

PARISH NEWS

Ignition Weekend:

6th – 8th October 2023.

17 weeks to go to our celebration of our parish's 130th anniversary and the exploration of our future.

*** save the date***

Celebration of the Sacraments

Congratulations to the children who make and receive their First Holy Communion this Saturday and next at 12noon in St Martha's Church. And prayers for our 'Confirmandi' who are sealed by the gifts of the Holy Spirit by Bishop Richard at Arundel Cathedral on 18th June 2023.

Gift Aid Donor Statements

2022-2023

These are now available in the porch of St Martha's church. If you would in future prefer to receive via email, which is more sustainable, please contact the parish office to update your records. Thank you. Gift Aid Envelopes: these are still available for collection from St Martha's.

Donations for raffle prizes needed please, for the fundraising **Fashion Show** (info - p2): boxes at the back of churches.

Local Catenians: Learn more at: <https://sussexcatenians.org/> and <https://www.facebook.com/HasCats/>

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. (Closed 14th June.)

O praise the Lord, Jerusalem!

"The Body of Christ"

The correct response is 'Amen', although I do hear 'Thank you' from time to time, which is certainly polite but does make me wonder what is being expressed. Remember, to receive Holy Communion licitly in the Catholic Church you need to be in 'Full Communion with the Church' and to receive Holy Communion fruitfully, at the time of reception, you should be in a state of grace, having fasted for an hour beforehand, and most importantly having made an integral confession of any mortal or serious sins that you are conscious of, so that the divine grace of Holy Communion is digestible by our souls.

Our 'Amen' (meaning "so be it") is an affirmation that we recognize Christ truly present in the Eucharist, and that we receive him '**body, blood, soul, and divinity**' in Holy Communion. On approaching this most august sacrament, we make an act of reverence, a genuflection, or a profound bow before receiving on the tongue, or in the hand by making a throne for Our Lord to sit on, consuming the Host immediately, and not walking off with him, and thus causing anxiety to the priest who remains responsible for the Blessed Sacrament.

Our 'Amen' is our declaration that we are in communion with Francis (*our Pope*) Richard (*our bishop*), and all those who teach and hand on the Catholic and Apostolic Faith. Our 'Amen' is also our assent to everything that the Catholic Church teaches concerning faith and morals. Granted, we may personally still be working through some of this, prayerfully figuring out how to incorporate it into our life, but at the very least we must not be causing scandal by teaching others to ignore the '*words of eternal life*' found in the Gospel. Just as Confirmation makes our baptism stronger, Holy Communion perfects it, nourishing the divine life first given in Baptism, providing our '*viaticum*', our 'food for the journey' back to heaven. God bless your pilgrimage home. Fr Simon.

We pray for those who have died: Michael (Mike) Boakes, Deborah Blower 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, Leon Barre, Margaret Smythe. **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: 11, 25 June, 9 July.

Saturday morning Mass: the next Saturday 10am Morning Mass will be 24th June.

Monday 10th July: the weekday Mass will be celebrated at 7pm in St Mary Magdalene instead of 10am. It will be the Anniversary of Priesthood for Fr Simon, his 10th anniversary.

Social & Pastoral

SVP Tea @ 3pm: The next 'Tea @ 3' is 3pm on Monday 12th June, St Martha's Hall. Everyone is welcome and do bring a friend. For more info, please email the SVP: bexhill@svp.org.uk. The next **Friday Pop-In** is 16th June in St Martha's Hall, 10am to noon. No need to book, just come along, meet new friends, and enjoy yourself. Tea, Coffee, have a chat, play board games, and just relax.

Our parish SVP Conference are arranging a day pilgrimage to Aylesford Priory, Shrine of Our Lady on Thursday 22nd June 2023. The coach will pick up in Little Common at 9.30am and Bexhill at 9.35am. Cost of the trip per person will be £15. For further details and a booking form, please contact Chris Jones on 07783 598238 or email: popsy57@outlook.com or Ron Brazier on 01424 844177.

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

Diocesan Lourdes pilgrimage fundraising – Female Fashion Show: 7pm on 13th June. A parish event held at St Richard's, run by 'Travelling Trends'. Women and teenagers accompanied by an adult woman will be able to buy discounted high street clothes. Models are from the Parish Community. Tickets cost £6 (entry and complimentary glass of Bucks Fizz or soft drink) must be bought in advance from St Richards, the Parish office, the SVP, the CWL, or at the end of Sunday Masses, Please phone/ text Ghislaine on 07491477773 for information.

In the Footsteps of St Augustine: Parish (Day) Pilgrimage to Ramsgate: 13th July 2023: More info: <https://catholicparishofbexhill.files.wordpress.com/2023/03/in-the-footsteps-of-st-augustine-pilgrimage-13th-july-2023.v2-002.pdf>

The Newman Association: Our next meeting will be in the parish room at Christ the King, Princes Road, Eastbourne BN23 6HT on Monday 19th June from 7.30 to 9pm. Sheila Kesby and Barbara Echlin from the United Nations Association (Bexhill and Hastings Branch) will facilitate a 'UN Treasure Hunt Quiz' around an exhibition. Tea and Coffee etc will be available and all parishioners and friends are warmly invited to attend and find out more about the United Nations. See posters.

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



Sacraments

Adult Baptisms, Receptions & Confirmations 2023: Fr Simon begins preliminary interviews for adults desiring to receive the Sacraments in 2024. You can book your appointment by emailing the Parish Office.

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

Need a non-urgent pastoral visit? Please use the online form: <https://stmmbexhill.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 Summer of 2024.

Other Notices

CAFOD: On 17th / 18th June, you will be invited to put your name to the '*Fix the Food System*' Campaign to stand in solidarity with small-scale farmers. More information to follow on the front page of the newsletter that weekend, or you can visit: <https://cafod.org.uk/campaign> The CAFOD spring magazine can be found here: https://issuu.com/cafod/docs/sbs_spring_2023_spreads-1?fr=sZDY5MDYwODc5OTg

Off-site Parking: when our Church car parks are full, please ensure you park legally off-site and do not block people's driveways, bus stops or junctions, otherwise you may be liable for a parking ticket.

Mass Intentions: These get booked up six months in advance. To make an offering, our contact & bank details are on the back page, please remember to reference Mass Intention. You may request certain dates, but these are only indicative because of funerals, diocesan requirements, and other unforeseen events. We can only accept one intention per Mass, so for multiple intentions, you can also send your intentions to the Missions. **Fr Simon's Diary:** we are now experiencing the effects of being a one priest parish. Fr Simon is still happy to see parishioners for the full range of pastoral, spiritual and liturgical needs, but to manage expectations, at times, his diary can get booked up three weeks in advance.

Grandparents Pilgrimage: Shrine of Our Lady of Consolation West Grinstead, Wed 14th June, 11am - 3pm. Bring a picnic. To book: <https://abdiocese.churchsuite.com/events/fazlomt9>

Day of celebration at Aylesford Priory. Sunday 2nd July: Welcome service at 12 noon Activities taking place throughout the afternoon, such as Sensory prayer, Rosary Way, Drama workshops, Art activities, opportunities for picnic on the grass, or lunch in the cafeteria. 4 pm. Mass celebrated by Bishop Paul Hendrix. Music led by the St Martha's Choir. Because our choir is leading the music, we were able to secure funding to pay for our coach. We have some free places on the coach if any parishioners not in the choir want to join us for the day, no charge. Depart St Martha's at 9.15 am. Possible pick up in Bexhill. If you are interested, please contact Joe Apicella josephapicella01@gmail.com 07954 095707.

Catholic Women's League (CWL): a group for women who meet at 7.30pm on 1st Mon. of the month, to share faith, skills, and friendship, while supporting the local community. Contact: 211717 or 221803.

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 10th June

St Mary Magdalene

St Martha's

St Mary Magdalene

St Mary Magdalene

Votive

10.00am

12noon

5.15pm

6.00pm

Votive of Immaculate Heart of Mary

No Mass or Confessions

First Holy Communion Mass

Confessions on request

The Paris Family Intentions

CORPUS CHRISTI

Deut. 8:2-3, 14-16, 1 Cor. 10:16-17 (Sequence: Lauda, Sion), Jn 6:51-58

Sunday 11th June

St Martha's

Sunday

9.00am

Gerado Di Mascio RIP

Weather permitting, Mass will end with a short procession of the Blessed Sacrament within the grounds of St Martha's.

St Mary Magdalene

11.00am

People of the Parish

After Mass, there will be a brief period of Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament.

[St Martha's]

[11.00am]

[Syro-Malabar Rite Mass]

St Martha's

2.00pm

Baptism of Thea Getty

Second Collection: Bexhill Foodbank

Monday 12th June

St Mary Magdalene

St Mary Magdalene

Funeral

10.00am

1.00pm

Requiem Mass

No Mass

Requiem Mass of Mike Boakes RIP

Tuesday 13th June

St Mary Magdalene

Memorial

10.30am

St Anthony of Padua, Priest

Reg Chapman RIP

Monthly Deanery Meeting at OLR, Eastbourne at 12noon

Wed. 14th June

St Mary Magdalene

Ferial

Wednesday in 10th Week in OT

No Mass

Thursday 15th June

St Mary Magdalene

Solemnity

6.30pm

Vigil Mass of the Sacred Heart

Margaret Cornfield GE

Friday 16th June

St Mary Magdalene

St Mary Magdalene

(Invitation only)

Solemnity

10.00am

2.00pm

The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus

Mary Chapman RIP

St MM Primary School Mass Yr 1 & Reception.

Saturday 17th June

St Mary Magdalene

St Martha's

St Mary Magdalene

St Mary Magdalene

Memorial

10.00am

12noon

5.15pm

6.00pm

The Immaculate Heart of Mary

No Mass or Confessions

First Holy Communion Mass

Confessions on Request

Holy Souls

ELEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, A

Ex. 19:2-6, Rom. 5:6-11 & Mt 9:36-10:8

Sunday 18th June

St Martha's Church

St Mary Magdalene

St Martha's

Arundel Cathedral

Sunday

9.00am

11.00am

11.00am

3.00pm

Norah Eileen Moran RIP

People of the Parish

Syro Malabar Mass

Deanery Confirmation Mass

Second Collection: Day for Life

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)