

# Parish of Our Lady of the Rosary, Bexhill

## St Mary Magdalene's & St Martha's

Parish Clergy: Fr Simon Dray, Fr Rajesh Minz, Deacon Simon Kirkdale  
St Mary Magdalene's Presbytery, Sea Road, Bexhill-on-Sea, East Sussex. TN40 1RH  
Tel: 01424 210263  
Email: [stmm@btconnect.com](mailto:stmm@btconnect.com)  
Parish Website: [www.stmmbexhill.co.uk](http://www.stmmbexhill.co.uk)

### Local Agreement and Permission for Public Holy Week Liturgies in the Syro-Malabar Rite within the Parish of Our Lady of the Rosary, Bexhill-on-Sea

The **Parish of Our Lady of the Rosary, Bexhill** agrees to make **St Martha's Church** available:

Palm Sunday 28th March: 3pm-5pm, Holy Monday-Wednesday: 4:30pm-6pm, Maundy Thursday 1st April: 3pm-5pm, Good Friday 2nd April: 12pm-2pm, Holy Saturday 3rd April: 7pm-9pm, Easter Sunday 4th April: 11:30am-1:30pm.

*The timings allow for Confessions, the Liturgy and Cleaning.*

The **Parish of Our Lady of the Rosary, Bexhill** has set the maximum capacity at St Martha's at 36 units of people (*individuals, couples, households*) up to a maximum of 50 individuals.

The **St Thomas More Mission (Syro-Malabar Community)** agrees to maintain the robust *routines of stewarding, social distancing, and cleaning*, and to celebrate within the spirit of the guidance of the Bishops' Conference of England and Wales and in line with any explicit guidance given by Bishop Mar Joseph for the Syro-Malabar Rite, which includes, but is not limited to:

**Liturgy:** Public liturgies should be brief, refraining from anything suspended in the Latin Rite:

- Processions
- Congregational singing
- Music which prolongs the liturgy
- Physical Sign of Peace
- Holy Communion directly on the tongue

*The community undertake to leave everything as they have found it, mindful also that the Parish of Our Lady of the Rosary has a Good Friday Liturgy at 6pm and an Easter Sunday Mass at 9am.*

**Stewarding:** There must be a minimum of 2 stewards on duty before the Church can be opened to worshippers. The Syro-Malabar community have named the following individuals who are under 70 and have no underlying health conditions:

- Anil Varghese (*Palm Sunday, Holy Tuesday, Holy Wednesday*)
- Benoy Thomas (*Palm Sunday, Holy Tuesday, Holy Wednesday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Holy Saturday, and Easter Sunday*).

- Shancy George (*Palm Sunday, Holy Monday, Holy Tuesday, Holy Wednesday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Holy Saturday, and Easter Sunday*).
- Sunny Varghese (*Palm Sunday, Holy Monday, Holy Tuesday, Holy Wednesday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Holy Saturday, and Easter Sunday*).
- Anit Karinattus (*Palm Sunday, Holy Monday, Holy Tuesday, Holy Wednesday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Holy Saturday, and Easter Sunday*).

**Cleaning & Cleansing:**

- Hands should be sanitised on entry.
- Single use gloves should be used by readers at the Ambo (Lectern).
- The Stewards, using appropriate virus-killing wipes and sprays clean and sanitise the Church after each Liturgy. (*The St Thomas More Community will provide their own cleaning supplies and undertake to dispose securely any used supplies*).

**Social Distancing Precautions:**

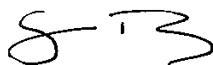
- Track and Trace, either on paper or via the QR code should be gathered at each liturgy and forwarded to the Parish Office after each Public Liturgy.
- There should be no car-sharing with anyone not in your household.
- Face-coverings are mandatory by law (unless exempt).
- There is to be no household mixing in the Church, and people should not gather outside the Church afterwards, they should go straight home.

**Parish Hall at St Martha's:** this remains closed and out of bounds.

**Responsible Officers:** The St Thomas More (Syro-Malabar community) have nominated the following responsible officers who will be liable for any Police cautions or fines for any breach of the COVID regulations:

- Fr Jose Anthiamkulam MCBS
- Thomas
- Benoy
- Anit

Approval Given on the Solemnity of St Joseph, 19<sup>th</sup> March 2021



Fr Simon Dray

Parish Priest of the Parish of Our Lady of the Rosary, Bexhill

**Further permissions for Mass in the Syro-Malabar Rite will be discussed and given in due course, mindful of current COVID-guidance and the Government Roadmap.**