

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

The Communities of St Mary Magdalene, Bexhill & St Martha, Little Common

PARISH NEWS

The Pastoral Plan Prayer

Lord, The Word who is Life: May all the people of our Diocese grow in openness to the power of the Holy Spirit, so that through a growth in understanding and courage, and truly open to your call, we may bear powerful witness to all around us, for you are Lord for ever and ever. Amen.

From the Finance Committee

The Easter Collection is your gift to Fr Simon, who does not receive a salary but relies on your generosity. The Easter collection makes up 25% of his yearly 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, use a 'Green Envelope' or the Card Reader on the day.

The Parish Office

Due to our lone working policies, the Parish Office is open by appointment, or by pre-arrangement only.

Office Hours: 9.15am to 4.45pm.

The best way to contact the office is:

bexhill@abdiocese.org.uk

or if required: **01424 210 263 opt. 4.**

stmm@btconnect.com is an old email address and may soon be switched off.

If you need to contact Fr Simon urgently: simon.dray@abdiocese.org.uk

17th March 2024

Fifth (Passiontide) Sunday of Lent, B

A pure heart create for me, O God.

Passiontide

The Cross and statues are now veiled as we wait the unveiling of the reality of the Cross on Good Friday. This Sunday, as we pray the "**Third Scrutiny**" with the Elect and the Candidates, we move to a deeper reflection on the Passion of Christ and how well we have incorporated the sacrifice of the Cross into our lives. Today's Collect prays that by the Lord's help, we may '*walk eagerly in that same charity with which, out of love for the world*', Jesus Christ '*handed himself over to death*'. Wishing you encouragement in accepting your personal cross this Passiontide. Fr Simon.

Caring for our Church,

Cleaning for Holy Week & Easter

Volunteers are asked to stay behind after all Sunday Masses of 5th Sunday of Lent (16th & 17th March) to clean our church in time for Holy Week. We all share in this responsibility, and it is also an H&S concern. Thank you for your service.

The Sacred Paschal Triduum

The Parish Triduum will be celebrated in St Mary Magdalene:

Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper

Maundy Thursday – 8pm on 28th March,

Commemoration of the Lord's Passion

Good Friday – 3pm on 29th March,

Easter Vigil in the Holy Night

Holy Saturday – 8pm on 30th March 2024.

Other important prayer events in our parish:

11am CWL Stations of the Cross (St Martha's), Good Friday.
9am Blessing of Easter Baskets, (St Mary Magdalene) on Holy Saturday (8th April) & 9.30am Final Chance for Confessions in St Mary Magdalene on Holy Saturday.

We pray for those who have died: Patricia Brooks, Michael (Mike) Kitts and Sheila Sheldon, Robin Lloyd, Derek Rowe, Judith Vaughan RIP.

We pray for the sick: Fr Quinn-Morris, Dorothy Smyth, 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, Margaret McNamara, Leon Barre, Elizabeth Doust, Fr Boniface, Pat Payne.

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

Funerals: Mike Kitts, 3.30pm on Sat. 13th April, and Sheila Sheldon, 12.30pm on Sat. 20th April – both St Martha's. Judith Vaughan, 12noon on Mon. 18th March at Bexhill Cemetery Chapel.

Stations of the Cross, led by Parish Groups: Continues at 7.30pm on Fridays in St Mary Magdalene Church (unless stated): 22nd March (Parish Catechists). All welcome to attend. When there is a Parish Mass in St Mary Magdalene on Fridays, '*Fr Gerry Coates' stations*' will be prayed at 10.30am.

Good Friday: 11am in St Martha's, led by the Catholic Women's League (CWL).

Men's Stations of the Cross: Starting with Adoration & Confessions at 9pm and Mass at 10pm at OL Ransom on Friday 22nd March, the stations are prayed **overnight** in procession across the clifftops of Beachy Head, returning to the Church for a hearty breakfast. *More info: CTK Eastbourne Parish.*

Singing at the Easter Services: Practices for those in the parish-wide choir for the Triduum continue at 6pm on 22nd March in St Martha's Hall, & Mon. 25th March at 6pm in St Mary Magdalene.

Washing of the Feet on Maundy Thursday: we invite a representative from the various parish groups (*or indeed any parishioner*) to have a foot washed during the 8pm Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper, Maundy Thursday, 28th March. Please submit names to the parish office. **8 volunteers still required!**

Taize: '*Prayer around the Cross*' 8pm on Good Friday, 29th Mar. in St Thomas of Canterbury, St Leonard's.

Social & Pastoral

Next SVP Tea at 3pm: Monday 8th April, St Martha's Hall. Info: bexhill@svp.org.uk All Welcome.

SVP visit Holy Cross Priory (2nd April): *Back by popular demand!* The coach leaves Bexhill at 1.30pm & Little Common at 1.35pm. On arrival, Fr Simon celebrates Mass in the Chapel. Then, we have a cream tea in their beautiful dining room. Return to Bexhill approx. 5.30pm. The cost, including a contribution to the cost of the coach: £15. To reserve a place: Chris Jones, 07783 598238 or Ron Brazier, 01424 844177.

Bereavement Support: if you are recently bereaved or still struggling with Bereavement, our Ministry of Consolation Bereavement befrienders are here to offer support. We also have trained counsellors who can offer support. In the first instance, contact our administrator: 07783 598238 or E: bexhill@svp.org.uk

Catholic Women's League (CWL): a group for women, 7.30pm on 1st Mon. of the month, to share faith, skills, and friendship, while supporting the local community. The **Annual CWL Parish Lenten Lunch** is at 12.30pm on Friday 22nd March in St Martha's Hall. Tickets are £5 at Sunday Mass, proceeds for PACT.

Parish Priest: Fr Simon Dray.

Parish Deacon: Rev. Simon Kirkdale.

Administrator: Bonita Osmond.

Safeguarding: Sylvia Cousins



Fundraising & Parish Offertory

Mass intentions & other payments: BACs: Name: RCD St Mary Magdalene, Acct No. 21077139, S/C 40-05-20. (Please add a reference). **Contactless Payments:** To give by Card, please use the Dona Contactless Machines, selecting the appropriate category. GIFT AID: Some collections are Gift Aid-able.

Formation & Sacraments

Invited Lent 2024: Our Invited Mission continues in Lent offering a programme discussing 'Discipleship,' reflecting on how we conform our lives to the Lord. www.abdiocese.org.uk/invited There will be a Parish Group, held in the presbytery on Saturdays 16th, 23rd March, at 11am after Mass and Adoration.

Adult Baptisms & Receptions & Confirmations: As our Elect & Candidates for Reception prepare for the sacraments, we pray together the 'scrutinies' in preparation to renew our baptismal promises.

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: Now that First Confessions are complete, and you have booked into your First Holy Communion Mass, please continue working through Chapters 5 -10 of the 'I Belong' coursebook.

Confirmation 2024: Next Session is 5pm on Sunday 17th March at St Mary Magdalene Presbytery. The Deanery Confirmation Mass is 7pm on Friday 28th June in St Mary Magdalene.

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.

Other

CAFOD Lent Reflections: Pray Lent with CAFOD - <https://cafod.org.uk/pray/lent-prayers>

Marriage: 12 months' notice is required for weddings, please contact us if marrying in Spring 2025.

Fairtrade: The Fairtrade Stall is held at St Martha's Hall, Sunday after 9am Mass. Including Easter Eggs and Cards; Divine Chocolate; Coffee/tea. Please support Fairtrade producers.

6pm (Sat) Mass: Thank you to those who have signed up to be welcomers & stewards at 6pm Mass. There are still one or two slots to fill between now and Trinity Sunday. This is such an important ministry.

Newman Association talk: Bob Clark will speak about the work of the Eastbourne Street Pastors at 7.30pm, Monday 18th March, Christ the King Parish Room, 3 Princes Road, Eastbourne BN23 6HT.

Parking: Parish Car Parks: When our car parks are full, please park legally off-site, respecting the coned off areas, which are there to protect pedestrians, keep fire exits clear and allow emergency access. The public car park is £1 for 4 hours. Please respect the stewards when they tell you that the car park is full.

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:



Saturday 16th March	Ferial	Saturday in 4th Week of Lent
St Mary Magdalene Church	10:00am	Arleen K Whelan RIP
St Mary Magdalene Church	10.30am	Confessions & Adoration
Presbytery	11.00am	Invited – Lent Reflection
St Mary Magdalene Church	5.15pm	Confessions on Request
St Mary Magdalene Church	6.00pm	Maura Best RIP
St Mary Magdalene Church	6.45pm	Church clean, for Easter.

FIFTH (Passiontide) SUNDAY OF LENT B

Jer. 31:31-34, Heb. 5:7-9 & Jn 12:20-30

Sunday 17th March	Sunday	
St Martha's Church	9.00am	People of the Parish
St Martha's Church	10.00am	Church clean, for Easter.
St Mary Magdalene Church	11.00am	Fr Stuart Gullan-Steel RIP
St Mary Magdalene Church	12noon	Church clean, for Easter.
St Martha's Church	11.00am	Syro-Malabar Mass
Second Collection: Knights of St Columba Appeal – Not in our GA Scheme		

Monday 18th March	Ferial	Monday in 5th Week of Lent
St Mary Magdalene Church	10.00am	John Wimsey & Ellen Ripley RIP
Bexhill Cemetery	12noon	Funeral of Judith Vaughan RIP
Tuesday 19th March	Solemnity	St Joseph, Husband of the BVM
St Mary Magdalene Church	11.00am	Frank Horner RIP

Wednesday 20th March	Ferial	Wednesday in 5th Week of Lent
St Mary Magdalene Church		No Mass

Thursday 21st March	Ferial	Thursday in 5th Week of Lent
St Mary Magdalene Church	6.30pm	Patrick

Friday 22nd March	Ferial	Friday 5th Week of Lent
St Mary Magdalene Church	10.00am	Winn Yeo RIP
St Mary Magdalene Church	10.30am	Stations of the Cross
St Mary Magdalene Church	7.30pm	Stations of the Cross

Saturday 23rd March	Ferial	Saturday in 5th Week of Lent
St Mary Magdalene Church	10:00am	Brian Williams RIP
St Mary Magdalene Church	10.30am	Confessions & Adoration
Presbytery	11.00am	Invited – Lent Reflection
St Mary Magdalene Church	12.30pm	Baptism: Edward Holden Baldwin
St Mary Magdalene Church	5.15pm	Confessions on Request
St Mary Magdalene Church	6.00pm	Maragaret Hanson RIP

PALM SUNDAY B

Mk 11:1-10 or Jn 12:12-16 & Is. 50:4-7, Phil. 2:6-11 & Mk 14:1-15:47

Sunday 24th March	Sunday	
St Martha's Hall & Church	9.00am	Brian Williams RIP
St Mary Magdalene Church	11.00am	People of the Parish
St Martha's Church	11.00am	Syro-Malabar Mass

No Second Collection

Ecumenical & Interfaith

Good Friday, Prayer Walk of Witness: 9.15am for 9.30am, the boulevard, followed by Ecumenical Service at 10.30am at Beulah Baptist Church.

Hastings & Rother Interfaith: Next meeting: 7.30pm on Thur. 21st March, White Rock Hotel, Hastings. A Mediator, Humanist & Quaker discuss *"What makes for constructive dialogue between those of different life views?"*

Three Churches in Little Common: Next meeting: 11am, Wednesday 20th March at Little Common Methodist Church. All are welcome.

Sacrament of the Sick

Urgent Visits

'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".'

Home Visits

Office hours:

bexhill@abdiocese.org.uk

01424 210 263 opt 4.

Out of hours:

simon.dray@abdiocese.org.uk

In Eastbourne or

Conquest Hospital:

Contact the Chaplaincy on 0300 131 5307 or 5308 who will coordinate the visits to both hospitals (out of hours ask the Ward to call the on-call Catholic chaplain).

In Bexhill Hospital: ask

the ward to contact the Parish Office on 01424 210263 opt. 4.

Going into Hospital?

Ask for the Sacrament of the Sick in Advance at your usual Sunday Mass.

Care Home Visits:

Please clear the visit with the Home before contacting the Parish.