

24th September 2023

PARISH NEWS

Twenty-Fifth 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

130th Parish Anniversary Weekend (Updated)

Saturday 7th October

10.15am Confessions

11am Mass of the 'Solemnity of Our Lady of the Rosary' in St Martha's Church.

12noon Lunch in St Martha's Hall

Sunday 8th October

9am Holy Mass of 27th Sunday OT A at St Martha's Church

10am Fairtrade Breakfast in St Martha's Hall

11am Holy Mass of 27th Sunday OT A at St Mary Magdalene Church

2pm-3.30pm

"WHY THE ROSARY? LET'S FIND OUT."

Children's Event in St Martha's Hall

4pm-6pm 'Our Parish: Letting our Light Shine through Togetherness & Community' (Family Event)

in St Mary Magdalene Church

6pm Adoration & 6.30pm Vespers & Benediction in St Mary Magdalene Church

Celebrating who we are!

Please continue to post parish 'memories' on the notice boards, adding the permission on the back: ***I, N. give permission for this photo to be included in a public display and will collect / leave for archive.***

Parish Office Open by appointment only.

Please contact the parish office by email:

bexhill@abdiocese.org.uk

or 01424 210263 (opt 4) Office hours:

Mon – Fri 9.15am to 4.45pm

The Lord is close to all who call him.

"Why be envious because I am generous?"

Publication of 2022 Parish Accounts

and Update on the Fabric of the Parish Buildings

Today's gospel stresses God's generosity, who is rich in mercy and forgiveness, giving his grace freely to those whom he has chosen in Baptism. For the 'elect', one of the six precepts of the Church is *'to provide for the maintenance and mission of the Church'*. This weekend, we publish the accounts of the previous year (2022). Apologies that this is later than usual, but the conversations with the diocese have been complicated, due to the current state of our buildings.

<https://catholicparishofbexhill.files.wordpress.com/2023/09/2022-accounts-and-parish-priest-statement-and-update-on-buildings.pdf>

The above link provides the income v expenditure for 2022 and outlines the challenges we face and the fruit of the conversations with the Bishop, the Trustees, the Diocesan Finance Committee and Property Team. I urge everyone to take some time to read the accounts and accompanying statement, and as always to consider their level of offertory giving, and where possible adding gift aid and making it a standing order. Thank you for your generosity. Fr Simon.

Supplementary Form Signing

for St Richard's Catholic College

Fr Simon will be available in the Presbytery / Parish Office at 7pm on Mondays 9th, 16th, 23rd and 30th October. Forms will be signed on a first-come, first-served basis. He will stay until the queue has finished. Please remember to bring your completed SIF, copies of your sacramental certificates. Replacements certificates from the Bexhill Parish Office are charged at £10.

Those who attend the Syro-Malabar Mass should ask

Fr Mathew to sign their SIF form.

(SIF forms for St Mary Magdalene Primary School will be signed at 7pm on Mondays 27th Nov. & 4th & 11th Dec).

We pray for those who have died: Juliet Duffy, Jerry Edouard 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, Cecilia Weathers, Margaret Carley, Jackie & Laurence Keep, Fr Andrew Pinsent, David Meyer, Stephen Doyle, Ron Harbin, Jean Clifford, Roy Mitchell, Margaret McNamara, Keith Bourne, Leon Barre, Margaret Smythe, Elizabeth Doust

Arundel & Brighton Diocesan Website: <https://www.abdiocese.org.uk/>

News: <https://www.abdiocese.org.uk/diocese/news> & Events: <https://www.abdiocese.org.uk/diocese/events>

Liturgy & Prayer

Requiem Mass of Juliet Duffey RIP: 10.30am in St Martha's Church on Friday 29th September 2023.

130th Anniversary – More Details of the Events

Fairtrade Breakfast, 10am on Sunday 8th October in St Martha's Hall: We celebrate being a Fairtrade Parish! Your help is needed – cakes are needed, please use (where possible) Fairtrade ingredients/recipe (try a google search), such as Fairtrade Banana cakes! Also needed are helpers on the morning to set up, serve, or clear away. Please sign up on list in either church by 2nd Oct or jackdoherty@sky.com Most important, please come along and keep up the witness to Fairtrade in the Parish and Town communities.

"WHY THE ROSARY? LET'S FIND OUT." Calling all children of Our Lady of the Rosary Parish! Come with your grown-ups to a Special Rosary Afternoon, to celebrate our Parish Anniversary: St Martha's Hall, Sunday 8th October from 2pm till 3.30pm. This will be a practical Discovery Session, exploring why and how we share the Rosary with Our Lady. We can provide rosaries and refreshments! Do email Bonita at the Office, or see Sarah Surman, if you are joining us. All are welcome!

'Our Parish: Letting our Light Shine through Togetherness & Community' (Family Event): On Sunday 8th October from 4pm till 6pm in **St Mary Magdalene Church** there will be an event shining a light on the various groups of the community and the incredible work they do, with talks from the Catenians, the SVP, the CWL, Mothers Prayers, Welcomers, Readers, Altar Servers, Musicians etc to help us learn more about the life of the parish and how to be involved, letting our light shine in the service of the parish.

Social & Pastoral

SVP Tea @ 3pm: Next Tea is Mon. 9th Oct, St Martha's Hall. More info from the SVP: bexhill@svp.org.uk

Bereavement Support: offering 6 one-hour 1-2-1 sessions with one of our Bereavement Team. Lauren: 07880 662341, David: 07771 757367 or contact the SVP: 07783 598238 or by email: bexhill@svp.org.uk

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.

Harvest Festival: On Sunday 1st October the CWL facilitate our Annual Collection of food for the Foodbank. Please bring donations of tins, jars, packets of pasta, rice, cereals etc before 9am Mass at St Martha's Church. CWL will be selling hot dogs and there will be a cake sale, all proceeds to Foodbank.

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 www.sussexcatenians.org and follow us on www.facebook.com/HasBex

St Richard's Catholic College Open Evening for prospective Year 7s: 6pm, Wed. 4th October.

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



Sacraments

Adult Baptisms, Receptions & Confirmations 2023: Those who have been accepted on this year's RCIA course should receive their welcome letters this week, with the 1st session on Wed. 11th October.

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/>

FINAL CALL: First Communion 2024 (School Year 3 and above): Applications are open (**close on 30th September**). The application form is found here: <https://stmbexhill.co.uk/first-holy-communion/>

We begin with two preliminary 'Parents Sessions':

7pm on Friday 29th September or 9am on Saturday 30th September (St Martha's Hall) **AND**

7pm on Friday 13th October or 9am on Saturday 14th October (St Martha's Hall).

Confirmation 2024. Applications are now open for those in school years 10, 11 & 12. You will find the application form here: <https://stmbexhill.co.uk/confirmation/> Closing date: 13th October 2023.

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 Autumn of 2024.

A Call to Service

Church Cleaning: Thank you to the Syro-Malabar community for cleaning St Martha's Church on the Feast of the Assumption in August, and the volunteers who generously offered their time in September to clean St Mary Magdalene Church. Please do not leave it till Christmas to do it again! *Ideally, each Church community would appoint a cleaning coordinator, to schedule regular cleaning.*

Update on Children's Liturgy of the Word: For this to resume, the first step is for a DBS cleared coordinator to be appointed. Are you this person? Then, we can recruit DBS cleared team members.

Welcomers & Stewards: The fire drill last month showed we need to increase the number of welcomers and stewards at all Sunday Masses and for Funerals. Are you this person? Please contact the office.

St Martha's: A contractor does the main gardening, but we still need volunteer(s) to grit the paths, prune the roses, clip the hedge when it blocks the public path & be on call for minor issues that might arise.

Marriage Preparation: The Parish & Deanery urgently needs parishioners to help run a short Diocesan designed and approved Marriage Preparation Course for engaged couples, now a mandatory part of their preparation. It is run over four 2-hour sessions on dates and times you would choose, and all materials are provided. Volunteers can be couples or individuals and all training would be given. It is an enjoyable course and one where you, with your experience of marriage, have a great deal to offer the couples looking to spend the rest of their lives together. To join this ministry, please contact Deacon Simon.

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 23rd September	Memorial	St Pius of Pietrelcina (Padre Pio)
St Mary Magdalene	10.00am	No Mass
St Mary Magdalene	10.30am	No Adoration or Confessions

Annual SVP Mass with the Anointing of the Sacrament of the Sick:

3pm on Saturday 23rd September (Confessions from 2.15pm),

St Martha's Church, Little Common

St Mary Magdalene	5.15pm	Confessions on Request
St Mary Magdalene	6.00pm	Joseph Thomas RIP

TWENTY- FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, A

Is. 55:6-9, Phil. 1:20-24, 27 & Mt 20:1-16

Sunday 24th September	Sunday	
St Martha	09.00am	People of the Parish
St Mary Magdalene	11.00am	Stuart Gerard McNamara & Susan RIP
St Mary Magdalene	12.30pm	Baptism of Indie Rolland
St Martha's	11.00am	Syro Malabar Mass
Second Collection: St Vincent de Paul (SVP – Bexhill)		

Monday 25th September	Ferial	Monday in 25th Week of OT
St Mary Magdalene	10.00am	Joe (Jack) Horner RIP

Tuesday 26th September	Opt. Mem	St Cosmos & St Damian, Martyrs
St Mary Magdalene	11.00am	Patrick Keegan RIP

Wed. 27th September	Memorial	St Vincent de Paul, Priest
St Mary Magdalene		No Mass

Thursday 28th September	Ferial	Thursday in 24th Week of OT
St Mary Magdalene	6.30pm	Bartolomeo Visconti RIP

Friday 29th September	Feast	The Archangels
St Mary Magdalene	10.00am	No Mass
St Martha's	10.30am	Requiem Mass: Juliet Duffy RIP

Saturday 30th September	Memorial	St Jerome, Priest & Doctor
St Mary Magdalene	10.00am	No Mass
St Mary Magdalene	10.30am	No Adoration or Confessions
St Mary Magdalene	5.15pm	Confessions on Request
St Mary Magdalene	6.00pm	People of the Parish

TWENTY- SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, A (& ROSARY SUNDAY)

Ez. 18:25-28, Phil. 2:1-11 & Mt 21:28-32

Sunday 1st October	Sunday	
St Martha's Church	9.00am	Peter McGuckin RIP
St Mary Magdalene	11.00am	Joseph Bates RIP
St Mary Magdalene	12.30pm	Baptism of Heidi Morales
St Martha's	11.00am	Syro Malabar Mass

Second Collection: CWL HARVEST COLLECTION FOR THE FOODBANK & THE ANNUAL CAFOD HARVEST APPEAL TALK

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)

Off-site Parking: when our carparks are full, please park legally off-site.