

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

Feast of St Martha (Sunday 28th July) sponsored by the CWL

All parishioners are invited to celebrate in the Church and Hall: 1) *Church clean dedicated to St Martha*, 2) *have coffee & cake in the hall*, 3) *special 'St Martha's Table' – to be revealed*, 4) *Children's Drawing comp.* 5) *Hazel's Fairtrade stall*. St Martha is a wonderful patron saint, esp. her care for others, including the needy. **Children:** please draw a picture of St Martha and bring along to the Hall before Mass on 28th.

A few prizes to give away!

Church Cleaning Weekend

This weekend of 27th & 28th July is our monthly Church clean – done in honour of St Martha, our patron.

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.

28th July & 4th August (Double Edition) The Feast of St Martha & 18th Sun. in OT B

St Martha (17th Sunday Ordinary Time B)

You open wide your hand, O Lord, and grant our desires.

18th Sunday in Ordinary Time B

The Lord gave them bread from heaven.

28th July: Xaverian Missionary Appeal Weekend.

This year's missionary appeal in the Diocese is from the Xaverian Missionaries and we welcome Fr Robert Sowa who will supply the Parish Masses this weekend, allowing Fr Simon to join the Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes as a Hotel Chaplain. No doubt, Fr Robert will say more about their society's work, you can find more information at their website: <https://xavs.org/> Our retiring / second collection today will be for the Xaverian Missionary Society.

Best wishes and prayers. Fr Simon.

4th August: 18th Sunday in Ordinary Time B & 84th Anniversary of St Martha's Church

Pinpointing the exact anniversary of St Martha's Church is a little tricky as there was a delay in opening due to World War II, however, 2nd August is the anniversary of the laying of the foundation stone and seems a good a date as any to mark the anniversary of the Church's foundation. Therefore, on 4th August, the 9am Mass at St Martha's will be the Proper Mass of foundation but using the readings of the 18th Sunday in Ordinary Time B to ensure we hear the continuation of the Bread of Life Discourse. *[For information, we celebrate the Anniversary of St Mary Magdalene on 24th October].*

2023 Parish Accounts and Parish Priest Statement

The Finance Committee & Fr Simon present to you the 2023 accounts, which includes an update on our buildings.

<https://stmm.bexhill.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2024/07/2023-parish-accounts-and-parish-priest-statement.pdf>

We pray for those who have died: Mary Luck, Deidre Edwards, Livia Knoll, Fr Boniface Moran 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, Pat Payne, David Ball, Neal Sheppard, Regino Wahnnon, Neil Pergusey.

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

The Anticipated (or Vigil) Mass at 6pm: 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**.

Funerals (RIP): Mary Luck, Requiem Mass at 10am in St Mary Magdalene Church on Tuesday 6th August, the Feast of the Transfiguration. Deidre Edwards MBE, 12noon on Friday 16th August in St Mary Magdalene. Livia Knoll, 10.30am on Tuesday 20th August in St Mary Magdalene Church.

The Assumption - Holy Day of Obligation: Fr Simon will celebrate two Masses for the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary into Heaven in St Mary Magdalene Church at 11am and 6.30pm.

People's Personal Missals: Your current missals will no longer have the correct translation of the readings from 1st Sunday of Advent. New missals will be published by CTS in due course. Meanwhile, the Repository is placing an advance order of St Paul's (London) publication '**GOD'S WORD 2025**'. If you wish to reserve a copy (£13), please contact the parish office for your name to be added to the advance-copy list. No payment required until you collect your copy of GOD's WORD from the Repository in Oct.

Social & Pastoral

Next SVP Tea at 3pm: Monday 12th August, 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 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. On Monday 8th August, our speaker will be Steve Johnston talking about 'Bexhill Heritage'.

St Mary Magdalene Celebration: in the grounds of St Mary Magdalene, we are planning a late summer drinks event after 11am Mass on 1st Sept. to celebrate our wonderful community! Pray for dry weather!

(Date for your diary) In the Footsteps of St Augustine Part Two – Canterbury Pilgrimage

An information sheet outlining our plans for the 2nd part of our pilgrimage '*in the footsteps of*

St Augustine of Canterbury' on Friday 27th September (8am to 8pm) can be found here:

<https://stmmmbexhill.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2024/07/2.-st-augustine-canterbury-pilgrimage-27.9.24.pdf>

To book, please contact the parish office. Cost: £27.50 (to cover the cost of the 22-seater coach).

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

Journey in Faith: Adult Formation & RCIA - Adult Baptisms, Receptions & Confirmations: Adults seeking Baptism or Reception at Easter 2025, having completed the 'pre-catechumenate' (been attending Mass regularly for at least six months) should book an appointment (if not yet done so) to see Fr Simon by 31st August. Application form: <https://stmbexhill.co.uk/rcia/> or email bexhill@abdiocese.org.uk

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: Applications open on Monday 5th August for 2025 and close on Monday 30th September, ahead of our two parents' sessions 1) 4th (7pm) or 5th (9am) October & 2) 18th (7pm) or 19th (9am) October. The application will be posted here: <https://stmbexhill.co.uk/first-holy-communion/>

Confirmation: Applications for 2025 will open in September. Check back here then.

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

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.

Moderated Parish News: Fr Kevin Dring (Dean) has written to us, giving an overview of the process of being a Moderated Parish from Nov, outlining our involvement in the process. The letter is available here: <https://stmbexhill.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2024/07/fr-kevin-letter-to-deanery-moderated-parish.pdf>

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; please do enter the public car park via the exit which is marked with "no-entry signs".

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 & ever.

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

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 27th July

Opt. Mem

Saturday Memorial of the BVM

Masses this weekend are supplied by Fr Robert of the Xaverian Missionaries.

St Mary Magdalene Church	10.00am	Priests Intentions
St Mary Magdalene Church	5.15pm	Confessions on Request
St Mary Magdalene Church	6.00pm	Michael Spillane GE
St Mary Magdalene Church	After Mass	Church clean, in honour of St Martha

ST MARTHA'S SUNDAY (Parish's Co-principal Patron)

(Readings of 17th Sunday in OT, B)

2 Kings 4:42-44, Eph. 4:1-6 & Jn 6:1-15

Masses this weekend are supplied by Fr Robert of the Xaverian Missionaries

Sunday 28th July

Solemnity

St Martha's Church	9.00am	People of the Parish
St Martha's Church	After Mass	Church clean, in honour of St Martha
St Mary Magdalene Church	11.00am	Terence J & Josephine C Dolan RIP
St Mary Magdalene Church	After Mass	Church clean, in honour of St Martha
St Martha's Church	11.00am	Syro-Malabar Mass

Second Collection: Annual Missionary Appeal

Monday 29th July

Memorial

Saints Mary, Martha & Lazarus

St Mary Magdalene Church	11.30am	Latin Mass
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**Tuesday 30th July to Friday 2nd August: Diocesan Lourdes Pilgrimage
- No Parish Masses this week.**

Saturday 3rd August

Opt. Mem.

Saturday Memorial of the BVM

Fr Simon has a family wedding in Tolworth, he will be back for 6pm Mass

St Mary Magdalene Church	10.00am	No Mass
St Mary Magdalene Church	5.15pm	No Confessions
St Mary Magdalene Church	6.00pm	Irene Hulewicz RIP

EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME B

Ex. 16:2-4, 12-14, Eph. 4:17, 20-24 & Jn 6:24-35

Sunday 4th August

Sunday

(& Anniversary of St Martha's)

St Martha's Church	9.00am	People of the Parish
St Mary Magdalene Church	11.00am	Ouseph Joseph RIP
St Martha's Church	11.00am	Syro-Malabar Mass

Second Collection: Parish Maintenance

Monday 5th August

Opt. Mem.

Dedication of St Mary Major

St Mary Magdalene Church	10.00am	Elizabeth Francis RIP
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Tuesday 6th August

Feast

The Transfiguration of the Lord

St Mary Magdalene Church	10.00am	Requiem: Mary Luck RIP
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Wednesday 7th August

Ferial

Wednesday 16th Week of OT

St Mary Magdalene Church		No Mass
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Thursday 8th August

Memorial

St Dominic, Priest

St Mary Magdalene Church	6.30pm	Peter Cassidy RIP & Baptism & FHC of Chester Freeman
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Friday 9th August

Feast

St Theresa Benedicta of the Cross

St Mary Magdalene Church	10.00am	Florence Raey RIP
Memorial Garden	After Mass	Ashes Burial: Eileen O'Donovan RIP

Saturday 10th August

Feast

St Lawrence, Deacon & Martyr

St Martha's Church	12.30pm	Nuptial Mass: Chloe Seal & Thomas Lyons
St Mary Magdalene Church	5.15pm	Confessions on Request
St Mary Magdalene Church	6.00pm	People of the Parish

Parking at St Martha's on Sunday 28th July: Please be prepared to park in the Public Car park as there are overlapping events in Church and Hall, with the St Martha's celebrations running concurrently with the Syro-Malabar Mass.

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.