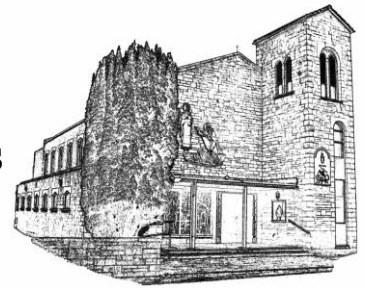


The Parish of Our Lady of Mount Carmel and St Wilfrid

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

6th/7th December 2014

Mass Times

Saturday	5.30pm	Yolande Welch RIP	
Sunday	10.00am	For the Intentions of the Parish	
Monday	10.00am	The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary	
Tuesday		Weekday of Advent	No Mass
Wednesday		Weekday of Advent	No Mass
Thursday	12.00noon	Weekday of Advent Funeral Mass: Helen Aslett	
Friday	10.00am	Weekday of Advent	
Saturday		St. Lucy	No Morning Mass

3rd SUNDAY OF ADVENT

	5.30pm	For the 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]

CHURCH FLOWER COLLECTION: There is an opportunity this weekend to help provide flowers, and other seasonal decorations, for the Church at Christmas and beyond in the annual collection for Christmas flowers. This is a parish collection so those who have them please use a special purple retiring collection envelope, especially if you are able to Gift Aid your donations to the parish.

SOCIAL AND FUNDRAISING GROUP: The final meeting of the Group in 2014 will be on Tuesday evening: 6.30pm in the Parish Hall. All are welcome.

THE FUNERAL MASS for Helen Aslett will be this Thursday at 12.00noon in St. Wilfrid's.

CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT: Please ask Fr. John for a (free) ticket to this year's Service of Carols on Thursday afternoon at St. Philip Howard Catholic High School. It will be from 2.30 to 4.30pm especially for older members of the community. The Venture Bus is available for members.

PARISH SUPPER AND SING-A-LONG: We will be rounding off our social calendar for the year with a relaxing get-together of parishioners on Friday evening in Hall from 7.00pm. Some tickets are still available - £5.00 for adults and £2.50 for children; they include admission, supper and a drink, and entertainment throughout the evening.

CHICHESTER LIFE GROUP: On Friday evening at 6.00pm the Life Group in St. Richard's will be praying the Rosary for a change in attitudes and practices regarding abortion. The Rosary will be followed by Benediction: all are welcome.

WINTER TIME SAINTS

During the cold, dark days and nights in winter we all need a little good cheer. In preparation for the great feast of light and warmth – the birth of our Saviour at Christmas – there are several feasts of saints that bring cheer: St. Nicholas on 6th December; St. Lucy on 13th December.

St. Nicholas is, of course, the bringer of gifts, particularly for children. His feast day is a big event in Holland, where he is known as Sinter Klaas (a.k.a. Santa Claus!). Less well known is that, in the Dutch tradition, his gifts for children were conditional. Those who had, by and large, been good throughout the year received welcome presents – gingerbread, marzipan, chocolates and other nice things. Those who had been more naughty than good received a lump of coal, a birch twig, or some other undesirable “gift.”

The name Lucy (or Lucia) is derived from the Latin word for “light” (lux). As her feast falls when the nights are at their longest (especially in northern Europe) it is often celebrated with a blaze of light. In Sweden young girls, dressed in white with red sashes (St. Lucy was a martyr) process with lighted candles, one of them wearing a crown of candles. In southern Europe, there is special food eaten only on St. Lucy’s Day including balls of soft wheat soaked in hot chocolate. St. Lucy is the patron of people who are blind or suffering from trouble with their eyes: she can bring them an inner light in their darkened world.

All saints are a reminder that whatever the trials and tribulations of life goodness triumphs in the end for those who have faith in God, just as light overcomes darkness: that sure hope must always be a great encouragement and consolation, in winter or at any time of the year.

CHRISTMAS FAIR: There was a lot of competition last Saturday in Selsey to catch the attention of Christmas shoppers. However, our Christmas Fair stood up to all the alternative attractions and succeeded yet again in raising a significant contribution to the Church Maintenance Fund – a total of £1,446.89p. Clearly the people of Selsey know that St. Wilfrid’s is the place to come for good quality and reasonably priced items of every description. Thanks to all who donated the good quality items and to all who set them out on the stalls and welcomed our visitors to browse and to spend. And, of course, a very big “thank-you” to those who co-ordinated the preparations and organised the day. A splendid effort by everyone!

STONEPILLOW CHRISTMAS BOXES: We are invited to use a shoe box, or similar, and fill it with gifts for those men and women who will be homeless this Christmas and who will turn to Stonepillow – our local charity for homeless people – for a little Christmas cheer. Filled boxes can be wrapped or unwrapped. Useful gifts might include gloves, scarves and socks to help keep warm; toiletries to help keep clean; those little luxuries we all enjoy at Christmas (but no alcohol). There is also a box under the table in the porch for non perishable dried and canned food, root vegetables and other consumables with a medium to long-term shelf life. Collection date will be December 21st.

ADVENT PENANCE SERVICES: Our Advent Service of Penance and Reconciliation was early this year (on Friday evening). The Penance Service at St. Richard’s in Chichester will be next Sunday afternoon at 4.00pm; in Arundel at 7.30pm on Tuesday, 16th December.

PLEASE PRAY FOR: Max Foreshew, Tricia Green, Christina Hackett, Nell Hassett, Dave Mortby, Peggy Owens, Samantha Phillips, Ken Wass, 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:	29 th /30 th November	Offertory Collection	£410.35p
		Church Maintenance Fund	£55.11p
		Christmas Fair	£1,446.89p