liz Humphries, Mary Ives, Peter Knott, Mary Neeson, Simone R, Liz Regan, Chris Rodrigues, Anthony Welham, Tracey Weller and all who carry their own crosses.

Death Anniversaries

Daniel Hegarty, Mary Stapleton, Bill Walsh, Angela Brannigan, Leo Heath, Howard Rippiingale, Mary Barnard, Albert Stoner, Nancy Inwood, Katherine Cooksey, Mary Carden, Dorothy Warton, Vernon Ashing & Hillarian Guinan
(Names are listed for 25years inline with the foundation mass format - Taken from our Parish Registers)

FINANCE MATTERS - Saint Mary

9th-23rd November

1st Collection: £ 1486.79 **Gift Aid:** £ 362

Sunday Tea & Coffee - Youth Ministry: £ 172.32

Roof Fund : £ 1339.15

Christmas Flowers/Display: £440

Retired Priests Fund : £ 10 **Arundel Cathedral Maintenance :** £ 5

If you would like to financially support us we would be truly grateful. Cheques Should be made Payable to: St Mary's Church.

If you would like to gift aid a donation - please include a letter stating this & that the donation is for Parish Refurbishment.

Remember the Dona machines are available for card donations as well.

Bank A/c -RCD A&B St Marys Brighton -
Sort code 40-05-20 - A/c No: 41076434

Hospital Chaplaincy

If you are in hospital at the Royal Sussex County, please contact the Hospital Chaplain Fr Celestine Nnolim who is available for visits on request, T. 01273 696955 Ext. 64122, email celestine.nnolim@nhs.net.

ST MARY'S MEN'S GROUP

A fortnightly rhythm of walking, talking, and brotherhood

Fortnightly on Thursdays

**Next dates
4th & 18th December**

Looking for a place to connect, share, and grow with other men?

Join us for six sessions designed around activity, conversation, and faith.

Choir Practice for Joint Carol Concert
Charles would welcome any additional singers for this joint concert & perhaps you'd then like to join in our Sunday services as well!
Adult Choir Rehearsals, at St Mary's Church, for this event are as follows:
Sat 29th Nov & Dec 6th Adult & Children's Choir : Sat December 13th
All starting at 12noon.

SUNDAY TEA & COFFEE

Join us for tea and coffee after our 10am Mass and let's meet and have a chat and taste the sweetness of our community

PREACHING TO CHILDREN

Our priests are great preachers to children. All children are welcome to join in the preaching at Sunday 10am Masses;
Nov 30th - Dec 7th & 14th

CHILDRENS LITURGY

Children are welcome to join our Children's Liturgy of the Word at the 10am Sunday Masses

December 21st

CHRISTIAN MEDITATION GROUP

Join Celia and her ecumenical team for Christian meditation every Monday at 7pm in person or online. - For more info please call Celia: 01273 555967

WEEKDAY PRAYERS & LECTIO DIVINA

Most Thursdays 9.45am

Monastic Morning Prayers.

Most Fridays 9- 9.45am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

The Chaplet of Divine Mercy & Lectio Divina on Fridays will resume in the Spring.

Sick & Housebound Christmas Confessions & Communion



Do you know anyone who is housebound who would like to receive the sacraments of Confession & Communion in time for Christmas?

For St Mary's Parishioners

Fr Sebastian will be visiting people on Thursday 11th December - Please contact St Mary's Parish Office to be added to that days visit rota (This is entirely separate from his usual visits/Eucharistic Minister visits)

ST MARY'S PRESTON PARK
JOIN US FOR A MAGICAL NIGHT OF
CHRISTMAS CAROLS
Sunday
December 14th
7pm
Get into the holiday spirit with an enchanting evening filled with the melodies of classic Christmas carols
WHAT TO EXPECT:
Carols sung by the joint choirs of St Mary's & St Thomas More's Plus the children's Choir of St Bernadette's Catholic Primary School
Followed by Refreshments in the Church Hall afterwards
Donations welcome - All proceeds go to St Mary's Roof Fund
ST MARY'S CHURCH
5 SURRENDEN ROAD, BRIGHTON BN1 6PA

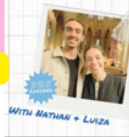
Youth Club For Years 5, 6 & 7

In St Mary's Church Hall



Join us for Games, Friends & Fun

Starts at 18.30
Pick-up 19.45-20.00



If you have any questions about the club email: stmaryyouthclub@outlook.com

The Club will be open on
December 10th 2025
2026
January 7th & 21st
February 4th & 25th

Christmas Offerings

The offertory collection taken during the Christmas Season Masses is traditionally your personal gift to the parish clergy. A priest's income is normally whatever he receives from the parish (mainly Mass offerings).

The collection at Christmas forms an important part of his income for the year and enables him to meet personal expenses. Let's show our appreciation for our fantastic Priest!

Envelopes are available in the church porch.



CHRISTMAS NOVENA 16TH - 24TH DECEMBER

God of light,
you sent Your Son in flesh like ours
and gave Him into the loving care
of Mary his Mother and Saint Joseph.
May the Holy Family of Nazareth
draw close to me and all those I
place before you.
Hear their prayer for all families in
this holy season, Grant this
through Christ our Lord.

Amen

ST MARY'S PRESTON PARK
SEEKERS Teens Club
FIND YOUR VOICE. FUEL YOUR PURPOSE
Young people, this is YOUR moment. Join us for an unforgettable experience filled with:
BONDS OF FRIENDSHIP REAL TALK SESSIONS FUN, GAMES & MORE!
DYNAMIC LEADERS
FORTNIGHTLY ON WEDNESDAY'S OPENS 6.30PM
DECEMBER 3RD & 17TH 2025
JANUARY 14TH & 28TH 2026
FEBRUARY 11TH AND MARCH 4TH & 18TH
ST MARY'S CHURCH HALL 5 SURRENDEN ROAD, BN1 6PA
FREE ADMISSION

GET THIS NEWSLETTER BY EMAIL

email : brightonstmary@abdiocese.org.uk - with the Subject line : Add me to the Newsletter

30th November- 21ST December 2025

Masses at St Mary & St Thomas More

SUNDAY 30th November- 1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

5.15pm - 5.45pm Confessions
Saturday Vigil Mass -6pm -

Claude Depauw, R.I.P.

St Thomas More - Mass 10am -

For the People of the Community

10 am - Maureen Fleet, R.I.P

12noon - Joseph & Suzanna Depauw, R.I.P.

TUESDAY 2nd December

10am Mass - Charlie Kirk, R.I.P.

WEDNESDAY 3rd December

St Thomas More-Mass 9.30am - Migrants Day

10am Mass - Dec'd parents of Mary Marlow

THURSDAY 4th December

9.45am - Morning Prayers - Laudes

10am Mass - Maggie Lambrecht, R.I.P.

FRIDAY 5th December

9am - 10am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

10am Mass - Pam Waugh, R.I.P.

St Thomas More-Mass 9.30am -

SUNDAY 7th December- 2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

5.15pm - 5.45pm Confessions

Saturday Vigil Mass -6pm -

For the Sister's Intentions at St Mary's House

10am Mass -Gina Moran, R.I.P.

St Thomas More - Mass 10am -

For the People of the Community 12noon -For
the Holy Souls in Purgatory

MONDAY 8th December -

**The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed
Virgin Mary.**

St Thomas More-Mass 9.30am -

TUESDAY 9th December

10am Mass - Robert Reid, R.I.P.

WEDNESDAY 10th December

St Thomas More-Mass 9.30am -

10am Mass - Jim Wilson, R.I.P.

THURSDAY 11th December

9.45am - Morning Prayers - Laudes

10am Mass - Joan Cook, R.I.P.

FRIDAY 12th December

9am - 10am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

10am Mass - Edna Barker, R.I.P.

St Thomas More-Mass 9.30am -

SUNDAY 14th December

3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT 'GAUDETE'

5.15pm - 5.45pm Confessions

Saturday Vigil Mass -6pm -

Patricia Routledge, R.I.P

St Thomas More - Mass 10am -

For the People of the Community

10am Mass - Kijak Family

12 noon - Paddy Cummisky, R.I.P

TUESDAY 16th December

10am Mass - Ted Barker, R.I.P

WEDNESDAY 17th December

St Thomas More-Mass 9.30am -

10am Mass - Marcia Harris, R.I.P

THURSDAY 18th December

9.45am - Morning Prayers - Laudes

10am Mass - Pamela Sands, R.I.P

FRIDAY 19th December

9am - 10am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

10am Mass - Irene Bloor, R.I.P

St Thomas More-Mass 9.30am -

1.30pm Requiem Mass - Susan Cook

SUNDAY 21st December- 4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

5.15pm - 5.45pm Confessions

Saturday Vigil Mass -6pm -

Eric Baldwin & Deceased Members of the Stone
& Harvey Families

St Thomas More - Mass 10am -

For the People of the Community

10 am - In Thanksgiving (Private Intention)

12noon - Angela Menendez, R.I.P



Why have a Mass?

There is no greater prayer, because the Mass is the perfect offering of the Son of God to his heavenly Father. In offering Mass for a specific intention, the priest prays to God that the fruits of Christ's redemptive sacrifice be applied to the requested intention, for the spiritual and temporal good of the person(s) concerned. Please book a Mass for any intention using the mass offering envelopes, via our website or by contacting the Parish Office. A Mass stipend or donation is an offering for the mass intention & contributes towards the parish priests living expenses for the year

Please contact the parish office if you are interested in a 'Foundation Mass' This is a mass booked each year in advance for 25 years

Mass Intentions St Mary's

Dates get booked up in advance , to avoid disappointment for a specific date please contact us as soon as possible.

We have limited availability in January and no dates available in December

PARISH OFFICE OPEN



TUESDAY- WEDNESDAY - FRIDAY 9AM TO 3PM
PHONE/WHATSAPP: 07895 825296



Saint Mary : Parish Priest: Fr Sebastian Kijak
Address: 5 Surrenden Road, Brighton BN1 6PA
Phone/WhatsApp: 07895 825296
Email: brightonstmary@abdiocese.org.uk
www.brightonstmary.com

Safeguarding Reps:
Tracey McKay sg1.brightonstmary@abdiocese.org.uk
Siobhan Rogers sg2.brightonstmary@abdiocese.org.uk

We're on Social Media



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