

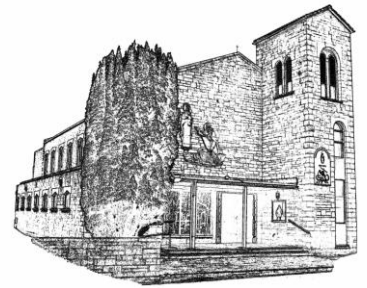
The Parish of Our Lady of Mount Carmel and St Wilfrid

The Presbytery, 12 Church Road, Selsey, West Sussex, PO20 0LS

Phone: 01243 604953

Parish website: www.stwilfridselsey.co.uk

PARISH PRIEST: Father John Healy



2nd SUNDAY OF ADVENT

7th/8th December 2013

Mass Times

Saturday	5.30pm	Louis Rameau RIP	
Sunday	10.00am	Intentions of the Parish	
Monday		The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary	
	10.00am		
Tuesday		Weekday of Advent	No Mass
Wednesday		Weekday of Advent	No Mass
Thursday		Weekday of Advent	No Mass
Friday		St. Lucy	No Mass
Saturday		St. John of the Cross	No Morning Mass

3rd SUNDAY OF ADVENT

	5.30pm	Intentions of the Parish	
Sunday	10.00am		
Sacrament of Reconciliation: Saturday, 4.45 to 5.15pm.			

[2nd Sunday of Advent – page 85 in the Parish Mass Book]

WELCOME! This Sunday afternoon we welcome Natalia Szczygiel into the Church and parish community as she receives the Sacrament of Baptism. Please pray for Natalia, her parents, family and friends on this special day.

CHRISTMAS FLOWER COLLECTION: The retiring collection this weekend is a chance to contribute towards the cost of flowers, and other seasonal decorations, for the Church throughout the Season of Christmas.

RED BOXES: The Promoter for the "Missio" Red Box missionary collection – Helen Aslett – would like to collect and count the contents of the Red Boxes from the homes of all have one – so the parish can send a cheque to "Missio" before the end of the year. Please bring your full box when you come to Mass and then collect an empty box the following weekend.

"Missio" calendars for 2014 are available FREE for those with a Red Box – and for anyone who would like one: you will find them in the porch.

CHRISTMAS "SING-A-LONG:" To round off the year there will be a social event after Mass next Sunday. Come and relax for an hour or two with friends, and join in some community singing of seasonal favourites: mulled wine and mince pies, and tasty nibbles are included. Tickets are on sale after Mass: £4.00 per ticket to cover costs.

“THE JOY OF THE GOSPEL”

Pope Francis begins his first “apostolic exhortation” with these words: “The joy of the Gospel fills the hearts and lives of all who encounter Christ.” “Joy” is a word that belongs very much to the Season of Advent; Pope Francis is someone who appears very much to enjoy his work of proclaiming the Gospel to the world. Here is what the Pope says about the life and mission of parishes:

“The parish is not an outdated institution: precisely because it possesses great flexibility, it can assume quite different contours depending on the openness and missionary creativity of the pastor and the community. This presumes that it really is in contact with the homes and the lives of its people, and does not become a useless structure out of touch with people or a self-absorbed cluster made up of a chosen few.

The parish is the presence of the Church in a given territory, an environment for hearing God’s Word, for growth in the Christian life, for dialogue, proclamation, charitable outreach, worship and celebration. We must admit, though, that the call to review and renew our parishes has not yet sufficed to bring them nearer to people, to make them environments of living communion and participation, and to make them completely mission-orientated.”

While there are many very encouraging signs of growth and new life in our parish, the words of Pope Francis are an encouragement to make even greater efforts to become what we are called to be: a community of love with a mission.

CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT: There are tickets available, and seats on the Venture Bus, for anyone who would like to join students and staff at St. Philip Howard Catholic High School for “Carols by Candlelight” this Thursday, from 2.30 to 4.30pm: please speak to Fr. John or Peter Kench to book a place on the bus.

CHRISTMAS FAIR: The Fair exceeded all expectations, not just in the amount of money it raised (£1,611.24p), but in the numbers that attended and in the atmosphere that was generated. A number of non-parishioners commented on the welcome they received and friendly atmosphere they experienced. We give our warmest thanks to all who contributed, to all the stall holders and, especially, for the brains and brawn that put it all together and made sure it happened.

Please search your pockets and purse and if you find a raffle ticket with the number 655 on it then come and claim your raffle prize.

FUND RAISING: We received a cheque this week for £250.50p from bags2thefuture for the recent collection of soft fabrics surplus to requirement. And don’t forget that now we are registered with its younger cousin, **shop2fundraise.com**, we can receive a small commission whenever you shop on line at a wide range of popular retailers (for details see the attachment to last week’s Newsletter, copies still available in the porch, or visit the parish website).

ADVENT RECONCILIATION SERVICES: There is a poster on the parish notice board with a full list of all the Advent Services of Penance and Reconciliation in the parishes of the Deanery. Please note that our own Service will be on Friday, 20th December at 7.00pm.

PLEASE PRAY FOR: Kathy Chart, Tom Dempsey, Max Foreshew, Christina Hackett, Nell Hassett, Dave Mortby, Peggy Owens, Theresa Watson and all in the parish who are sick.

Please speak to Fr. John if you would like the parish to pray for you, or for someone in your family.

Collections:	30 th November/1 st December	Offertory Collection	£429.45p
		Church Maintenance Fund	£95.55p
		Christmas Fair	£1,611.24p