

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

MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD
January 2017

31st December 2016/1st

Mass Times

Saturday	5.30pm	Intentions of the Parish	
Sunday	10.00am	Ken Wass (anniversary)	
Monday		St Basil the Great and St Gregory Nazianzen	
	10.00am	Intentions of Sister Maria Dempsey	
Tuesday		Weekday in Christmas Time	No Mass
Wednesday		Weekday in Christmas Time	No Mass
Thursday		Weekday in Christmas Time	No Mass
Friday		Weekday in Christmas Time	
	10.00am	Deceased Members of the Collins Family	
Saturday Morning Mass		Weekday in Christmas Time	No

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

	5.30pm	Iris Haddon RIP	
Sunday	10.00am	Intentions of the Parish	

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Saturday, 4.45 to 5.15pm

[Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God - page 109 in the Parish Mass Book]

WELCOME: At the beginning of Mass this Sunday Benjamin Michael Frizelle and Caitlin Lucy O'Shea will be formally welcomed at the door of the Church and, with their respective families, will take their place in the midst of the community in preparation for their baptism at a later date.

WELCOME BACK TO Father David Russell who will again be celebrating Mass with the parish this weekend.

Next weekend, Father Albert van der Most will be celebrating the Epiphany with the parish.

CRIB OFFERINGS: This year our parish will be sending donations made at the Crib in the Church to "Friends of the Holy Land." A UK based charity that brings relief and support to Christian families in the Holy Land including in and around Bethlehem, the West Bank, Gaza and many parts of Israel. There is more information on posters in the porch and near the Crib.

RED BOXES: If you have recently brought your Red Missionary Box to be emptied then please collect it this weekend: it has your name on it and is in the Porch.

SATURDAY WELCOMERS: There is new rota on the large table in the Porch for those who are on the list of welcomers at the Saturday evening Mass: please take a copy.

INTERNAL POSTAL SERVICE: Please check to see if any of your friends in the parish have sent you a Christmas Card through our own parish “postal service” - the book rack at the back of the Church.

COFFEE AFTER MASS: Next weekend there will be coffee and other refreshments available in the Hall after Mass of Saturday evening and Sunday morning: all will be welcome.

Arundel and Brighton Diocesan Trust is a Registered Charity No 252878

CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR MESSAGE

“The year 2016 looks very much like turning out to be one of those years that history will view as pivotal, for we have seen events of such significance and importance that they could change the course of human history and culture. If someone had drawn up and published twelve months ago a list of the events we have witnessed in 2016 they would probably have been dismissed as eccentric, or even a little hysterical!

So, at the beginning of 2017 we wait to see the outcomes of choices made and decisions taken in 2016 as well as the consequences of inaction by the international community in addressing running sores in some parts of the world. Many are feeling a sense of apprehension, if not fear, for the immediate and longer term future of our world and the human family. If so, the antidote may be found in the celebrations of the Christmas Season which should bring some comfort and offer some guidance. They celebrate “family” – God’s family. The Son of God entered our world as a brother: he experienced human poverty at his birth; suffered as a refugee in his infancy; lived an ordinary life in a loving family until called by the Father to be a light to the world, revealing the love and truth of God in its fullness. But the powers of darkness tried to extinguish that light – and failed. Now the same Jesus invites us to belong to his family, with God as our Father, and his mother, Mary, as our Mother.

Many of the events of 2016 seem to be pointing away from the idea of community to a more divided and fractured world with individual and national self-interest increasingly threatening the interests and wellbeing of the human “family” as a whole. The final feast of Christmas is the Epiphany, the celebration of Jesus entering our world not for a chosen few but for everyone. The mission of Jesus wasn’t stopped with his death: God raised him up to live on in the Church. Epiphany happens when those who have accepted the invitation to live as a child of God show the world that the only future for all of us is to be found in God’s family with God as the Father who unites us and Mary the Mother who protects us.

In our own parish, 2016 has been a year of growth for our parish “family” with more and more individuals and families being drawn into the life of the community. The Social and Fundraising Group has continued its good work, building community as much as raising funds. The record number of children who in the Summer made their First Communion has brought a noticeable number of young families into active parish life (and who can forget the contribution some of them made to repainting the inside of the Church?). At Easter the parish regained the full use of the presbytery that not only provides a proper home and workspace for the parish priest but has hosted parish meetings and functions in house and garden. The remedial work to the Church and Hall recommended by the building survey in 2012 is now nearly complete, and the Presbytery has had a complete makeover in the last year, thanks largely to the expertise and generosity of several members of the parish. With the “plant” in good condition we can devote even more energy to strengthening the Church in Selsey, promoting a spirit of unity and togetherness in the face of much division and isolation.

Finally, as always, my sincerest thanks to everyone for their generosity and support throughout the year, especially during the time I was in hospital and now while the treatment for my malady

(which, so far, is going very well) puts limitations on my activities. Thanks, too, for all the cards and gifts this Christmas and for the very generous Christmas Offering. Let's hope and pray that 2017 will see the parish continue to grow in strength, if not in numbers, and that we and all the world will always respond positively and peacefully to future challenges. A very Happy New Year to everyone." Fr. John

PLEASE PRAY FOR: Jacqui Brooker, Max Foreshew, 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:
£1,203.10p

24th/25th December

Christmas Offertory Collection