

PARISH NEWS

Church Heating

St Mary Magdalene's Church
closed due to heating failure.

Weekend of 28th / 29th January 2023

Unfortunately, the heating system is still not working; parts have been ordered and are awaited from Germany.

This weekend Masses will be celebrated:

Saturday 28th January

6pm Vigil Mass at St Martha's

Sunday 29th January

9am Mass at St Martha's

Weekday Masses

will be celebrated in the presbytery.

Decisions for 4th & 5th February
will be made on Friday 3rd Feb.

Please check the online newsletter
& the Facebook page:

[Catholic Parish Of Bexhill](https://catholicparishofbexhill.co.uk)
stmmmbexhill.co.uk

www.facebook.com/stmmbexhill

Parish Office

The parish office is open by appointment
only (closed to casual callers).

The best way to contact the parish office is
by email: bexhill@abdiocese.org.uk

Or you can ring 01424 210263
and select option 4
for the parish office / answerphone.

Office hours:

Mon – Fri 9.15am to 4.45pm

**How happy are the poor in spirit;
theirs is the kingdom of heaven.**

In Matthew's Gospel this Sunday we listen to Our Lord's teaching on what is essential to our behaviour as Christians. The Catechism of the Catholic Church summarises the importance of the Beatitudes as being 'at the heart of Our Lord's teaching' and they confront us with 'decisive moral choices' and teach us that 'true happiness is not found in riches or well-being, in human fame or power, or in any human achievement.....but in God alone' (CCC 1716-1724).

In contrast:

Satan's Beatitudes might read:

Blessed are those who are too tired, too busy, too distracted to spend an hour once a week with their fellow Christians in Church – they are my best workers.

Blessed are those who wait to be asked and expect to be thanked – I can use them in my business.

Blessed are those who are touchy. Soon they will stop going to Church – verily, they shall be my missionaries.

Blessed are those who sow gossip and trouble – they are my beloved children.

Blessed are those who have no time to pray – for they are MY prey.

Blessed are those who gossip – for they are my secret agents.

Blessed are you when you read this and think it has everything to do with other people, and nothing to do with you – I've got room for YOU at my inn.

There is a saying along the lines of 'we will never truly become happy and find ourselves until we break the mirror'. In other words, we have to stop looking at ourselves and look outside to others that we might help. In praying for other people rather than ourselves we learn to grow our relationship with God. In helping others, we help ourselves to become more thoughtful and less selfish and we feel better for it. We might take notice of the words of a Christian poster 'Be Patient – God hasn't finished with me yet!' and let God work with us and in us to become and do what he wants us to be and do.

God bless, Deacon Simon Kirkdale.

We pray for those who have died: Anna Grahame, Mark Taylor, David Storrs, Sheila Axson 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. **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 is held during the 9am Mass on 5th Feb, 19th Feb, 5th Mar, 19th Mar and 2nd Apr. As you arrive at Mass, please collect a name stick with your child's name on it. Children need to bring this with them to the liturgy session in the hall. This is to help us take the register more efficiently. This liturgy is for children in school years R, 1 & 2, those able to engage with the Word and who have pre-registered.

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>

Social & Pastoral

SVP Tea at 3pm: The next 'Tea at 3' is at 3pm on Monday 13th February. Everyone is welcome and do bring a friend. More info: 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

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.

Eastbourne & Bexhill Newman Circle Talk: Dr Lesley Dawson speaks on the work of 'Matthew 25', a local charity that supports homeless, unemployed, and otherwise vulnerable people in Eastbourne. The talk is at 7.30pm on Monday 30th Jan at Christ the King parish rooms, Langley, Eastbourne. All Welcome.

Fairtrade Fortnight - 27th February to 12th March: Fairtrade Parish and Fairtrade Schools / College celebrate. Annual Fairtrade breakfast 5th March after 9am Mass at St Martha's with Fairtrade stall.

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)

Crib Offering: The Crib offering is for the '**Crisis Fund of the Catholic Children's Society**' and will be collected at the cribs in both Churches up until (Candlemas), 2nd February 2023.

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 our RCIA group who continue their preparation ahead of the Rite of Election at the beginning of Lent, as part of their journey to Easter.

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

First Holy Communion & Confirmation: These are now closed to new applications. For First Holy Communion, the children should be working on Chapter Two of the '*I Belong*' Course Book as they journey towards their 1st Confession on Mondays 6th, 13th, 20th, and 27th March at 4pm in St Mary Magdalene Church (The session on 27th February is cancelled due to a diocesan meeting). No need to book. First-come, first-forgiven. The next Confirmation Session is 5pm on Sunday 12th February.

Need a non-urgent pastoral visit? Please use the online form: <https://stmmrbexhill.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 February 2024 is advised to book an appointment to see Fr Simon soon to begin the paperwork and preparation.

Other Notices

Racial Justice Sunday - 5th February 2023: Our theme "*All are included in the mission of Christ and His Church. Let us walk together, pray together and work together*". To mark the day the Bishops' Conference have produced three video reflections, highlighting the three sections; Walking together; Praying together; Working together. A supportive discussion paper has also been produced. This year's resources can be found on Bishops' Conference website at: www.cbcew.org.uk/racial-justice-sunday

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

Tabletop Sale: 'Recoup a financial reward for a New Year Clear-out! Rent a Table (£10) at the Tabletop Sale in St Martha's Hall Saturday 28th January 10am-12.30pm. To Book a Table please Contact Bridget Grant ASAP on: 01424 845015 / 07749 482033 / bridget.grant@talk21.com Donation of items for Ukraine Stall appreciated, proceeds to Ukrainian Humanitarian Needs (same contact as above)

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)

'Volunteers Manager' Foodbank: A vacancy has arisen at the Bexhill and Battle Foodbank (21 hours, £22,425 pro rata). More info: E: manager@bexhill.foodbank.org.uk or call Michelle 07866 570468.

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 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.

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Parish Mass Diary and Intentions

Saturday 28th January	Memorial	St Thomas Aquinas, Priest
St Mary Magdalene	10.00am	No Mass
St Mary Magdalene	10.30am	No Confessions or Adoration
St Martha's	5.15pm	Confessions
St Martha's	6.00pm	Thomas & Margaret McGowan RIP

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, A

Zeph. 2:3, 3:12-13, 1 Cor. 1:26-31 & Mt 5:1-12

Sunday 29th January	Sunday	
St Martha's	9.00am	Dennis Driscoll RIP
Cancelled	11.00am	No Mass
St Martha's	11.00am	Syro Malabar Mass

Second Collection: St Vincent de Paul (SVP Bexhill)

Monday 30th January	Ferial	Monday in 4th Week in OT
Presbytery	10.00am	Maureen Farrant & Beryl Goss RIP
Tuesday 31st January	Memorial	St John Bosco
St Martha's	11.30am	Requiem Mass of Anna Grahame RIP
Wed 1st February	Ferial	Wednesday in 4th Week in OT
St Mary Magdalene		No Mass
Thursday 2nd February	Feast	Presentation of the Lord, Candlemas
Presbytery	6.30pm	Irene Herring RIP
Friday 3rd February	Opt. Mem	St Blaise, Blessing of Throats
Presbytery	10.00am	David Rowe RIP
St Mary Magdalene	10.30am	No Adoration
St Mary Magdalene	7.15pm	No Adoration
Saturday 4th February	Opt. Mem	Saturday Memorial of the BVM
St Mary Magdalene***	10.00am	Pope Emeritus Benedict XV1
St Mary Magdalene	10.30am	Confessions & Adoration
St Mary Magdalene	5.15pm	Confessions & Adoration
St Mary Magdalene***	6.00pm	Bill & Vi Hayes RIP

****Mass may be cancelled if the weather turns colder and the parts for the heating have not arrived. Please check newsletter on Friday 3rd February.*

FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, A

Is 58:7-10, 1 Cor 2:1-5, Mt 5:13-16

Sunday 5th February	Sunday	
St Martha's	9.00am	People of the Parish
St Mary Magdalene***	11.00am	Allana Margaret McNamara GE
St Martha's	11.00am	Syro Malabar Mass
St Mary Magdalene	12.30pm	Baptism of Lara Mae Gaymer

Second Collection: Racial Justice Sunday

****Mass may be cancelled if the weather turns colder and the parts for the heating have not arrived. Please check newsletter on Friday 3rd February.*

Information on Mass & Confession Times in other parishes:

O.L. Ransom, Eastbourne: <http://ourladyofransom.org.uk/newsletter/>

Good Shepherd Parish: <https://parishofthegoodshepherd.net/newsletters/>

CTK, Eastbourne: <http://christthekingeastbourne.org/newsletter/>