

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.

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.

The Parish Office

**Due to the upheaval during the sale
of the presbytery and hall,
contact for the next week
will be by email only:**

bexhill@abdiocese.org.uk

To contact Fr Stephen:

stephen.obrien@abdiocese.org.uk

Sylvia Cousins Safeguarding:

sg1.bexhill@abdiocese.org.uk

CONCERCRATION OF THE LATERAN BASILICA & REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY Yr 9th November 2025

The waters of a river give joy to God's city, the holy place, the abode of the Most High.

This morning I was travelling over the West Hill in Hastings on the 328 bus. This is one of my favourite views, looking down over the Old Town and over to the East Hill, with the sea gently lapping at the shore. This morning was a particularly fine time to be there, as a shift of beautiful sunlight pierced the gloom of the clouds.

As we approach Remembrance Sunday, the sight of the English Channel can remind one of the flotilla of small boats, from Thames pleasure cruisers to, especially on our part of the coast, our fishing fleet, who so bravely set out to rescue soldiers from the horrors of the war-torn beaches of Dunkerque. World War II epitomises the Church's teaching on a just war- to defend our country, and freedom in the world. Let us pray for the repose of the souls of all those in World War II and in other conflicts who lay down their lives so that we might live in peace and freedom.

We also celebrate the Consecration of the Lateran Basilica this weekend. This reminds us of a different area of Church teaching: that God has provided us with great Popes, up to and definitely including Pope Leo, whose Cathedral St John Lateran is, to guide and protect us.

By the time you read this, we will no longer own the Presbytery and Hall at St Mary Magdalene. We are entering a new phase in the life of St Mary Magdalene's and St Martha's. We commemorate most definitely all that God has done for us, just as in both our feasts this weekend, but we look forward to a new era in Bexhill and Little Common. The light broke the clouds this morning: may God's love illuminate our path forward.

God bless, Fr Stephen.

We pray for those who have died: Sr John Oglivie, Colin Andrews RIP.

We pray for the sick: Dorothy Smyth, Margaret Hitchman, David Spooner, Samuel Barden, Pete Cornfield, Baby Neveah O'Leary, Cecilia 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 23rd November. All are welcome to bring children / grandchildren.

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 7.30 pm on 1st Mon. of the month, in St Martha's Hall. Contact: 211717 or 221803.

The Newman Association: Father Charles Ezejide will speak on 'Tension between faiths in Nigeria'. Our Lady of Ransom Hall, Eastbourne, BN21 4EU. Monday 10th November 7:30 -9 pm. All welcome.

Christian Voices, the Musical Drama Group, next play is "Test of Faith": 11am, Sat, 15th November, Christchurch Methodist Church Hall (10am Refreshments)10am, Sun, 16th November, St Peter's Community Centre. 2pm, Sat, 29th November in St Michael's Church, Glassenbury Drive. 10.30am, Sun, 30th November, Little Common Methodist Church. All performances are in aid of The Friends of Lossie Long who are dedicated to helping older people in Bexhill. Your support would be greatly appreciated.

Interfaith: Sat 15th Nov 2pm-5pm: A collaboration with East Sussex Women's Interfaith Network at St John the Evangelist Church Hall, Brittany Rd. St Leonards. TN38 0LF. Performance, presentations, food to share. Free entry. See posters.



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 – 9th Nov: Church Flowers (GA)

Weekly Collections: 26th Oct: Offertory: £1150.85 / GA: £148.25 / Second Collection: £257.20

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://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/>

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.

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.

Three Churches in Little Common Meeting: Last for 2025 - St Marks Hall, 11am, Wed 19th November.

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.

Saturday 8th November	Opt. Mem	Saturday Memorial of the BVM
St Mary Magdalene Church	10.00am	PM Zachariah & Mariamma Zachariah RIP
St Mary Magdalene Church	10.30am	Confessions on Request
St Mary Magdalene Church	5.30pm	Confessions on Request

CONSECRATION OF THE LATERAN BASILICA

Ezek 47:1-2, 8-9, 12, 1 Pl 3:9c-11, 16-17, Jn 2:13-22

St Mary Magdalene Church	6.00pm	Ann Ford RIP
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REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

2 Macc 12:43-45, Rom 14: 7-9, 10c-12, Jn 6:37-40

Sunday 9th November

St Martha's Church	9.00am	People of the Parish
St Mary Magdalene Church	11.00am	For those Fallen in War
Bexhill Cemetery	12.30pm	Blessing of the Memorial Garden
St Martha's Church	11.00am	Syro-Malabar Mass

Second Collection: Church Flowers (GA)

Monday 10th November

St Mary Magdalene Church	10.00am	St Leo the Great, Pope, Doctor Sunoj Stephen
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Tuesday 11th November

St Mary Magdalene Church	11.00am	St Martin of Tours, Bishop Bartolomeo Visconti RIP
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Wednesday 12th November

St Mary Magdalene Church	No Mass	St Josaphat, Bishop, Martyr -
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Thursday 13th November

St Mary Magdalene Church	6.30pm	Thursday in 32 nd week OT Elizabeth Francis RIP
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Friday 14th November

St Mary Magdalene Church	10.00am	Ferial Benefactors
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Saturday 15th November

St Mary Magdalene Church	10.00am	Opt. Mem Saturday Memorial of the BVM Alikutty Thomas RIP
St Mary Magdalene Church	10.30am	Confessions on Request
St Mary Magdalene Church	5.30pm	Confessions on Request
St Mary Magdalene Church	6.00pm	Deceased members Knoll Family

THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY OT C

Mal 4:1-2a, 2 Thess 3:7-12, Lk 21:5-19

Sunday 16th November

St Martha's Church	9.00am	People of the Parish
St Mary Magdalene Church	11.00am	Daphne Coward GE
St Martha's Church	11.00am	Syro-Malabar Mass

Second Collection: Retired Priest Fund (GA)

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.

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.