

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

Key Return for Presbytery & St Mary Magdalene Hall

As the sale of the presbytery and St Mary Magdalene hall is now imminent; we need to make the following request:

Anyone who is possession of hall keys or a presbytery key, please put them in a clearly marked envelope and post through the parish office letter box ASAP. Thank you.

Eyes, Ears and Heart SVP Winter Campaign. This weekend, Bexhill SVP are launching their Winter Campaign and are inviting parishioners to participate by purchasing or sponsoring a Winter Cold Weather pack(s) to give to people during the colder months. Packs will be available after each mass next weekend and cost £5 each. Please give one or sponsor a pack that will be given to people in need. The pack contains, a thermal hat, gloves, two pairs of socks, toothbrush, toothpaste, flannel and hand warmers. Payment can be by cash, cheque or card.

The Parish Office

Due to our lone working policies, the parish office is open to those with appointments. Please contact the Parish Office by email if at all possible: bexhill@abdiocese.org.uk

or by 01424 210263 opt.4

To contact Fr Stephen:

stephen.obrien@abdiocese.org.uk

Sylvia Cousins Safeguarding:

sg1.bexhill@abdiocese.org.uk

THIRTIETH SUNDAY OT C

26th October 2025

The lowly one called, and the Lord heard him.

Update from Father Stephen

And so, the end is near- well, writing this on the 118th anniversary of the dedication of St Mary Magdalene Church, I am happy to say that I only mean that the sale of the Presbytery and Hall in Bexhill is now very near!

What does this mean in practical terms? Firstly, I am happy to confirm that our contact details are **unchanged**. There will temporarily be no physical office, but you will be able to contact Bonita and myself during usual opening hours exactly as you do now. I would like to take this opportunity to give my heartfelt thanks to Bonita and all those who have helped with the move. Secondly, from 7th November, with the exception of Blue Badge holders, **there will be no public parking at St Mary Magdalene's**. There are often bays available along Sea Road and Upper Sea Road which have two hours' free parking, plus pay and display bays available. You can of course also come by train and the 98, 99, 53 and other buses to the Church.

Where now? We are still finishing the maintenance work on the south and east elevations of the Church, which we legally must do as it is a listed building. We are working on the previously announced plan for a permanent office. Now St Martha's Hall is our catechetical centre, we will be able to function with some normality, and the proceeds of the sales at Sidley and at St Mary Magdalene will enable us to fund ongoing parish expenditure as well as the office. Our offertory collection remains very healthy, as you can see in the newsletter each week, and I am most grateful to you for your continuing generosity which has allowed the "normal" work of the parish to continue unimpeded even as we undertake all this work to make us ready for the future, allowing us to bring the Gospel to Bexhill and Little Common as we have always had the privilege of doing.

With all my prayers, Fr Stephen.

SVP Bereavement Mass 2.30pm Saturday 22nd November, St Mary Magdalene (note change of venue)

Photos for November Remembrance – Side Altars. Ahead of our parish bereavement Mass you are invited to place a photograph of a loved one you are grieving for on the Pieta Altar (St Mary Mags) or Our Lady's Altar (St Martha's) from 27th Oct – end Nov. Photographs will be transferred to St Mary Magdalene's on Friday 21st Nov, ready for the Mass on 22nd Nov. If you are housebound and would like a photograph placed on an altar, please contact the SVP on 07783 598238, who will collect it and return it to you. Please ensure your name and contact details are on the reverse of each photograph.

We pray for those who have died: Donough Moloney, Sr John Ogilvie, Brother Brian Butler, IC, John Burton, Colin Andrews 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, Gaynor Mitchell, Terence Phillips, Veronica Bennett.

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>

New Temporary 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.

Inauguration of First New Parish: last week Brighton & Hove Deanery became the first New Single Parish – we will follow soon! To see an uplifting short 3-minute video of the Inauguration go to www.abdiocese.org.uk/news/a-new-parish-for-arundel-brighton *Fr Kevin Dring - Moderated Parish.*

Liturgy & Prayer

Child Led Masses at 9am St Marthas: Our next child led mass will be on Sunday 2nd November, 9am at St Martha's church, when we celebrate the feast of All Saints. Children are invited to join in the entry procession wearing a halo, reminding us that we are all saints. Halos provided. Children will also help by doing the readings and bidding prayers.

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

Next SVP Tea at 3pm: Monday 10th November, St Martha's Hall. Info: bexhill@svp.org.uk All Welcome.

Catholic Women's League (CWL): Meet at 7pm on 1st Mon. of the month, in St Martha's Hall. Contact: 211717 or 221803.

Ride and Stride: Stormy weather prevented the sponsored walk for Sussex Historic Churches Trust (SHCT) going ahead on 13 September, but our hardy Quartet plus 3 friends rearranged the walk for 27th September. Many thanks to them and the many sponsors who generously contributed £440. Half will go to SHCT and half to Our Lady of the Rosary Parish Maintenance Fund. 8 Churches in and around Bexhill, covering approximately 5 miles received a visit.

Thank you, Ride and Stride participants, for your efforts and generosity, from all at our Parish.



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 Collections – 26th Oct: SVP Winter Appeal (not in our GA scheme)

Weekly Collections: 19th Oct: Offertory: £1012.25/ GA: £208.60 / Second Collection: £355.10

MISSIO: To donate online: [Donate - Missio](#)

Formation & Sacraments

Journey in Faith: Adult Formation & RCIA - Adult Baptisms, Receptions & Confirmations: Applications for RCIA 2025/26 are now closed. Next Session: 5th November, 7pm, St Martha's Hall.

Confirmation: Applications for 2025/26 are now closed. Next Session: 9th November, 5pm, St Martha's Hall.

First Holy Communion 2026: For baptised Catholic children or children who have been received into the Catholic church. Applications are now closed. The next parents meeting for *accepted candidates* will be on 11th November, 6.30pm, St Martha's Hall.

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

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://stmmmbexhill.co.uk/visiting-the-sick-and-housebound/> or telephone 01424 210263 opt. 4.

School Governor Recruitment Appeal Information: A & B Diocesan website: [Home | Arundel & Brighton Diocese](#) Bosco Trust link for Governor recruitment: [Become a Governor - Bosco Catholic Education Trust](#).

Foodbank: Would like any empty 6-egg boxes to be donated to them. They can be put in the donation basket, or if you collect lots, you can email info@bexhill.foodbank.org.uk, and they will collect on a Tuesday afternoon. Their eggs arrive in large trays, so they need the smaller boxes for distribution.

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.

And Volunteers needed to open and close the Repository for the 11am Mass. Thank you.

Saturday 25th October

	Opt. Mem	Saturday Memorial of the BVM
St Mary Magdalene Church	10.00am	Kay Weir RIP
St Mary Magdalene Church	10.30am	Confessions on Request
St Mary Magdalene Church	12.30pm	Baptism of Ted Albert Voller
St Mary Magdalene Church	5.30pm	Confessions on Request
St Mary Magdalene Church	6.00pm	Deceased Pattison & Gilbert Families

THIRTIETH SUNDAY OT C

Sir 35:15b-17, 20-22b; 2 Tim 4:6-8, 16-18, Lk 18:9-14

Sunday 26th October

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

Second Collection: SVP Winter Appeal (not in our GA scheme)**Monday 27th October**

St Mary Magdalene Church	10.00am	Holy Souls
		Ss Simon & Jude, Apostles

Tuesday 28th October

St Mary Magdalene Church	10.00am	Henry Chapman RIP
		Wednesday in 30th week OT

Wednesday 29th October

St Mary Magdalene Church	No Mass	-
		Thursday in 30th week OT

Thursday 30th October

Eastbourne Crematorium	11am	Funeral John Burton RIP
St Mary Magdalene Church	6.30pm	Luisa S. Cruz Inc. FHC Misha Cervantes

Friday 31st October

St Mary Magdalene Church	10.00am	Friday in 30th week OT
		Dennis Connor

Saturday 1st November

	Opt. Mem	Saturday Memorial of the BVM
St Mary Magdalene Church	10.00am	Norma Green GE
St Mary Magdalene Church	10.30am	Confessions on Request
St Mary Magdalene Church	5.30pm	Confessions on Request
St Mary Magdalene Church	6.00pm	People of the Parish

ALL SAINTS

Rev 7:2-4, 9-14, 1 Jn 3:1-3, Mat 5:1-12a,

Sunday 2nd November

St Martha's Church	9.00am	Liz O'Rourke Andrés RIP
St Mary Magdalene Church	11.00am	Anatazia & Zbigniew Zgoblis GE
Bexhill Cemetery	12.30pm	Blessing of the Graves
St Martha's Church	11.00am	Syro-Malabar Mass

Second Collection: Holy Souls

Parking at St Mary Magdalene Church: As the sale of the presbytery and St Mary Magdalene hall is now imminent, the parking in the grounds will become more limited. We would like to warn you in advance that there will be changes in the car park. Please be aware. Thank you.

MISSIO: To donate online: [Donate - Missio](#)

**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.