

11TH JANUARY -
1ST FEBRUARY 2026

Proclaim!

Parish Newsletter!



Our Vision Statement
**Seeking God in Prayer, Growing
Together in Faith, Reaching Out in Love.**

SAVE THE DATE

- 11/1 Altar Servers - Junior Acolytes Group 5pm Presbytery
- 14/1 Altar Servers - New & Novice Acolytes Group 5pm Church
- 14/1 6.30pm The Seekers (Parish Hall)
- 18/1 Altar Servers - MC's & Senior Acolytes Group 5pm Presbytery
- 21/1 6.30pm The Youth Club Yrs 5,6 & 7 (Parish Hall)
- 28/1 6.30pm The Seekers (Parish Hall)
- 4/2 6.30pm The Youth Club Yrs 5,6 & 7 (Parish Hall)
- 6/2 6pm - FHC Group 2 - Session #7 (Upper Parish Room - Presbytery)
- 6/2 9.30am - FHC Group 1 - Session #8 (Cassidy Centre)
- 8/2 Altar Servers - Junior Acolytes Group 5pm Presbytery



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



Living Our Baptism

As we celebrate the Baptism of the Lord, we are invited to look again at the moment when Jesus steps into the waters of the Jordan. Though sinless, He chooses to stand with humanity, sanctifying the waters and revealing His identity as the beloved Son of the Father. This feast marks the close of the Christmas season and the beginning of Jesus' public mission.

Our own baptism flows directly from this moment. In baptism, we too are named and claimed as beloved sons and daughters of God. We are washed, renewed, and welcomed into the life of the Church—not as passive members, but as people sent on a mission.

The commitments flowing from our baptism are lived out daily: to reject sin, to choose love over indifference, to seek justice, and to bear witness to Christ in our words and actions. Baptism calls us to live with courage and compassion, allowing God's grace to shape our families, our parish, and our world.

As we remember the waters that once touched our own lives, may this feast renew our sense of identity and purpose—reminding us that baptism is not only a moment in the past, but a lifelong call to live as Christ in the world.

Let's all be a community that follows the Lord and be focused on the commitments flowing from our baptism.

Visit our
WEBSITES

brightonstmary.com

saintthomasmorebrighton.com

Brighton & Hove Catholic Parish – Our New Vision and Mission

Like Zacchaeus in Luke's Gospel, we long to see Jesus more clearly. Zacchaeus climbed a sycamore tree to gain a better view; Jesus saw him and came to his home. Our Vision and Mission statements are meant to help us do the same: to see Christ more clearly, and to welcome Him into our lives. The following statements were prayerfully shaped by representatives from all our parish communities, in a synodal spirit of listening and discernment. They express who we are and what we are called to live as Catholics across Brighton & Hove

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 and the warmth of our community.

Reaching Out in Love

- We are sent to serve – bringing Christ's compassion to those in need, the vulnerable, and the 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, and communities – inviting others into the joy of faith and the family of the Church.

These statements reflect the life we share and the call to grow deeper in faith. Last October, parish representatives explored new ways to put this vision into action within each of our unique church communities. We invite you to do the same—so together we can seek God, grow in faith, and reach out in love.

With our prayers and best wishes,

Canon David Parmiter (Moderator), Carly Carden, Arthur Gallagher, Jo Gilbert, Helen Granger-Bevan, Fr Sebastian Kijak, Canon Kieron O'Brien, Craig Walker (Chair), & Julia Wingfield – The Brighton & Hove Parish Leadership Team

WHAT IS THE SACRAMENT OF THE ANOINTING OF THE SICK?

The Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick is especially intended to strengthen those who are suffering serious illness. For a long time, this sacrament was celebrated only with people who were dying and for this reason came to be known as “last rites.” It was meant to give them strength to face death. But today, it is offered to support, encourage and comfort all those who are seriously ill or the elderly. Participation in the celebration of this sacrament offers those who are sick/the elderly an opportunity to open themselves to the healing power of God's grace and to continue to grow in wholeness.

HOW IS THIS SACRAMENT CELEBRATED?

Before the moment of anointing, the priest first lays hands in silence on the head of the person who is receiving the sacrament. The priest then anoints the forehead and hands of the sick person with blessed oil and offers a prayer of faith. Family members are encouraged to be present at the time of the celebration of the sacrament to offer their loving support.

WHEN AND HOW OFTEN DOES ONE CELEBRATE THIS SACRAMENT?

The Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick should be celebrated at the beginning of a serious illness and can be received several times during the illness/after turning 70 years old.

At home, in the same room where the sick person is, there should be a place ready with a candle lit and a cross.

If during the same illness the person's condition becomes more serious, the sacrament may be repeated. If a person who has been anointed recovers from sickness, that person may celebrate the sacrament again in the face of another grave illness.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation, the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick and the Sacrament of the Eucharist, celebrated together, provide spiritual strength and nourishment for the passage from death to eternal life. Communion for the dying, called Viaticum, needs to be celebrated while the person is still conscious. That is why **families should contact the priest before the final hours of death while a loved one is still able to participate. The Sacrament can't be administered if the person has already died.**

Keep in your prayers.....



Please Join us in Pray for the Sick

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

Eileen Phillips, Trudie Wood, Norah Golden, Sally Badrick, George Kelly, Margaret Barrow, Philomena Lefebour, Yolanda Laur, Joan Lount, Mary Hollett, Maureen Johns, Ellen Rodgers, Kathleen Gibbs, Olivia Wilkinson, Palmina Coppola, Elsie Lawlor, Evelyn Bullock, John Hunter, Noah Saltern-Ghent, Mary Deacon, David Scroggins, Ena Wallace, Angela Wejszweska and Maria Casado

(Names are listed for 25years inline with the foundation mass format - Taken from our Parish Registers)

Sister Teresa Downey RIP – Many parishioners will remember Sister Teresa of the Sisters of Charity of Nevers, who taught for many years at Lourdes Convent and St. Bernadette's. We have heard that she died peacefully on December 14th 2025 in Ireland, where she was living. Rest in peace, Sister Teresa.

FINANCE MATTERS - Saint Mary

21st December 2025 - 4th January 2026

1st Collection: £1,117.42 Gift Aid: £ 298

Sunday Tea & Coffee - Youth Ministry: £ 156.11

Roof Fund : £75

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

What's on in our churches?

ST MARY'S MEN'S GROUP

A fortnightly rhythm of walking, talking, and brotherhood

Fortnightly on Thursdays

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

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

WHAT TO EXPECT

- Walks, food, and hands-on projects
- Honest conversations in a relaxed setting
- Short reflections
- Brotherhood and encouragement

UPCOMING THEMES

- Stress & Pressure
- Fatherhood & Role Models
- Work & Purpose
- Friendship & Brotherhood
- Health (Body & Mind)
- Legacy

WHEN & WHERE

St Mary's Parish
(various local venues)

To sign up, message Craig Walker (07809 198069) or email St Mary's

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

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
2026
January 7th & 21st
February 4th & 25th

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.

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

JANUARY 14th & 28th 2026

FEBRUARY 11th AND MARCH 4th & 18th

ST MARY'S CHURCH HALL 5 SURRENDEN ROAD, BN1 6PA

FREE ADMISSION



FOR MORE INFORMATION:
STMARYYOUTHCLUB@OUTLOOK.COM

Fr Seb Preaches

Our priests are great preachers to children.
All children are welcome to join in the preaching at Sunday 10am Mass

11 th January	3 rd May
25 th January	10 th May
8 th February	31 st May
1 st March	14 th June
29 th March	28 th June
19 th April	



Children's Liturgy

CHILDREN ARE WELCOME TO JOIN OUR CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD AT THE 10AM SUNDAY MASS

18TH JANUARY
1ST FEBRUARY
15TH FEBRUARY
22ND FEBRUARY
8TH MARCH
15TH MARCH
22ND MARCH

12TH APRIL
26TH APRIL
17TH MAY
21ST JUNE
5TH JULY
12TH JULY
19TH JULY

Join us after the Sunday 10am Mass for Tea, Coffee, Conversation & sometimes Cake!



Sip, chat, and enjoy beverages with friends

In the Church Hall
(under the Church)

Your Donations go to our Youth Ministry Fund

Hospital Chaplaincy Fr Celestine Nnolim

If you are going into hospital for a period of time at the Royal Sussex County, please let Fr Celestine know as soon as you can, and likewise if you get taken to hospital as an urgent case, ask a friend or relative to inform Fr Celestine/ or a hospital staff member to contact the priest on duty as soon as you can. He will then arrange for a visit. Call 01273 696955 Ext. 64122, or email celestine.nnolim@nhs.net.

Fr Celestine is available 8am-4pm
Monday - Friday as our Deanery Hospital Chaplain.

Altar Server Training Novice & New Servers Group 2026 Season



Wednesday's 6pm - Church
- Unless otherwise stated
2026

January 14th
March 18th
April 15th
May 13th

If you've made your First Communion and would like to find out more about being an Altar Server please speak to Fr Sebastian or contact the Parish Office.

GET THIS NEWSLETTER BY EMAIL

For St Mary's Parishioners email : brightonstmary@abdiocese.org.uk and for St Thomas Mores email: sttmbrighton@abdiocese.org.uk with the Subject line : Add me to the Newsletter

11th January - 1ST February 2026

Masses at St Mary & St Thomas More

SUNDAY 11th January - The Baptism of the Lord

5.15pm - 5.45pm Confessions

Saturday Vigil Mass -6pm -

Fr Frederick Hopper, R.I.P.

St Thomas More - Mass 10am -

For the People of the Community

10 am - In thanksgiving for

the blessing of a Baby Boy

12noon - Susan Cook, R.I.P

TUESDAY 13th January

10am Mass - The Neeson Family

WEDNESDAY 14th January

St Thomas More-Mass 9.30am -

10am Mass - Justina Dorothea Eckert, R.I.P.

THURSDAY 15th January

9.45am - Morning Prayers - Laudes

10am Mass - Jean Witts, R.I.P

FRIDAY 16th January

9am - 10am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

10am Mass - For the Wellbeing of Nancy Files

St Thomas More-Mass 9.30am -

11.30am - Donald James Randall - Requiem Mass

SUNDAY 18th January - 2ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

5.15pm - 5.45pm Confessions

Saturday Vigil Mass -6pm -

Joe Higgins, R.I.P.

10am Mass - 1st Wedding Anniversary (S. Anitta)

St Thomas More - Mass 10am -

For the People of the Community

12noon - Susan Cook R.I.P

TUESDAY 20th January

10am Mass - Bessie Gertrude Moller, R.I.P.

WEDNESDAY 21st January - St Agnes

St Thomas More-Mass 9.30am -

NO 10am Mass -

THURSDAY 22nd January

NO 10am Mass

FRIDAY 23rd January

9am - 10am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

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

St Thomas More-Mass 9.30am -

SUNDAY 25th January 3RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

5.15pm - 5.45pm Confessions

Saturday Vigil Mass -6pm -

For the Heath Family

St Thomas More - Mass 10am -

For the People of the Community

10am Mass - For the Fleet Family

12 noon - For the Wellbeing of Nancy Files

TUESDAY 27th January

10am Mass - Anne Hawkins & Gertrude Savage, R.I.P.

WEDNESDAY 28th January

St Thomas More-Mass 9.30am -

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

THURSDAY 29th January

9.45am - Morning Prayers - Laudes

10am Mass - David Leilch, R.I.P

FRIDAY 30th January

9am - 10am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

10am Mass - Wellbeing of Mary Carmen Martinez

St Thomas More-Mass 9.30am -

SUNDAY 1st February - 4TH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

5.15pm - 5.45pm Confessions

Saturday Vigil Mass -6pm -

Doreen Ruane, R.I.P.

St Thomas More - Mass 10am -

For the People of the Community

10 am - Daniel Payne, R.I.P.

12noon - Susan Cook, 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

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

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



[@stmarycatholicprestonpark](https://www.instagram.com/stmarycatholicprestonpark)



[@StMarysPrestonPark](https://www.facebook.com/StMarysPrestonPark)



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