

# PARISH NEWS

## Fire Evacuation Plan / Fire Drill.

Reminders for next week's fire drill (26/27 August), immediately after

Holy Communion. Please:

- do not double park in car parks or block gates, preventing access for emergency vehicles.
- do not sit or stand in exits or aisles.
- walk, do not run.
- co-operate when instructed.
- leave bulky items behind.
- familiarize yourself with the exits.  
*Note: your nearest exit might be unusable or be behind you.*
- look around you; who near you might need assistance?
- At St Martha's the muster point is the grassy area on the corner of Birkdale / Cooden Sea Road.
- At St Mary Magdalene, the muster point is the pavement on 'Magdalene Road', outside the hall.
- The Deacon or MC is responsible for evacuating the Altar Servers.
- The duty organist is responsible for evacuating any children or vulnerable adults in the choir.
- do not re-enter until the 'all clear'.

The aim of the exercise is to learn lessons, so there may be issues, so be patient and look out for one another. Thank you.

**Parish Office:** Open by appointment only.

Please contact the parish office by email:

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

01424 210263 (opt 4) Office hours:

Mon – Fri 9.15am to 4.45pm.

## Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time, A.

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

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

**Let the peoples praise you, O God;  
let all the peoples praise you.**

### Survive-Miva

<https://www.survive-miva.org/>

According to 'Google Maps', the distance between our two Churches is 2 miles, and for many of us we can either walk or drive to Mass or jump on the 99 Bus which stops outside both St Mary Magdalene and St Martha's. We even have a resident priest, meaning that Mass is celebrated each week and the sacraments are administered regularly. And although the NHS is not without its problems, we have (relatively) easy access to health care. However, in other parts of the world, the distance is considerably greater, and the quality of the roads is low; not just the question of a few potholes, for the roads are rarely tarmacked. Today's Retiring Collection, therefore, is to support the missionary work of "**Survive-Miva**" who provide funding to provide transport for the clergy to celebrate Mass and administer the sacraments in remote areas, and for nurses and midwives to provide essential health care, such as vaccinations, awareness on the prevention of the spread of deadly diseases, pre-and post-natal care, HIV testing and counselling, and help and provide advice about basic nutrition, all of which happens far from the main hospital. Between 2019 and 2022, '**Survive Miva**' provided 22 health outreach vehicles, 85 motorbikes and mopeds, 522 bicycles and 2 small motorboats, at a total cost of £608,000. If you do not have cash with you today, you can donate directly at their website:

<https://www.survive-miva.org/donate/>

Thank you for your support in the various second collections, but also, please do not neglect your first collection offerings which helps us maintain our own maintenance and mission here in Bexhill and Little Common. God Bless. Fr Simon.

**Keys for St Martha's:** If anyone is in possession of keys for St Martha's church or hall, and does not use or need them, please may you return them to the parish office. Thank you.

**We pray for those who have died:** Doreen Turner RIP.

**We pray for the sick:** Dorothy Smyth, Mary Nash, Margaret Hitchman, David Spooner, 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.

### **Text Message – Scam Alert – Be Vigilant – Be Alert.**

Fr Simon will never text or email you to ask you to buy Amazon Vouchers. All appeals for charitable giving are made through the Retiring / Second Collections published in the newsletter or announced at Mass.

### **Liturgy & Prayer**

**Doreen Turner RIP:** Requiem Mass: 1.30pm on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> September in St Mary Magdalene.

**130th Parish Anniversary, 6<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> October 2023:** 8 weeks to go to our celebration of our parish's 130th anniversary. Along with an anniversary Mass, we hope to have other events that highlight the best of our parish and give us some time to explore the next period in the life of our parish in the light of the Diocesan Pastoral Plan. We call it an 'ignition' weekend, as Christians desire to be on 'fire with the Spirit'. Members of our Parish Strategy Group will be contacting our parish groups to help firm up our plans.

**Altar Server Mass – Saturday 23rd September at Arundel Cathedral:** Altar Servers are invited to join Bishop Richard and Fr Aaron Spinelli, Diocesan Director for the Guild of St Stephen for Mass at Arundel Cathedral on Sat. 23 Sept. at 12 noon. The Mass is for those who have served, are serving, or anyone who would like to serve - all welcome. Please bring your own alb or cassock/cotta, and a packed lunch. No need to register but you are asked to email [aaron.spinelli@abdiocese.org.uk](mailto:aaron.spinelli@abdiocese.org.uk) to confirm numbers.

### **Social & Pastoral**

**SVP Tea @ 3pm:** The next 'Tea @ 3' is 3pm on Monday 11th September, St Martha's Hall. For more info, please email the SVP: [bexhill@svp.org.uk](mailto:bexhill@svp.org.uk)

**Bereavement Support Group:** 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 speak with a member of the SVP: 07783 598238 or by email: [bexhill@svp.org.uk](mailto:bexhill@svp.org.uk)

**Parish Grandparent Group:** Are you a mature adult who cares about the spirituality of our young people? We would like to start a group for like-minded people to meet for prayer, discussion, inspiration, support, and fun! Please see the yellow flier at the back of the churches. Contact Barbara 01424 217659.

**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.

**Hastings and Bexhill Catenians:** A Catholic Organisation for men and their families who support each other and the Church. With 10,000 members worldwide, Catenians have been active locally for more than 100 years. Visit us at [sussexcatenians.org](http://sussexcatenians.org) and follow us on [www.facebook.com/HasBex](https://www.facebook.com/HasBex)

**Christian Voices the Musical Drama Group:** present "Anger in Nazareth" in St Martha's Hall on Mon. 4th Sept. at 8.00pm. Based on Luke 4:16-30, Jesus returns home to Nazareth and enters the Synagogue and reads from the Scriptures. How will the people react when He says he has been anointed by God?

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



## Sacraments

**Adult Baptisms, Receptions & Confirmations 2023:** Fr Simon has completed his interviews (or has the last appointments in his diary) for adults desiring to receive the Sacraments in 2024. The Catechists will be in touch in the early autumn to invite you to start the RCIA course.

**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 Communion 2024 (School Year 3 and above):** Applications are now open, and will close on 30th September. The application form can be found here: <https://stmmrbexhill.co.uk/first-holy-communion/> Parents / carers will need to know about the two preliminary 'Parents Sessions':

- 1) 7pm on Friday 29th September or 9am on Saturday 30th September (St Martha's Hall) AND
- 2) 7pm on Friday 13th October or 9am on Saturday 14th October (St Martha's Hall).

These two sessions are integral to the First Holy Communion programme and aim to help parents fulfill their promises made at baptism to bring their children up in the Catholic Faith.

**Confirmation 2024.** Applications are not yet open. Please do not apply until invited via the newsletter. 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, please contact us if marrying in Autumn of 2024.

## Other Notices

**Off-site Parking:** when our Church carparks 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. You can also send your intentions to the Mission, supporting missionary priests.

**Bexhill Foodbank:** needs tinned ham/spam/tuna/corned beef, tea, coffee, squash, rice, pasta and sauce.

**CAFOD:** Our Metropolitan Archbishop John Wilson speaks about his transformative visit to El Salvador, sharing reflections on connecting with communities in need: <https://www.bigmarker.com/cafod/ElSalvador>

**St Richard's Catholic College:** for children approaching the transfer period to secondary school, serious consideration is needed in discerning the process of transition. With kind permission of Mr McKeever, Miss Cronin (Head at St Richard's) invites you to an evening presentation at St Mary Magdalene Primary School at **6.30pm on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> September**. Present with the Leadership and Management Team will be the Pastoral Leader of Year 7 and the SENCO. **St Richard's Open Day:** 6pm on Wed. 4<sup>th</sup> October.

**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****Page 4****Parish Mass Diary and Intentions****Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> August**

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

**Opt. Mem**

10.00am  
10.30am  
12.30pm  
5.15pm  
6.00pm

**Saturday Memorial of the BVM**

Fr Simon, Dcn Simon & Bonita  
Confessions & Adoration  
Baptism of Jude Watts  
Confessions on Request  
People of the Parish

**TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, A**

*Is. 56:1, 6-7, Rom. 11:13-15, 29-32, Mt 15:21-28*

**Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> August**

St Martha  
St Mary Magdalene  
St Mary Magdalene  
*St Martha's*

**Sunday**

9.00am  
11.00am  
12.30pm  
11.00am

Elizabeth Francis RIP  
Peter Dolan RIP  
Baptism of Pennie Mcmorran  
*Syro Malabar Mass*

**Second Collection: Survive Miva****Monday 21<sup>st</sup> August**

St Mary Magdalene  
Hastings Cemetery

**Memorial**

10.00am  
1.00pm

**St Pius X, Pope**

Jane Chapman RIP  
Burial of Ashes: Shelagh Rolland RIP

**Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> August**

St Mary Magdalene

**Memorial**

11.00am

**Our Lady, Mother & Queen of Heaven**

Joseph & Thomas Families RIP

**Wed. 23<sup>rd</sup> August**

St Mary Magdalene

**Ferial**

10.00am

**Wednesday in 20<sup>th</sup> Week in OT**

**No Mass**

**Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> August**

St Mary Magdalene

**Feast**

6.30pm

**St Bartholomew, Apostle**

John & Clare Keegan RIP

**Friday 25<sup>th</sup> August**

St Mary Magdalene

**Ferial**

10.00am

**Friday in 20<sup>th</sup> Week in OT**

Bexhill Cemetery

12noon

Kathleen Standen, Ann Steele, John Steele GE

**Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> August**

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

**Opt. Mem**

10.00am  
10.30am  
12.30pm  
5.15pm  
6.00pm

**Blessed Dominic of the Mother of God**

Michael Halse RIP  
Adoration & Confessions  
Baptism of Jemimah & Eliana Daly  
Confessions on Request  
William & Veronica Hayes RIP

**TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, A**

*Is. 22:19-23, Rom. 11:33-36 & Mt 16:13-20*

**Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> August**

St Martha's Church  
St Mary Magdalene  
St Mary Magdalene  
*St Martha's*

**Sunday**

9.00am  
11.00am  
12.30pm  
11.00am

Bill Marsh RIP

People of the Parish  
Baptism of Alexander Arnold Fisher  
*Syro Malabar Mass*

**Second Collection: No retiring collection – fire drill instead!****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)

**Caring for our Church: Volunteers needed to clean St Mary Magdalene's:**

We have not given it a good clean since Easter! Please come and help on any of these dates: **Monday 4<sup>th</sup> September 10-12am, Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> September 10-12am, Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> September 2-4 pm.** Refreshments will be provided. Please feel free to bring brush, duster, long-handled duster, or anything you think will help, it is a large space to clean!