

The Parish of Our Lady of Mount Carmel & St Wilfrid, Selsey

The Presbytery, 12 Church Road, Selsey, West Sussex, PO20 0LS
'Phone: 01243 602312 Parish website: www.stwilfridselsey.co.uk

PARISH PRIEST: Father John Healy

THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD 24th/25th December 2016

Mass Times

Saturday	6.00pm	Service of Readings and Carols	
	6.30pm	First Mass of Christmas - For the Intentions of the Parish	
Sunday	10.00am	Mass of Christmas Day - Lionel Jordon RIP	
Monday		St. Stephen	
	10.00am	A Private Intention	
Tuesday		St. John	No Mass
Wednesday		The Holy Innocents	No Mass
Thursday		St. Thomas Becket	No Mass
Friday		The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph	No Mass
Saturday Morning Mass		Weekday within the Christmas Octave	No

MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD

	5.30pm	For the Intentions of the Parish	
Sunday	10.00am	Ken Wass (anniversary)	

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Saturday, 4.45 to 5.15pm

*[The Nativity of the Lord - Mass during the Night - page 98 in the Parish Mass Book
Mass of Christmas Day - page 101 in the Parish Mass Book]*

WELCOME TO Father David Russell who will be celebrating Christmas Mass with the parish this year, and will also celebrate Mass on Monday. He is retired but still able to help out his brother priests when they are away from the parish or unable to celebrate Mass themselves. He will, with one or two other priests, be a regular visitor to St. Wilfrid's during the next couple of months.

Meanwhile, Fr. John has started his treatment plan to tackle the cause of his present medical condition. (During the programme he has to be careful not to pick up any infections, which is why there will be visiting priests while it lasts). Apart from keeping a safe distance from others, he is getting on with his normal life and work and will fulfil his responsibilities as best he can.

MINCE PIES AND MULLED WINE: All are most welcome to continue our celebration of the Lord's Birth after the First Mass of Christmas by popping into the Parish Hall after the evening Mass for mince pies and mulled wine. Visitors to the parish will be especially welcome.

CRIB OFFERINGS: This year, with the encouragement of Bishop Richard, our parish will be sending donations made at the Crib in the Church to "Friends of the Holy Land." A UK based charity every penny it raises "will help the poorest Christian families, especially in and around Bethlehem, the West Bank, Gaza and Israel, with education,

employment, health and housing initiatives. FHL is an ecumenical charity.” There is more information on posters in the porch and near the Crib.

PLEASE PRAY FOR Canon Michael Reynell on Wednesday which will be the second anniversary of his death: he was the previous Parish Priest of St. Wilfrid’s. May he rest in peace!

Arundel and Brighton Diocesan Trust is a Registered Charity No 252878

LOVE IS ALWAYS READY TO HOPE

Hope is a Christmas word, along with joy, peace, love and all the others that pervade our Christmas liturgy and adorn our Christmas cards (or at least the “religious” ones!). The word used by St Paul for hope suggests that love that is “hope-full” is an antidote to despair for the future. Pope Francis reminds us that our life is a journey and that our destiny is a place in the heavenly kingdom where we will achieve our potential as an individual free of all faults and imperfections and living a perfect relationship of love with God and with all the saints who, of course, include those who were dearest to us in this life. All this is possible because God entered our world as one like us, fully shared our human life and, because he overcame human mortality in his own death and resurrection, is able to lead us through death to eternal life. This all began in the Stable of Bethlehem and has continued since whenever Christians allow Jesus to be “reborn” in their own hearts, in their family and other important relationships, in Churches and schools and wherever we come together to acknowledge that “Jesus is Lord” who came to save and raise up all who seek God and goodness in this life.

SCHOOL ADMISSION POLICIES: Pinned to the Parish Notice Board in the porch is a formal notification of the Consultation on the Admission Arrangements for both St. Richard’s Catholic Primary School and St. Philip Howard Catholic High School for the 2018-2019 Academic Year with appropriate invitations to all those so entitled to comment on the proposals before the end of January.

CONFIRMATION PROGRAMME: Young people who were 14 years or over on 1st September are old enough to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation. The parish offers a programme that will help young people understand what it means to be a Confirmed Catholic - by asking questions and talking about what they believe, by reflecting and praying with others - so that they will be able to decide if they wish to receive the Sacrament in the Summer. There are application forms in the Porch and, when completed, please bring it to Fr. John in the Presbytery.

FIRST COMMUNION PROGRAMME: Application forms are available for parents to complete and return as soon as possible for the new Programme of Preparation for the Sacraments of Reconciliation (Confession) and Holy Communion. The programme will begin after the Christmas holiday break with a first meeting for children and their parents on Saturday, 14th January and the Enrolment Mass the following day, on 15th January. Please return completed forms to Fr. John in the Presbytery.

INTERNAL POSTAL SERVICE: The tradition of “posting” Christmas Cards to fellow parishioners using the book rack at the back of the Church has sprung up spontaneously and free of any charges. Please check to see if any of your friends in the parish have sent you a Christmas Card this year through our own “parish postal service!”

NEW CHILDREN’S CORNER: There is an area at the rear of the Church furnished and equipped for use by parents looking for quiet activities for restless children. There are carpets and cushions and a collection of reading and colouring books with crayons and colouring pens.

“Through this Newsletter, may I wish you all every blessing for the great Feast of Christmas as well as happy and peaceful celebrations during this festive season? Although I am unable this year to celebrate Christmas in your presence I will be celebrating it with you in spirit – from my home next door in the Presbytery!” Fr. John

PLEASE PRAY FOR: Jacqui Brooker, Max Foreshow, Nell Hassett, Grace Ledger, Sean Mangan, Reon McSharry, Samantha Phillips, Sheilagh Roberts 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: 17th/18th December
£423.71p

Offertory Collection

£66.65p

Church Maintenance Fund