



St. Patrick's Newsletter

December 2018



St. Patrick's Church

Priest: Mgr Benny O'Shea Tel: 07802791394 Deacon Rev. Neil Mercer Tel: 07801706167
Also resident Fr Douglas Perkins, Canon Oliver Heaney & Canon Daithi Foley
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Services at Our Lady of Lourdes Rottingdean (Mass: Sat. 6.30 p.m. Sun 10.30 a.m.)
Sunday Mass at St. Patrick's 9.00 a.m.

Too early in the morning?.....NO.

Stay after mass on Sunday 9th. December and join us for warming mulled wine or spiced apple juice and festive nibbles. We will also be drawing the St Patrick's raffle.

CHRISTMAS SINGING.

Ovingdean village carol singing will be on Tuesday, December 18th. Starting at 6.30 on the village green and moving into Beacon Court, then up Ainsworth Ave into Ainsworth Close, down Beacon Hill and along Greenways to the village club for hot drinks and mince pies. We split the takings between St Wulfran's chosen charity, the City Mission and our charity, St Anne's Day Centre.

You are welcome to join us for all or part of the route. Contact Bernadette for any queries.
01273 309118

Volunteers.....

St Patrick's is alive and well because of volunteers. We could have been closed down when Fr Steen left some 16 years ago. Our history of working for our church has proved useful as this is how Bishop Richard wants every parish to be run leaving our priests to their pastoral care. We have a gold star! To continue we need YOU to offer your Service in whatever way you can. There are many jobs and rotas: flowers, music, meet and greeter, readers, taking up the hosts and wine at mass, clearing the leaves at this time of year, taking away the spent votive candles by the statue of St Patrick, putting out the rubbish bins by the roadside. We also need servers at mass, no gender barrier or age barrier and Larry and John will guide you. Please think this over and contact Irene or Bernadette or just add your name to a rota.

A reminder that the Christmas collection is your personal gift to Fr. Benny. Bernadette

Christmas Masses in St Patrick's and Our Lady of Lourdes Rottingdean

Christmas Eve Monday 24 Dec. Our Lady of Lourdes, Whiteway Lane, Rottingdean

5.00pm Vigil mass of Christmas with blessing of crib

10.30pm Carols followed by

11.00pm First Mass of Christmas

Christmas Day Tuesday 25 Dec in Woodingdean and Rottingdean

8.30am Carols and readings at St Patrick's Woodingdean

9.00am Mass with carols at St Patrick's Woodingdean

10.30am Sung Mass of Christmas at Rottingdean

St Patrick's are participating in **Churches Together in Woodingdean** Christmas carols at the shops, Warren Road,

Saturday 8th December 10am until 11.30am, you are welcome to come and join in or just listen!

St Patrick's are hosting the World Day of Prayer on Friday March 1st 2019

Yes, sounds slightly impossible, but we are hosting members of 7 local churches in the Deans on that day.

And the Women's World Day of Prayer has changed its name to **World day of Prayer!**

The first organising meeting in on Monday 3rd December at St Patrick's at 10am, we will look at the readings and the hymns and ascribe volunteers from each church to read a part.

The full rehearsal with music will likely be on Monday 28th January at 10am at St Patrick's and the event is at 2pm on March 1st, it lasts about 45 minutes and there is tea and time to network/chat. If you can come next Monday morning please do, and help read and discuss. If you are a musician you are much needed!

Irene is the self appointed contact for St Patrick's, need more helpers, icgreen@ntlworld.com 01273 303676

St Anne's Day Centre

We are back to that time of year again where we especially think of others, yes of course you give monthly to St Anne day centre for the homeless and lonely but we need your help again please. We are asking and trying to wrap 80 small presents so that when they sit down for their Christmas Dinner they will have a present to open. Please write a small note tag on the wrapped gift wishing them well and a Happy Christmas to show that we care. Mary the Manager has asked me to remind you all that for every lady there are ten men so mainly men. What to give? We only give these as ideas shower gel, soap, combs, socks, shaving items, hand towels, small safe gifts. No alcoholic drinks please. On the morning of the 17th of December we will take the boxes of gifts from the back of the churches to St Anne's day centre so that when the volunteers lay the tables all the presents can be put on each setting. We are also grateful to the

members from churches together who have given many gifts in the past, thank you to all. There will be a box for your gifts at the back of each church until the 17th December thank you.

Eileen and Patrick Elliot

2019 DAIRIES

There is a signup sheet at the back of St Patrick's and OLOL's for anyone who wants a new, small, up to date 2019 diary with all the latest catholic information and with daily scripture and references. It also has the; Rite of communion by a special minister, the Sacrament of Penance; the daily mass and daily Prayers. It has our national shrine on the front cover and costs £3.50

Cards and Gifts for all seasons all year round

Also don't forget all our different types of cards on sale at the back of the church. Christmas cards are just in, we are willing to help you find what you want just ask Eileen & Patrick Elliott Call 01273303782 or EMAIL patrickandeileen@talktalk.net

Wishing one of our families every success with their new business.

We wish one of our families well, who live in Stanstead Crescent Woodingdean who have taken over The Blacksmiths Arms London Road Offham Lewes BN7 3QD **01273472971** OR (Drix) **07899963200** Drix who sings in the choir at OLOL Jazz, is well known for his yummy food. Their young family go to OLOL School, I took Eileen out for a surprise in May to the Blacksmiths Arms for Sunday Roast and overnight B&B, fresh air and change are as good as a rest. We had a wonderful time and great food and its only 9 miles out from Woodingdean.

Our Holy Father Pope Francis Acknowledges great Women in the church.

“The church acknowledges the indispensable contribution which women make to society through the sensitivity, intuition and other distinctive skill sets which they tend to possess more than men. Think for example of the special concern, which women show to others, which finds a particular, even if not exclusive, expressions in motherhood, I readily acknowledge that many women share pastoral responsibilities with priests helping to guide people, families and groups and offering new contributions to theological reflection. But we need to create still broader opportunities for a more incisive female presence

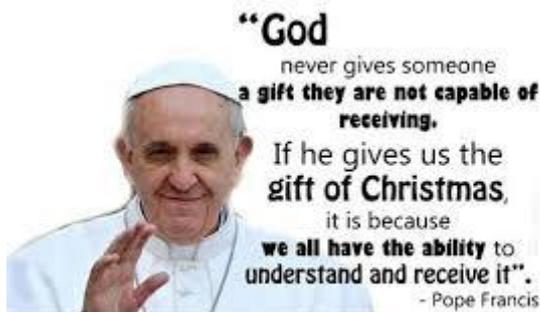
in the church. Because the feminine genius is needed in all expressions in the life of society, the presence of women must also be guaranteed in the workplace and in the various other settings where important decisions are made, both in the church and in social structures.”

Eileen & Patrick Elliott Call 01273303782 or EMAIL patrickandeileen@talktalk.net

Live Simply – looking forward

Long before Advent started people were talking to me about “this time of year” the busyness and excitement of it all..... I have to admit here that as far as baubles and booze is concerned I am famously “humbug” and I would much rather be dishing up at the drop in centre dinner table than dancing on the table at the office do. However, some of these remarks were made at work in the context of living very much in the moment. Most Hospices have “Lights of Love” services around the beginning of advent; often names are hung on a Christmas Tree and candles are lit as a symbol of those who still shine in our hearts. They are moving moments of reflection that unite the whole Hospice family.

A throw away remark from a colleague who was pondering on how the families we work with face “the Festive Season” made me realise that Advent is not just a season but a way of being. It is about preparing and waiting but it is also about deepening our understanding of how God comes. God comes from within –as St Augustine said; “ he is closer to us than we are to ourselves”. “The Saviour we are waiting for is able to transform our life with the power of the Holy Spirit, with the power of love. Indeed, the Holy Spirit pours into our hearts the love of God, an inexhaustible source of purification, of new life and freedom,” Pope Francis Advent 2017



Lord,
As we walk together along the path help us to see the lights we hold out for one another and to know that we are held in love, Amen

**We are trying to cut down on the items of plastic that we use around the church. Refilling washing up liquid, bars of soap in the toilets. Small measures but everything helps our world. Think how you can cut down especially at Christmas. Unwrapped vegetables and fruit. Encourage your local shops to use paper bags or bring your own. Milk in bottles on your doorstep is a bit more expensive but worth it. Use paper wrapping for presents instead of shiny plastic filmed paper. Give gifts made from renewable sources, wool, wood etc. Thank you
Bernadette**

What happens at our meetings?

The minutes of the last St Patrick's meeting are on the noticeboard in the porch.
Read about the quinquennial report, routine maintenance, the flood at the rented house, health and safety at St Patrick's and ongoing developments.

If you want to be included in the email list receiving the minutes please let Jane Moore know
njanemoore@gmail.com or even better, come along next meeting is on Wed 9th January at 7.30pm

The prayer group will meet each Monday in Advent (3rd, 10th 17th and 24th December) at St Patrick's 9.15 am until 10am, for seasonal prayers, reflection and music, please come.
Irene

**The Downs Baptist Church warmly invite you to join in *Carols, Candles and Cake*. Special guest Speaker Malcolm Haines. Thursday 13th December at 2.15
At the Holy Cross Church**