

PARISH NEWS

Advent: New Year (A) and ‘the time has come... our salvation is even nearer than it was when we were converted’

November brings the liturgical year to a close, with the last few weeks considering the end times. Fortunately, they still seem quite some time off and there is plenty of scope for the Church to continue its mission of announcing salvation. On 1st Sunday Advent (27th November) we begin a new cycle of readings (Year A), and so, this is a good time to publish our revised Mission and Vision for the parish, which was released in draft form between Easter and Pentecost:

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

At 2.30pm on Sunday 11th December at St Martha's, we will celebrate our **Christingle Advent Service “Let your Light Shine”**, followed by refreshments in the hall. In our service, we will explore how our baptismal dignity of being ‘priests, prophets and kings’ help us ‘let our light shine’ in the service of the Gospel and the teaching and handing on the Catholic and Apostolic Faith. The Christingle Advent Service is also a great opportunity to come together as a parish community and explore ways in which we support and are supported in many spiritual, liturgical, and pastoral ways.

Parish Office: open by appointment only.

Please contact by phone / email:

01424 210 263 opt 4,

bexhill@abdiocese.org.uk

Office Hours: Mon – Fri, 9.15am to 4.45pm

I will bless your name for ever, O God my King.

The Son of Man came to seek and save what was lost.

November is, perhaps, the only month where the secular society remains in tune with the Church, for it is a month of remembrance. A member is someone who ‘participates’, and so the word ‘remember’ means to ‘participate again’, with those who have gone before us marked with the sign of faith. As the Mass is the place where heaven and earth are united, the offering of the sacred mysteries allows us to remain connected to our deceased relatives and friends, praying for their eternal rest, so that they may complete any residual purification in purgatory and pass-over into heaven. We begin November with the celebration of All Saints (**which is a holy day of obligation**), the feast of our destiny, which is to take our place in the Church Triumphant with the communion of saints. On All Souls Day we pray for the Holy Souls in Purgatory, including those in most need of God’s mercy, for the mission of the Church is to continue Christ’s mission, ‘to seek and save what was lost’. Then, throughout November, we pray for all the Holy Souls from our family and friends (**see also top of page 2, in Liturgy and Prayer**). At 11am on Tuesday 8th November, we gather at Our Lady of Ransom Catholic Church in Eastbourne for the annual Deanery Deceased Clergy Mass, to pray for the Clergy & Religious of our parishes who served us faithfully over the years, which for us includes the Rosminians. On Sunday 13th November, the whole country pauses to remember those fallen in War, and at all Masses we will have time to pray for their sacrifice, and the 11am Mass (as the time suggests) will be our Requiem Mass for the War Dead. As per previous practice, I will also be on hand to bless graves at Bexhill Cemetery (2pm on 5th Nov.) and the Ashes plots in the Memorial Garden after Mass on 13th November. Importantly, on Saturday 19th November at 10am in St Martha’s we gather for Mass to pray for the bereaved, those still on pilgrimage who need our love and support. With my prayers and best wishes, Fr Simon.

We pray for those who have died: Bishop Howard Tripp RIP

We pray for the sick: 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, Stephen Doyle, Winifrede Yeo, Ron Harbin, Elizabeth Ratcliffe, Jean Clifford, Juliet Duffey. **Perhaps, you might wish Holy Communion at home? Please see below.**

Liturgy & Prayer 2022

Bereavement Mass: 10am on Saturday 19th November at St Martha's: Ahead of our Parish Bereavement Mass on 19th November, we invite you to bring a photograph of the loved one you are grieving for, to place on the Pieta Side Altar (*St Mary Magdalene*) or Our Lady's Side Altar (*St Martha's*) between 30th October and 18th November so we can pray for them throughout November. [*Photos from St Mary Magdalene will be transferred to St Martha's for the Bereavement Mass*]. If you are housebound and wish a photograph displayed, the SVP can collect one from your home: 07783 598238 or by email: popsy57@outlook.com Please attach contact details (email and / or phone) on the back of the photograph / frame in case you are unable to collect your photo from the Bereavement Mass.

Bereavement Support: Please contact Lauren on 07880 662341 or David on 07771 757367 or the SVP on 07783 598238 or by email: popsy57@outlook.com

Blessing of Graves (Bexhill Cemetery, Turkey Road): At 2pm on Saturday 5th November, Fr Simon will be walking through Bexhill Cemetery. Please invite him over to bless the grave of your family member, friend, or parishioner. Please be patient, he will get to you, but he is now the only priest in the parish.

Children's Liturgy of the Word 9am Mass at St Martha's: Next session: 30th October 2022. With more volunteers available, we have contacted those on the waiting list and offered them a place. Many thanks.

Advent Morning of Formation: Deacon Simon Kirkdale will lead a formation morning for current Mass Readers and Prospective Readers at 10am on Saturday 3rd December at St Mary Magdalene Church, followed by refreshments in the presbytery. Although aimed at Readers, it is suitable for all parishioners. *This replaces the 10am Saturday morning Mass as Fr Simon is unavailable to celebrate it.*

Social & Pastoral

SVP Monthly "Tea at 3": Next Tea at 3pm in St Martha's Hall will be Monday 14th November.

Holy Communion for Housebound Parishioners: If you are housebound (even temporarily) and would like Holy Communion at home, please let the parish office know, so a home visitor can be arranged.

Catholic Women's League (CWL): On Monday 7th November Fr Chris Benyon is giving a Spiritual Talk at our Meeting. CWL meets at 7.30pm on the 1st Monday of each month in St Martha's Hall. Contact: 211717 or 221803 for further information.

Christmas Fayre & Foodbank Collection (Sunday 4th December after 9am Mass at St Martha's): As well as collecting items for the Foodbank, this will also be a social event and include coffee, hotdogs, mince pies etc. We ask for items for stalls: to raffle, for tombola, cakes, books, and toys etc. Plus offers of help on the day to set up, run the stall, and clear away afterwards. Contact **CWL** above to help.

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

Sacraments

Adult Baptisms, Receptions & Confirmations 2023: Please pray for those who have begun their period of preparation to receive the Sacraments of Initiation or be received into full Communion with the Church.

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: Closed to new applications. Children should now be reading the gospel or watching 'Jesus of Nazareth' before moving onto Chapter 1 of 'I Belong' course book.

Confirmation: We have had the first session, but we will still accept applications up to the next session which is 13th November at 5pm at the Presbytery. Application form: <https://stmbexhill.co.uk/confirmation/>

Need a non-urgent pastoral 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 to arrange a home visit.

Marriage: 12 months' notice is required for weddings, so anyone thinking of getting married in November 2023 is advised to book an appointment to see Fr Simon soon to begin the paperwork and preparation.

Other Notices

WORLD YOUTH DAY: LISBON: 31st July to 7th August 2023: Expressions of interest via the Diocese: <https://abdiocese.churchsuite.com/events/fwepegrg> More info: Lizzie.wakeling@abdiocese.org.uk

Supplementary Information Forms for St Mary Magdalene Primary School: Fr Simon will sign Supplementary Information Forms for St Mary Magdalene Primary school at 7pm at the presbytery on Friday 25th November and at 7pm on Friday 9th December. No booking is required. He will open the door at 7pm and sign forms on a first-come, first-served basis and will remain until the queue has ended. If you attend the 11am Syro Malabar Mass at St Martha's please ask Fr Jose to sign your form. If you need new copies of Baptismal certificates, please contact parish office in advice. £10 fee for replacement certificates.

Mental Health Awareness course: Sat 5 Nov, 10am-3pm in St Martha's Hall. Ideal for anyone involved in parish ministry, any role that requires you to work with people. It is a government accredited certificate. It costs £35.00 which is a subsided offer from the diocese. The course usually costs £125.00, so it is great value. More info & to book contact: Lizzie Wakeling. E: Lizzie.Wakeling@abdiocese.org.uk or via the Diocesan website: <https://abdiocese.churchsuite.com/events/8kqzbiz5>

Community Christmas Day Lunch: 25th December at 12.30pm: At St Stephen's Church Hall, Woodsgate Park, Bexhill, TN39 4DL. There is no charge for lunch, however, donations are welcome. More info or to reserve a place: contact 01424 213456 / 07480 646 273 or website: www.friendsoflossielong.org

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**: ask the ward to contact the Parish Office 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 Fr Simon may be otherwise engaged.

PARISH NEWS

Page 4

Parish Mass Diary and Intentions

Saturday 29th October	Opt Mem	Saturday Memorial of the BVM
St Mary Magdalene	10.00am	No AM Mass of Confessions
<i>St Clements, Ewell</i>	N/A	<i>Fr Simon has a family baptism today.</i>
St Mary Magdalene	5.15pm	Confessions & Adoration
St Mary Magdalene	6.00pm	Beltane Alton RIP

THIRTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN OT C

Wis. 11:22-12:2, 2 Thess. 1:11-2:2 & Lk 19:1-10

Sunday 30th October	Sunday	
St Martha's	9.00am	People of the Parish
St Mary Magdalene	11.00am	Thomas Callaghan RIP
St Mary Magdalene	12.30pm	Baptism of Nathan Frank Parda
<i>[St Martha's]</i>	[11.00am]	[Syro-Malabar Rite Mass]

Second Collection: CAFOD & DEC Pakistan Flood

<https://cafod.org.uk/News/Emergencies-news/Pakistan-floods-appeal>

ALL SAINTS DAY IS A HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION

Monday 31st October	Solemnity	All Hallows Eve (Vigil of All Saints)
St Mary Magdalene	10.00am	<i>No morning Mass – Church Clean</i>
SRCC (School only)	2.00pm	<i>Holy Day Mass for SRCC students</i>
St Martha's	7.00pm	Henry & Jane Chapman RIP
Tuesday 1st November	Solemnity	All Saints Day
SRCC (School only)	9.00am	<i>Holy Day Mass for SRCC students</i>
St Mary Magdalene	11.00am	Geraldine Burke GE
<i>Primary School (pupils only)</i>	2.00pm	<i>Holy Day Mass for St MM School</i>
Wed 2nd November	Comm.	All Souls Day Mass
St Mary Magdalene	7.00pm	Priests Intentions
Thursday 3rd November	Ferial	Thursday in 31st Week in OT
St Mary Magdalene	6.30pm	Holy Souls
Friday 4th November	Memorial	St Charles Borromeo, Bishop
St Mary Magdalene	10.00am	Cath McNally RIP
St Mary Magdalene	10.30am	Adoration of the blessed Sacrament
St Mary Magdalene	7.15pm	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
Saturday 5th November	Opt Mem	Saturday Memorial of the BVM
St Mary Magdalene	10.00am	Miss Amelie Fallon GE
St Mary Magdalene	10.30am	Confessions & Adoration
<i>Bexhill Cemetery</i>	2.00pm	<i>Blessing of Graves</i>
St Mary Magdalene	5.15pm	Confessions & Adoration
St Mary Magdalene	6.00pm	Elizabeth Carter RIP

THIRTY- SECOND SUNDAY IN OT C

2 Macc. 7:1-2, 9-14, 2 Thess. 2:16-3:5 & Lk 20:27-38.

Sunday 6th November	Sunday	
St Martha's	9.00am	Peter E Vail RIP
St Mary Magdalene	11.00am	People of the Parish
St Mary Magdalene	12.30pm	Convalidation: Phil & Mandy Smith
<i>[St Martha's]</i>	[11.00am]	[Syro-Malabar Rite Mass]

Second Collection: Retired Priests Fund

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)