

PARISH NEWS

The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary into Heaven

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

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

Church Cleaning (reminder)

Thank you to the 99% of people who happily cleaned their own seat after each Mass, and for being attentive to parishioners who needed help. This personal responsibility is the '**new-normal**', so please be vigilant in leaving your space COVID-secure for the next person / liturgy. **You can help us by bringing your own virus wipes.** Post COVID (*whenever that may be*), the cleaning of the Church is being handed back to parishioners, and so, each Mass community will need to establish its own cleaning teams to keep the Church clean.

Legal Restrictions have been lifted but precautions remain

(Our local guidance)

<https://catholicparishofbexhill.files.wordpress.com/2021/07/bexhill-parish-stage-4-guidance-19th-july-2021.pdf>

'It is most important that we exercise great caution in the implementation of this guidance' (Bishop Richard Moth)

Face Coverings: Face coverings are strongly recommended to be worn by those in Church. Bishop Richard says, *'the wearing of face coverings is a protection for others, I urge most strongly that face coverings continue to be worn during the course of celebrations, in accord with the now well-established practice.'*

On your right stands the queen, in garments of gold

The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

This Sunday is the celebration of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, body and soul, into Heaven. As a logical consequence of her Immaculate Conception and her subsequent sinless life, Mary is taken to heaven by the shortest possible route and is spared the ignominy of the corruption of the body, which is the result of sin. It is also the sign of a Son's great love for his Mother that she be with him in heaven, and on the octave day, we will celebrate also her coronation as Queen of Heaven. This Feast is the icon of our ultimate destiny. As a person is a unity of body and soul, our redemption will not be complete until we get our bodies back following the General Resurrection on the Last Day.

Fr Stephen O'Brien (15th Aug.) (Visit Cancelled)

COVID protocols have struck! Fr Stephen, our newly ordained Diocesan Priest was due to celebrate the Assumption with us at 9am & 11am Masses. Unfortunately, Canon Bill, Parish Priest of Epsom must isolate ahead of a hospital visit and there is no cover. As such, Fr Stephen who has been appointed assistant priest in Epsom, must bring forward his start date and can, therefore, no longer be with us. That means the 9am & 11am will be celebrated by the parish clergy. With my prayers and best wishes, Fr Simon.

Parish Finances

Please make sure that you have read the parish accounts published last weekend:

<https://catholicparishofbexhill.files.wordpress.com/2021/08/2020-accounts-for-the-parish-of-our-lady-of-the-rosary-bexhill.pdf>

Please help those parishioners you know without internet to access the accounts.

We pray for those who have died: Pat Nelson, Kate Forsythe, Fr Adrian Cadwallader & Deacon Ivor Pelling RIP. **Kate Forsythe's Requiem Mass is 10am on Wed. 25th August in St Mary Magdalene.**

We pray for the sick: Roy Cox, Margaret Pink, Margaret Hitchman, Martin Stiles, David Spooner, Doreen Turner, Samuel Barden, Pete Cornfield, Pat Nelson, and Baby Neveah O'Leary

Recommended Church Capacities: 112 people at St Martha's and **150 people** at St Mary Magdalene.

Congregational Singing and Choirs: the guidance allows for congregational singing but asks us to move forward cautiously, especially as we continue to wear face coverings and refrain from using hymn books. Our Masses continue to be celebrated with brevity in mind to allow time for individuals to clean their place afterwards. We must take a parish wide view of our liturgical music, not just for one Mass or community, and we have contacted our Diocesan Liturgy Coordinator for help (more information to follow). Meanwhile, our priority is to provide a **parish choir** for the First Holy Communion Masses (12 noon Sat. 25th Sept. & 2nd Oct) and when Bishop Richard celebrates our Patronal Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary (7pm on 8th Oct. 2021), which includes our Parish Confirmations. Margaret Rafferty & Chloe Seal (who have been coordinating our COVID-time music provision) will lead but welcome musicians from across the parish, so please contact the office on bexhill@abdiocese.org.uk and we will pass your details onto them.

Parish Halls: Following the guidance received, our halls remain closed. The requirements are extensive, and we must move forward slowly and cautiously. To open, all the usual Health & Safety precautions must be in place, and all checks up to date. Secondly, each activity requires its own detailed risk assessment. Thirdly, determined by the risk assessment, some of the COVID precautions (*face coverings, restricted capacity, and social distancing*) may still be required. **Finally, and most importantly**, regular cleaning is required: not only, must the hirer clean after their activity, the parish must perform a daily clean. At present, as the parish cannot afford to pay a contractor to clean weekly, let alone daily. Therefore, to open the hall, even in a limited way, needs a **volunteer team of cleaners (and coordinator) to step forward and be trained.** [Remember, St Mary Magdalene Hall is out of commission due to the flood damage].

40th Anniversary of the Diocesan Youth Service: This will be 2pm to 5pm on 4th September in Arundel Cathedral. To book a place: <https://abdiocese.churchsuite.com/events/l0x4omvx>

Day for Catechists Saturday 25 September, Worth Abbey: A gathering of Catechists from around the Diocese, to share our experiences and offer support and resources. The day ends with Mass with Bishop Richard. To book contact ruth.gerun@abdiocese.org.uk

Beginning Experience Weekend: 8th – 10th October, at the Sion Community, Brentwood, Essex: A residential weekend for those who are single again following divorce, separation, or the death of a partner. To book or discuss: Freda 01322-838415, Maura 07795-498445, besouthofengland@gmail.com.

A-levels & GCSEs: Congratulations to all those who received results this week, especially considering the extraordinary challenges of the pandemic. Every blessing for the next stage of your formation.

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

Sacraments:

Baptism: applications can still be submitted: www.stmmbexhill.co.uk/baptismal-form/

First Holy Communion: please do not submit applications for 2022. We are not ready to receive them, as we have not yet determined the arrangements for the course.

Confirmation: Confirmation Mass at 7pm in St Mary Magdalene on Friday 8th October 2021.

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) & Christian Initiation of Children of Catechetical Age (7+) (CICCA): these courses are not due to begin until October and November respectively, and we will update you on plans later in the summer, once we have more certainty with the unlocking.

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

Catholic Women's League: Meeting: 1st Mon. of each month at 7-30pm. More information: 01424 221803 or 211717. We are a National & International Organization for women, who share our faith, skills, and friendship, supporting our parish and the Church's mission. We invite speakers, go on pilgrimages & outings, plus have a good laugh, drink tea and wine! On 8th July, we did a sponsored walk for the Medaille Trust and raised £1436.13. Thank you to all who sponsored us.

Sunday Obligation: as it may not be possible for everyone to return to Mass at present, the obligation to hear Mass on a Sunday remains suspended; restored on **1st Sunday of Advent (28th November 2021)**.

Anniversaries Mass: Taking place at St Joseph's Guildford, on Saturday 9th October, at 11.30 am, with Bishop Richard. For couples and their families celebrating a landmark or significant anniversary. Numbers limited to 150. Parking off site. You can sign up by emailing: katherine.bergin@abdiocese.org.uk

Syro-Malabar First Holy Communions (11am Mass on 15th & 29th August): St Martha's Church will be decorated the day before each celebration, so we can expect a colourful Church at the 9am Mass!

Parish Offertory:

A simple way to donate (+gift aid) online via Diocesan Website: <https://abdiocese.churchsuite.com/donate/>

For Mass intentions & other payments: BACs: Name: St Mary Magdalene, Acct No. 21077139, S/C 40-05-20.

(Please add a suitable reference)

Mass Intentions: Requests to: bexhill@abdiocese.org.uk

Parish Office
Remains closed to
casual callers.
All enquiries:
bexhill@abdiocese.org.uk

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
bexhill@abdiocese.org.uk
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 14th August

St Mary Magdalene	10.00am	Memorial St Maximilian Kolbe, Priest & Martyr
St Mary Magdalene	10.30am	Public Mass: Brian Hick RIP
St Mary Magdalene	12.30pm	Adoration & Confessions
St Mary Magdalene	5.15pm	Baptism of Isabel Miller
St Mary Magdalene	6.00pm	Adoration & Confessions
		Public Mass: Priest's Intentions

No stewards, maintain social distance and clean own bench afterwards

THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

Apoc. 11:19, 12:1-6, 10, 1 Cor 15:20-26 & Lk 1:39-56

Sunday 15th August

St Martha's (& Facebook)	9.00am	Solemnity 3 Public Masses (first-come, first served)
St Mary Magdalene	11.00am	Holy Souls
St Mary Magdalene	6.00pm	Sr. Imelda GE
[St Martha's]	[11.00am]	People of the Parish

Second Collection: Overseas Missions

[Syro-Malabar Rite Mass]

Please clean your own bench at the end of each Mass.

Monday 16th August

Facebook Live Mass

Ferial **Monday in 20th Week in OT**
10.00am John & Pat Billingham RIP

Tuesday 17th August

St Mary Magdalene

Ferial **Tuesday in 20th Week in OT**
10.00am **Public Mass:** Stella McDermott RIP

Wednesday 18th August

Presbytery (Said Privately)

Ferial **Wednesday in 20th Week in OT**
N/A No Mass today

Thursday 19th August

St Mary Magdalene

Ferial **Thursday in 20th Week in OT**
6.30pm **Public Mass:** Priest's Intentions

Friday 20th August

St Mary Magdalene

Memorial **St Bernard, Abbott & Doctor**
10.00am **Public Mass:** Robert Stevens RIP
10.30am **Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament**
7.00pm **No Adoration during August**

Saturday 21st August

St Mary Magdalene

Memorial **St Pius X, Pope**
10.00am **Public Mass:** Francis Steele GE
10.30am Adoration & Confessions
12.30pm Baptism of Mikaela Caranto
5.15pm Adoration & Confessions
6.00pm **Public Mass:** Priest's Intentions

No stewards, maintain social distance and clean own seat afterwards

21st SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME B

Jos 24:1-2, 15-18, Eph 5:21-32 & Jn 60:60-69

Sunday 22nd August

St Martha's

Sunday **3 Public Masses (first-come, first served)**
9.00am Patricia Andrews RIP
11.00am People of the Parish
6.00pm Joseph & Regi Thomas's Anniversary

Second Collection: to make up for lost offertory in 2020 & 2021 (suggested)
[St Martha's] [11.00am] *[Syro-Malabar Rite Mass]*

No stewards, maintain social distance and clean own seat afterwards

Please do make sure you have read the Parish's 2020 Financial Statement

<https://catholicparishofbexhill.files.wordpress.com/2021/08/2020-accounts-for-the-parish-of-our-lady-of-the-rosary-bexhill.pdf>