

We are very pleased that **Bishop Martin, Bishop of Chichester**, is with us today. Please do stay for **refreshments after Mass**, in the hall next door, as this will provide an opportunity for him to meet as many as possible of the St Mary's Church family.

Today is **the Second Sunday of Advent**. At the beginning of the 10am Mass we will light the 2nd candle and sing our Advent Ring Song (*Please see over*).

Bishop Martin has declared this new year the **Year of Prayer**. This was launched last Sunday across the Diocese with a Prayer Card, on which there is a prayer for the morning and for the evening, which it is hoped we will all use in our prayers. Please ensure you take your copy of this card today if you did not receive one last Sunday. As we pray these prayers daily over the course of this year, it is hoped that it will deepen and strengthen the connection between our time of personal prayer and the time we spend with others in corporate prayer.

Our congratulations & best wishes to **Sylvia Montague**, who celebrates her 80th birthday this week. All are invited to join her for cake in the hall after Mass today!

Today until 4pm is your last chance to view the trees in all their splendour! A **big thank you** to all who have helped man the church over this 4-day event.

Also, at 4pm please join us for a **Special Act of Worship** to close the Tree Festival.

We encourage you not to send **personal cards** to other members of the church who you see regularly. Instead please add your name to one of the tags and then attach to the **Christmas greetings tree**, at the back of church.

Sacrament of Reconciliation: If you would like to make your confession please speak to Fr David or Fr John.

There is a plate at the back of church for **welcomed donations** towards the cost of flowers to decorate the church for Christmas. Thank you in advance for your contribution. *Denise Styles*

A **big thank you** to all those who helped distribute our Christmas cards, with particular thanks to **Sarah Howland** and **Adrian & Marion Fuchs** for organising this means of outreach.

School Christmas Fair: This Sat (16th) 1-4pm. Please do drop in over the course of the afternoon to support it.

Please encourage your friends, neighbours and family to join us for our Christmas celebrations. Our first Christmas Service is our **Carol Service** next Sun (17th) at 6pm.

Please speak with David Garrett and let him know what you can offer in terms of **mince pies/festive treats**, to be served after the Carol Service.

Next Sun 17th – join St Mary's Ramblers for an **historic walk around our town**. Meet outside The Bookshop (High St) at 2.30pm. Call 07810 785311 for more info.

Well done to the winners of our **100 Club draw**: 1st prize: £150 to Christine Smith, 2nd prize: £100 to Sue Bass, 3rd prize: £50 to Jan Becker. Places are still available - please see the churchwardens or Bill.

Many thanks to everyone who supported the College of St Barnabas' Autumn Fair. A magnificent £2297.70 was raised.

Frankie and Mark Hartnell send greetings to everyone from sunny Florida!

Our Intercessions are on the inside of this bulletin.

Welcome to Saint Mary's, East Grinstead Sunday 10th December 2017 2nd Sunday of Advent

Today's Services:	
8 am Mass	
10 am THE PARISH MASS	
Celebrant and Preacher:	
Bishop Martin	
<i>Hymns: Lit O & N 438, 503, 193, 439</i>	
2 pm – 4 pm Tree festival	
4 pm A Special Act of Worship	
Monday 11 th December	
Feria of Advent	
Tuesday 12 th December	
Feria of Advent	
<i>9.45 am Whole School Collective Worship</i>	
Wednesday 13 th December	
Feria of Advent (St Lucy, Martyr at Syracuse, 304)	
Thursday 14 th December	
Feria of Advent (St John of the Cross, Mystic, Teacher 1591)	
9.30 am Mass	<i>Church open</i>
<i>10.15 am Coffee & Craft Group in Hall</i>	
Friday 15 th December	
Feria of Advent	
<i>9 am Morning Prayer in church</i>	
<i>5.30 pm Evening Prayer in church</i>	
Saturday 16 th December	
Feria of Advent	
<i>1.00 - 4.00 pm School Christmas Fair</i>	
Sunday 17th December	
3rd Sunday of Advent (O Sapientia)	
8 am Mass	
10 am THE PARISH MASS	
<i>Readings: (Year B) Isa 61:1-2a, 10-11; 1 Thess 5:16-24; John 1:6-8, 19-28</i>	
<i>2.30 pm St Mary's Ramblers walk</i>	
6pm CAROL SERVICE followed by mulled wine and mince pies	

PARISH DIRECTORY		
Vicar	Vacancy	Parish Office 323439
Associate Vicar	Fr David Hadfield	823105
Hon. Asst. Priest	Fr John Gayford	842752
Churchwardens	David Garrett	0797379
	Karen Rose	5626 324980
Hall Bookings	Sandy Archer	317724
Giving & Gift Aid	Su O'Neill	317008
Choir	Geoff Hempstead	313112
Altar Servers	James Stewart	301575
Kidz Club Leader	Caroline McCague	458812
St Mary's School		323858
Parish Safeguarding Officer	Tina Allen	321933
Weekly Bulletin	newsletter@stmaryeg.co.uk	323439
www.stmaryeastgrinstead.co.uk		
Follow us on Twitter @StMaryEG		

Please have a word with a Welcomer before Mass if you require a **gluten free wafer**.