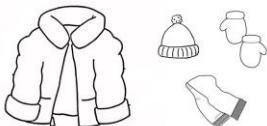


PARISH NEWS

“Government Plan B Continues”

Face coverings are mandatory, unless exempt. Masses will be celebrated with reverence and joy but with simplicity and brevity in mind. The Church is ventilated so please wear warm clothing.



Cleaning

Despite new guidance relaxing the need for sanitizing, the Church still needs cleaning, so please continue as normal.

Parish Office in Plan B

The Parish Office is closed to casual callers (**access by appointment only**). Please do not come to the presbytery unless you have an appointment. Instead, please email: bexhill@abdiocese.org.uk and the office will respond. Alternatively, you can ring 01424 210 263 opt 4 between 09:15 and 4:45pm but you may need to leave a voicemail. Many thanks. Fr Simon.

Halls: Parish groups wishing to use St Martha's should contact the Office to complete their individual risk assessment. St Mary Magdalene is closed.

Online Offertory 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 reference)

Proclaim the wonders of the Lord among all the peoples.

‘There are all sorts of service to be done’.

Last Sunday, I met again with the ‘*Pastoral Support team*’ to continue and deepen our reflection on the parish’s pastoral needs. As St Paul, writing to the Corinthians, says, ‘*there are all sorts of service to be done*’, but as always it depends on our personal priorities. The Pastoral Support team are not here ‘*to do things for us*’ but to help us set a pastoral vision and direction. The responsibility for pastoral activities belongs to every member of the parish community; we are not simply ‘*consumers*’ of services but servants of one another.

Some activities can restart now providing people are ready and willing to take ownership of them, including taking responsibility for the COVID and Safeguarding risk assessments. Other activities will need to wait until some semblance of normality has returned in the wider community. For now, the ‘*Pastoral Support Group*’ advise us to focus on a ‘*ministry of welcome*’. At St Martha’s, there is a small group who continue to welcome parishioners as they come to Mass, and they need to be supported. At St Mary Magdalene, this ministry of welcome is largely in abeyance. Therefore, inside the newsletter there is more information on how to volunteer and join the welcoming teams for each Church.

All of us can offer a ‘*ministry of welcome*’, from a smile, to not insisting that someone is in ‘*my seat*’. A fundamental part of this ‘*welcome*’ is wanting to be part of the community and contributing to its growth. Our challenge, perhaps, at the very least is to recognize the invitation to participate in the ‘*wedding banquet of the Lamb of God*’, to arrive early, to assist in the offering, and certainly not looking to rush out before the final blessing. In the Mass, in the Eucharistic community, the Lord has ‘*let his glory be seen*’ and many people continue to believe in him. Every Blessing, Fr Simon.

We pray for those who have died: Peter Retout, Janie Butcher, Simon Palmer, Fr Desmond Baker RIP

We pray for the sick: Jim Green, Roy Cox, Margaret Hitchman, Martin Stiles, David Spooner, Doreen Turner, Samuel Barden, Pete Cornfield, Baby Neveah O'Leary, Veronica Phillips, Stanley Pryke, Winifred Broughton, Vera Stevens, Cecila Weathers, Margaret, Carley, Jackie & Laurence Keep

Synod: our local conversation on welcome, unity, communication and Children & Young People tie in nicely with the Synod discussion. We have until 4th February 2022 to submit Synod questionnaire responses. The Synod Questionnaire can be completed by existing parish groups (or individuals). The diocesan website has the F.A.Q.s, downloadable questionnaire, and the response form for this first stage in the synodal process: <https://www.abdiocese.org.uk/synod>

'Ministry of Welcome' for the Parish of Our Lady of the Rosary:

6pm Vigil Mass at St Mary Magdalene: volunteer coordinator required.

9am Mass at St Martha's: Sarah Phillips, Jo and Adam Seal co-ordinate this Mass and invite others to join the team. Please contact them via bexhill@abdiocese.org.uk or speaks with them at Mass.

11am Mass at St Mary Magdalene: Monica Halse has agreed to co-ordinate a team of welcomers. Please contact her on cuinpastelero@icloud.com or on 01424 810131 or speak to her at Mass.

6pm Mass at St Mary Magdalene: Sarah Surman has agreed to co-ordinate a team of welcomers. Please contact her via bexhill@abdiocese.org.uk or speak to her at Mass.

Fr Desmond's Funeral Details: Reception of the Body before the 5pm Vigil Mass on Wednesday 19th January (*Celebrant: Bishop Richard Moth*) & Funeral Mass at 2pm on Thursday 20th January (*Celebrant: Bishop Paul McAleenan*). Both Masses at St Thomas of Canterbury, St Leonard's.

Catholic Women's League (CWL): CWL is the only group for women within the Parish who share faith, skills, and friendship, while supporting the local community and keeping the parish and world-wide Church in our hearts. Our group invite speakers to enrich and entertain us, we go on pilgrimages and outings. CWL meets: first Monday of each month @ 7-30pm. Contact: 211717 or 221803 for more details.

The Catenians: an association of Catholic laymen whose principal purpose is to establish a network of friends to support each other, their families, and any widows in the practice of Faith. There is an online meeting on Thursday, 20th Jan at 7pm should anyone wish to get a better understanding of the Hastings and Bexhill Circle. I can forward the details should anyone wish to email me or phone 07394925611.

St Vincent De Paul Society (SVP): If you feel you need help or support, please contact our team on 07783 598238, or e-mail popsy57@outlook.com and they will be happy to speak with you.

CAFOD School Volunteers: CAFOD are looking for volunteers to visit schools to give assemblies and lead workshops in areas of overseas development and global justice. More info: call CAFOD on 01483 573273 or Email: arundelbrighton@cafod.org.uk **Afghanistan appeal:** The News this week highlighted the plight of Afghans, and so the appeal is still active: <https://cafod.org.uk/>

Parish Clergy: Fr Simon Dray, Fr Rajesh Minz, Deacon Simon Kirkdale

Administrators: Bonita Osmond-Maher & Lisa Young

Safeguarding: Sylvia Cousins

The Sacraments

Adult Baptism (Aged 18+): new applications can be submitted from September 2022 for Baptism at Easter 2023. Prospective applicants can book an initial appointment to see Fr Simon from Easter 2022.

Infant Baptism (Aged 0-6): applications submitted via the website: <https://stmmrbexhill.co.uk/baptism/>

Children of Catechetical (Aged 7-12): Children aged 7+ have reached the age of reason and need to be prepared individually. These applications are assessed on a case-by-case basis and an initial interview with Fr Simon may be necessary before accepting your application. Applications can be submitted via the website: <https://stmmrbexhill.co.uk/we-journey-together/> (*Please also use this form for children baptized in the Anglican Communion now seeking to be received into full communion with the Catholic Church.*)

Young Adults (Aged 13-17): Please book an appointment to see Fr Simon to discuss your needs. It is likely that we will prepare you using the Confirmation Course which begins in the autumn of 2022.

First Holy Communion: Applications are now **closed** for First Communion 2022. Children should now be working on the 1st Chapter of I Belong ahead of their 1st Confession during the first half of Lent.

Marriage: those getting married in 2023 should see Fr Simon soon, as 12 months' notice is required.

Appointments: email the parish office: bexhill@abdiocese.org.uk

Sacrament of the Sick: Please plan ahead. COVID protocols make 'out of hours' visits undesirable. '*Last Rites do not mean Last Minute*'. A priest should be requested in good time *to hear the person's confession, to anoint them, and give Holy Communion*. 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. Due to the condition of the presbytery, we are not always on-site, so please do not rely on answerphones, please use both email addresses listed on the back page of this newsletter.

One-off, non-urgent pastoral visits: <https://stmmrbexhill.co.uk/visiting-the-sick-and-housebound/>

A&B Lourdes Pilgrimage 2022: Online applications for all those who do not require any assistance in Lourdes or on the journey can be found on our website: www.lourdes.abdiocese.org.uk

or you can visit: <https://www.my-holiday-booking.co.uk/.../index/i/17/eid/13>

If you are an Assisted Pilgrim and would like a paper application posted to you, please email the Lourdes Office with your name and postal address: office@ablourdes.org

Evening Prayer for Divorced, Remarried and Separated Sunday 6th Feb. 2.45pm, at St John the Evangelist Catholic Church, Horsham: Those in our Parish communities who may be separated, divorced, or who have married again, are invited to meet Bishop Richard for conversation. Evening Prayer is followed by Tea and Cake. You can sign up here: <https://abdiocese.churchsuite.com/events/chpfxz58>

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 &
rajesh.minz@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.

PARISH NEWS**Page 4****Parish Mass Diary and Intentions**

Recommended Capacities: 112 in St Martha's and 150 in St Mary Mags.

www.facebook.com/stmmbexhill

Saturday 15th January

St Mary Magdalene
St Mary Magdalene
St Martha's
St Mary Magdalene
St Mary Mags ([Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/stmmbexhill))

Opt. Mem

10.00am
10.30am
12.30pm
5.15pm
6.00pm

Saturday Memorial of the BVM

Public Mass: Jim Gordon RIP
Confessions & Adoration
Baptism of Maise Munroe
Confessions & Adoration
Public Mass: Cesidio Capaldi RIP

SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME C

Is. 62:1-5, 1 Cor. 12:4-11 & Jn 2:1-11

Sunday 16th January

St Martha's ([Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/stmmbexhill))
St Mary Magdalene
St Mary Magdalene
[St Martha's]

Sunday

9.00am
11.00am
6.00pm
[11.00am]

3 Public Masses (first-come, first served)

People of the Parish
Joseph & Thomas Families RIP
Elsa Rogers GE
[Syro-Malabar Rite Mass]

Second Collection: Pax Christi

Fr Simon and Fr Rajesh are also supplying Battle & Northiam this weekend

(Fr Desmond Baker RIP had originally been booked to supply).

Monday 17th January

Facebook Live Mass

Memorial

10.00am

St Antony, Abbott

Rowe & Callaghan Families

Week of Prayer for the Unity of Christians 18-25th January 2022**Tuesday 18th January**

St Mary Magdalene

Ferial

10.00am

Tuesday in 2nd Week in OT

Public Mass: Vincent Frain RIP

Wed. 19th January

Presbytery (said privately)
St Thomas' (St Leonards)

Ferial

N/A

Wednesday in 2nd Week in OT

Marion Cox RIP

Vigil Mass: Fr Desmond Baker RIP

Thursday 20th January

St Thomas' (St Leonards)
St Mary Magdalene

Votive

2.00pm

For the Unity of Christians

Requiem Mass: Fr Desmond Baker RIP

Public Mass: For Lost Souls

Friday 21st January

St Mary Magdalene

Memorial

10.00am

St Agnes, Virgin & Martyr

Public Mass: Varghese Antony RIP

Saturday 22nd January

St Mary Magdalene
St Mary Magdalene
St Mary Magdalene
St Mary Magdalene

Opt. Mem

10.00am

Saturday Memorial of the BVM

Public Mass: John De Freitas RIP

Confessions & Adoration

Confessions & Adoration

Public Mass: Peter McGuckin RIP

THIRD SUN. IN OT C (SUNDAY OF THE WORD OF GOD)

Neh 8:2-6, 8-10, 1 Cor 12:12-30 & Lk 1:1-4, 4:14-21

Sunday 23rd January

St Martha's
St Mary Magdalene
St Mary Magdalene
[St Martha's]

Sunday

9.00am

3 Public Masses (first-come, first served)

Peter & Nicola Koe RIP

Good Estate of the OLR Bexhill Parish

People of the Parish

[Syro-Malabar Rite Mass]

Second Collection: Parish Lourdes Fund

Fr Simon and Fr Rajesh are also supplying Battle & Northiam this weekend

(Fr Desmond Baker RIP had originally been booked to supply).