

**St. Peter's Catholic Church
Portland Road Hove
BN3 5GD**



July & August 2019.



**Parish Priest: Fr. Alexander Lucie-Smith
Priest's House,
Shelley Road, Hove BN3 5GD
Tel: 01273 733840
ppsaintpeters@gmail.com
Parish Secretary: Aisling Brombley
st.peters.parish.ad@gmail.com
(Office Hours: Wed 9-1, Thur 9-3, Fri 9-1pm.)
Website: www.stpeters-hove.org.uk**

Welcome to our Summer Newsletter.

This newsletter covers all events up to the end of August, enabling our hardworking secretary to take a break from newsletter duties. Mass Intentions are available on the porch notice board. Please remember to check our website, our twitter feed and our Facebook page for updates during this period. The next weekly newsletter will be published on Saturday 31 August.

From 7 to 21 August, Fr Alexander will be away, and Fr Enzo will be here to say all Masses. He is a dear friend of many in the parish and will be happy to help in any way he can. He will be resident at Sacred Heart. I am sure the parish will give him a warm welcome. The Masses he is saying are marked 'Fr Enzo's intention'. If you have a Mass intention for one of those days, please approach him directly.

The forms for next year's First Holy Communion course are at the back of Church. Please note the deadline. (Please do not ask to have your child enrolled after the deadline, as refusal often offends, and we do not want to offend anyone. Do please remind all parents you may know about the deadline, as sometimes people do not read newsletters!) The first Parent's Meeting is on Monday 30 September and the Enrolment Class for children is on Saturday 12 October in the morning. Please hand the completed forms to Fr Alexander who will then be in touch with you, and, he hopes, come round to visit you at home. (Completed forms can be placed through the presbytery letter box as well.)

2019 First Holy Communion parents, please collect your child's certificate from the Presbytery.

The clergy of the local deanery have prepared a leaflet about organising funerals. You will find a copy in the pew near you, which you are free to take.

Calendar of Events

Sunday 21 July is the Sixteenth Sunday of the Year. The first reading tells us of the visitation that Abraham receives from the three angels at the Oak of Mamre who promise him that within a year he will have a son, despite the fact that he and Sarah are so old. In the Gospel we are told of Jesus' visit to the house of Martha and Mary, and how Mary has chosen the better part. Both of these readings teach us that we should be hospitable to both friends and strangers, and that hospitality, making people welcome, is a Christian virtue. This obviously has a bearing on the current situation of migration in Europe and America. After the 11.15am Mass today, please come into the Hall for our Syrian party in honour of Saint Charbel, and to celebrate all things Syrian.

Tuesday 23 July, at 9.30am, the Leavers' Mass takes place at Cottesmore. There will be no 10am Mass in the church on that day.

Friday 26 July, from 9.30am-11.30am, the launch of Saint Peter's Playgroup. All children and parents/carers are welcome. Please join us in the Hall.

Friday 26 July, from 1-3pm, the launch of St Peter's Social Club. Please join us for tea/coffee and cake, as well as socialising. We will be entertained for part of the time by Jane Noble and her guitar. All are welcome. Please bring your friends.

Sunday 28 July is the Seventeenth Sunday of the Year. Both readings today are about prayer. In the first, Abraham pleads with God on behalf of the sinful towns of Sodom and Gomorrah. This is called the prayer of intercession, and we too are called to pray for all those who may need our prayers, living and dead. In the Gospel, Jesus teaches His disciples how to pray, by giving them the Our Father, and by urging us to persevere in prayer, with faith and confidence in the goodness of God.

Monday 29 July, 8pm: Baptism Preparation Course. Please make sure you have seen Fr Alexander before attending. The course ends at about 9.30pm, and takes place in the Hall.

Friday 2 August, from 9.30-11.30am, Saint Peter's Playgroup. Also Friday 2 August, from 1-3pm: St Peter's Social Club: Debbie Fosdyke will be talking about her passion for stained glass for part of the time.

Saturday 3 August: Film Night, with wine and pizza. The film selected is Casablanca, the must see classic starring Humphrey Bogart and Ingrid Bergman. The film will start at about 7pm and end at about 9pm.

Sunday 4 August is the Eighteenth Sunday of the Year. The first reading is the famous passage from the Book of Ecclesiastes, in which we are told that 'All is vanity' – in other words, that earthly things do not endure. In the Gospel Our Lord takes a similar line: those who build up earthly wealth will one day have to leave it all behind. We should instead concentrate on building up spiritual riches through prayer and good works. This is one of the basic messages of the Christian religion: what we cannot see is of greater value than what we can see; and we should not be seduced by the passing riches of this world.

August 7-21: Visit of Father Enzo.

Friday 9 August: St Peter's Playgroup and St Peter's Social Club meet at the usual times.

Sunday 11 August is the Nineteenth Sunday of the Year. The readings concentrate on the theme of readiness. The first reading, from the Book of Wisdom, describes the way the Chosen People were ready to leave Egypt in the middle of the night at the bidding of God, conveyed to them through Moses. In the Gospel we are urged to be dressed for action and to have our lamps lit, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour we do not expect. This means that our whole lives must be devoted to the service of God, and we must, among other things, be on the look out for opportunities to serve and do good whenever they arise.

Thursday 15 August is the Solemnity of the Assumption of Our Lady and a Holy Day of Obligation. Mass will be at 10am.

Friday 16 August, 1-3pm: St Peter's Social Club is holding a Swap Shop. Bring along your unwanted items and swap them for something you want! Wendy Wallis will preside. (The Playgroup meets at the usual time.)

Sunday 18 August is the Twentieth Sunday of the Year. The first reading tells us of the way Jeremiah the prophet is put down a well by his enemies, who hope to kill him in this way. In the Gospel Jesus tells us that He has come to bring not peace but a sword. These challenging readings remind us that the Christian religion is supposed to be counter-cultural.

Friday 23 August: St Peter's Playgroup and St Peter's Social Club meet at the usual times.

Sunday 25 August is the Twenty-First Sunday of the Year. The first reading is taken from the prophet Isaiah and the Gospel is from Luke: both deal with the same topic, the way the Lord calls to whole human race to unity. The Church is Catholic, that is, universal, a home for all nations, all of whom are called to the truth about God.

Sunday 25 August, 6pm: Family film night, suitable for all ages, with pizza and soft drinks at half time. The film selected is Paddington.

Monday 26 August: Day of recollection at West Grinstead. The parish mass will take place at the Shrine of Our Lady of Consolation, where we will be able to spend the day in quiet and contemplation in the highly picturesque church and grounds. Please bring a packed lunch, a Bible and your rosary beads. If you can provide a lift, please do so. We aim to gather at West Grinstead at 10am. Mass will be at noon. There will be a talk on Our Lady and her role as Mother of the Church, the title by which she was acclaimed by Saint Paul VI, and by which she is honoured on the day after Pentecost. There will be plenty of time for personal reflection. The day will end at about 4pm. All are invited.

Collection: £1, 763.8

Forthcoming events:

Monday 10 September, 7.30pm: Parish Finance Committee meets.

Tuesday 17 September, 8pm: Parish Team meets.

Thursday 19 September, 7pm: Care Group meets.

Monday 23 September, 8pm: Health and Safety meeting.

Monday 30 September, 8pm: Parent's Meeting for First Holy Communion.

Saturday 12 October, morning: Enrolment Class for First Holy Communion children.

Thursday 31 October: Mass to celebrate the Canonisation of Cardinal Newman.