

## 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](http://www.stwilfridselsey.co.uk)

PARISH PRIEST: Father John Healy

**THE TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD**  
**August 2017**

5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup>

### Mass Times

Saturday	5.30pm	Intentions of the Parish	
Sunday	10.00am	John Joseph O'Shea RIP	
Monday		Weekday in Ordinary Time	
	10.00am	Donor's Intention	
Tuesday		St. Dominic	No Mass
Wednesday		St. Teresa Benedicta of the Cross	No Mass
Thursday		St. Lawrence	No Mass
Friday		St. Clare	
	10.00am	Fr. John Lavery RIP	
Saturday Mass		Weekday in Ordinary Time	No Morning

### 19<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

5.30pm

Sunday 10.00am Intentions of the Parish

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Saturday, 4.45 to 5.15pm

*[The Transfiguration of the Lord - page 173 in the Parish Mass Book]*

**COFFEE AFTER MASS:** This weekend, the first of the month, there will be coffee and other refreshments available in the Hall after Mass on Saturday evening and Sunday morning. All will be welcome - especially visitors to the parish!

**DEMENTIA INFORMATION SESSIONS:** Karen Pirks will be running Information Sessions on Dementia as part of the programme to make Selsey a Dementia Friendly Community. They will be at The Shop in the High Street on the next three Wednesdays (9<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> August) from 2.00 to 3.00pm. Please see the poster in the Porch for more information and for contact details.

**STARS OF MARY MASS:** Next Sunday afternoon our parish will be host to the deanery group that arranges a special afternoon Mass once a month in the Churches of the Deanery for those who are uncomfortable at a normal parish Mass because of their age or disability. All will be welcome.

**SUMMER FAIR AND GRAND DRAW:** We were truly blessed last Saturday morning with a gap in the weather that was just long enough and dry enough to enable us to have yet another fantastic Fair. Setting up the attractions and opening up the gate to our visitors were done in the sunshine. Many parishioners and many of the people of Selsey, happy to come out of doors without getting soaked, visited our Fair to browse the stalls and play our games. Finally, as closing time approached the rain returned! So the sun shone on the efforts of all who worked hard to prepare the Fair; on those who served the

public on the day and on all who contributed prizes and donated gifts to the stalls. A superb effort by everyone, richly rewarded with takings of £2,068.92p.

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### HOLY PLACES

Are the people of Selsey, living as we are as sea level, less godly than others? There is a strong tradition throughout the Scriptures, in other religious traditions and throughout Christian history that suggests that the higher up we are the closer we are to God! Many of the best known and most important stories and events in the Bible took place on mountains. Many holy places and monastic communities are built high up. Many shrines and places of pilgrimage are on raised ground. If God dwells in "heaven above" then there is a logic in believing that the higher we ascend on earth the closer we are to heaven! But then we also believe that God can be found anywhere and everywhere in Creation.

Another explanation for why people associate high places with closeness to God may be more to do with other characteristics of being high up, and not just being closer to heaven. Mount Tabor, the mountain in Galilee believed to be the Mount of the Transfiguration, rises steeply out of the surrounding plain of Jezreel and stands alone giving a commanding 360 degree view of all the surrounding countryside. Rising to 2000 feet the air at the top is cooler and cleaner than it is in the valley below. It's a steep climb to the top meaning that there are far fewer people at the summit than below. At the top of Mount Tabor, in common with all high places, it is possible to experience great peace, calm, stillness and so feel much more relaxed. Being high up gives a different perspective on life; it encourages a person to lift their eyes from the ground in front of them to the horizon beyond. And, with fewer people around, it is easier to focus on God without distractions from others. It is likely, therefore, that once Peter, James and John had recovered their breath after the steep climb they were able to see their friend, Jesus, in a very different light; they were able to hear and understand much more clearly all that he was saying about himself and, most of all, they were able to hear the voice of God speaking to them in that beautiful place where all was still.

Fortunately, living at the end of the Manhood Peninsula we can enjoy many of the characteristics of high places even though we are at sea level. But ultimately, we believe, God is present wherever we are – high up or low down.

**RED MISSIONARY BOXES:** If you would like the contents of your missionary box at home to be emptied please leave your red box in the porch. An emptied box will be issued as soon as possible.

**ADULT SOCIAL CARE:** Friday is the last day for contributing to the West Sussex County Council consultation on what the residents of the County expect from adult social care. Any resident is able to contribute by completing a survey entitled "Supporting Lives Connecting People." There are printed copies of the survey in the Porch or you can complete it online at <https://haveyoursay.westsussex.gov.uk> and follow the links.

**PHIL BEER IN SELSEY:** The Selsey Folk and Music Club, which began in our own Parish Hall, has invited the BBC Folk Award Winner, Phil Beer, to give a live performance in Selsey on Friday, 1<sup>st</sup> September in the Selsey Centre. Details for booking tickets on a poster in the Porch.

**WOODWORKER:** If you do wood work as a hobby (or professionally) we are in need of someone to do some minor repair work to a statue in the Church. It requires some preparation with fine sandpapering and the delicate application of a good wood glue to fix broken parts. Please speak to Fr. John if you can help.

PLEASE PRAY FOR: Jacqui Brooker, Frances Casey, Max Foreshow, Nell Hassett, Margaret Kortens, Grace Ledger, 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:	29 <sup>th</sup> /30 <sup>th</sup> July	Offertory Collection	£425.81
		Church Maintenance Fund	£55.18