

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

**Our Lady of the Rosary
16th December**

Fr Rajesh will be available to hear confessions after the 10am Mass at Our Lady Rosary.

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

Christmas Eve

Monday 24th 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

All the Christmas Eve Masses, 6pm, 8pm and Midnight have carols beforehand.

Christmas Day

Tuesday 25th 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 26th December

- 10.00am Mass
St Mary Magdalene's

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

**Sing and shout for joy for great in your
midst is the Holy One of Israel.**



**Gaudete: Rejoice in the Lord always; again, I say rejoice.
Indeed, the Lord is near.**

There is a distinct irony that the secular world begins to celebrate Christmas in the middle of November, as the season of Advent used to be much longer starting on 11th November with the memorial of St Martin of Tour. This season of penance and preparation was shortened to the four Sundays prior to Christmas, but some elements of this penitential season were retained, including a Rose Sunday to lessen the rigours of our fasting. The proper entrance antiphon for today is '*Rejoice in the Lord always; again, I say rejoice*', coming from our Second Reading; it is a reminder to us that the '*Lord is near*', not distant but accessible to us through the Church of God.

This weekend, you will find a Christmas Card, which gives the times of our Christmas Mass times. Congratulations to the winning designer Sneha Joseph and thanks to all other children who submitted entries. There is no authentic celebration without "*Christ and the Mass*", so please make sure that you have planned when you will come to Holy Mass for Christmas Day, which is a Holy Day of Obligation. Perhaps, then, you might like to take a second card home and pass it on to a family member or a friend who might need a little nudge and reminder to come home to the Church for Christmas.

With my prayers and best wishes, Fr Simon.

Christmas Collection for the Parish Clergy

Did you know that the priests of the parish do not receive a salary or income from the diocese? They rely on your generous offerings throughout the year and the Christmas collection is the main source of their income. This weekend you can take away a 'green' gift envelope and bring it back at your Christmas Mass. If you gift aid your offering the parish benefits as well.

We pray for those who have died: Rosa Clarke RIP.

We pray for the sick especially: Steve Allingham, Stephanie Bacon, Diane Batkin, Tony Batkin, Christopher Browne, Angela Burden, Rose Carter, 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

9th December £905.00
Gift Aid: £507.25
2nd collection £590.53
Gift Aid: £214.90
Parish Poor Fund

16th December Friends of the Holy Land (not in our scheme)

23rd December Parish Charity Fund (blue envelopes)

25th December Clergy Christmas Offering (green 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

Holy Communion for Housebound Parishioners

Ron Brazier: 844177



CTiB Prayer Cycle

This week: Crowhurst Healing Centre (Steve Gendall)

Next week: St Michael's (Robert Featherstone)

Vianney Cenacle Prayer Group

The Cenacle of prayer for priests will be meeting:
6pm, Thursday 20th December, 6pm, St Mary Magdalene's church.
All welcome.

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!

National Board of Catholic Women

Day with Bishop Richard on:
Saturday 23rd February, 10am to 1pm, at the St Philip Howard Centre (formerly DABCCEC).

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

Book at nbcw@rcdab.onmicrosoft.com

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.

Parish Office

Christmas Opening Hours

Please note that the Parish Office will be **closed** for the Christmas Holidays:

Monday 24th December to Tuesday 1st January
Re-opens
Wednesday 2nd January

Please ensure any articles for the newsletter reach us by no later than 9:30am Thursday 20th December and will be published in 5/6 January edition, thank you.

Safeguarding Awareness Training

The next planned Initial Session for our Deanery is in September '19 and a Refresher Session for those who did their initial training in 2016, will be in March '19.

Dates for all of next year's training are being arranged by the Diocese.

However, if you wish to attend the next Eastbourne Deanery Initial Safeguarding Awareness Training at Our Lady of Ransom, Eastbourne, BN21 4EU on Monday, 14th January, 2019 from 7pm - 9 pm please call the parish office by 7th January.

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

Tuesday 18 th Dec	SVP Meeting	6:00pm Presbytery
Christmas Flower Team 	Parish Christmas Day Lunch 	Parish Advent and Christingle Service Including our children's Nativity Play  Sunday 16th December at 2:30 pm St Martha's Church 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
Fr Boniface... <i>'This is to offer blessings and greetings to all for a holy Christmas and a blessed New Year. I regret that my disability prevents me sending cards this year. Although I shall be unable to visit after Christmas, I hope to do so at some time before the summer holiday.'</i> Fr Boniface.	St Martha's Hall, 12:30pm for 1pm All parishioners and their friends welcome (<i>singles, pairs and families</i>) 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.	Our Lady of the Rosary We will be putting Christmas decorations up at Our Lady of the Rosary after Mass on Sunday 23rd December and we would like to invite children and families to help.
Gift Aid Envelopes 2018/19 For more information about Gift Aiding your donations please contact the Parish Office.	Christmas Card Competition Winner 2018 Sneha Joseph age 10yrs, who attends St Mary Magdalene's church and St Peter & St Paul primary school. Sneha will receive a £20 voucher. Thanks and congratulations to Sneha and all the other entrants who will each receive a small gift. Please come to the parish office to collect your prize and gifts.	Justice & Peace Assembly 'Slavery On Our Doorstep', DABCEC, (St Philip Howard Centre) Saturday 26th 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.
Wednesday Club We will <i>not</i> be open on: 26th December Re-opens on: 2nd January 2019	Christmas cards with Mass times are now available from the back of all three churches.	Flame 2019 Join 10,000 Catholic Young People at Wembley Arena: Saturday 2nd 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
Cafod World Gifts Booklets now available at the back of the churches.	'Deep Within' Lourdes CD available for sale from the parish office. £10 per CD Music of Arundel and Brighton in Lourdes. In aid of the Diocesan Lourdes fund. Perfect gift for the music lover!	

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

Website:
www.stmmbexhill.co.uk

Office Hours:
Mon - Fri 9am - 1pm

Finance:

Charles Durrant

Email:
stmm.finance@btconnect.com

Hospitals
Conquest Hastings
01424 757088

Bexhill - Irvine Unit
Contact: Mary Williams
marycharltonwilliams@live.co.uk

St Vincent de Paul Society (SVP) Mary Williams
marycharltonwilliams@live.co.uk

Parish Schools

St Richard's Catholic College

Principal: Miss Doreen Cronin
01424 731070
admin@strichardscc.com
www.strichardscc.com

St Mary Magdalene's Primary School
Interim Head:
Mrs Siobhan Andrews
01424 735810
office@stmarymagsbex.e-sussex.sch.uk
www.stmarymags.co.uk

St Mary Magdalene Catholic Independent Nursery
Supervisor: Gemma Oliver-Taylor
01424 224499
info@stmmnursery.co.uk

PARISH NEWS

Page 4

Parish Mass Diary and Intentions

Saturday 15th 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 th Birthday

Sunday 16th December

9:00am	Mrs Florence Raey
10:00am	Mary Bunyan RIP
11:00am	People of the Parish
2:30pm	Christingle Advent Service
6:00pm	Priests Intentions

Friends of the Holy Land

(not in our scheme)

Monday 17th December

10:00am	Margaret & Jimmy Hilder & Tom Friary & Mick Farrel RIP
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Tuesday 18th December

10:00am	Anne & John McEwan RIP
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Wednesday 19th December

10:00am	Denis, Mary & Joan O'Sullivan RIP
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Thursday 20th December

10:00am	Noreen Corness RIP
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Friday 21st December

8:10am	School Intention
10:00am	Edna Herring RIP
10:45am	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
- 12.30pm	

Saturday 22nd December

9:30am	Confessions
10:00am	Hanson/Driscoll Families living & deceased

Fourth Sunday of Advent 'O Emmanuel' Year C

(Micah 5:1-4, Hebrews 10:5-10, Luke 1:39-44)

St Mary Magdalene's

5:30pm	Confessions
6:00pm	June Callaghan RIP

Sunday 23rd December

9:00am	Day of Prayer for Expectant Mothers
10:00am	Pamela & Keith Bourne GE
11:00am	People of the Parish
6:00pm	Priests Intentions
	Nancy & Don Simmons & Lionel & Lawrence Keep RIP

Parish Charity fund (blue envelopes)

Next week there will be a special double newsletter to cover Christmas and the New Year.