

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.

Caring for our Church (Cleaning)

It is almost time for another Church clean. Next weekend (20th & 21st April), please may the three Mass communities take the opportunity to whiz the brooms around and wipe down the benches. Many thanks.

(Last done 17th March)

The Parish Office

Due to our lone working policies, the parish office is open to those with appointments or for pre-arranged groups and events.

For routine administration including the booking of Mass intentions, please contact the Parish Office by email:

bexhill@abdiocese.org.uk

or by 01424 210263 opt.4

The best way to contact Fr Simon is by email: simon.dray@abdiocese.org.uk

The email: stmm@btconnect.com is an old address and should not be used.

14th April 2024

Third Sunday of Easter, B.

Lift up the light of your face on us, O Lord.

Thank you!

Many thanks to everyone who made our celebration of the Sacred Pashal Triduum and Easter such a wonderful expression of the one Parish of Our Lady of the Rosary. And thank you for your cards and easter wishes, which you expressed so generously through the Easter Collection. The next events which will need a combined parish effort will be the Extended Vigil of Pentecost, the Deanery Confirmation Mass, and the Parish First Holy Communion celebrations.

Did you have a good weekend?

We might imagine such a question at work on a Monday morning. And how will we answer? Perhaps, we will tell people about visits to family, to the theatre, the cinema, a local attraction, to play sport or watch our favourite team win or lose. How might a Catholic respond to such a question? '*The disciples told their story of what had happened on the road and how they had recognized Jesus at the breaking of the bread*'. Therefore, **as well as** telling people about the exciting activities highlighted above, perhaps we might say: '*well, of course, as a Catholic I first and foremost went to Holy Mass participating fully in the sacred liturgy, the work of God's people in giving thanks to God for the redemption that he has applied to me through the Paschal Mysteries*' possibly adding other joyful news such as, '*I attended a baptism as my child, niece or nephew etc had their original sin wiped away and became a new child of God or I had the privilege of serving God's people at [name charitable endeavour]*'. We speak of our joy of how God has opened our mind to his Word and gave us an opportunity of '*taking station*' at the cross, giving us the hope of eternal life in the Easter mystery. Bless you all on this journey to Pentecost. Fr Simon.

We pray for those who have died: Patricia Brooks, Michael (Mike) Kitts and Sheila Sheldon, Derek Rowe, Dorothy Taylor, Canon Michael Spellman 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, David Ball, Andy Stirk.

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: Memorial Service of Sheila Sheldon, 12.30pm on Sat. 20th April in St Martha's Church.

6pm (Sat) Welcomers / Stewards: there is still at least one gap on the rota to Trinity Sunday to be filled.

The Ascension of Our Lord (Holy Day of Obligation): Fr Simon will celebrate two parish Masses in St Mary Magdalene Church at 11am and 6.30pm, as well as Masses for our parish and deanery school.

The Vigil of Pentecost: As in previous years, the 6pm Vigil Mass of Pentecost on Saturday 18th May, will be celebrated in its '*extended form*', as a mirror to the Easter Vigil. With its additional hymns, readings and psalms, parishioners should not expect the Mass to be celebrated in 45 minutes!

Annual Leave: Fr Simon will be on his post-Easter break from Friday 10th May to Saturday 18th May, arriving back in time to celebrate the Extended Vigil of Pentecost at 6pm on Saturday 18th May. Masses for 7th Sunday of Easter will be celebrated by Fr Chris Benyon. No weekday Masses during this period.

Social & Pastoral

Next SVP Tea at 3pm: Monday 13th May, St Martha's Hall. Info: bexhill@svp.org.uk All Welcome.

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, which meets at 7.30pm on 1st Mon. of the month, to share faith, skills, and friendship, while supporting the local community.

Corpus Christi (Arundel) – Carpet of Flowers & Mass: A 22-seater bus / coach to Arundel Cathedral is being arranged for the 5.30pm Corpus Christi Mass & Carpet of Flower on Thurs. 30th May. Cost is £24 per person. Contact: Robert Mulligan: robertjmulligan@robertjmulligan.plus.com or on 07394 925611

Parish "Thameslink Pilgrimage" to St Albans: Fr Simon & Barrie Wright invite you to join them on pilgrimage to the 'Shrine of St Alban' at St Alban's Cathedral (AL1 1BY) on Friday 21st June: 12noon Catholic Mass, private veneration of the relic of St Alban (proto martyr of England) and guided tour of the Cathedral. Travel by 08:37 train from Bexhill, changing to the Thameslink at Haywards Heath, with a group ticket to save money (*or you can drive and meet us there*). Our pilgrimage starts the evening before with the Thursday evening 6.30pm Mass in St Mary Magdalene, the Memorial of St Alban's Feast Day.

A&B Grandparents Pilgrimage (11am to 3pm, Wed. 26th June): To sign up for the annual grandparents' Mass and pilgrimage to West Grinstead please visit: <https://abdiocese.churchsuite.com/events/h4bozjok>

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

The Gift, a course on the Holy Spirit: Held on Thursdays (11th April to 16th May) at O.L. Ransom, Eastbourne, 11.45am & 1.15pm (after the 11am Mass), six sessions on the role and gifts of the Holy Spirit.

Life in the Spirit – Journey to Pentecost 2024: These seminars continue on Wednesdays, information: <https://catholicparishofbexhill.files.wordpress.com/2024/03/life-in-the-spirit-journey-to-pentecost-2024.pdf>

Journey in Faith: Adult Formation & RCIA - Adult Baptisms, Receptions & Confirmations: Adults who wish to be admitted to the Sacraments at Easter 2025 need to start attending Sunday Mass now. To join the 2024/25 course, you will need to have completed the '*pre-catechumenate*', which involves having attended Sunday Mass for at least six months prior to the start of the course in October. If this applies to you, please book, and attend an appointment with Fr Simon by 31st August at the latest. To book your appointment either complete the online application: <https://stmmrbexhill.co.uk/rcia/> or email bexhill@abdiocese.org.uk if you have already submitted an application. Many thanks.

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 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 21st April 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://stmmrbexhill.co.uk/visiting-the-sick-and-housebound/> or telephone the parish office on 01424 210 263 opt 4 to arrange a home visit.

Other

Fairtrade: The stall is available after 9am Mass at St Martha's on 2nd & 4th Sundays of the month.

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

Parking: when our parish car parks are full, please park legally and respectfully off-site. Please do not move cones which are protecting pedestrian access and fire access. Off-site, please do not park on double yellow lines, obstruct driveways or pavements. Please be considerate to our neighbours. Thanks.

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:



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| Saturday 13th April | Ferial | Saturday in 2nd Week of Easter |
| St Mary Magdalene Church | 10.00am | Kitty McNulty RIP |
| St Mary Magdalene | 10.30am | Confessions & Adoration, to pray for the Diocesan Pastoral Plan. |
| St Martha's Church | 3.30pm | Memorial Service: Mike Kitts RIP |
| St Mary Magdalene Church | 5.15pm | No Confessions |
| St Mary Magdalene Church | 6.00pm | Mrs Imelda McConnell RIP |

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER B

Acts 3:13-15, 17-19, 1 Jn 2:1-5 & Lk 24:35-48

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| Sunday 14th April | Sunday | Sunday |
| St Martha's Church | 9.00am | Kaye Forde GE |
| St Mary Magdalene Church | 11.00am | People of the Parish |
| St Mary Magdalene Church | 12.30pm | Baptism: Frederick Freeman |
| <i>St Martha's Church</i> | 11.00am | Syro-Malabar Mass |
| Second collection: Confirmation Retreat | | |
| Monday 15th April | Ferial | Monday in 3rd Week of Easter |
| St Mary Magdalene Church | 10.00am | David Herring RIP |
| Tuesday 16th April | Ferial | Tuesday in 3rd Week of Easter |
| St Mary Magdalene Church | 11.00am | Frank Horner RIP |
| Wednesday 17th April | Ferial | Wed. in 3rd Week of Easter |
| St Mary Magdalene Church | | No Mass |
| Thursday 18th April | Ferial | Thursday in 3rd Week of Easter |
| <i>Mary Mags Primary School</i> | 2.00pm | Children's Easter Mass |
| St Mary Magdalene Church | 6.30pm | Reg Chapman RIP |
| Friday 19th April | Ferial | Friday in 3rd Week of Easter |
| St Mary Magdalene Church | 10.00am | Hester & Ellis Eyre RIP |
| Saturday 20th April | Ferial | Saturday in 3rd Week of Easter |
| St Mary Magdalene Church | 10.00am | Patricia Brookes RIP |
| St Mary Magdalene Church | 10.30am | Confessions & Adoration, to pray for the Diocesan Pastoral Plan. |
| St Martha's Church | 12.30pm | Memorial Service Sheila Sheldon |
| St Mary Magdalene Church | 12.30pm | Baptism: Tamara-Mia Gondalez |
| St Mary Magdalene Church | 5.15pm | Confession on Request |
| St Mary Magdalene Church | 6.00pm | Mr & Mrs C Ewins RIP |
| <i>St Mary Magdalene Church</i> | After Mass | <i>Cleaning of the Church Transept</i> |

FOURTH (GOOD SHEPHERD) SUNDAY OF EASTER B

Acts 4:8-12, 1 Jn 3:1-2 & Jn 10:11-18

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| Sunday 21st April | Sunday | Also, Vocations Sunday |
| St Martha's Church | 9.00am | People of the Parish |
| <i>St Martha's Church</i> | After Mass | <i>Cleaning of the Church</i> |
| St Mary Magdalene Church | 11.00am | Michael Pitt-Payne GE |
| <i>St Mary Magdalene Church</i> | After Mass | <i>Cleaning of the Nave and Porch</i> |
| <i>St Martha's Church</i> | 11.00am | Syro-Malabar Mass |

Second collection: Education of Future Priests

Ecumenical & Interfaith

Hastings & Rother Interfaith: Meeting at 7pm – 9pm on Tuesday 16th April at St Martha's Church Hall. Guest speaker: Rabbi Danny Rich returns to report on his recent visit to Israel and lead a discussion about the impact of 7th October on Israel and the worldwide Jewish Community. See Poster.

Three Churches in Little Common: Our parish hosts the next meeting of this prayer & social group at 11am on Wed. 17th April, St Martha's Hall.

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.