

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

Day for Life – 16th June 2024

“The Lord is my Shepherd: Compassion and Hope at the End of Life”

Poster: <https://stmmrbexhill.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2024/06/day-for-life-2024.pdf>

Bishops Conference Resources:

<https://www.cbcew.org.uk/day-for-life/>

Message from Pope Francis:

<https://www.cbcew.org.uk/pope-francis-gives-his-blessing-to-day-for-life/>

Diocesan 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

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.

16th June 2024

Eleventh Sunday in Ordinary Time, B.

It is good to give you thanks, O Lord.

St Alban, First Christian Martyr of England

Thursday 20th June is the Memorial of St Alban and so, at 6.30pm in St Mary Magdalene, we will celebrate Mass for his feast day. St Alban was the first English Christian martyr, dying in 209AD. He was a Roman Soldier serving near the Hertfordshire city that now holds his name. The Romans held Christianity with deep suspicion. They would have added Christ to their pantheon of ‘gods’, but we hold there is only one God in three persons, excluding any possibility of us acknowledging roman deities, also an explicit rejection of the emperor’s own claim to divinity, meaning Christians could not make the customary temple offerings. Alban was sympathetic to Christians suffering persecution, giving shelter to a priest of Jesus Christ, helping him escape. Alban was arrested and asked to make an offering to the Roman ‘gods’ to atone for his actions. He refused because the holiness of the priest had converted him. St Alban’s Shrine was a popular place of Pilgrimage until the Reformation, but today, the relics of St Alban remain in St Alban’s Cathedral.

‘Thameslink Pilgrimage’ to St Albans

On Fridays, at 12noon there is a Catholic Mass in the Cathedral, so on **Friday 21st June**, I am making a personal pilgrimage to St Albans. If you wish to join me, please meet me at Bexhill Station at 8:15am in time to buy ‘group save’ tickets for 8:37am train, changing onto 9:49am ‘Thameslink’ at Haywards Heath, arriving at St Albans’s City at 11:11am (Bring a drink for the train). If needed, we can get a taxi from the station to the Cathedral. (*If coming by car the postcode is AL1 1BY*). We return on the 15:57 train from St Albans. After Mass, we have been promised a chance to venerate St Alban’s relic. For lunch, either bring a packed lunch, otherwise there is time to get lunch locally in St Albans town.

God bless, Fr Simon.

We pray for those who have died: Fr Lawrence Quin-Morris RIP.

We pray for the sick: Dorothy Smyth, Margaret Hitchman, David Spooner, Samuel Barden, Pete Cornfield, Baby Neveah O'Leary, Veronica Phillips, Cecila Weathers, Margaret Carley, Jackie & Laurence Keep, David Meyer, Stephen Doyle, Ron Harbin, Jean Clifford, Margaret McNamara, Leon Barre, Elizabeth Doust, Fr Boniface, Pat Payne, David Ball, Andy Stirk, Neal Sheppard, Regino Wahnon.

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>

Diocesan Pastoral Plan update: <https://www.abdiocese.org.uk/news/may-2024-pp-update>

Liturgy & Prayer

The Anticipated (or Vigil) Mass at 6pm: On **Sat. 22nd June**, Mass is at 7pm (not 6pm) due to the afternoon Ordinations at Arundel Cathedral. **Stewards:** a new Rota from 10th Sunday in OT is available in the porch. It needs to be filled with names please. Moving forward, this Mass also needs **sacristans**.

Holy Mass, a Liturgy led by the Children: On 23rd of June, at our 9am Mass the children will lead much of the Mass: singing, signing, instruments, reading, mime and offertory. We invite parents to bring children to the front and sit with them in the reserved benches. After Mass, parents and children are invited into the hall for refreshments and meet one another. After 9am Mass on Sun. 16th June there is a short practice for children (parents to stay with their children). More info: please contact Joe Apicella 07954 095707.

Social & Pastoral

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

Open Garden & Afternoon Tea (tea served in St Martha's Hall from 3.30 pm): At 26 Winston Drive, Bexhill on Sunday 21st July from 2.30 - 5.00 pm. Tickets £5 per person, bookable in advance by contacting Ron on 01424 844177 or Chris on 07783 598238 by 10th July. Open in aid of SVP Bexhill.

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 women's group sharing faith and friendship, with many interesting topics & activities. Meet: 7.30pm on 1st Mon. of the month, in St Martha's Hall. Contact: 211717 or 221803.

Aylesford Priory (7th July), Celebrating Disability: St Martha's choir leads the music, but if any parishioner wishes to go, the coach leaves Little Common (9.15am) & Bexhill (9.20am) (£5 donation). **At Aylesford:** 12noon Welcome Service with Bishop Paul Hendrix & Music by the St Martha's choir. Activities: Rosary Way, Sensory Prayer, Art, talk Edith Stein, singing by Anne Ward & Bognor L'Arch. 4pm Mass. 6pm Coach leaves Aylesford. Contact: Joe Apicella (07954 095707) to book a place on the coach.

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.

Churches Together in Bexhill: General Election Hustings with candidates for the Parliamentary Constituency of Bexhill & Battle. Wednesday 19th June, 8pm-9.30pm. St Marks Hall, Little Common. Submit questions in advance: chair@CTiBexhill.org.uk See posters in churches.

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.

Gift Aid Statements: contact the parish office if you need a Gift Aid statement or Gift Aid envelopes.

Formation & Sacraments

General Election Guidance: <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/election24/> & <https://svp.org.uk/encounter>

Safeguarding Training: Register here: <https://training.catholicsafeguarding.org.uk/courses>

(New Date) Neman Circle Talk: Fr. Kevin Dring on '*Sexuality and gender issues within contemporary Catholic thought*' on Thursday 20th June in St Martha's Hall. Entrance Free. 7pm for 7.30pm to 9pm.

Journey in Faith: Adult Formation & RCIA - Adult Baptisms, Receptions & Confirmations: Adults seeking Baptism or Reception at Easter 2025 need to complete the '*pre-catechumenate*' (attending Mass regularly for six months prior to the start of the course in October. If this applies to you, please book an appointment to see me by 31st August. Application form: <https://stmmrbexhill.co.uk/rcia/> or email bexhill@abdiocese.org.uk if you have already submitted an online application. Many thanks. Fr Simon.

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/>

(Updated) First Holy Communion: Thank you to all those who made our First Holy Communion celebrations so wonderful. We will now take the usual period of reflection before advertising the 2025 Programme, so please do not apply yet. The post-Communion celebration: after 9am Mass on 30th June. This replaces the normal 9am refreshments, as the hall is not big enough to accommodate both events.

Marriage: 12-months' notice required. Please contact the parish office if getting married in summer 2025.

Next Church Clean: The 'June' clean is on 22nd / 23rd June ahead of the Confirmation Mass.

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

Bexhill's Homeless Unity Group (HUG): are seeking volunteers to serve meals on Saturdays 3-5pm. Contact: bridget.grant@talk21.com or g_pilard@hotmail.com HUG website: <https://bexhillhug.org.uk/>

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>

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 15th June	Votive	The Immaculate Heart of Mary
St Mary Magdalene Church	10.00am	No Mass
St Martha's Church	12noon	Mass 2: First Holy Communion
St Mary Magdalene Church	5.15pm	Confessions on Request
St Mary Magdalene Church	6.00pm	People of the Parish

ELEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, B

Ez. 17:22-24, 2 Cor. 5:6-10 & Mk 4:26-34

Sunday 16th June	Sunday	
St Martha's Church	9.00am	Jerry Edouard RIP
St Mary Magdalene Church	11.00am	Mathew Cherin & Mariamm
St Mary Magdalene Church	12.30pm	Mathew
<i>St Martha's Church</i>	11.00am	Baptism: Iosif Alexander Forrest
		<i>Syro-Malabar Mass</i>

Second collection: Day for Life (not GA)

Monday 17th June	Ferial	Monday in 11th Week of OT
St Mary Magdalene Church	10.00am	Kay & Steve Parkin Golden Wedding Anniversary

Tuesday 18th June	Votive	St Richard (Secondary Patron)
<i>St Richard's</i>	8.45am	<i>Form Mass for 7U & 7H</i>
St Mary Magdalene Church	11.00am	Mike Kitts RIP

Wednesday 19th June	Ferial	Wednesday 11th Week of OT
St Mary Magdalene Church		No Mass

Thursday 20th June	Memorial	St Alban, 1st Martyr of England
St Mary Magdalene Church	6.30pm	Mary Driscoll RIP

Friday 21st June	Memorial	St Aloysius Gonzaga
<i>St Albans Cathedral</i>	12noon	<i>Catholic Mass in the Cathedral</i>

Saturday 22nd June	Feast	Thomas More & John Fisher
St Mary Magdalene Church	10.00am	No Mass
<i>Arundel Cathedral</i>	2.30pm	<i>Diocesan Ordinations</i>
St Mary Magdalene Church	7.00pm	Deceased Capaldi Families
St Mary Magdalene Church	<i>After Mass</i>	Church Clean for Confirmations.

TWELFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, B

Job 3:1, 8-11, 2 Cor. 5:14-17 & Mk 4:35-41

Sunday 23rd June	Sunday	
St Martha's Church	9.00am	Di Mascio Family GE
<i>St Martha's Church</i>	<i>After Mass</i>	<i>Monthly Church Clean</i>
St Mary Magdalene Church	11.00am	People of the Parish
St Mary Magdalene Church	12.30pm	Baptism of Amelia Zofia Mitchell
<i>St Mary Magdalene Church</i>	<i>After Mass</i>	<i>Church Clean for Confirmations.</i>
<i>St Martha's Church</i>	11.00am	<i>Syro-Malabar Mass</i>

Second Collection: SVP Bexhill

Parking: When our parish Car Parks are full, please park legally off-site. Please do not move cones protecting pedestrian & fire access. Off-site, please do not park on double yellow lines, obstruct driveways / pavements and be considerate to others. Little Common public car park £1.30 for 4hrs.

Hastings & Rother Interfaith: Tuesday 18th June, 6.30-8.30pm at The Peace Garden, Alexandra Park, Hastings – ‘*An Experience in Nature Pre-Summer Solstice*’ with Gabriella, a Modern-day Druid, drawing on the creative bardic tradition: song, poetry/prose & anecdotes. See posters.

Three Churches in Little Common: Our next meeting 11am on Wednesday 19th June 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.