

26th November 2023

PARISH NEWS

Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe, A.

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

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

Advent Formation

Following 10am Mass on Saturday 9th December in St Mary Magdalene Church, Fr Simon will give a short Advent Reflection open to all parishioner entitled, *'Prepare a way for the Lord'*. Afterwards at 11am, Dcn Simon will provide a formation session for Readers in the Presbytery.

(On 9th Dec, Confessions will be at 11am).

Advent - Christingle Service

'Let your Light Shine

Outside of the Parish'

2.30pm on Sunday 17th December

**St Martha's Church followed by
Festive Refreshments in the Hall**

Our Parish Advent Christingle Service includes our **Parish Nativity Play** and lots of young actors are needed!

Recruitment: after Sunday Masses on Sunday 3rd December or phone Sarah Surman on 07926 514784

Rehearsal 1: St Martha's Church after 9am Mass on Sunday 10th December.

Rehearsal 2: St Martha's Church after 9am Mass on Sunday 17th December.

Performance: during the Christingle Service, arrive in costume by 2.10pm
(Costumes can be provided if required)

The Parish Office is **Closed** until Monday 4th December 2023.

Emergency / Urgent Issues, email:

simon.dray@abdiocese.org.uk

Routine admin will be dealt with when Bonita returns. The Parish Answerphone will not be monitored during this time.

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

To be a 'King' is to Serve. Thus, help is needed.

Following on from the parish's 130th anniversary celebration, there is an appetite from parishioners to be more involved in parish life. We already have many parishioners fulfilling a variety of ministries but there is always more to be done. A practical way is the establishment of a group(s) to help with day-to-day tasks. **Starting initially at St Martha's** (and then at St Mary Magdalene where personnel are already on site daily), we seek to start (or build on) the following areas needing support. Are you a person who can you help with:

- Small gardening tasks: weeding and pruning.
- Small maintenance jobs not covered by the contractor.
- Emergency 'call out team' for inclement weather to grit paths, car park and check church grounds.
- Church cleaning, once a month (*after mass*) and before major services and feast days.
- Being a Steward to assist at Funerals, inc. Car park.
- Dealing with issues within St Martha's Hall.

And at (and from) both Churches:

- Become a Sacristan on a rota. (*Training will be given*).
- Joining the Welcome, Flower, Sunday Coffee teams.
- Joining the Parish music group(s).
- Being the coordinator for *'Children's Liturgy of the Word'* (needed first) and / or being on the Team.

Further details are available on any of the above, which is by no means an exhaustive list but gives us a basis to work from.

Chris Jones has volunteered to coordinate the setting up of these groups (*apart from those already established*) and keep an overwatch for the maintenance and security of St Martha's church and grounds. If you are interested in becoming involved with any of the groups, please get in touch with him on 07783 598238 or popsy57@outlook.com or after mass.

Thank you for your service to your parish. Fr Simon
(Please note that some roles will require a DBS check)

We pray for those who have died: Baby Florence Rose Beale RIP

We pray for the sick: Fr Quinn-Morris, Dorothy Smyth, Mary Nash, Margaret Hitchman, David Spooner, Samuel Barden, Pete Cornfield, Baby Neveah O'Leary, Veronica Phillips, Cecila 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, Elizabeth Doust, Fr Boniface.

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>

CAFOD: Israeli-Palestinian Crisis Appeal: Donate to CAFOD's Crisis Appeal on 0303 303 3030 or at: <https://cafod.org.uk/give/donate-to-emergencies/israeli-palestinian-crisis-appeal>

And: Thank you for signing 'Salina's letter' to the World Bank. Salina is the small farmer in Bangladesh calling to protect the farmer's rights over their seeds. A third of parishes in England & Wales signed the letter. Selina says, "I am very happy to know about 70,000 signatures along with mine." CAFOD has an initial meeting with The World Bank, who heard the message that seeds are for all. It's a good start!

Liturgy & Prayer

Funeral: Baby Florence Rose Beale's funeral Mass will be held at 12noon in St Mary Magdalene Church, Bexhill on Thursday 7th December. We pray for Paul and Suzanne and the whole family at this time.

New Readers at St Mary Magdalene: Anyone who is interested in becoming a Reader of the Liturgy at the 6pm Vigil and 11am Sunday Masses (from January 2024) please contact Barrie: bfrp@live.co.uk We especially need at least two new readers for the 6pm Saturday evening Mass.

Day of Reflection with Bishop Richard: Readers and Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion:

Readers: <https://abdiocese.churchsuite.com/events/9vii0inm> Sacred Heart, Cobham (20th Jan. 2024)

EMHC: <https://abdiocese.churchsuite.com/events/diqacwqd> St Michael's, Worthing (10th Feb. 2024)

Traditional Latin Mass, St Mary Magdalene: 12noon, Tuesday & Wednesday with Fr Paul, 28 & 29 Nov.

Social & Pastoral

SVP Tea @ 3pm: Christmas Lunch will be on Mon. 11th Dec, St Martha's Hall. Info: 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

Advent Coffee & Chat (via Zoom) with Fr Kevin Hughes MHM (MISSIO): Starting at 10.30am on Friday 1st December, Fr Kevin shares a simple Advent reflection, with a chance to chat. To get the link please E: redbox@missio.org.uk to visit 'your page' on the MISSIO website: <https://missio.org.uk/LS/>

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

Advent Calendars: Message from Jack Doherty: Calendars are here for those ordered and a few spare! £5 each. Please phone 01424 214605 or collect Weekend 2nd / 3rd Dec. at church. Enjoy!

Sussex Catenians: A Catholic organization for men and their families in Hastings & Bexhill.

More info: <https://sussexcatenians.org/> or scan the QR opposite, to watch a video:

Church Heating: The central heating is working, but even so, still wear warm clothing.



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



Sacraments

Adult Baptisms & Receptions & Confirmations: Applications for the Oct. 2024/25 open after Easter. Those on the 2023/24 RCIA Course seeking Baptism, are admitted to the catechumenate during our 'Service of Acceptance' as part of 11am Mass on 1st Sunday of Advent (3rd December 2023). In this Mass, we also welcome Christians baptised in other ecclesial communities, who ask to be accepted as Candidates for Reception into Full Communion with the Catholic Church. Please pray for them.

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/>

First Holy Communion: 'Session for Children in non-Catholic Schools' to help prepare for 1st Confession, 12noon on Saturday 9th December 2023 in the Presbytery at St Mary Magdalene.

Confirmation 2024: Next Session is 5pm on Sunday 3rd December at St Mary Magdalene Presbytery.

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 Winter of 2024.

'Invited': Diocesan Advent Reflection: From 30th Nov, please join the **Parish Charismatic Group** (Thurs. at 7.15pm in St Mary Magdalene Presbytery, after 6.30pm Mass). Or, sign up for the Zoom sessions: <https://abdiocese.churchsuite.com/events/fmu1lcx0> Invited Films released Mon: 27 Nov, 4, 11 & 18th Dec at <https://www.abdiocese.org.uk/invited> or <https://www.youtube.com/@AandBcommunications> Films direct to your inbox: <https://abdiocese.churchsuite.com/events/bv7fmdc9>

Arrangements for 4th Sunday of Advent & Christmas Eve / Day

Fr Simon will celebrate 1 Mass in each Church for 4th Sun. of Advent, Christmas Eve, and Christmas Day:

4th Sun of Advent: 6pm on Sat 23rd Dec in St Mary Magdalene & 9am on Sun. 24th Dec in St Martha's.

Christmas Mass (of 'Midnight'): Sunday 24th Dec, 4pm in St Martha's & 6pm in St Mary Magdalene.

Christmas Day Mass: Monday 25th Dec, 9am (Dawn) in St Martha's, 11am (Day) in St Mary Magdalene.

St Mary Magdalene Primary School PTFA 'Christmas Fayre':

Please come to the Christmas Fayre on 7th Dec at 3.30-5.30pm in the school. Donations for raffles, stall etc. from individuals or small business warmly received. Contact: School Reception: 01424 735810 office@stmarymagsbex.e-sussex.sch.uk left for the attention of Mrs. Richards, PTFA Chair.

Other Service Required, in a similar vein to the Front Page

Fairtrade Group: A volunteer is sought to manage a Fairtrade Stall once a month at St Martha's and / or St Mary Magdalene. More info: speak with Bridget Grant, Bridget Schofield, or Jack Doherty.

Marriage Preparation: The Parish & Deanery needs parishioners to help run the Diocesan designed Marriage Preparation Course for engaged couples. More information: 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 25th November	Opt. Mem	Saturday Memorial of the BVM
St Mary Magdalene	10.00am	Irene & David Herring RIP
St Mary Magdalene	10.30am	Adoration & Confessions
St Mary Magdalene	12.30pm	Baptism: Ramsey & Delilah Broom
St Mary Magdalene	5.15pm	Confessions on Request
St Mary Magdalene	6.00pm	People of the Parish

OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE

Ez. 34:11-12, 15-17, 1 Cor. 15:20-26, 28 & Mt 25:31-46

Sunday 26th November	Sunday	
St Martha's Church	9.00am	Cronin & Dreland Families RIP
St Mary Magdalene	11.00am	Michael Halse RIP
St Mary Magdalene	12.30pm	Baptism of Bunny Whitaker
St Martha's	11.00am	Syro Malabar Mass

Second Collection: Bexhill Foodbank

Monday 27th November	Ferial	Monday in 34th Week in OT
St Mary Magdalene	10.00am	Pat & Barry Jefferies RIP
St Mary Magdalene	10.30am	Church Clean: 'Sweep & Dust'
Tuesday 28th November	Ferial	Tuesday in 34th Week in OT
St Mary Magdalene	11.00am	Roy Strickson RIP
St Mary Magdalene	12noon	Traditional Latin Mass with Fr Paul
Bexhill Cemetery	12noon	Burial of Ashes: Caroline Rooney RIP
Wed. 29th November	Ferial	Wednesday in 34th Week in OT
St Mary Magdalene	12noon	Traditional Latin Mass with Fr Paul
Thursday 30th November	Feast	St Andrew, Apostle
Primary School (by invitation)	2.00pm	Classes 4 & 5 Masses
St Mary Magdalene	6.30pm	Michael John Frost RIP
Friday 1st December	Opt. Mem	First Friday of the Sacred Heart.
<i>The change of Mass time allows Fr Simon to hear School Confessions today.</i>		
St Mary Magdalene	11.30am	Florence Raey RIP
Saturday 2nd December	Opt. Mem	Saturday Memorial of the BVM
St Mary Magdalene	10.00am	Virginia Edozie RIP
St Mary Magdalene	10.30am	Adoration & Confessions
St Mary Magdalene	12.30pm	Baptism of Poppy Moore
St Mary Magdalene	5.15pm	Confessions on Request
St Mary Magdalene	6.00pm	People of the Parish

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT, B

Is. 63:16-17, 64:1, 3-8, 1 Cor. 1:3-9 & Mk 13:33-37

Sunday 3rd December	Sunday	
St Martha's Church	9.00am	Elizabeth Francis RIP
St Mary Magdalene	11.00am	Terence J. & Josephine C. Dolan RIP with RCIA Rite of Acceptance
St Martha's	11.00am	Syro Malabar Mass

Second Collection: Bexhill Homeless Unity Group (HUG).

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.

The **public car park** in Little Common is only £1 for 4 hours.

St Mary Magdalene 'Big Clean for Christmas' after 10am Mass, Mon 18th Dec.
followed by Refreshments.