

PARISH NEWS

PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD, A.

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

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

URGENT: EASTER FLOWERS

(St Mary Magdalene Church)

Two weeks ago, parishioners contributed to the Easter Flower fund. Now, Helga Frost is asking for volunteers to help with arranging the Easter Flowers. If you can help, please come to the Church at 10am on Holy Saturday (8th April). Thank you!

From the Finance Committee

The Easter Collection (8/9 April) is your gift to Fr Simon, who does not receive a salary but relies on your generosity in the Christmas & Easter collection and offerings you give for Masses and sacramental celebrations. The Easter Collection makes up 25% of his income. If you have a standing order with the parish, this is your parish offertory and cannot be transferred to Fr Simon. If giving online, please make a separate payment, with the reference 'Easter'. Alternatively, you can use a 'Green Envelope' on the day. Thank you! (BACs information, bottom of page 4).

Online Offertory via Diocesan Website

<https://abdiocese.churchsuite.com/donate/>

For Mass intentions & other payments:

BACs: Name: RCD St Mary Magdalene,

Acct No. 21077139, S/C 40-05-20.

(Please add a reference)

The **Parish Office** is open by appointment only. Please contact the parish office by

email: bexhill@abdiocese.org.uk or on

01424 210263 (opt 4)

Office hours: Mon – Fri 9.15am to 4.45pm.

The Parish office will be **closed** Good

Friday 7th April through to 14th April.

My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?

This is Holy Week!

Since the beginning of Lent, we have been preparing our hearts by penance and charitable works for the solemn celebrations to come. This Sunday we gather with the whole Church to begin the celebration of Our Lord's Paschal Mystery, namely his Death and Resurrection. Today, *Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord* we bless and wave palm leaves as we commemorate Our Lord's Triumphant entry into Jerusalem before hearing the account of the Passion according to St Matthew. The Passion narratives are arguably the oldest part of the Gospel, part of the oral tradition of handing on the Good News to the next generation. On Wednesday evening at Arundel Cathedral, Bishop Richard celebrates the Chrism Mass, consecrating and blessing the new oils to be used in the celebration of the sacraments, especially at the Easter Vigil when we baptize, receive, and confirm new Catholics into our community of faith. Holy Week culminates with the celebration of the Sacred Paschal Triduum in St Mary Magdalene Church, truly a celebration of the whole parish community of Our Lady of the Rosary, Bexhill-on-Sea:

Sacred Paschal Triduum

St Mary Magdalene Church

8pm Mass of the Lord's Supper on Maundy Thursday (6th April) followed by watching until Compline at 10.45pm.

3pm The Solemn Commemoration of the Lord's Passion on Good Friday (7th April).

8.15pm Easter Vigil in the Holy Night and 1st Mass of Easter (8th April), starts after dark with the blessing of the new fire.

Other important events in our parish:

10am CWL Stations of the Cross (St Martha's), Good Friday

Holy Saturday (8th April) in St Mary Magdalene:

9am Blessing of Easter Baskets, 9.30am Confessions &

10am Flower arranging for Easter.

Wishing you all a Holy Week. Fr Simon.

We pray for those who have died: Thomas "Tommy" Lake, Rachel Clohosey, Winifrede Yeo, Julie Tracy, Joan Saunders RIP.

We pray for the sick: Dorothy Smyth, Mary Nash, Mary McElligott, 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, Ron Harbin, Jean Clifford, Juliet Duffey, Roy Mitchell, Margaret McNamara, Keith Bourne. **Please contact the Parish Office if you wish Holy Communion at home.**

Liturgy & Prayer

Children's Liturgy of the Word 9am Mass at St Martha's: next sessions: 2, 23 April, 7, 21 May.

10am Good Friday (St Martha's), Stations of the Cross (led by the CWL): The stations are provided by the Prison Charity 'PACT' with whom the CWL have a 3-year initiative, providing prisoners with a pack on release as well as making a 'Cross in my Pocket' for all Catholic/Orthodox prisoners.

Washing of the Feet, Maundy Thursday x 12 people: The following are asked to nominate a person for the washing of the feet and let the parish office know who that person is: RCIA, CWL, SVP, the Catenians, Mother's Prayers, Readers, Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, Charismatic Prayer, Altar Servers, Choir, Welcomer, or other parishioners who wish to volunteer as reserves.

Social & Pastoral

After Mass @ St Martha's: Tea, Coffee & Cake are available in the hall. Thanks to those who provide it.

SVP Tea @ 3pm: The next 'Tea @ 3' is 3pm on Monday 17th April. Everyone is welcome and do bring a friend. For more info, please email the SVP: bexhill@svp.org.uk

Bereavement Support Group: If you require Bereavement Support, we can offer 6 one-hour sessions on a 1-2-1 basis with one of our Bereavement Team. Contact Lauren: 07880 662341, David: 07771 757367 or you can speak with a member of the SVP: 07783 598238 or by email: bexhill@svp.org.uk

Monthly Bereavement Support Group: Next meeting: **Saturday 29th April**, 10am - 11.30am in St Mary Magdalene Presbytery. Led by an experienced facilitator, an opportunity to meet informally with other bereaved people. It does not matter when your loss occurred, but you may benefit by exploring your feelings with others going through a bereavement. The grieving process can be complex, but speaking about your feelings and how your life has changed can be helpful and part of acceptance and recovery.

Catholic Women's League (CWL): meets 7.30pm on 1st Mon. of the month. Contact: 211717 or 221803.

Parish Outing to St Augustine's Ramsgate and Minster Abbey on 13th July, 8am to 8pm): See: <https://catholicparishofbexhill.files.wordpress.com/2023/03/in-the-footsteps-of-st-augustine-pilgrimage-13th-july-2023.v2-002.pdf> Please return booking form to the parish office.

The SVP Visit to Holy Cross Priory (12th April, 1.20pm to 5.30pm): Only 17 places left on the coach for the Bexhill SVP Visit to Holy Cross Priory: Mass & Tea at the Priory. Cost is £10 per person. See: <https://catholicparishofbexhill.files.wordpress.com/2023/02/olr-parish-svp-visit-to-holy-cross-priory.pdf>

Thank you: to the wonderful large group of parishioners who cleaned St Mary Magdalene church and have left it gleaming in readiness for our Easter celebrations.

St Marthas Church Clean: Tuesday 4th April at 2pm. Volunteers from the community all welcome!

Parish Clergy: Fr Simon Dray, Deacon Simon Kirkdale
Administrator: Bonita Osmond
Safeguarding: Sylvia Cousins



Sacraments

Adult Baptisms, Receptions & Confirmations 2023: We pray for the 'Elect' & 'Candidates' who receive the Sacraments this Easter. They are: Carly North, Shantel Orkoz, Jessica Richards, Lee Watts, Emma Bastin, Emma Cooksey, Chloe Field, Stacey Ingamells and Rebecca Waters. After Easter, Fr Simon will begin preliminary interviews for adults desiring to receive the Sacraments in 2024. More details to follow.

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 & Confirmation: Now that First Confessions are complete, the children should be working on Chapters 5-10 of the I Belong Course book ahead of their First Holy Communion Mass. Confirmation: Next session is 5pm on Sun. 23rd April (Presbytery).

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, please contact us if marrying in April 2024.

Other Notices

Homeless Unity Group (HUG): volunteers required to support the homeless with appointments, forms, budgeting, and also if you have legal expertise. Contact Pauline: bexhillhug@gmail.com or 07881642331

Parish Census: Please complete and return your parish census forms:

<https://catholicparishofbexhill.files.wordpress.com/2023/02/parish-2023-census-form-pdf-version.pdf>

Please place your completed census forms in the boxes provided or by email: bexhill@abdiocese.org.uk

Good Friday Taize Service for World Peace: 8pm, 7th April in St Thomas of Canterbury, St Leonard's. Anyone wishing to take part in the music is asked to arrive at 7pm for a rehearsal.

Good Friday: Churches Together in Bexhill Prayer Walk (formerly Walk of Witness): 9.15am for a 9.30am on 7th April, starting on the boulevard (the lawn to the west of the De La Warr Pavilion), ending at the Town Square. It is followed by an Ecumenical Service at 10.30am at St John's Centre, Victoria Road, followed by coffee and hot cross buns.

St Martha's Car Park: Thank you for not '**double parking**' down the middle of the car park or in any coned off area, thus allowing access for emergencies and a safe space for parishioners on foot. The gates will be closed and locked after services.

Gift Aid: New envelopes are available in the porch at St Mary Magdalene this week, and St Martha's next week. If you are registered and you have run out of envelopes, please feel free to use any envelope at all, ensuring your name, GA number, and reason for donation are clearly displayed. Thank you.

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 1st April

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

Ferial

10.00am
10.30am
5.15pm
6.00pm

Saturday in 5th Week of Lent

Elizabeth Francis RIP
Adoration & Confessions
Confessions on Request
People of the Parish

PALM SUNDAY, A

Mt 21:1-11 & Is. 50:4-7, Phil. 2:6-11 & Mt 26:14 - 27:66

If booking taxis or arranging lifts, be aware Mass may be a little longer.

Sunday 2nd April

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

Sunday

9.00am Keith Bourne 90th Birthday GE
11.00am Michael Halse RIP
12.30pm Baptism of Lincoln Picknell
[11.00am] [Syro-Malabar Rite Mass]

Second Collection: Parish Charity Fund

Monday 3rd April

St Mary Magdalene
Hastings Crematorium

Ferial

10.00am
12.15am

Holy Monday

Mary Thompson RIP
Funeral Service of Tommy Lake RIP

Tuesday 4th April

St Martha's

Funeral

11.00am

Holy Tuesday

Requiem Mass of Rachel Clohosey RIP

Wed 5th April

St Mary Magdalene
Arundel Cathedral

Ferial

6.00pm

Holy "Spy" Wednesday

No Mass
Chrism Mass

THE SACRED PASCHAL TRIDUUM

Thursday 6th April

St Mary Magdalene

Triduum

8.00pm

Maundy Thursday

Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper:
Intention: Holy Souls

St Mary Magdalene

to 10.45pm

St Mary Magdalene

10.45pm

Watching at the Altar of Repose
Compline (Night Prayer)

Friday 7th April

St Martha's
St Mary Magdalene

Triduum

10.00am
3.00pm

Good Friday

CWL Stations of the Cross
Commemoration of the Lord's Passion

Retiring Collection: for the Holy Places of Palestine

Saturday 8th April

St Mary Magdalene
St Mary Magdalene
St Mary Magdalene

Triduum

9.00am
9.30am
10.00am

Holy Saturday

Blessing of Easter Baskets
Confessions
Volunteers for Easter Flower Arranging

THE EASTER VIGIL IN THE HOLY NIGHT & THE FIRST MASS OF EASTER

St Mary Magdalene

8.15pm

RCIA Group

One Collection Only: Your Easter Gift to Fr Simon

EASTER SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION

Acts 10:34, 37-43, Col. 3:1-4 (Sequence) & Jn 20:1-9

If booking taxis or arranging lifts, be aware Mass may be a little longer

Sunday 9th April

St Martha's Hall & Church
St Mary Magdalene
St Martha's

Sunday

9.00am
11.00am
11.00am

Priests Intentions
People of the Parish
Syro Malabar Mass

One Collection Only: Your Easter Gift to Fr Simon