

PARISH NEWS

Public Worship in Lockdown 3

Although, public worship is permitted in Lockdown 3, the obligation to hear Mass on Sunday remains suspended and we note that some Churches locally in Brighton, St Leonard's and Hastings have closed either because they do not have the stewards or to protect the NHS locally.

If you feel it best to stay at home and Live Stream at the moment you should do so without feeling any pressure to be at a public Mass.

If you require assistance to come to and from Mass or while at Mass, you can only be supported by a person who is part of your household or support bubble, as household mixing is not permitted in the Church or outside of the Church.

If you wish to be at a public Mass for devotional reasons, try to balance this with due prudence.

Perhaps only come to one Mass at week, and make sure you wear a face covering over mouth and nose (unless exempt), sanitize your hands, complete the track and trace, maintain social distance throughout, and do not mix with anyone not in your housebound in the Church or outside the Church; follow the directions of the stewards and please only receive Holy Communion in the hand and then go straight home. Please do not gather to chat after Mass – we are in Lockdown.

**O that today you would listen to his voice!
Harden not your hearts**

The Feast of the Presentation of the Lord (Candlemas)

Tuesday 2nd February 2021

“Dear brothers and sisters, forty days have passed since we celebrated the joyful feast of the Nativity of the Lord. Today (2nd Feb) is the blessed day when Jesus was presented in the Temple by Mary and Joseph. Outwardly he was fulfilling the Law, but in reality he was coming to meet his believing people. Prompted by the Holy Spirit, Simeon and Anna came to the Temple. Enlightened by the same Spirit, they recognized the Lord and confessed him with exultation. So let us also, gathered by the Holy Spirit, proceed to the house of God to encounter Christ. There we shall find him and recognize him in the breaking of the bread, until he comes again, revealed in glory.” (Introduction to the Feast Day).

As we do not have stewards on Tuesday, and because the liturgical restrictions ask for brevity, the procession is not possible. Therefore, Candlemas will be a Facebook Only Mass at 10am (uploaded later to You Tube).

My dear friends, ‘*let us go in peace to meet the Lord*’.

Fr Simon.

This week, Public Masses will be:

Sunday: 9am at St Martha's Church

& 6pm at St Mary Magdalene Church

Weekdays: 10am on Friday and Saturday

and 6.45pm on Thursdays at St Mary Magdalene.

Confessions with Adoration: after 10am Mass on Saturday.

This week, Facebook Live Only Masses:

Sunday 11am, 10am on Monday, Tuesday, and 6pm on

Saturday. Private Mass on Wednesday.

We pray for those who have died: Rosemary Fulton-Hart RIP, Sydney Turner RIP, Mary Munn RIP, Paddy Pearson RIP.

We pray for the sick: Roy Cox, Margaret Pink, Margaret Hitchman, Martin Stiles, David Spooner, Doreen Turner, Martin Murphy, Samuel Barden, Mary Bird.

Church Capacities: 36+ people at St Martha's Church and **47+** people at St Mary Magdalene Church. Due to some damage to the windows in STMM Church, some further benches have been roped off.

Mass Intentions: can be booked via stmm@btconnect.com , there is some availability for February.

Invited. Lent 2021 – The Mission Begins: Ash Wednesday falls on 17th February 2021. The Diocesan Formation Team is hosting a mission for you this Lent. It will be the first of five seasons of mission, helping you to explore God's *Invitation* to live your life with him. What is a mission? An opportunity for everyone in the parish to sit back and reflect on the content provided. Season one is a series of programmes that help us to understand exactly how much we are loved by God, and features guest speakers such as David Wells, Eleanor Oliver and David Beresford. You will then be able to join a virtual conversation to meet like minded people and discuss what you have learnt.

Visit www.abdiocese.org.uk/invited to find out more. You are Invited!

Society for the Protection of Unborn Children (SPUC): SPUC write to say: The Department of Health is holding a public consultation on whether to continue the practice of allowing abortion providers to send abortion pills to women so that they can perform their own abortion at home. We need as many pro-life people as possible to complete the Department of Health's questionnaire in order to help stop dangerous DIY abortions becoming permanent. SPUC has prepared a briefing which gives a step-by-step guide to completing the consultation questionnaire. Please go to <https://www.spuc.org.uk/Get-Involved/Campaigns/England-DIY-Abortion-Consultation>

The consultation ends on 26 February 2021. Two weeks ago, we were due to have a second collection for SPUC's work, but this was not possible as the Church was closed. You can donate at: <https://spuc.org.uk/>

St Thomas a Becket Catholic Primary School:

'The Governing Body of St Thomas a Becket Catholic Primary School, Eastbourne, has a vacancy for a Foundation Governor. The holder of this post must be a practising Catholic who wants to support the school's Catholic ethos and is appointed by Bishop Richard. As Governors we all bring different skills and viewpoints and we take a particular interest in a certain aspect of school life, e.g. a subject, finance, health and safety. Being a school governor is a thoroughly fulfilling experience and a true service to the Catholic community. If you are interested, please contact : clerk@stthomasbecket.e-sussex.sch.uk.'

Parish Clergy: Fr Simon Dray, Fr Rajesh Minz, Deacon Simon Kirkdale
Administrators: Bonita Osmond-Maher & Lisa Young
Safeguarding: Sylvia Cousins

First Holy Communion 2020 & 2021

We will not set new dates for the delayed 2020 First Holy Communion celebration whilst we are in this period of National Lockdown, as although public worship is still permitted there are still restrictions on household mixing; and this is not the time for significant sacramental celebrations. I have chatted with Bishop who concurs that this is not the time for sacramental celebrations and we need to see how lockdown progresses and what Tier we are in thereafter before we can begin to consider the First Holy Communion celebrations. **However**, as preparation for Holy Communion usually takes several months, we invite applications for 2021 children, found at the sacramental section of the parish website: <https://stmmrbexhill.co.uk/first-holy-communion/> **Please try and remember to complete your address, email, and phone number of the form.**

Baptism applications can still be submitted: www.stmmrbexhill.co.uk/baptismal-form/ and you will then be directed to the online preparation.

Non-Urgent Pastoral Visits to the Housebound: If you need the Sacraments please contact the Parish Office on 01424 210263 or email stmm@btconnect.com to make an appointment for a priest to make a one-off visit. Please let us know of any COVID concerns.

A&B Lourdes Pilgrimage: every year on or around the day for the sick and the Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes on 11th February, the diocese invites you to support financially the work of the pilgrimage. Please try and do this online: <https://www.abdiocese.org.uk/lourdes/home> where you will find a red donate button on the righthand side of the screen.

The Pelham: Heat and Eat Bexhill: this is an initiative which is part of the East Sussex County Council Winter Grant Scheme, led by the Pelham, Sidley. It can help Bexhill families with Food and Fuel Support vouchers who have been negatively affected by COVID; you do not need to be in receipt of benefits to apply. To access the scheme, complete the online form:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSe1Xhbu0bkcqOIKxnGr6t7NS0J-q->

[LUM3dqAFw1X2PL6Cn6KQ/viewform](#)

More information: 01424 476304 or 07842 149209 or heatandeatbexhill@gmail.com

Parish Office in Lockdown 3

Please use the email: stmm@btconnect.com to contact the Parish Office. Please do not call personally at the office door, as this does not constitute an essential journey.

Parish Office
Remains closed to casual callers.
All enquiries:
stmm@btconnect.com

Sacrament of the Sick

Urgent Requests

Last Rites does not mean Last Minute!
As soon as a person begins to be in danger of death because of illness, injury or old age, the time for anointing has surely already come.

Office hours
stmm@btconnect.com
01424 210 263 opt 4
out of hours
simon.dray@abdiocese.org.uk

Hospital Visits
For **DGH Eastbourne & Conquest Hastings** you must contact the Conquest Chaplaincy on 01424 757088 who co-ordinate all visits to both hospitals (out of hours ask the Ward to call the on-call Catholic chaplain). For **Bexhill Hospital**: contact Fr Rajesh on 01424 210263

Care Home Visits
You must first clear the visit with the Home before contacting us to arrange a visit. We will discuss with you / the home as to what is most appropriate.

Home Visits
Please contact us above to discuss the most appropriate response. A member of the family bubble should be present when a priest visits, stepping out of the room for Confession.

Please do not wait until the end, as the priests may be otherwise engaged.

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Parish Mass Diary and Intentions

Facebook Live: www.facebook.com/stmmbexhill

Saturday 30th January

St Mary Magdalene	10.00am	Ferial Saturday Memorial of the BVM
St Mary Magdalene	10.30am	Public Mass: Holy Souls
Facebook Live Only	6.00pm	Confessions & Adoration
		People of the Parish

4th Sunday of the Year B

Deut. 18:15-20, 1 Cor 7:32-35 & Mk 1:21-28

Public Mass or Facebook Only Mass

Sunday 31st January

St Martha's	9:00am	Public Mass: Ints. Pat O'Brien
Facebook Only Mass	11:00am	Anne Deery RIP
St Mary Magdalene	6.00pm	Public Mass: The Paris Family

Second Collection: Catholic Association for Racial Justice (updated)

FACEBOOK ONLY MASSES ON MONDAY & TUESDAY

Monday 1st February

Facebook Live Only Mass	10.00am	Ferial Monday Week 4
		Frank Collinson RIP

Tuesday 2nd February

Facebook Live Only Mass	10.00am	Feast Presentation of the Lord (Candlemas)
Eastbourne Crematorium	-	Irene Herring RIP
		Funeral Service of Sydney Turner RIP

Wed. 3rd February

Mass said privately	10.00am	Ferial Wednesday Week 4
		Pearl Lucy RIP

Thursday 4th February

St Mary Magdalene	6.45pm	Ferial Thursday Week 4
		Public Mass: Priest's Intentions

Friday 5th February

St Mary Magdalene	10.00am	Memorial Saint Agatha, Virgin & Martyr
		Public Mass: Holy Souls

Saturday 6th February

St Mary Magdalene	10.00am	Memorial Saints Paul Miki & Companions
St Mary Magdalene	10.30am	Public Mass: Priest's Intentions
Facebook Live Only Mass	6.00pm	Confessions & Adoration
		Catherine Joseph RIP

5th Sunday of the Year B

Job 7:1-4, 6-7, 1 Cor 9:16-19, 22-23 & Mk 1:29-39

Sunday 7th February

To be determined	9.00am	Public or Facebook to be determined.
To be determined	11.00am	Frank Collinson RIP
To be determined	6.00pm	People of the Parish
		Bill and Vi Hayes RIP

Second Collection: to be confirmed

Parish Offertory: A simple way to donate (+gift aid) online via Diocesan

Website: <https://abdiocese.churchsuite.com/donate/>

For Mass offerings & other payments:

BACs: Name: St Mary Magdalene, Account No. 21077139, S/C 40-05-20

Please indicate what the payment is for in the reference.