

# 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

### ST RICHARD'S CATHOLIC COLLEGE

For children approaching the transfer from primary to secondary school, consideration must be given to decisions involved in the transition. With permission of the Headteacher, I extend an invitation to you & your child to attend a presentation at St Mary Magdalene Catholic Primary School on Thursday, 19<sup>th</sup> September 2024 at 6.30pm where I and some of the Senior Leadership Team, including the Year 7 Pastoral Leader and SENCo will talk about St Richard's Catholic College and admissions process. The St Richard's Open Evening at the College is Wednesday, 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2024 from 4.30 to 7.00pm. Mr. P Barber, Principal.

### Next Church Clean

Weekend of 7<sup>th</sup> / 8<sup>th</sup> September

### 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](mailto: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](mailto:simon.dray@abdiocese.org.uk)

The email: [stmm@btconnect.com](mailto:stmm@btconnect.com) is an old address and should not be used.

25<sup>th</sup> August 2024

21<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time, B

**Taste and see that the Lord is good!**

### Grant we may reverence the sacred mysteries of His Body and Blood and experience our Redemption.

Throughout the summer, we have heard 'John 6' beautifully explain the Eucharist as being Christ's Body and Blood, and to have life, we must eat his flesh and drink his blood. For many, *'this was intolerable language... and many of his disciples left him and stopped going with him'*. Today, many people have stopped coming to Mass, perhaps, because they do not know what the Eucharist is, not seeing it as the '*source and summit*' of our life. At Mass, the one sacrifice of Christ (*that takes away the sins of the world*) is re-presented to us. By being joined to Christ's death and resurrection, we give thanks for our redemption (*our restoration to life*), and in the Communion we share, the community is united to the life of the Trinity now and for eternity: '*we proclaim the death of Christ and profess his resurrection, until He comes again.*' Christ is really and substantially present to us: in the community gathered, in the priest, in His Word, and most especially in the species of his body and blood. '*O God, who in this wonderful Sacrament have left us a memorial of your Passion, grant us, we pray, so to reverence the sacred mysteries of your body and blood that we may always experience in ourselves the fruits of your redemption, through Christ our Lord.*' In the Mass, the past and future are bound together in the present. As God's people, we gather in fellowship as a parish community, but we are also in the upper room, at the foot of the cross and in the garden of the Resurrection. Above all, we are in heaven and given a foretaste of the heavenly banquet to come, a glimpse of our true nature, destiny and dignity. As the psalmist has sung throughout August: '*taste and see that the Lord is good*' and as St Peter recognises, '*Lord, you have the message of eternal life*'. Fr Simon.

**We pray for those who have died:**

**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 Wahnon, Fr Andrew Pinsent

**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 Lourdes Pilgrimage 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Book:** To order a special commemorative book with tales of faith, hope, love in action: Cost £20 + postage, ordered here: [forms.office.com/e/fRQkZmDp9D](https://forms.office.com/e/fRQkZmDp9D)

**Liturgy & Prayer**

**Annual SVP Mass for the Sick and Housebound:** The Mass with Anointing takes place at St Martha's on Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> September at 3pm followed by tea and cake in the hall afterwards. We would encourage, next of kin where possible to bring their loved ones who need the sacrament to this mass. If anyone would like to come and may need a lift, please contact Chris Jones on 07783 598238 as soon as possible. Guidance on who should be anointed during this Mass is available at our website, here:

<https://stmmrbexhill.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2024/08/svp-mass-of-anointing-guide-on-receiving-the-sacrament-of-the-sick.pdf>

**If you need a pastoral visit before then:** <https://stmmrbexhill.co.uk/visiting-the-sick-and-housebound/>

**Social & Pastoral**

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

*To facilitate this event, the Church carpark / drive will be closed. Please, park legally off-site.*

*Of the 5 spaces, only 2 will be available to 'blue-badge holders' – follow the stewards' directions*

**Next SVP Tea at 3pm:** Monday 9<sup>th</sup> September, St Martha's Hall. Info: [bexhill@svp.org.uk](mailto: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](mailto:bexhill@svp.org.uk)

**Catholic Women's League (CWL), "To all Ladies of the Parish":** You are invited to a Diocesan open meeting of the Catholic Women's League on Saturday, 7<sup>th</sup> September in St Martha's Church, Little Common, Bexhill on Sea, beginning with Mass at 11am. The meeting is expected to close around 3pm. The day will comprise of an information session on the work of the CWL as well as a talk on the work of the Beachy Head Chaplaincy. All are welcome. Please bring a packed lunch. Tea, coffee & cakes will be provided. More info: <https://catholicwomensleaguecio.org.uk/> We look forward to seeing you on the day.

**Canterbury: In the Footsteps of St Augustine Part 2:** An information sheet and application form:

<https://stmmrbexhill.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2024/08/application-form-for-canterbury-in-the-footsteps-of-st-augustine-part-2-friday-27th-september-2024.pdf>

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.

**2023 Parish Accounts and Parish Priest Statement:** Please read our statement and update:

<https://stmmbexhill.co.uk/wpcontent/uploads/2024/07/2023-parish-accounts-and-parishpriest-statement.pdf>

## Formation & Sacraments

### Journey in Faith: Adult Formation & RCIA - Adult Baptisms, Receptions & Confirmations:

**(Updated)** Fr Simon is finishing off his interviews for adults who seek Baptism or Reception at Easter 2025. (*This is for those who having completed the 'pre-catechumenate', 6+ months Mass attendance*) In 1<sup>st</sup> week of Sept. the Parish Office will send out 'welcome letters' to those Fr Simon agrees are ready to start the course this October – they have some homework to do ahead of the first session.

**Infant Baptism (Aged 0-6):** Applications submitted via the website: <https://stmmbexhill.co.uk/baptism/>

**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:** Applications are now **open** (closing date: Monday 30<sup>th</sup> September). The course begins with two parents' sessions 1) 4<sup>th</sup> (7pm) or 5<sup>th</sup> (9am) October & 2) 18<sup>th</sup> (7pm) or 19<sup>th</sup> (9am) October. The application form can be found here: <https://stmmbexhill.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 autumn 2025.

**Fairtrade Fortnight & Fairtrade UK 30<sup>th</sup> Birthday:** Between 9<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup> Sept, we celebrate CAFOD's great part in reaching out our caring hands, our faith in action. As we know, Pope Francis wants fairness and justice in trade and climate resilience. And so, we need your Fairtrade wrapping/labels to make a Birthday collage - please start buying now! Spread the word, asking your workplace to do a collage and send it to our Facebook page! Fairtrade Breakfast, 22<sup>nd</sup> September, St Martha's Hall, after 9am Mass. We need volunteers to setup the hall and bake cakes (*note any allergens on the cakes please*). Thank you!

**Hastings and Rother Knights of St Columba Council 630:** Charity Quiz, St Martha's Hall, 7.45pm, Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> September. In aid of HUG, SVP, Bexhill Foodbank. Tickets available at weekend Masses - £6 per person / £20 per family of 4. Donations welcome. Snacks available. See posters in churches.

**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:



<b>Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> August</b>	<b>Feast</b>	<b>St Bartholomew, Apostle</b>
St Mary Magdalene Church	10.00am	Joseph & George Families GE
St Mary Magdalene Church	10.30am	Confessions & Adoration to pray for the Pastoral Plan
St Mary Magdalene Church	5.15pm	Confessions on Request
St Mary Magdalene Church	6.00pm	William & Veronica Hayes RIP

## TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME B

Josh. 24:1-2, 15-18, Eph. 5:21-32 & Jn 6:60-69

<b>Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> August</b>	<b>Sunday</b>	
St Martha's Church	9.00am	Bill Marsh RIP
St Mary Magdalene Church	11.00am	People of the Parish
<i>St Martha's Church</i>	11.00am	<i>Syro-Malabar Mass</i>
		<b>Second collection: No scheduled Collection</b>
<b>Monday 26<sup>th</sup> August</b>	<b>Opt. Mem</b>	<b>Blessed Dominic Barberi BVM</b>
St Mary Magdalene Church	10.00am	Noreen Corness RIP
<b>Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> August</b>	<b>Memorial</b>	<b>St Monica, Augustine's Mother</b>
St Mary Magdalene Church	11.00am	Terence Paris GE
<b>Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> August</b>	<b>Memorial</b>	<b>St Augustine, Bishop, Doctor</b>
St Mary Magdalene Church		<b>No Mass</b>
<b>Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> August</b>	<b>Memorial</b>	<b>Passion of John the Baptist</b>
St Mary Magdalene Church	6.30pm	Holy Souls
<b>Friday 30<sup>th</sup> August</b>	<b>Opt. Mem</b>	<b>SS Margaret Clitherow, Anne Line &amp; Margaret Ward, Martyrs</b>
St Mary Magdalene Church	10.00am	Alex Thomas RIP
<b>Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> August</b>	<b>Opt. Mem</b>	<b>St Aidan of Lindisfarne</b>
St Mary Magdalene Church	10.00am	Richard (Teddy) Epsom RIP
St Mary Magdalene Church	10.30am	Confessions & Adoration to pray for the Pastoral Plan
St Mary Magdalene Church	5.15pm	Confessions on Request
St Mary Magdalene Church	6.00pm	People of the Parish

## TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME B

Deut. 4:1-2, 6-8, Js 1:17-18, 21-22, 27 & Mk 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

<b>Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> September</b>	<b>Sunday</b>	
St Martha's Church	9.00am	Lisa & David Young GE
St Mary Magdalene Church	11.00am	Jetwin Stephen GE
<i>St Mary Magdalene Grounds</i>	12noon	<i>Summer Drinks event</i>
<i>St Martha's Church</i>	11.00am	<i>Syro-Malabar Mass</i>
		<b>Second collection: No scheduled Collection</b>

**Christian Voices, the Musical Drama Group:** Next play is “*Don't Deceive God*”, based on story of Ananias and Sapphira. Performances are:

*Saturday, 31st August in Christchurch Methodist Church Hall at 11am.*

*Sunday, 1<sup>st</sup> September in St Leonards Methodist Church at 10.15 am.*

*Saturday, 7<sup>th</sup> September in All Saints Church, Sidley at 3pm.*

*Sunday, 8<sup>th</sup> September in St Peters Community Centre at 10am.*

All performances are in aid of The League of Friends of Bexhill Hospital.

**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.

## 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](mailto:bexhill@abdiocese.org.uk)

01424 210 263 opt 4.

#### Out of hours:

[simon.dray@abdiocese.org.uk](mailto: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.