

5th January 2020

Epiphany of the Lord Yr A

The Parish of Our Lady of the Rosary, Bexhill-on-Sea

Comprising St Mary Magdalene, Town Centre & St Martha's, Little Common

PARISH NEWS

On the Epiphany of the Lord, in keeping with the ancient practice of the Church we announce the moveable feasts: "Know, dear brothers and sisters that, as we have rejoiced at the Nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ, so by leave of God's mercy we announce to you also the joy of his Resurrection, who is our Saviour. On the 26th day of February will fall Ash Wednesday, and the beginning of the fast of the most sacred Lenten season. On the 12th day of April you will celebrate with joy Easter Day, the Paschal feast of our Lord Jesus Christ. On the 21st day of May will be the Ascension of our Lord Jesus Christ. On the 31st day of May, the feast of Pentecost. On the 14th day of June, the feast of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ. On the 29th day of November, the First Sunday of the Advent of our Lord Jesus Christ, to whom is honour and glory for ever and ever. Amen."

Fr Stephen Ortiger: Thanks to

Fr Stephen for his assistance to Fr Simon when he was unwell earlier in the year and to the parish during this time of transition to the parish of Our Lady of the Rosary. Our thanks also to the Abbot of Worth for releasing Fr Stephen for pastoral duties. Fr Stephen returns to Worth on 8th January. Later in January we will have a collection for Worth and Fr Stephen to thank them for his time with us.

Fr Rajesh Minz: Congratulations to

Fr Rajesh on his 12th anniversary of priesthood. Fr Rajesh will preside at the 10am Mass on Monday 6th January in order to commemorate his anniversary.

Parish Finance Meeting: Reminder: there is an open Parish Finance Meeting in the parish hall at St Martha's at 7pm on Thursday 9th January. The Finance Committee will take your questions (*submitted in advance*, to reach them via stmm@btconnect.com by Tuesday).

All nations shall fall prostrate before you, O Lord.

Welcome to 2020 and a new year! It is good to have the opportunity to feel we are starting again, that we can put behind us the difficulties of the past and face with confidence whatever lies ahead of us. It is very human to be optimistic but to be people of hope is a God-given grace: and that is the kind of people we, the baptised, are.

Today we celebrate the Feast of the "Epiphany". This feast is sometimes called the Feast of the Magi or the Feast of the Three Kings because we remember today how the Wise Men brought gifts to Jesus acknowledging him to be Lord, God's revelation to the world. It is the revelation of God and of God's love in the child born in Bethlehem.

My anniversary of Ordination to the Priesthood is a day when I reflect on how, when I doubt my goodness, my ability and my wisdom, God gives me the gifts I need and the people I need to help me to overcome my inadequacies and my confidence in myself so that I can serve him and his people in the Church. I hope and pray that others will hear God calling them. The priesthood is a wonderful and fulfilling life, and I am thankful to God for calling me and for using my gifts in his service. Pray for me that I may faithfully continue to serve him and his people for the years to come!

With my prayers and every blessing, Fr Rajesh.

Epiphany Chalk – Available at the Crib

Using the chalk to mark the lintel of your front door:

20 + C + M + B + 20

While saying: the three wise men, Caspar, Melchior, and Balthazar followed the star of God's son who became human two thousand and twenty years ago. May Christ bless our home and remain with us throughout the year... **Then:** 'visit, O Blessed Lord, this home with the gladness of your presence. Bless all who live or visit here with the gift of your love; and grant that we may manifest your love to each other and to all whose lives we touch. May we grow in grace and in the knowledge and love of you; guide, comfort, and strengthen us in your peace, O Jesus Christ, now and forever. Amen'.

Fr Desmond Baker's Golden Jubilee (50th Anniversary) of Priesthood: Fr Desmond will celebrate Mass for his Golden Jubilee on Friday 17th January 2020 at 7pm in St Mary Magdalene.

Fr Desmond has been an essential source of supply to the parish over many years so please do come and celebrate with him. The **second collection today** is to provide a festive buffet after the Mass and to provide him with a gift.

We pray for those who have died: Helen Ambrose, Kathleen Randall, Yvonne Surrey & Edward Echlin.

We pray for the sick especially: Steve Allingham, Patrick Atwell, Stephanie Bacon, Tony Batkin, Angela Burden, Kate Brignall, Winifrede Connellan, Andrew Cruikshank, Maria Cronin, Brendan Dillistone, Christopher Gardiner, Yvonne Gibbs, Michael Halse, Jackie Hearn, Leanne Hearn, Carly Hearn, Lawrence Hearn, Margaret Keep, George Thomas Lowry, Roy Mitchell, Sally Moore, Karl Pearson, Paddy Pearson, Rachael Smart, Janet Smith, David Spooner, Carol Standen, Terry Standen, Mary Stewart, Connie Stoddart, Rosanna De Souza, David Standen, Eileen Sullivan, Mary Tenneffe, Margaret Tuberet, Kathleen Tunny, Jordan Whyborne and Anne Wilkinson.

Plate Collections15th December

£799.56

Gift Aid: £695.00

2nd collection
£455.20Gift Aid £269.45
Parish Poor Fund*****
22nd December
£822.35

Gift Aid: £631.84

2nd collection
£365.13Gift Aid: n/a
Friends of the Holy Land*****
29th December
£789.69

Gift aid: £459.70

2nd collection
£166.93Gift Aid: £77.72
Church Maintenance
(blue envelopes)*****
5th January
Fr Desmond Baker's 50thAnniversary of Priesthood
(special envelopes)*****
12th January
Society for the Unborn Child (SPUC)
(special envelopes)

Adoration**St Mary Magdalene's Church**
Friday 10:30am - 12:30pm &
5:00pm - 8:00pm**CTiB Prayer List****This week:** Sidley Baptist
(Guy Partridge)**Next week:** Kings Church Bexhill
(Steve Young)**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****Please contact**
Ron Brazier: 844177**Parish Office Opening Times**

9am to 1pm

Monday, Wednesday & Friday
at other times by appointment or by pre-arrangement.**Early closing this Monday 11:40am****From Fr Stephen:**

Huge thanks from me to Fr Simon, Fr Rajesh, Deacon Simon and all of you for making me so welcome during my time at Bexhill. It has been a huge privilege and pleasure to have spent eight lovely months with you and I will miss you all very much when I depart (I leave on 8th January.) I will stay in contact and, whether near or far, I pray for God's abundant blessings on you and your families. in 2020 and always.

Confirmation 2020

The next meeting is:

4pm, Sunday 26th January,
at the Presbytery*If you haven't done so, please return your Whitstable Retreat Paperwork ASAP
The Retreat is 31 Jan – 2 Feb.***Funerals****Yvonne Surrey RIP**Bexhill Cemetery Chapel, 12 noon,
Monday 13th January**Ed Echlin RIP**St Martha's, 12.30pm,
Wednesday 15th January**Helen Ambrose RIP**St Martha's, 11am,
Monday 20th January

Parish Diary - January

Wednesday 8 th January	RCIA Session 5.	7:00pm Presbytery
Thursday 9 th January	Annual Open finance Meeting	7:00pm St Martha's hall
Wednesday 15 th January	Mother's Prayers Group	7:30pm Presbytery
Thursday 16 th January	WJT Session 5	6:30pm Presbytery
Saturday 18 th January	Formation & Training for Proclaimers of the Word (Readers)	After 10am Mass St Mary Magdalene hall
Tuesday 21 st January	SVP Meeting	6:00pm Presbytery
Wednesday 22 nd January	Baptism Preparation	7:00pm Presbytery
Saturday 25 th January	Altar Servers Morning of Reflection	10am Mass at St Mary Magdalene and after in the presbytery
Sunday 26 th January	Confirmation Session 5.	4:00pm Presbytery
Wednesday 29 th January	RCIA Session 6	7:00pm Presbytery.

The application process for the 2020 Lourdes Pilgrimage is now open.

The online application form for those applying as a helper, chaplain, member of the medical team or as a pilgrim who needs no assistance can be found at:
<https://www.my-holiday-booking.co.uk/crm/introduction/index/i/17/eid/9>

If you would like to go to Lourdes as an Assisted Pilgrim, please contact the Pilgrimage Office who will post a form to you:
 E: office@ablourdes.org
 T: 01403 740110

Companionship

As we get older, we find it more difficult to get around and also our friends and relations are likely to as well and, sadly some die before us. Therefore, it is inevitable that we may become more and more lonely and perhaps slightly removed from society.

The Parish Pastoral Care Group are looking at this issue and aim to produce a handout leaflet showing what support we can tap into both for housebound parishioners and for those who can get out with a bit of assistance.

If you have any ideas you would like to contribute, please let us know.
 Ron Brazier 844177

Welcome to New Parishioners Afternoon Tea Sunday 26th January 3pm at the presbytery

A very warm welcome to all new parishioners to our parish, we are delighted that you have joined us. Please feel free to make yourself known to the Clergy of our parish and our parishioners. Please do come along for Afternoon Tea and meet the Clergy and parishioners including members of the Pastoral group.

Please call the parish office by 18th January if you are able to attend.

We have been asked to provide correct wording regarding donations:

Bequest for a parish/special purpose:

I give to the Trustees of the Arundel and Brighton Diocesan Trust of Bishop's House The Upper Drive Hove East Sussex BN3 6NB being registered charity Number 252878 [the sum of £..... free of tax] [..... of my residuary estate] on trust for such charitable purposes in connection with St Mary Magdalene's Parish, Bexhill on Sea in the said Diocese as the Trustees shall in their absolute discretion think fit and the receipt of the Financial Secretary or other officer of the Trust shall be a full discharge to my executors in respect of the same.

Worth Abbey - Open Cloister

A wonderful place for a retreat for groups. Availability in 2020 on some weekdays and weekends. Full details at www.worth.co.uk

Cheques:

Please continue to write cheques to "St Mary Magdalene's Church". Thank you.

St Vincent de Paul Society (SVP)

The next SVP Meeting will be on 21st January in the Parish Offices at 6pm.

Morning of Recollection & Training for Readers:

As part of the Year of the Word, the God who Speaks. 10am Mass followed by the formation in St Mary Magdalene Church on Saturday 18th January 2020. All welcome.

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

Clergy:

Fr Simon Dray

Fr Rajesh Minz

Deacon Simon Kirkdale

Fr Stephen Ortiger OSB

(Priest in Residence)

Parish Office

Administrators:

Bonita Osmond-Maher
Lisa Young

Telephone: 01424 210263

Email:

stmm@btconnect.com

Website:

www.stmmbexhill.co.uk

Parish Office opening hours

Monday, Wednesday,
Friday: 9am-1pm

Safeguarding Rep

Sylvia Cousins

Hospitals

Conquest Hastings
01424 757088

Bexhill - Irvine Unit
01424 730077

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

Contact: Mary Williams
via 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

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Parish Mass Diary and Intentions

Saturday 4th January

St Mary Magdalene	9:30am	Confession
St Mary Magdalene	10:00am	Kazia Doyle RIP

The Epiphany of the Lord Yr A

Isaiah 60:1-6, Ephesians 3:2-3. 5-6, Matthew 2:1-12

St Mary Magdalene

St Mary Magdalene	5:30pm	Confessions
St Mary Magdalene	6:00pm	Paul McKevitt RIP

Sunday 5th January

St Mary Magdalene	9:00am	Andrew & Daniel Phillips in thanksgiving
St Mary Magdalene	11:00am	People of the Parish
St Mary Magdalene	6:00pm	Joan Benzie RIP

Special Collection for Fr Desmond Baker's 50th Anniversary of Priesthood

Monday 6th January

St Mary Magdalene	10:00am	Frank Ratcliffe RIP
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Tuesday 7th January

St Mary Magdalene	10:00am	Pearl Lucy RIP
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Wednesday 8th January

St Mary Magdalene	10:00am	Catholic Women's League
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Thursday 9th January

St Mary Magdalene	10:00am	Cyril Hanson RIP
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Friday 10th January

St Mary Magdalene	10:00am	No Mass today (resumes 16 th Jan)
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Saturday 11th January

St Mary Magdalene	9:30am	Open Finance Meeting
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Sunday 12th January

St Mary Magdalene	10:00am	Friday after Epiphany
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Baptism of the Lord Yr A

Isaiah 42:1-4. 6-7, Apostles 10:34-38, Matthew 3:13-17

St Mary Magdalene

St Mary Magdalene	5:30pm	Confessions
St Mary Magdalene	6:00pm	Matthew Hagan GE & Family

Sunday 12th January

St Mary Magdalene	9:00am	People of the Parish
St Mary Magdalene	11:00am	Joseph Thomas RIP
St Mary Magdalene	6:00pm	Jack Oliver Lucy RIP

Society for the Unborn child (SPUC)
(not in our scheme)

**We welcome Fr Boniface Moran from 6th January for
his post-Christmas break.**

**And finally, many thanks to everyone for all their Christmas gifts, greetings,
prayers and efforts over this most sacred season.**