

YEAR OF PREPARATION FOR THE 40th ANNIVERSARY OF THE CONSECRATION OF 'OUR LADY STAR OF THE SEA' ON 29th SEPTEMBER 2027.

'THANKSGIVING' must be our theme as we recall the many **BLESSINGS** we have received over the past 40 years. We now have an opportunity over the next 12 months to prepare well for our fortieth anniversary. We do this **together** because we are **one family**. Here are the suggestions of things we might do:

1. **THE MASS:** We start with the Eucharist, central to our lives as Catholic Christians:
 - Try to come to an extra mass during the week. The occasional evening mass might be of help.
 - Make a weekly visit to the Blessed Sacrament, may be attending Adoration on Wednesdays (after 10:00am Mass till 6:00pm).
2. **SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION**
The church encourages us All to make regular use of this sacrament. If you have been away for a long time, make a special effort to come back to confession. See newsletter for times of reconciliation or make an appointment. Parish community services will also be available in Advent and Lent.
3. **DEVOTION TO MARY, OUR PATRON.**
 - From now on, we will begin our Saturday Vigil Mass with the **Angelus** at 6:00pm.
 - Try to offer one decade of the Holy Rosary every week (possibly, every day) for our parish.
 - Come to Mass on Our Lady's feast days throughout the coming year.
4. **OTHER PARISH EVENTS TO LOOK FORWARD TO:**
 - Our day pilgrimage in 2027; Date and place yet to be decided.
 - Support our Parish Retreat Days at the beginning of Advent and Lent.
(Our next one: Saturday 28th November).
5. **PARISH 'HONOURS LIST'**
Help us to compile a list of former parishioners who have contributed to building up our Community. A photograph and short summary of what they have done will be much appreciated. Later, this could be displayed in our Narthex and in booklet form.
A mass of Thanksgiving will be offered for all of them in November.
6. **PARISH PROJECTS**
A parishioner has offered to create a small garden near the entrance to our car park.
You may have other suggestions to enhance our Church and grounds.
7. **DIOCESAN PASTORAL PLAN**
One big change we can expect, once our new Bishop has had a chance to settle, will be East Preston joining the **new** Parish of Worthing. Although we will never lose our identity as a community, it will open up new possibilities for sharing with our neighbours. Let us pray for a smooth transition.

The list above is by no means exhaustive. We have 12 months to go and more suggestions will be most welcome. However, we must always keep in mind our over-all objective: To become a more **Prayerful** parish centred on the Eucharist; a more **Missionary** parish, a more **Vocational** parish, where we can All help each other, especially our young people, to hear and answer God's call.

May God bless us all,
Fr Tom.