

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

20th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
20th August 2017

19th/

Mass Times

Saturday	5.30pm	Michael O'Brien RIP	
Sunday Cookson	10.00am	In Thanksgiving for the lives of Rebecca & Rachel	
Monday		St. Pius X	
	10.00am	Intentions of the Parish	
Tuesday		The Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary	No Mass
Wednesday		Weekday in Ordinary Time	No Mass
Thursday		St. Bartholomew	No Mass
Friday		Weekday in Ordinary Time	
	10.00am	For the Holy Souls	
Saturday Mass		Weekday in Ordinary Time	No Morning

21st SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

	5.30pm	Eileen Domone (anniversary)	
Sunday	10.00am	Frank Masterson (anniversary)	

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Saturday, 4.45 to 5.15pm

[20th Sunday in Ordinary Time - page 117 in the Parish Mass Book]

DEMENTIA INFORMATION SESSION: The final Information Session on Dementia, run by Karen Pirks as part of the programme to make Selsey a Dementia Friendly Community, will be at The Shop in the High Street on Wednesday from 2.00 to 3.00pm. Please see the poster in the Porch for more information and for contact details.

PARISH SICK LIST: This weekend the the names of those we are asked to pray for is not in its usual place - to make room for a full page report on the Building Maintenance Fund. While there is a permanent note inviting people to ask for a member of the family or a friend to be added to the list only occasionally is there a reminder to ask that a name be removed because, for one reason or another, prayers are no longer needed. If you have asked for a name to be added to the list, please let Fr. John know if the person is now fully recovered. And if you are asking for a new name to be added to the list, please be sure that the individual is happy for his or her name to be on the list.

PLEASE PRAY FOR: Jacqui Brooker, Max Foreshew, Nell Hassett, Margaret Kortens, Grace Ledger, Desmond McGoldrick, 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.

"PLEDGE SUNDAY" REVISITED

During September 2013 the Parish was presented with the challenge of undertaking a major building project and the community asked to commit itself to funding it. We were faced with a substantial debt and set ourselves the target of clearing it by 2017. For a small parish it was a daunting task but one that everyone courageously determined to meet and resolve.

The challenge was simply to stop our Church leaking every time it rained, and attend to other faults and defects in both the Church and the Hall that had been highlighted by a long overdue Quinquennial Inspection of both buildings. In round numbers the bill was expected to be in the region of £100,000.

After accepting the challenge the people of the Parish were asked to think about how they might be able to help, and offered a number of practical suggestions - from joining in with fundraising activities, through increasing regular donations to the offertory and church maintenance fund collections, to a one-off or an annual gift. On "Pledge Sunday" at the end of September 2013 parishioners were invited to "tick a box" (or two) on a "Pledge Card" as their promise or pledge to support the Building Maintenance Fund.

The ambitious target - of repairing the Church and Hall and paying off the resulting debt - was not only met in full but achieved in less than the time we set ourselves. The Church now withstands even the fiercest of storms; the high windows in the Nave have been replaced; the interior of the Church (except the ceiling) has been redecorated and the exterior stonework repointed and the south-facing wall re-rendered; the Hall has a new floor covering; the Bell Tower has been repaired; the electrical wiring and fittings in both buildings brought up to standard and tested; and other minor works recommended by the Quinquennial Report attended to.

There wasn't much change from the £100,000 we expected to pay! There were a few months when the parish account was overdrawn at the bank; but for most of the time there was always something in the account as the bills came in. Several parishioners made very substantial donations and interest free loans in the early days that provided us with a solid platform to start with. A number of other parishioners have made an annual gift for the last four years. The Social and Fundraising Group renewed its efforts (it had been busy throughout 2012 and had already helped amass £13,000 in the Building Maintenance Fund) setting itself a target of £10,000 a year and an activity a month. Equally important it has been the regular and consistent weekly contributions to the offertory collection and the retiring collections for the Building Maintenance Fund - the value of many of them increased by Gift Aiding - that has kept the Parish afloat during difficult times.

As everyone has contributed, each in their own way, it is difficult to know who to thank: in the end everyone can thank everyone else! However, all of us must be grateful to those who have done so much of the 'behind the scenes' work - the members of the Finance Committee (and its sub-group that supervised the building works) and the leaders and members of the Social and Fundraising Group. (The latter group was originally just the Fundraising Group but the activities it organised soon became the focus of the parish's social life - hence the new name.)

A special thanks, though, to everyone who made a promise four years ago and have faithfully kept it: next month you are released from your pledge!

Although so much has been achieved we can't afford to become complacent: Quinquennial Reports are required every five years - and the next one is due this year!

Collections:
£386.39

12th/13th August

Offertory Collection
Church Maintenance Fund
£61.49