

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

Diocesan Festival of Hope

20th September (Ardingly)

The Diocese will be gathering to celebrate the 60th Anniversary of the Diocese, the Jubilee Year of Hope, and the Pastoral Plan with its call to Mission. Sadly, space is limited. Each parish has a small number of tickets allocated via its parish priest. Thanks for your understanding.

The whole Diocese will be prayed for, and those attending will be encouraged to share back in their parishes the fruits of the day's reflections.

Fr Kevin Dring. Moderator Elect.

Safeguarding Training

Training is available online through our Diocesan Safeguarding team: safeguarding@abdiocese.org.uk.

The Parish Office

This will be closed due to annual leave: 14th – 25th July. Routine admin will be dealt with when Bonita returns from holiday. The Parish Answerphone will not be monitored during this time.

Parish Office email:

bexhill@abdiocese.org.uk

To contact Fr Stephen:

stephen.obrien@abdiocese.org.uk

For emergencies only - ie Last rites, please call 07872 396683

FIFTEENTH OT, ST MARY MAGDALENE, ST MARTHAS Yr C. 13th, 20th, 27th July 2025

15th OT C:

Seek God, you who are poor,
and your hearts will revive.

Feast of St Mary Magdalene (16th OT C):

O Lord, who may abide in your tent?

Feast of St Martha's (17th OT C):

On the day I called, you answered me, O Lord.

One of the great joys of our faith, I think, is that we have a host of Saints praying for us to Jesus in heaven. If we take the image offered in Revelation, we could think of them gathered round Jesus on his heavenly throne. We can have personal connections with them for many reasons. We can ask our namesake for prayers. We can pray to patron saints for particular causes. We can have devotions to local saints – I think Sussex has some great ones, such as St Philip Howard or St Richard of Chichester.

Our two Churches are dedicated to two wonderful saints. Over the next few weeks, we shall honour both of them. St Martha teaches us so much. Her life of service shows that God loves us when we labour for others. Her very human reproach to Christ after the death of Lazarus gives Jesus the opportunity to teach about the resurrection and to show how he wants to treat us kindly.

St Mary Magdalene is of course on hand as a key disciple during the events of Holy Week. Her witness has inspired so many to marvel at Jesus' love and at his resurrection. A figure of devotion to Jesus, she has shown us how to love him.

Let's take these opportunities to ask for the intercession of these two wonderful saints. May they inspire us in our work, faith and love. St Mary Magdalene and St Martha, pray for us!

God bless, Fr Stephen.

We pray for those who have died: Tracy Cross RIP, Margaret Redding, Robert Redding, Patricia Deeprose RIP.

We pray for the sick: Dorothy Smyth, Margaret Hitchman, David Spooner, Samuel Barden, Pete Cornfield, Baby Neveah O'Leary, Cecila Weathers, Margaret Carley, Jackie & Laurence Keep, Stephen Doyle, Ron Harbin, Jean Clifford, Margaret McNamara, Elizabeth Doust, Pat Payne, David Ball, Neal Sheppard, Fr Andrew Pinsent, Sian Stevens, John O'Brien, Kate Brignall, Sally Moore.

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>

Deanery Newsletter Summer / Moderated Parish Updates: <deanery-newsletter-summer-2025.pdf>

A few copies are available at the back of church for those without online access.

New Deanery Website & Newsletter: to help with regular communication across our deanery, especially relating to the formation of a single parish, a temporary website has been developed which can be found at www.eastbourne-stleonards.org.uk.

Safeguarding Training

Training is available online through our Diocesan Safeguarding team: safeguarding@abdiocese.org.uk.

Liturgy & Prayer

Child Led Masses at 9am St Marthas: 20th July - All are welcome to bring children / grandchildren.

Volunteers Needed for Welcomers at weekend Masses at St Mary Magdalene church: We are of course enormously grateful for all the hard work of our welcomers: however, we are aware that this is a hard job, and would like more people to come forward, as numbers are sparse.

Choir members and musicians needed for 11am St Mary Magdalene's, all ages, and all instruments welcome, please talk to Margaret Smart.

Bereavement Support

Ministry of Consolation: 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

Social & Pastoral

The Wild Goose Course: 3rd Session - Thursday 17th July - 7.15pm for 7.30pm start at the presbytery.

Next SVP Tea at 3pm: Monday 14th July, St Martha's Hall. Info: bexhill@svp.org.uk All Welcome.

Catholic Women's League (CWL): Meet at 7.30pm on 1st Mon. of the month, in St Martha's Hall. Contact: 211717 or 221803. CWL have cancelled the strawberry tea but will be holding a **Summer Cake Sale** after 9am Mass on 13th July, St Martha's Hall. "Donations of cakes very welcome and also please come and purchase them." All proceeds go to St Michael's Hospice.

Parish Priest: Fr Stephen O'Brien. Parish Deacon: Rev. Simon Kirkdale.

Administrator: Bonita Osmond. Safeguarding: Sylvia Cousins.



Parish Offertory & Fundraising

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; select the appropriate category. **GIFT AID:** Some collections are Gift Aid-able.

Retiring Collection this Sunday: Stella Maris (formally Apostleship of the Sea). To help provide ministry to support seafarers and fishers in UK and around the world.

Weekly Collections 6th July: Offertory: £1033.58 / GA: £258.00 / Second Collection: £344.34

Formation & Sacraments

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

First Holy Communion: The post-Communion 'We Belong' celebration will be after 9am Mass at St Martha's hall on 20th July. Do come dressed in your First Holy Communion outfit if you wish. This replaces the normal 9am refreshments, as the hall is not big enough to accommodate both events.

Applications for 2026 will open in August. Check back here then, and listen to announcements at Mass.

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 Spring 2026.

Home Visits: you need a non-urgent sacramental or pastoral visit, please use the form: <https://stmmrbexhill.co.uk/visiting-the-sick-and-housebound/> or telephone 01424 210263 opt. 4.

Diocese of Arundel & Brighton Ecumenical Walking Pilgrimage 2025 " 9 - 23 August. To book: <https://thepilgrims.org.uk/wp/2025-jubilee-pilgrimage-of-hope-join-us-and-spread-the-word/>

New Deanery Website & Newsletter to help with regular communication across our deanery, especially relating to the formation of a single parish, a temporary website has been developed which can be found at www.eastbourne-stleonards.org.uk.

Set the Captives Free Prayer Ministry Training Day: 11am, 19th July, St Edward the Confessor Church, Poundhill, Crawley, RH10 7EQ. Aiming to grow a strong team of inspired and safe prayer ministers who can serve in their parishes. Open to all who regularly attend Mass and who would like to serve in this ministry. More info: <https://www.abcharismatic.org/prayer-minister-training-19-july/>.



Saturday 12th July St Mary Magdalene Church St Mary Magdalene Church St Mary Magdalene Church	Opt. Mem 10.00am 5.15pm 6.00pm	Saturday Memorial of the BVM Don O'Donovan GE Confessions on Request Livia Knoll RIP
FIFTEENTH SUNDAY OT C (SEA SUNDAY)		
<i>Deut 30:10-14, Col 1:15-20, Lk 10:25-37</i>		
Sunday 13th July St Martha's Church St Mary Magdalene Church St Martha's Church	9.00am 11.00am 11.00am	People of the Parish The Marrero Family Syro-Malabar Mass
Second Collection: Stella Maris (former Apostleship of the Sea) (not GA)		
Monday 14th July St Mary Magdalene Church	Ferial 10.00am	Monday in 15th week OT All Departed Souls
Tuesday 15th July St Mary Magdalene Church	Memorial 10.00am	St Bonaventure, Bishop, Doctor PM Daniel & Susan Daniel GE
Wednesday 16th July St Mary Magdalene	Ferial -	Wednesday in 15th week OT No Mass
Thursday 17th July St Mary Magdalene Church	Ferial 6.30pm	Thursday in 15th week OT Seamus McHugh RIP Inc. Bap & FHC Camilla & Claudia Hassan.
Friday 18th July St Mary Magdalene Church	Ferial 10.00am	Friday in 15th week OT Margaret Hargan GE
Saturday 19th July St Mary Magdalene Church St Mary Magdalene Church St Mary Magdalene Church	Opt. Mem 10.00am 10.30am 6.00pm	Saturday Memorial of the BVM Holy Souls Confessions on Request People of the Parish
ST MARY MAGDALENE SUNDAY (Parish's Co-principal Patron)		
<i>(Readings of 16th Sunday in OT, C) Gen 18:1-10a, Col 1:24-28 & Lk 10:38-42</i>		
Sunday 20th July St Martha's Church St Mary Magdalene Church St Martha's Church	Sunday 9.00am 11.00am 11.00am	Baby Angelo Di Mascio RIP Margaret & Robert Redding RIP Syro-Malabar Mass
No Second Collection		
Monday 21st July St Mary Magdalene Church	Ferial 10.00am	Monday in 16th week OT All Departed Souls
Tuesday 22nd July St Mary Magdalene Church	Feast 10.00am	St Mary Magdalene John & Clare Keegan RIP
Wednesday 23rd July St Mary Magdalene Church	Feast -	St Bridget of Sweden, Patron Europe No Mass
Thursday 24th July St Mary Magdalene Church	Ferial 6.30pm	Thursday in 16th week OT Ann & Charles Wright RIP Inc. FHC Kyan Huseyin
Friday 25th July St Mary Magdalene Church	Feast 10.00am	St James, Apostle Don Burton RIP
Saturday 26th July St Mary Magdalene Church St Mary Magdalene Church	Memorial 10.00am 6.00pm	Ss Joachim and Anne Holy Souls People of the Parish
ST MARTHA SUNDAY (Parish's Co-principal Patron)		
<i>Gen 18:20-32, Col 2:12-14, Lk 11:1-13</i>		
Sunday 27th July St Martha's Church St Mary Magdalene Church St Martha's Church	9.00am 11.00am 11.00am	Florence Raey RIP Holy Souls Syro-Malabar Mass
No second collection		
Monday 28th July St Mary Magdalene Church	Ferial 10.00am	Monday in 16th week OT Sr Imelda GE services to the parish
Tuesday 29th July St Mary Magdalene Church	Memorial	Sts Mary, Martha & Lazarus
Wednesday 30th July St Mary Magdalene Church	No Mass	
Thursday 31st July St Mary Magdalene Church	Ferial 10.00am	Wednesday in 16th week OT Holy Souls
Friday 1st August St Mary Magdalene Church	Memorial 6.30pm	St Ignatius Loyola, Priest People of the Parish
	Memorial 10.00am	St Alphonsus Ligouri, Bishop, Dr People of the Parish

When our parish Car Parks are full, please park legally off-site. please do not obstruct driveways / pavements and be considerate to others. 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:

stephen.obrien@abdiocese.org.uk

For emergencies

i.e. Last Rites:

07872 396683

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.