

PARISH NEWS

Restoration of the Sunday Obligation:

With the pandemic situation now greatly changed, the Bishops of England and Wales have restored the in-person Sunday Obligation, which comes back into effect at Pentecost, Sunday 5th June 2022.

The full statement is available at our parish website:

<https://catholicparishofbexhill.files.wordpress.com/2022/05/bishops-invite-faithful-to-return-to-mass-at-pentecost.pdf>

The statement acknowledges and takes account of those who may still have a genuine reason to be absent from the Church. Fr Simon will continue a limited Facebook Livestream provision on the days on which he is celebrating the parish Mass.

Parish Mission & Vision

Through the Easter Season we are discerning what our renewed mission & vision might be. More information:

<https://catholicparishofbexhill.files.wordpress.com/2022/04/parish-of-o-l-rosary-pastoral-care-and-support-group-easter-update-mission-and-vision.pdf>

COVID Precautions:

Face coverings are personal choice. Please continue to clean your place.

The Parish Office is open by appointment only. Please contact using: E:

bexhill@abdiocese.org.uk 01424 210263
opt. 4 - M-F 09.15-4.45pm

**Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let the peoples praise you.**

The Sacrament of Confirmation

For those who are Baptised and have received their First Holy Communion, one further Sacrament of Initiation enables an individual, through their own free choice, to make the faith something that they wish to be committed to and play an active role in. This Sunday, thirty of our young people from the Eastbourne, Hailsham and Bexhill parishes (7 candidates), are responding to the call of the Holy Spirit, having discerned that they are ready to take responsibility for their faith, to defend it and announce it, within their gifts and abilities, to others. They come to Our Lady of Ransom in Eastbourne to present themselves to Bishop Richard who is the Apostle here in Arundel & Brighton; so that He might seal them with the '*gift of the Holy Spirit*' who comes to the individual as they are anointed with the oil of Chrism. These young people are a sign to him that the Spirit is still very much at work in the apostolic communities that make up our Deanery. Today does not mark an end, but a new beginning and we pray that the '*Confirmati*' find in our parishes a place of belonging, but above all a place where they may encounter Our Lord Jesus Christ. On behalf of all parishioners, many thanks to those who have assisted on this year's sacramental journey: catechists, teachers, and parents.

In the Acts of the Apostles (*6th Sunday of Easter*), we are assured that we have not been saddled with any burden beyond the essentials. The reinstatement of the Sunday Obligation from Pentecost is one of these essentials. The Bishops of England & Wales remind us of the Church's 1st precept of hearing Mass on Sundays and Holy Days, that it is '*our fundamental Christian duty to worship God by participating in the celebration of Mass. Attending Mass... is the greatest of all privileges...*'.

With every blessing. Fr Simon.

We pray for those who have died: Win Connellan, Madeline Roberio and Breda Richardson RIP

We pray for the sick: Jim Green, Margaret Hitchman, Martin Stiles, David Spooner, Doreen Turner, Samuel Barden, Pete Cornfield, Baby Neveah O'Leary, Veronica Phillips, Winifred Broughton, Cecila Weathers, Margaret Carley, Jackie & Laurence Keep, Fr Andrew Pinsent, David Meyer and Stephen Doyle.

Liturgy & Prayer

Vigil of Pentecost (4th June): The 6pm Mass on a Saturday evening is normally an 'anticipated' Mass of the Sunday, but some Feast Days have proper designated 'Vigil Masses', and so, we will celebrate the 6pm Vigil of Pentecost in its 'Extended Form', with the extra readings and psalms as a fitting mirror to the Easter Vigil which started this 'Joyful Easertide'. Please bear this in mind if arranging taxis / lifts to Mass.

Diocesan Pentecost Invited Novena: available online at <https://www.abdiocese.org.uk/diocese/events> but will also be prayed daily at St Mary Magdalene Church, at 7pm from Friday 27th May to Friday 3rd June, culminating with the Extended Pentecost Vigil above. This links to our parish mission and vision.

Clergy Leave: Fr Rajesh is away 23rd – 30th May, which will affect various amendments to Mass times.

Social & Pastoral

First Holy Communion Cards and Gifts: These will be on sale on 22nd May in St Martha's Church Hall, following the 9am Mass, coffee will also be available in the hall.

SVP Monthly "Tea at 3": Thirty-four people (plus helpers) came to the First tea at 3. The next event is on 30th May from 3pm to 4.30pm, St Martha's Hall. More information: 07783 598238 / popsy57@outlook.com

SVP Pilgrimage to Aylesford: Our parish SVP conference are arranging a day pilgrimage to Aylesford Priory, Shrine of Our Lady on Tuesday 14th June 2022, leaving Bexhill at 09.30 with pick-ups in Little Common and Bexhill. Cost of the trip will be £15 per person. For further information and to request a booking form, please contact 01424 602914 / 01424 844177 or by email popsy57@outlook.com

Grandparents Day at West Grinstead 11am to 3pm: The Diocesan Pilgrimage to the Shrine at West Grinstead is on Wednesday 8th June from 10.30am to 3pm. More info and sign-up details can be found on the Diocesan website under events W: <https://www.abdiocese.org.uk/diocese/events>

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 worldwide Church within our hearts. Our group invite speakers to enrich and entertain us and we go on pilgrimages and outings. CWL meets at 7.30pm on the first Monday of each month in St Martha's Hall. Please contact 211717 or 221803 for further information. **Thank You:** £244 was raised at last week's 'Sausage Sizzle'.

Congratulations and thanks to Adam Seal: one of our young parishioners, who did a 1-mile sponsored swim in 28 mins, raising £615, in aid of our parish, an amazing amount and a great achievement.

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

Sacraments

Adult Baptisms, Receptions & Confirmations 2023: If you are thinking of Baptism, or being Received as a Catholic, or a Catholic seeking Confirmation, the next RCIA course begins in the autumn of 2022. Applications can be submitted from September 2022. However, if you would like to chat through whether this might be for you, please book an appointment with Fr Simon (bexhill@abdiocese.org.uk).

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

Children of Catechetical Age (7+): These children must be individually prepared, and we will assess your needs on a case-by-case basis. Applications: <https://stmbexhill.co.uk/we-journey-together/>

First Holy Communion: the children should be on the final chapter of the '*I Belong*' book. Each family has been emailed a letter from the parish office advising about the First Holy Communion Mass. We ask you to acknowledge receipt (*check your spam folders*). For Children in non-Catholic schools, Mrs. Surman is offering two further formation sessions on at 9am in St Mary Magdalene Church on 21st & 28th May.

Need a non-urgent clergy home visit? Please use the online form: <https://stmbexhill.co.uk/visiting-the-sick-and-housebound/> or telephone the parish office on 01424 210 263 opt 4

Other Notices

Worth Retreats: please visit <https://worth.co.uk/retreats/retreat-progammme-2022/> for retreat opportunities.

Worth Abbey Mother's Prayers Day: Unity Room, Saturday 11th June 1.45pm – 5pm. Info: Janet Desmond 07985 989533.

Eastbourne & Bexhill Newman Association Talks: Fr Pat Kilgarriff, "Five Hopkins Sonnets". Fri 17 June. 7.30pm. St Martha's Church Hall. Information: 01424 219788

Gift Aid Statements: these statements are available for collection from the back of each Church.

Bexhill Foodbank: Shopping List Poster at the back of both Churches; to help you with your donations.

CAFOD: The paradox of abundance: 800 million people go hungry each day, but the world produces 4 billion tons of food, and we need 3.7 billion tons to feed everyone. A third of all produced food is wasted, which St John Paul II calls '*the paradox of abundance.*' The current global food system is not working, but Pope Francis says, "*each of us has a role to play in transforming food systems for the benefit of people and the planet.*" CAFOD's new campaign '*Fix the Food System*', allows us to respond to his call. Let us respond to his call! See www.cafod.org.uk/food for an invitation for parishes to learn about the impact of our food with our *Fix the Food System: a 7-station journey* resource.

Global Justice: National Day of Climate Action, with a talk in Devonshire Square at 11am, Sat 21st May.

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.

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Saturday 21st May

St Mary Magdalene	10.00am	Ferial Saturday in 5th Week of Easter
St Mary Magdalene	10.30am	Fred Herring RIP
St Mary Magdalene	12.30pm	Confessions & Adoration
St Mary Magdalene	5.15pm	Baptism & FHC of Hannah Henry
St Mary Mags (& Facebook)	6.00pm	Confessions & Adoration

Ferial **Saturday in 5th Week of Easter**

Fred Herring RIP

Confessions & Adoration

Baptism & FHC of Hannah Henry

Confessions & Adoration

Divina Stephen

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Acts 15:1-2, 22-29, Rev. (Apoc.) 21:10-14, 22-23 & Jn 14:23-29

Sunday 22nd May

St Martha's (& Facebook)	9.00am	Sunday John Allistone
St Mary Mags	11.00am	Maria Capaldi RIP
OLR, Eastbourne	2.30pm	Deanery Confirmation Mass
St Mary Magdalene	6.00pm	People of the Parish
[St Martha's]	[11.00am]	[Syro-Malabar Rite Mass]

Sunday

John Allistone

Maria Capaldi RIP

Deanery Confirmation Mass

People of the Parish

[Syro-Malabar Rite Mass]

Second Collection: Parish Maintenance

Monday 23rd May

Ferial

Monday in 6th Week of Easter

St Mary Magdalene

10.00am **No 10am Mass today**

Tuesday 24th May

Funeral

Requiem Mass

St Mary Magdalene

9.30am Rosary at Our Lady's Altar

St Mary Magdalene

10.00am Requiem of Breda Richardson RIP

Wed. 25th May

Memorial

St Bede the Venerable, Priest

St Mary Magdalene

10.00am **No 10am Mass today (see below)**

ASCENSION THURSDAY

Acts 1:1-11, Eph. 1:17-23 or Heb. 9:24-28, 10:19-23 & Lk 24:46-53 Day

[Wed. 25th May: 7pm Vigil Mass of the Ascension, St Mary Magdalene Church]

Thursday 26th May

Solemnity

The Ascension of the Lord

St Mary Mags ([& Facebook](#))

6.30pm Priests Intentions

Fr Simon will also celebrate today a Mass at St Mary Magdalene Primary School and at St Richard's Catholic College

Friday 27th May

Feast

St Augustine of Canterbury, Bishop

St Mary Magdalene

Priests Intentions

St Mary Magdalene

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Saturday 28th May

Ferial

Saturday in 6th Week of Easter

St Mary Magdalene

No 10am Mass or AM Confessions

St Martha's

Nuptial Mass: Sol Buckner & Gabriela

Jireada-Badara

St Mary Magdalene

Confessions & Adoration

St Mary Mags ([& Facebook](#))

6.00pm Edna Herring RIP

SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Acts 7:55-60, Rev. (Apoc.) 22:12-14, 16-17, 20 & Jn 17:20-26

Sunday 29th May

Sunday

Holy Souls

St Martha's ([& Facebook](#))

9.00am Margaret McNamara GE

With Fr Simon saying all three Masses, STMM Church will not open before 10.30am

St Mary Magdalene

Baptisms/FHC of Freddie & Rylie Proctor

St Mary Magdalene

People of the Parish

[St Martha's]

[11.00am] [Syro-Malabar Rite Mass]

Second Collection: World Communications Sunday

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 suitable reference)