

# PARISH NEWS

25<sup>th</sup> December 2022 and 1<sup>st</sup> January 2023

CHRISTMAS DAY & NEW YEAR'S DAY

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

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

## From the Finance Committee:

### *Christmas Collection*

#### *in support of the Clergy*

The Christmas collection supports our parish priest's income, who does not receive a salary from the parish or diocese but relies on the offerings the people give in Mass offerings and stole fees. The Christmas collection equates to about 25% of his annual income, so your generosity is appreciated. Green envelopes will be available at Christmas Masses. If you currently have an online standing order or direct debit this is your parish offertory and cannot be transferred to the Christmas collection. Please either use a green envelope at your Christmas Mass or make a separate BACs transfer with an explicit reference of "Christmas", so it is paid to Fr Simon. Many thanks for your support.

## Parish Office:

Closed 24<sup>th</sup> December 2022 to

2<sup>nd</sup> January 2023 (inclusive)

### Routine Business:

[bexhill@abdiocese.org.uk](mailto:bexhill@abdiocese.org.uk)

(which will be responded to on 3<sup>rd</sup> Jan)

### Urgent Business:

[Simon.dray@abdiocese.org.uk](mailto:Simon.dray@abdiocese.org.uk)

(Which will be responded to  
as soon as possible)

## Christmas Eve (Mass during the Night):

*Today a Saviour has been born to us: he is Christ the Lord.*

**Christmas Day (Shepherd's Mass):** *This day new light will shine upon the earth: the Lord is born for us. (Day Mass): All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.*

## New Year's Day (Holy Mary, Mother of God):

*O God, be gracious and bless us.*

## CHRISTMAS MASSES

*Although the heating at St Mary Magdalene has been fixed, the Christmas Masses will be celebrated as advertised at St Martha's Church in Little Common as follows*

### Christmas Eve: Sat. 24th December

Confessions: 9.30am (presbytery)

No 10am Morning Mass

**Mass: 4pm at St Martha's Church, Little Common**

**Mass: 6pm at St Martha's Church, Little Common**

### Christmas Day: Sun. 25th December

**Mass: 9am at St Martha's Church, Little Common**

**Reinstated: 11am Mass at St Mary Magdalene Church**

*Fr Simon, Deacon Simon, and the Parish Office Team wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Thank you to all those who have made Christmas a blessed and holy occasion.*

*May 2023 be for you and your families, another 'year of favour from the Lord'.*

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)*

**We pray for those who have died:** Gerado Di Mascio RIP.

**We pray for the sick:** Margaret Hitchman, 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, Jean Clifford, Juliet Duffey, Roy Mitchell, Margaret McNamara, Keith Bourne, Anna Grahame

**Perhaps, you might wish Holy Communion at home? Please see below.**

### **Liturgy & Prayer**

**Children's Liturgy of the Word 9am Mass at St Martha's:** Children's Liturgy of the Word resumes in January, and the next session is 8<sup>th</sup> January 2023, and runs every two weeks. It is for children in school years R, 1 & 2, those able to engage with the Word and who have pre-registered.

**Epiphany of the Lord (Holy Day of Obligation):** There will be two Parish Masses: a Vigil Mass at 6.30pm in St Martha's on Thurs. 5<sup>th</sup> January, and a Mass of the Day in St Mary Magdalene at 11am on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> Jan. St Mary Magdalene Primary School & St Richard's Catholic College have School Masses.

**Further Formation for Readers of the Word:** A Day for ministers of the Word, led by Bishop Richard on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> January 2023 between 11am and 4pm at St Bernadette's Church, Tilgate. The day will include talks on the Scriptures, the Lectionary and its use in the Liturgy, the Liturgy of the Word, preparing to read, using microphones, Lectio Divina and Mass. Arrival from 10.30am for refreshments. Please bring a packed lunch. Please sign up at: <https://abdiocese.churchsuite.com/events/xeuuphqw>

**Formation for Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion:** Join Bishop Richard on Saturday 18th February 2023 between 11am and 4pm at Christ the Prince of Peace, Weybridge for theological and practical talks, Adoration, and the Mass. Arrival from 10.30am for refreshments. Please bring a packed lunch. Please sign up at: <https://abdiocese.churchsuite.com/events/pq5yv05c>

**Bible in a Year (Podcast):** Here you can sign up for Fr Michael Smitz's 'Bible in a Year' Podcast, starting January 2023: <https://ascensionpress.com/pages/biy-registration>

**Catechism in a Year:** Looking for a New Year's Resolution. Sign up for Fr Michael Smitz's 'Catechism in a Year' so that we can know our faith better: <https://ascensionpress.com/pages/catechisminayear>

### **Social & Pastoral**

**SVP Monthly "Tea at 3":** Due to the ice and snow, the Christmas Buffet that was postponed from 12th December, will now be held on 9<sup>th</sup> January 2023. More information please contact the SVP on 07783 598238 or 01424 602914.

**Bereavement Support Group:** In need of support? Contact Lauren: 07880 662341, David: 07771 757367 or SVP: 07783 598238 or by email: [popsy57@outlook.com](mailto:popsy57@outlook.com)

**Holy Communion for Housebound Parishioners:** If you are housebound 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):** a group for women who meet at 7.30pm on 1st Monday of the month, to share faith, skills, and friendship, while supporting the local community. More info: 211717 or 221803.

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

### **Sacraments**

**Adult Baptisms, Receptions & Confirmations 2023:** Congratulations to our RCIA group who were recently admitted to the Catechumenate. Please pray for them as they journey to Easter 2023.

**Infant Baptism (Aged 0-6):** Applications submitted via the website: <https://stmmbxhill.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://stmmbxhill.co.uk/we-journey-together/>

**First Holy Communion & Confirmation:** These are now closed to new applications. For First Holy Communion, the children should now have begun the 'I Belong' Course Book.

**Need a non-urgent pastoral visit?** Please use the online form: <https://stmmbxhill.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 January 2024 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/fwepegrq> More info: [Lizzie.wakeling@abdiocese.org.uk](mailto:Lizzie.wakeling@abdiocese.org.uk)

**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](http://www.friendsoflossielong.org)

**CAFOD: Advent and prayer and resources** for all ages can be found here: [cafod.org.uk/advent](http://cafod.org.uk/advent)

**Thank you from CAFOD:** Your support over this past year has been life-changing and very much appreciated. Thank you for praying, campaigning, donating, or volunteering to support people and communities in their struggles against poverty. Thank you for helping to support people and communities like this throughout the world. Have a joyful Advent and a happy Christmas.

**Volunteers Needed for a Tabletop Sale!** Volunteers to help organise a Tabletop Sale on 28th January 2023 in St Martha's Hall. Any Profits from table rental will be donated to Ukrainian Humanitarian Charities. Please contact Bridget Grant 01424 845015 /07749 482 033

**Parish Car Drivers Register:** The SVP are creating a register of drivers who can give occasional lifts to housebound parishioners, for special parish events, in recognition of how important it is for people to remain connected. Contact: Ron Brazier 844177 [ronbrazier26@gmail.com](mailto:ronbrazier26@gmail.com) )

**Thank you!** Many thanks for your understanding and for coping with the disruption caused by the heating failure at St Mary Magdalene. This is now fixed, and St Mary Magdalene reopens on Christmas Day.

**Parish Office**  
Remains closed to  
casual callers.  
All enquiries:  
[bexhill@abdiocese.org.uk](mailto: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](mailto:bexhill@abdiocese.org.uk)  
01424 210 263 opt 4

out of hours  
[simon.dray@abdiocese.org.uk](mailto:simon.dray@abdiocese.org.uk)

**Hospital Visits**  
For **DGH Eastbourne & Conquest Hastings** you must contact the Conquest Chaplaincy on 0300 131 5307 or 5308 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**

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### **Parish Mass Diary and Intentions**

#### **CHRISTMAS EVE**

Mass of Christmas Night: Is. 9:1-7, Titus 2:11-14 & Lk 2: 1-14

|  |                            |                               |
|--|----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| <b>Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> December</b> | <b>24<sup>th</sup> Dec</b> | <b>Christmas Eve</b>          |
| In presbytery                            | 09.30am                    | Confessions                   |
| St Mary Magdalene                        | 10.00am                    | <b>No 10am Mass</b>           |
| <b>St Martha's &amp; Facebook</b>        | <b>4.00pm</b>              | People of the Parish          |
| <b>St Martha's</b>                       | <b>6.00pm</b>              | Sick & Housebound (SVP)       |
| <b>St Martha's</b>                       | <b>8.30pm</b>              | <b>Syro-Malabar Rite Mass</b> |

#### **CHRISTMAS DAY**

Dawn Mass: Mass of the Shepherds\* Is 62:11-12, Titus 3:4-7, Lk 2:15-20  
& Day Mass\*\* Is 52:7-10, Heb 1:1-6, Jn 1:1-18

|  |                  |                                 |
|--|------------------|---------------------------------|
| <b>Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> December</b> | <b>Sunday</b>    | <b>Christmas Mass</b>           |
| <b>St Martha's &amp; Facebook*</b>     | <b>9.00am</b>    | Sick & Housebound (SVP)         |
| <b>St Mary Magdalene**</b>             | <b>11.00am</b>   | Priest's Intentions             |
| <b>[St Martha's]</b>                   | <b>[11.00am]</b> | <b>[Syro-Malabar Rite Mass]</b> |

#### **Second Collection: Christmas Collection in Support of the Parish Priest**

|  |                 |                                    |
|--|-----------------|------------------------------------|
| <b>Monday 26<sup>th</sup> December</b>   | <b>Feast</b>    | <b>St Stephen, Proto-Martyr</b>    |
| St Mary Magdalene                        | 10.00am         | <b>No Mass</b>                     |
| <b>Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> December</b>  | <b>Feast</b>    | <b>St John the Evangelist</b>      |
| St Mary Magdalene                        | 12noon          | Jo Rabbett RIP                     |
| <b>Wed 28<sup>th</sup> December</b>      | <b>Feast</b>    | <b>Holy Innocents</b>              |
| St Mary Magdalene                        |                 | <b>No Mass</b>                     |
| <b>Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> December</b> | <b>Feast</b>    | <b>St Thomas a Beckett, Martyr</b> |
| St Mary Magdalene                        | 6.30pm          | Mel Doidge RIP                     |
| <b>Friday 30<sup>th</sup> December</b>   | <b>Feast</b>    | <b>Holy Family</b>                 |
| St Mary Magdalene                        | 10.00am         | Edna & Fred Herring RIP            |
| St Mary Magdalene                        | 10.30am         | Adoration                          |
| <b>Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> December</b> | <b>Opt. Mem</b> | <b>St Sylvester, Pope.</b>         |
| St Mary Magdalene                        | 10.00am         | Mary Horner RIP                    |
| St Mary Magdalene                        | 10.30am         | Confessions & Adoration            |
| St Mary Magdalene                        | 5.15pm          | Confessions                        |
| St Mary Magdalene                        | 6.00pm          | Alvyn Luck RIP                     |
| <b>Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> January</b>     | <b>Octave</b>   | <b>Holy Mary, Mother of God</b>    |
| <b>St Martha's &amp; Facebook</b>        | 9.00am          | Bourne, Mistry & Young Families    |
| St Mary Magdalene                        | 11.00am         | People of the Parish               |
| <b>St Martha's</b>                       | 11.00am         | Syro Malabar Mass                  |

#### **Second Collection: Parish Charity Fund**

|   |                  |   |
|---|------------------|---|
| <b>Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> January</b>    | <b>Memorial</b>  | <b>St Basil &amp; Gregory Nazianzen</b> |
| St Mary Magdalene                       | 10.00am          | Elizabeth Francis RIP                   |
| <b>Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January</b>   | <b>Memorial</b>  | <b>The Holy Name of Jesus</b>           |
| St Mary Magdalene                       | 11.00am          | Robert & Jennifer Braithwaite RIP       |
| <b>Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> January</b> |                  | <b>No Mass</b>                          |
| St Mary Magdalene                       |                  |   |
| <b>Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> January</b>  | <b>Solemnity</b> | <b>Vigil of the Epiphany</b>            |
| <i>St Richard's (students only)</i>     | 2.00pm           | <i>Vigil Mass with Fr Chris Benyon</i>  |
| <b>St Martha's (Parish Mass)</b>        | 6.30pm           | <i>Marie Rombi RIP</i>                  |
| <b>Friday 6<sup>th</sup> January</b>    | <b>Solemnity</b> | <b>The Epiphany of the Lord</b>         |
| <i>St Richard's (students only)</i>     | 9.00am           | <i>Mass with Fr Simon Dray</i>          |
| <i>St Richard's (students only)</i>     | 10.00am          | <i>Mass with Fr Neil Chatfield</i>      |
| St Mary Magdalene                       | 11.00am          | <i>CWL Annual Mass</i>                  |
| <i>Primary School (children only)</i>   | 2.00pm           | <i>Mass with Fr Simon Dray</i>          |