

9<sup>th</sup> December 2018

Second Sunday of Advent Yr C

St Mary Magdalene's, St Martha's, Our Lady of the Rosary

*The Catholic Parish serving Bexhill-on-Sea, Little Common, Sidley and the surrounding areas*

# PARISH NEWS

## St Mary Magdalene's Parish Reconciliation Service

- St Mary Magdalene's  
3pm,  
Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> December

*Individual Confession / Reconciliation  
with the Priests.*

*Priests from the Deanery will be  
available.*

**Our Lady of the Rosary**  
9<sup>th</sup> December  
16<sup>th</sup> December

*Fr Simon and Fr Rajesh will also be  
available to hear confessions after the  
10am Mass at Our Lady Rosary on  
the above dates.*

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## Parish Advent and Christingle Service Including our children's Nativity Play

**Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> December  
at 2:30 pm  
St Martha's Church**

Lots of children are needed for the Christingle Nativity Play: Mary, Joseph, Angels, Shepherds and Wisemen.

One more *short* rehearsal at  
St Martha's:  
2pm, Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> December

**If you have any queries please contact  
Sarah on 01424 213514.**

**Please join us for the Service and  
after in the hall for refreshments.**

**Please contact Ron Brazier if you  
require a lift to the service.  
Tel: 844177**

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## What marvels the Lord worked for us! Indeed we were glad.

**"The Word who is Life"**

**7pm on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> December**

**St Martha's Church, Little Common.**

Bishop Richard visits the Deanery to present to us the Pastoral Plan for the Diocese. The shape of the Vineyard in Arundel & Brighton will change as we move towards 2030 and we are invited to come and hear how, building on the wonderful work of the past, we seek to provide a way forward for the Diocese that will enable us to proclaim Christ in a new setting. This presentation has been advertised in the newsletter for at least two months, so I hope and pray that this still has priority in your diaries, as there is no other purpose to us than proclaiming 'the Word who is Life':

*'We declare to you that what was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the word of life – this life was revealed, and we have seen it and testify to it, and declare to you the eternal life that was with the Father and was revealed to us – we declare to you what we have seen and heard so that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. We are writing these things so that our joy may be complete'*  
(1 John 1-4).

Jesus Christ, 'the word who is life', calls every one of us to respond to His call. This is a call that begins with Baptism and the time has come for us all to recognize that, as the Baptised, we all have a part to play. This is a time of renewal and while the path ahead may be rocky at times, we need not fear if we keep our hearts and our minds fixed on the Word who is Life. It is He who leads us.

*Lord, the Word who is Life. May all the people of our Diocese grow in openness to the power of the Holy Spirit, so that through a growth in understanding and courage, and truly open to your call, we may bear powerful witness to all around us, for you are Lord forever and ever. Amen.*

Fr Simon.

## Thank you....

The response to the appeal for my Holy Land Pilgrimage has been amazing. I am profoundly grateful to Fr Simon for making an appeal to raise funds for my pilgrimage. My sincere thanks to all those who have generously contributed. Be assured that I will keep you all in my prayers and especially during the Holy Land Pilgrimage. Fr Rajesh.

**We pray for those who have died:** Fr David Goddard RIP.

**We pray for the sick especially:** Steve Allingham, Stephanie Bacon, Diane Batkin, Tony Batkin, Christopher Browne, Angela Burden, Winifrede Connellan, Andrew Cruikshank, Brendan Dillistone, John Fitzpatrick, Christopher Gardiner, Sean Gaughan, Yvonne Gibbs, Michael Halse, Jackie Hearn, Leanne Hearn, Carly Hearn, Abraham Jacob, Neil Jenkins, Margaret Keep, George Thomas Lowry, Karl Pearson, Paddy Pearson, Ida Reynolds, Diana Richardson, Mary Stewart, David Spooner, Carol Standen, Rachael Smart, Janet Smith, Terry Standen, Rosanna De Souza, David Standen, Eileen Sullivan, Mary Tenneffe, Martin Tippin, Anne Wilkinson and Hazel Wood.

### Plate Collections

2<sup>nd</sup> December £887.27  
Gift Aid: £615.40  
2<sup>nd</sup> collection £190.06  
Gift Aid: £115.70

### Christmas Flowers

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9<sup>th</sup> December Parish Poor Fund (blue envelopes)

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16<sup>th</sup> December Friends of the Holy Land (not in our scheme)

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23<sup>rd</sup> December Parish Charity Fund (blue envelopes)

### Conquest Hospital Chaplaincy

For a visit from one of the Catholic Chaplaincy Team for Anointing, Holy Communion, or a general visit. Volunteers needed for visiting patients please contact: The Conquest Chaplain:

**Cecilia Weathers**  
01424 757088

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### Holy Communion for Housebound Parishioners

**Ron Brazier:**  
844177

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### CTiB Prayer Cycle

**This week:** St Mark's (Jonathan Frais)

**Next week:** Crowhurst Healing Centre (Steve Gendall)

**Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament**  
Every Friday  
10:30am- 12.30pm  
St Mary Magdalene's Church

### Churches Together in Bexhill FOODBANK

#### Advent 2018 Foodbox:

An alternative way of preparing for Christmas. Please see posters and information leaflets at the back of the church. Your foodbox can be delivered directly to the foodbank on: Tues 1pm - 3pm or Thurs 10am-12 noon.  
Thank you!

**Flame 2019**  
Join 10,000 Catholic Young People at Wembley Arena:  
Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2019

Around five hundred people from A&B went to Wembley Arena last March for Flame 2018.

Tickets are already on sale can be booked online:

[cymfed.org.uk/flame2019](http://cymfed.org.uk/flame2019)

### Crib Offering 2018

This Christmas our Crib Offering will be donated to the Catholic Children's Society A & B Crisis Fund.

This fund provides emergency grants for children and families in our Diocese who are facing a crisis in their lives. Every single penny donated to the Crib will be given out via these Grants.

**'Wait for the Lord', an Advent Service of Music and Prayer from Taize and Iona**  
**Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> December, at 4 pm**

St Thomas of Canterbury and English Martyrs, Magdalen Road, St Leonards-on-Sea, TN37 6ET. Anyone who would like to help lead the music is requested to attend a practice beforehand at 3 pm.

### Vianney Cenacle Prayer Group

The Cenacle of prayer for priests will be meeting:

**6pm, Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> December, 6pm,  
St Mary Magdalene's church.  
All welcome.**

### National Board of Catholic Women

Day with Bishop Richard on:  
**Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> February,  
10 am to 1 pm, at the St Philip Howard Centre (formerly DABCEC).**

Explore ways to engage with 'The Word who is Life'.

Book at [nbcw@rcdab.onmicrosoft.com](mailto:nbcw@rcdab.onmicrosoft.com)

### Advent Sharing Groups 2018 - Throughout Advent A Simple Path for Advent - Prayer and Reflection programme

Monday's	2.30 pm	Anne Wilkinson	215710
Tuesday's	8.00 pm	Cathy Bate	224031
Friday's	7:00 pm	Anne Barry & Lisa Young	846031 07801658296

To take part in any of these sessions, please contact the appropriate group leaders.

## Parish Diary - December

Mon 10 <sup>th</sup> December	FHC Session	6:30pm St Martha's hall
Thurs 13 <sup>th</sup> December	Diocesan Pastoral Plan with Bishop Richard	7:00pm St Martha's church & hall
Sat 15 <sup>th</sup> December	FHC Session	11am St MM hall

### St Mary Magdalene's Flower Team

They *urgently* need more volunteers.

There are now only 3 members!

They would especially be grateful for help to decorate the church for Christmas.

If you are willing to help regularly or just for Christmas please contact Helga on 848504.

### Cafod World Gifts

Booklets now available at the back of the churches.

### Gift Aid Envelopes 2018/19

For more information about Gift Aiding your donations please contact the Parish Office.

### Fair Trade Stall St Martha's hall Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> December After Mass New Stocks In!

### The Hastings & District Interfaith Forum (HDIFF) Festival of Faiths & Cultures Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> December 6pm to 9.30pm

Concordia Hall, Church Road, St Leonard's on Sea  
Refreshments, Stalls, Raffle, and Festive music performances - inc. Kerala Community. All Welcome!

### Parish Christmas Day Lunch



#### St Martha's Hall, 12:30pm for 1pm

All parishioners and their friends welcome (*singles, pairs and families*) for a traditional turkey and pudding feast (with a vegetarian option). Wine and other drinks will accompany the meal.

Although there is no charge, donations will be gratefully received on the day.

**If you would like to join us,  
Parish Office: 210263 or  
Julia Dance: 213078.**

### ENCOUNTER Evening for 16-35s

Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> December,  
7.30pm at Our Lady of Ransom Church Hall, Eastbourne.

Entrance is free, and there's no need to book. If you haven't been to an ENCOUNTER evening before, they're a great way for Catholic teens and young adults to make friends and explore their faith in a relaxed, welcoming environment. There is music, food, social time, inspiring talks, and prayer. New people are especially welcome.

We're delighted that our speaker this month will be Father Simon Dray. For more information, search 'Catholic ENCOUNTER' on Facebook.

#### New Name for DABCEC:

The Diocese of Arundel & Brighton Christian Education Centre, 4 Southgate Drive, Crawley, RH10 6RP, is now known as the: **St Philip Howard Centre for Education, Formation & Mission.**

### Christmas Masses 2018 St Mary Magdalene's Parish

#### Christmas Eve

##### Monday 24<sup>th</sup> December

- 6.00pm Vigil Mass of Christmas St Mary Magdalene's
- 8.00pm Vigil Mass of Christmas St Martha's
- Midnight - Midnight Mass St Mary Magdalene's  
*Masses at 8pm and Midnight are preceded by Carols that commence 30 mins before each Mass*

#### Christmas Day

##### Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> December

##### The Nativity of the Lord

- 8.00am Dawn Mass St Mary Magdalene's
- 9.00am Dawn Mass St Martha's
- 10.00am Day Mass Our Lady of the Rosary
- 11.00am Day Mass St Mary Magdalene's
- 2.00pm Syro-Malabar St Mary Magdalene's

*Christmas Collection is the 'Clergy Offering'*

#### Feast of St Stephen

##### Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> December

- 10.00am Mass St Mary Magdalene's

*Crib Offering is for the 'Catholic Children's Society A & B Crisis fund'*

### Justice & Peace Assembly

'Slavery On Our Doorstep',  
DABCEC, (St Philip Howard Centre)  
Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> January, 10am

(coffee from 9.30am).

Learn about the slave trade hidden under your nose and how you can help those affected. Speakers from the Santa Marta Group and Sussex Police.

To book contact rosie.read@dabnet.org  
Or 01293 651161

## Parish Information

**The Presbytery**  
**St Mary Magdalene's**  
Sea Road, Bexhill on Sea,  
TN40 1RH. Tel: 01424 210263

### St Martha's

Cooden Sea Road, TN39 4SL

**Our Lady of the Rosary**  
Southlands Road, TN39 5HG

### Clergy:

**Fr Simon Dray**

**Fr Rajesh Minz**

**Deacon Simon Kirkdale**

**Sisters of Providence**  
(Rosminian) 01424 214818

### Parish Office

### Administrators:

Bonita Osmond-Maher  
Lisa Young

**Telephone: 01424 210263**

### Email:

[stmm@btconnect.com](mailto:stmm@btconnect.com)

### Website:

[www.stmmbexhill.co.uk](http://www.stmmbexhill.co.uk)

### Office Hours:

Mon - Fri 9am - 1pm

### Finance:

Charles Durrant

### Email:

[stmm.finance@btconnect.com](mailto:stmm.finance@btconnect.com)

### Hospitals

#### Conquest Hastings

01424 757088

#### Bexhill - Irvine Unit

Contact: Mary Williams

[marycharltonwilliams@live.co.uk](mailto:marycharltonwilliams@live.co.uk)

**St Vincent de Paul Society**  
(SVP) Mary Williams

[marycharltonwilliams@live.co.uk](mailto:marycharltonwilliams@live.co.uk)

## Parish Schools

**St Richard's**  
Catholic College

**Principal:** Miss Doreen Cronin  
01424 731070

[admin@strichardscc.com](mailto:admin@strichardscc.com)  
[www.strichardscc.com](http://www.strichardscc.com)

**St Mary Magdalene's**  
Primary School  
Interim Head:

Mrs Siobhan Andrews  
01424 735810

[office@stmarymagsbex.e-sussex.sch.uk](mailto:office@stmarymagsbex.e-sussex.sch.uk)  
[www.stmarymags.co.uk](http://www.stmarymags.co.uk)

**St Mary Magdalene Catholic**  
Independent Nursery

**Supervisor:** Gemma Oliver-Taylor  
01424 224499

[info@stmmnursery.co.uk](mailto:info@stmmnursery.co.uk)

## PARISH NEWS

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## Parish Mass Diary and Intentions

### Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> December

**Solemnity** The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary  
St Mary Magdalene's 9:30am Confessions  
St Mary Magdalene's 10:00am Anne and John McEwan RIP  
Memorial Garden After 10am Burial of Ashes of  
St Martha's Mass Anne & John McEwan RIP  
3:00pm Reconciliation Service

### Second Sunday of Advent Year C

(Baruch 5:1-9, Philippians 1:3-6. 8-11, Luke 3:1-6)

### St Mary Magdalene's

5:30pm Confessions  
6:00pm Peggy & Roy Fisher RIP

### Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> December

St Martha's 9:00am Priests Intentions  
Our Lady of the Rosary 10:00am People of the Parish  
St Mary Magdalene's 11:00am Robert Stevens RIP  
St Mary Magdalene's 3:00pm Reconciliation Service  
St Mary Magdalene's 6:00pm Thanksgiving  
Joseph & Thomas Family

### Parish Poor Fund (blue envelopes)

### Monday 10<sup>th</sup> December

St Mary Magdalene's 10:00am Mary Bunyan RIP

### Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> December

St Mary Magdalene's 10:00am John de Freitas

### Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> December

St Mary Magdalene's 10:00am Fathers Arthur & Bernard Holland & Father Fenning RIP

### Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> December

St Mary Magdalene's 10:00am **St Lucy**  
Memorial Mary & Teresa Oliver & Pat Roberts RIP

### Friday 14<sup>th</sup> December

St Richard's 8:10am **St John of the Cross**  
St Mary Magdalene's 10:00am School Intention  
St Mary Magdalene's 10:45am Terry D Young RIP  
- 12:30pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

### Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> December

St Mary Magdalene's 9:30am Confessions  
St Mary Magdalene's 10:00am Miss Elizabeth Francis RIP

### Third 'Gaudete' Sunday of Advent Year C

(Zephaniah 3:14-18, Philippians 4:4-7, Luke 3:10-18)

### St Mary Magdalene's

5:30pm Confessions  
6:00pm Rosemary Shaji  
Thanksgiving 18<sup>th</sup> Birthday

### Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> December

St Martha's 9:00am Mrs Florence Raey  
Our Lady of the Rosary 10:00am Mary Bunyan RIP  
St Mary Magdalene's 11:00am People of the Parish  
St Martha's 2:30pm Christingle Advent Service  
St Mary Magdalene's 6:00pm Priests Intentions

**Friends of the Holy Land**  
(not in our scheme)