

Stations of the Cross

- 12 noon on Good Friday at St Martha's
- 7pm on Good Friday at St Mary Magdalene, led by the Kerala community in Malayalam

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

It is a moving experience each year on Palm Sunday as we go up the mountain with Jesus, towards the Temple, accompanying him on his ascent. But what are we really doing when we join this procession as part of the throng which went up with Jesus to Jerusalem and hailed him as King of Israel? Does it have anything to do with the reality of our life and our world? To answer this, we must first be clear about what Jesus himself wished to do and actually did. He was journeying towards the Temple in the Holy City, towards that place which for Israel ensured in a particular way God's closeness to his people. The ultimate goal of his pilgrimage was the heights of God himself; to those heights he wanted to lift every human being. Our procession today is meant, then, to be an image of something deeper, to reflect the fact that, together with Jesus, we are setting out on pilgrimage along the high road that leads to the living God.

Pope Benedict XVI

Triduum Times Reminder: St Mary Magdalene

8pm: Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper (Thurs 18th April)
 3pm: Commemoration of the Lord's Passion (Fri 19th April)
 (and also 3pm at St Martha's)
 9pm: The Easter Vigil in the Holy Night (Sat 20th April)
 (inc. Easter Fire, Baptisms, Receptions and Confirmations)

Parish Mass Count

There will be a Parish Mass Count throughout the parish during the Triduum and Easter Sunday. Offertory collectors please be aware and count at all services. Thank you.

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

Holy Week: The Great Week

This is the "Great Week" of the Church's year. We begin with the *'Triumphant Entry into Jerusalem'*, where the people acclaim Jesus as King – how quickly things change! Wednesday is **"Spy Wednesday"**, the day on which Satan enters Judas and moves him to betray Jesus.

On Wednesday evening, we move our celebrations to Arundel Cathedral where the priests gather with the Bishop for the **"Chrism Mass"**, in which the priests renew their priestly promises to the bishop and He blesses the new oils for the coming year: *the oil of the sick, the oil of the catechumens and the oil of Chrism*.

The latter two oils, (*which with the first are processed in to the Parish Church just before the Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper on Maundy Thursday*), have special meaning to us as they will be used during the *Easter Vigil in the Holy Night* to Baptise **Harvey, Claire & Amy**, and to Confirm the newly baptised along with **Helen, Hayley, Rachel and Lauren**. On Maundy Thursday, at the end of Mass, we keep watch and pray as the Altar is stripped; it is an integral part of the liturgy so we don't slip away until it is complete; and if possible we stay watching with the Lord at the *'Altar of Repose'*; there will be Compline at 10.45pm.

On **Good Friday** we commemorate the Lord's Passion, at 3pm, the very hour of his death. *"Behold the wood of the cross on which hung the salvation of the world! Come, let us adore!"* Good Friday is a day of Fasting and Abstinence. [*We eat no more than one full meal and two snacks not greater than the full meal (those aged 60 and above are not strictly required to fast and those with medical conditions should exercise prudence)*]. We also abstain from meat on Good Friday as a collective act of witness. In a similar vein, there is also the *Ecumenical Walk of Witness on the sea front at 9.30am, Stations of the Cross for Children at 12.00 at St Martha's*

The **Easter Vigil** is celebrated in the Holy Night, starting at 9pm, the earliest time this year when it will be properly dark and give the symbolism of the Easter Fire and the Paschal Candle its due solemnity. In the Vigil we will hear God outline the History of our Salvation before celebrating the 1st Mass of Easter. Yes, it is a bit of an effort, but tonight is the *'Mother of All Vigils'* and it really is a matter of life and death! Make sure, then, that we use Holy Saturday as a day of rest, imitating Our Lord who slept in the Tomb. It is incumbent that all the baptised be present at the *Easter Vigil in the Holy Night* so that we, the body of Christ, welcome new members of the body, with Christ as our Head as he breaks the bonds of death and manifests for us the Resurrection. Seriously, where else could we possibly want to be!?

With my prayers and best wishes, Fr Simon.

We pray for those who have died: Molly Craig RIP, Liz O'Brien RIP.

We pray for the sick especially: Steve Allingham, Patrick Atwell, Stephanie Bacon, Diane Batkin, Tony Batkin, Angela Burden, Winifrede Connellan, Andrew Cruikshank, Brendan Dillistone, Christopher Gardiner, Yvonne Gibbs, Michael Halse, Jackie Hearn, Leanne Hearn, Carly Hearn, Neil Jenkins, Margaret Keep, Joe Kingsman, George Thomas Lowry, Karl Pearson, Paddy Pearson, Diana Richardson, Rachael Smart, Janet Smith, David Spooner, Carol Standen, Terry Standen, Mary Stewart, Connie Stoddart, Rosanna De Souza, David Standen, Eileen Sullivan, Mary Tenneffe, Martin Tippin, Margaret Tuberet, Kathleen Tunney and Anne Wilkinson.

Plate Collections

7th April
£896.67
Gift Aid: £973.23

2nd collection
£279.67
Gift Aid: £127.60

Easter Flowers

14th April
Lenten Alms

19th April
The Holy Places

21st April
Clergy
Easter Offering

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: Sidley Baptist
(Vacancy)

Next week: St Stephen's (Vacancy)

Good Friday Walk of Witness

Organised by **Churches Together in Bexhill**, will take place as usual on **19th April starting at 9.30am** (gather at 9.15am) on the lawns by the DLWP at the bottom of Sackville Road and finishing at Town Hall Square around 10.15am with a prayer. There will be a service open to all at St John's Church London Road at 10.45am.

Funeral

Molly Craig RIP

Requiem Mass, 26th April
10am, St Mary Magdalene

ADORATION UPDATE: The committee have concluded that Adoration of the blessed Sacrament can run and be sustained at the following times: **Friday 10:30am-12:30pm and on Friday evening 5pm-8pm.** The Friday evening Adoration will commence from Easter Friday 26th April 2019.

The prayer course – Lent 2019

If you want to know more about prayer or share your experience, **Tuesday evening at the presbytery, 7.30pm-9pm.** The last session is: 16th April: Warfare. Ghislaine Cornfield & Cathy Bate.

Lent Reconciliations

13th April: 9.30am & 5.30pm at St Mary Magdalene

Fr Simon and / or Fr Rajesh will hear confessions on **Holy Monday, Holy Tuesday and Holy Wednesday, and Holy Saturday**

at 9.30am – 9.50am, which will be your last chance before Easter.

Holy Week Sign-up sheet

Thank you to everyone who have signed up so far. Details are on the updated sheet at the back of St. Mary Magdalene's. We have a few gaps and will be grateful for your help filling these please.

Blessing of Food for the 'First Meal of Easter': Sat 20th April

Fr Simon will honour the custom of blessing food for the first meal of Easter. He will do this at 9am in St Mary Magdalene Church on Holy Saturday

Altar Server Rehearsals for the Triduum

For Altar Servers, the services of the Triduum are the most amazing liturgies with many jobs that help the celebration of the Lord's death and resurrection, the central mystery of our faith. Rehearsals for each liturgy will be:

Maundy Thursday: 7.15pm for 8pm Mass
Good Friday: 2.15pm for 3pm Service
Holy Saturday: 10am for the 9pm Easter Vigil in the Holy Night.

Lent Reflection Groups

Monday Starts: 4th March	2.30pm	Anne Wilkinson	215710
Tuesday Starts: 12th March	7.30pm-9pm	Ghislaine Cornfield	07491 477773

Tuesday group will be an Alpha course on prayer at the presbytery at 7.30 pm. See above. To take part in any of these meetings, please contact the appropriate group leader.

Parish Diary - April / May

Tuesday 16 th April	SVP Meeting	6:00pm Presbytery
Wednesday 17 th April	RCIA Session	7:00pm Presbytery
Sunday 28 th April	Confirmation Session	4:00pm Presbytery
Monday 29 th April	FHC Session	6:30pm St Martha's hall
Wednesday 1 st May	RCIA Session	7:00pm Presbytery
Saturday 4 th May	FHC Session	11 am St MM hall
Sunday 5 th May	Confirmation Session	4:00pm Presbytery

**Gift Aid
Envelopes and
Standing Orders**
For more information
about Gift Aiding your
donations please contact
the Parish Office.

Bexhill Street Pastors
The Bexhill Street Pastors
would like to sincerely thank
the clergy and parishioners
of St Mary Magdalene's
parish for their recent very
generous donation of
£759.87.
Volunteers are always
welcome, please contact:
hello@bexhillstreetpastors.org

**CWL have organised
a Coach trip to
Arundel Cathedral for
Corpus Christi on
Thursday 20th June**

There are a few seats
available on the coach to
Arundel and if anyone is
interested please contact
Margaret von Speyr on
margaret-vs@hotmail.co.uk
or telephone 01424 215787
for full details or see the
notice at the back of
the Churches.
All are welcome.

**Pastoral Care Group
Planned Events:
Afternoon Tea and
Benediction
at Holy Cross Priory
Thursday 2nd May,
2pm-5pm
£12 (inc. lift)
£8 (not inc. lift)**

Divine Mercy Service



**Sunday 28th April, 3pm
St Thomas of Canterbury
Church, St Leonards.**
This feast will be celebrated
this year at
St Thomas of Canterbury.
The Divine Mercy Devotions
with Exposition of the
Blessed Sacrament.
Priests will be available for the
confessions. There will be
again a great opportunity to
celebrate the beautiful
Sacrament of Reconciliation.
There will be refreshments after
in the John Fisher room.
All welcome.

Fairtrade

Many thanks to all who are
purchasing Fairtrade products
which bring life changes to the
poorest farmers. The fairly traded
brown rice has arrived.
Remember that each 90 bags we
sell at £3 per kg is enough to pay
for a year in secondary school in
Malawi; where there is no free
secondary education.
See Bridget at St Martha's
or Jack at Our Lady of the Rosary
or phone 214605

**"Prayer Around The Cross",
a Service of Taize Music and
Prayer for Good Friday, 19th
April, at 8 pm, Church of St
Thomas of Canterbury and
English Martyrs, St Leonards
TN37 6ET.** Anyone who would
like to help lead the music is
invited to attend a practice
beforehand at 7 pm.

Easter Offering

Your Easter Offering is your personal
gift to the parish clergy and green
envelopes are available this weekend.
They do not receive a salary and are
grateful for your offering which
supports them throughout the year.

Happy Holidays

We warmly welcome visitors
to our Parish.
We pray too for parishioners from
Bexhill who are away at this time.
We also wish all pupils and teachers a
peaceful and restful Easter break.

Safeguarding

All parishioners should be aware that I
am the Parish Safeguarding
Representative.

I process all DBS checks for those in
ministries which require them and, in
conjunction with the Diocesan
Safeguarding Office, I ensure that relevant
training is offered as appropriate and that
specific issues are dealt with as they arise.
Should anyone wish to raise or discuss
any safeguarding concerns, please do not
hesitate to contact Fr Simon, or myself via
the parish office.
Sylvia Cousins.

INSPIRE 2019 Day for Youth Leaders

'INSPIRE' is the annual day for anyone
who works with young people and
young adults in a Catholic context, and
anyone who is interested. It's
happening on **Saturday 11th May at
St Joseph's Church, Redhill, 10am
to 2.30pm.** Tickets are £10. The day
will include some time with the Bishop,
as well as a series of presentations on
important questions in youth and
young adult ministry. To book head to
tinyurl.com/InspireBookings or Email
Jack.Regan@abdiocese.org.uk

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

Safeguarding Rep
Sylvia Cousin

Hospitals

Conquest Hastings
01424 757088

Bexhill - Irvine Unit
Contact: Mary Williams
via Parish Office - 01424 210263

St Vincent de Paul Society
(SVP) **Mary Williams**
Care of the Parish Office
01424 210263

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

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Parish Mass Diary and Intentions

Saturday 13th April

St Mary Magdalene's	9:30am	Confessions
St Mary Magdalene's	10:00am	Dennis Connor RIP
St Mary Magdalene's	10:30am	Stations of the Cross

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord Year C

(Luke 19:28-40, Isaiah 50:4-7, Philippians 2:6-11, Luke 22:14 - 23:56 or 23:1-49)

St Mary Magdalene's	5:30pm	Confessions
St Mary Magdalene's	6:00pm	Pat Healy RIP

Sunday 14th April

St Martha's	9:00am	Holy Souls
Our Lady of the Rosary	10:00am	Priests Intentions
St Mary Magdalene's	11:00am	Mary Durkin RIP
St Mary Magdalene's	6:00pm	People of the Parish

Lenten Alms

(not in our scheme)

Holy Week

10:00am Elizabeth Francis RIP

Monday 15th April

St Mary Magdalene's

10:00am David Herring RIP

Tuesday 16th April

St Mary Magdalene's

6:00pm **No 10am Mass**

'Spy' Wednesday

17th April

Arundel Cathedral

Maundy Thursday

18th April

St Mary Magdalene's

8:00pm Kurian Kurvila RIP

St Mary Magdalene's

10:45pm Followed by watching at the Altar of Repose
Night Prayer of the Church

Good Friday

19th April

St Martha's

12 noon Stations of the Cross for children

St Martha's

3:00pm Commemoration of the Lord's Passion

St Mary Magdalene's

3:00pm Commemoration of the Lord's Passion

St Mary Magdalene's

7:00pm Rosary & Stations of the Cross

Keralan Led in Malayalam

Special collection is for The Holy Places (not in our scheme)

Saturday 20th April

St Mary Magdalene's

9:00am **Holy Saturday**

Blessing of Food for the 'First Meal of Easter'

St Mary Magdalene's

9:30am Confessions

St Mary Magdalene's

9:00pm **The Easter Vigil in the Holy Night**

People of the Parish

And RCIA Reception into Full

Communion

Easter Sunday

(Apostles 10:34, 37-43, Colossians 3:1-4, John 20:1-9)

Sunday 21st April

St Mary Magdalene's

8:00am People of the Parish

St Martha's

9:00am Priests Intentions

Our Lady of the Rosary

10:00am John Paton RIP

St Mary Magdalene's

11:00am Neha Aju GE

No Evening Mass

One collection only for the Clergy Easter Offering

Please use green envelopes