

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, 19th 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, 2nd October 2024 from 4.30 to 7.00pm. Mr. P Barber, Principal.

After 9am Mass at St Martha's, 22nd September: Fairtrade

Breakfast 9th to 22nd Sept is Fairtrade Fortnight & Fairtrade UK 30th Birthday where 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, 22nd 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!

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. Routine admin email: bexhill@abdiocese.org.uk or by 01424 210263 opt.4

15th September 2024

24th Sunday in Ordinary Time, B

**I will walk in the presence of the Lord,
in the land of the living.**

'Evangelii Gaudium – The Joy of the Gospel'

This Sunday is known as 'Evangelii Gaudium' Day after Pope Francis's Apostolic Exhortation by that name in 2013. That document begins "The *joy of the Gospel* fills the hearts and lives of all who encounter Jesus". For those of you who may be interested to read a summary rather than all 52,000 words one can be found online here:

<https://www.catholicworldreport.com/2013/11/26/a-helpful-summary-of-the-apostolic-exhortation-evangelii-gaudium/>

In that document, he was really inviting the Catholic Church to be joyous in proclaiming the faith – seeking new ways of understanding the faith and reaching out to others.

The director of Mission at the Bishops Conference says:

"Central to that work of mission, the Catholic Bishops of England and Wales seek to support that work in parishes and to be a conduit where information can be gathered, and people can give and receive information and share good practice about what is going on across England and Wales to bring people to faith and to form them in faith. They are instituting the ministries of catechist, lector and acolyte – supporting Pope Francis' desire that we formally institute catechists for the Church and admit more lay people into the ministry of reader and acolyte.

Q: What is an acolyte? It used to just be for those on their way to priesthood so seminarians, those training to be priests, would be instituted as readers and acolytes. But Pope Francis has said that everyone should be able to do these, female and male alike, and the hope would be that we will gradually begin to introduce these into the life of the Church in England and Wales. In our parishes we have Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion – those lay people who assist in distributing Holy Communion – but also in visiting the sick and in having an outreach in the parish. So, I think the Holy Father wants to say that this is an important ministry in the Church and it's now more open".

God Bless, Deacon Simon Kirkdale.

Looking out for the vulnerable visitor: Thank you to Fr Chris Benyon, our welcomers and other parishioners who were attentive to the young visitor to St Mary Magdalene whose safety needed an urgent safeguarding intervention by the Police. This reiterates the point why stewarding at Mass and throughout the Mass is such a vital ministry. If you are able to join our welcoming / stewarding teams, please do so.

We pray for those who have died: Ellen Downs, Regino Wahnnon 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, Elizabeth Doust, Pat Payne, David Ball, Neal Sheppard, 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>

Liturgy & Prayer

6pm (Sat) Mass: A new rota for welcoming and stewarding for the rest of the liturgical year needs to be populated with names please. This ministry is an integral part of our celebration. Thank you very much!

Sundays in September: we welcome Fr Chris Benyon this weekend, then Canon Paul Jennings for 21st & 22nd Sept. While Fr Simon is away (4th to 22nd Sept, inclusive), please refrain from sending him or copying him into unnecessary emails. Please contact bexhill@abdiocese.org.uk instead. Many thanks.

Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) elsewhere in the Deanery: While Fr Simon is away on holiday, you can usually find Confessions at Our Lady of Ransom, Eastbourne after 10am Mass on Saturday mornings or at 5pm (before the evening Mass) at St Thomas of Canterbury, St Leonards.

Weekday Masses – please see newsletters for details of weekday Masses in the Deanery.

OLR <http://ourladyofransom.org.uk/newsletter/> & CTK <http://christthekingeastbourne.org/newsletter/>

Good Shepherd Parish, St Leonards & Holington: <https://parishofthegoodshepherd.net/newsletters/>

Social & Pastoral

Hastings and Rother Knights of St Columba Council 630: Charity Quiz, St Martha's Hall, 7.45pm, Saturday 21st 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.

Next SVP Tea at 3pm: Monday 14th September, 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): the CWL meet at 7.30pm on 1st Mon. of the month, in St Martha's Hall. Contact: 211717 or 221803. We are a women's group sharing faith and friendship, with many interesting topics & activities.

SAVE THE DATE - PARISH CHRISTMAS FAYRE - SATURDAY, 7th DECEMBER

Volunteers urgently needed to man stalls, help with the organisation, etc. A meeting will be held in St Martha's Church Hall after the 9am Mass on Sunday 22nd Sept. As it is the 'Fairtrade Breakfast' we hope that many Parishioners will be present and sign up. If you can help but can't be at the meeting, email: Margaret Von Speyr on margaretvonspeyr@gmail.com; Chris Jones on popsy75@outlook.com and / or Anne Campbell on aticampbell@sky.com **This is a great social and fundraising opportunity!**

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:

Applications for RCIA 2024/25 are now closed. Those who have completed the 'pre-catechumenate' and have had their interview with Fr Simon should now have received a 'welcome letter'.

Infant Baptism (Aged 0-6): Applications submitted via the website: <https://stmbexhill.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://stmbexhill.co.uk/we-journey-together/>

First Holy Communion: Applications are now open (closing date: Monday 30th September). The course begins with two parents' sessions 1) 4th (7pm) or 5th (9am) October & 2) 18th (7pm) or 19th (9am) October. The application form can be found here: <https://stmbexhill.co.uk/first-holy-communion/>

Confirmation: Applications for 2025 will open on Monday 16th September and will close on Friday 11th October. The application form will be found here on 16th Sept: <https://stmbexhill.co.uk/confirmation/>

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

Home Visits: you need a non-urgent sacramental or pastoral visit, please use the form:

<https://stmbexhill.co.uk/visiting-the-sick-and-housebound/> or telephone 01424 210263 opt, 4.

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

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

St Richard's Catholic College Supplementary Forms (SIF): Fr Simon will make himself available to sign these SIFs at 7pm on Mondays 7th, 14th, 21st & 28th October, at the parish office. On these dates, he will open the doors at 7pm and stay for as long as there is a queue, then go home. Be mindful that as the weeks go by, the queue usually gets shorter! SIF forms need to be downloaded from the College website and be completed before you arrive: <https://strichardsgcc.com/> Please remember to bring your sacramental certificates in support of your application and if you need a replacement, please contact the parish office where you were baptised or received as a Catholic / made your First Holy Communion – there may be an administrative charge for replacements. ***If you attend the Syro-Malabar Mass, you should ask Fr Mathew to sign your SIF forms. Fr Simon does not sign SIF forms of non-Catholic Children.***

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 14th September	Feast	The Exaltation of the Cross
St Mary Magdalene Church	10.30am	Confessions – see page 2
St Mary Magdalene Church	5.15pm	Confessions – see page 2
St Mary Magdalene Church	6.00pm	Henry Chapman RIP

TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME B

Is. 50:5-9, Js 2:14-18 & Mk 8:27-35.

Sunday 15th September	Sunday	
St Martha's Church	9.00am	People of the Parish
St Mary Magdalene Church	11.00am	Pauline Barker RIP
St Martha's Church	11.00am	Syro-Malabar Mass
Second collection: Home Mission Sunday for England & Wales (not GA)		
Monday 16th September	Memorial	Ss Cornelius & Cyprian, Martyrs
St Mary Magdalene Church	10.00am	No Mass
Tuesday 17th September	Ferial	Tuesday in 24th Week in OT
St Mary Magdalene Church	11.00am	No Mass
Wed. 18th September	Ferial	Wednesday in 24th Week in OT
St Mary Magdalene Church		No Mass
Thursday 19th September	Ferial	Thursday in 24th Week in OT
St Mary Magdalene Church	6.30pm	No Mass
Friday 20th September	Memorial	St Andrew Kim Taegon, Paul Chong Hasang & Companions
St Mary Magdalene Church	10.00am	No Mass
Saturday 21st September	Feast	St Matthew, Apostle & Evangelist
St Mary Magdalene Church	10.00am	No Mass
St Mary Magdalene Church	10.30am	Confessions – see page 2
St Mary Magdalene Church	5.15pm	Confessions – see page 2
St Mary Magdalene Church	6.00pm	People of the Parish

TWENTY- FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME B

Wis. 2:12. 17-20, Js 3:16–4:3 & Mk 9:30-7

Sunday 22nd September	Sunday	
St Martha's Church	9.00am	Keith Bourne RIP
St Mary Magdalene Church	11.00am	Stewart Gerard MacNamara & Susan RIP
St Martha's Church	11.00am	Syro-Malabar Mass

Second collection: Liturgy Fund - Lectionary Costs (GA)

3pm, 28th September in St Martha's Church: Annual SVP Mass for the Sick and Housebound:

This Mass of Anointing (followed by tea and cake) is hosted by the SVP. 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://stmmmbexhill.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2024/08/svp-mass-of-anointing-guide-on-receiving-the-sacrament-of-the-sick.pdf>

2024 Parish Annual Mass Count: For our annual Parish and Diocesan statistics, we kindly ask our **welcome teams to count all parishioners and record on the documents provided**, for the last two weekends of September and the first two weekends of October:
21/22, 28/29 Sept & 5/6 & 12/13 Oct. Thank you.

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.