

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

Fair Trade: This Saturday / Weekend is World Fair Trade Day reminder that we can change people's lives by shopping for Fairtrade logo items eg bananas, chocolates, tea, coffee, Malawi rice; one by one, product by product can make a fairer happier world today.

CAFOD Signatures Needed

Cafod is working as best they can with partners with your donations in Sudan in what is regarded as the world's largest humanitarian crisis. Two thirds of populations ie, 34 million people require assistance with no peace in sight. The high court in London in May 2025 fined South Sudan for defaulting on loan repayments to a foreign wealthy bank a sum of half the countries revenue.

Cafod will use our signatures with the Government to tackle these loan sharks at coming G20 meeting. Please add your signature to the 100 already received last weekend— numbers count which we'll report to our MP also. Hope, Pray, Support. See list in church porches.

Thank you, Jack Doherty.

The Parish Office

The best way of contact continues to 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

10th May 2026

STXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER Yr A

Cry out with joy to God, all the earth.

The Easter season is moving on. We are preparing for Ascension on Thursday- and, in this context, Jesus' promise in today's Gospel that he would not leave us as orphans is very important. To the disciples, who did not have of course the benefit of two millennia of hindsight, it was a vital reassurance that they would not be left without God's help: Jesus knew how they had felt when they thought he had died without rising. To us, also, this is a matter of great joy and relief.

Jesus in fact gives us two vital promises. Firstly, as in today's Gospel, he promises another helper. This is not always as clear as it might be to understand: the Greek word is "paraclete"- which could mean "he who is called to us", or "he who is called alongside". What this implies is that the Holy Spirit, the third Person of the Trinity, is called to us by both the Father and the Son. The Church has always been inspired by the Holy Spirit, "God with us" in the particular sense of his always being with us to guide us. Also, of course, Jesus himself promises us that he will be with us until the end of the age- which implies all the way through the era since his Ascension until he returns to us. This is true in turn in two important ways. Firstly, he promises us that he will be with us whenever two or three gather in his name- he will be with us in prayer and worship.

However, he is with us always, as he promised at the Last Supper, in the Blessed Sacrament- truly present in body, blood, soul and divinity. He is always with us in the tabernacles at St Mary Magdalene and St Martha's, and in every tabernacle and upon every altar in the world. Perhaps this is why it is vital that, in quick succession, we celebrate Ascension, Pentecost, Corpus Christi and Trinity Sunday. As he left us, he gave us the Holy Spirit, and remains with us both sacramentally and in our community, so that we may always know that we are caught up in the Trinity of love.

God bless, Fr Stephen.

We pray for those who have died: John O'Brien, Evelyne Sandrine Rodway RIP.

We pray for the sick: Dorothy Smyth, Margaret Hitchman, David Spooner, Samuel Barden, Pete Cornfield, Cecila Weathers, Margaret Carley, Jackie & Laurence Keep, Stephen Doyle, Ron Harbin, Jean Clifford, Margaret McNamara, Elizabeth Doust, Pat Payne, David Ball, Sian Stevens, Kate Brignall, Sally Moore, Terence Phillips, Jackie Malcolm, Bridget Bailey, Cathy Smulders, Peter Day.

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: www.eastbourne-stleonards.org.uk.

Liturgy & Prayer

St Mary Magdalene Church, Sunday 11am Mass: More volunteers needed for the following:

Welcomers / Stewards / Money Collectors, if you can help, please email the parish office.

Child Led Mass: 21st June and 12th July, 9am St Martha's.

Prayer for Priests: Every first Friday of the month, after 10am Mass, St Mary Magdalene (Rosary before the Blessed Sacrament and prayer).

Life in the Spirit Seminar: In support of the Diocesan Pastoral Plan, every Thursday evening 7.30pm from 16th April to 4th June, St Martha's hall, Little Common. This journey over seven sessions is an opportunity to deepen your relationship with Jesus and to experience anew the abundant power of His Holy Spirit. Each session includes inspiring teaching from excellent speakers, personal testimonies, small-group sharing and prayer. For more info or to register online: www.abcharismatic.org.

Unbound UK Prayer Course: The next course started on 10th March. The meetings will take place every Tuesday and last for 14 weeks. For more information go to: <https://www.unboundprayer.com/>

CTiB Open Air Community Hymn Singing: you are invited to join at 4 pm on Sunday 17 May, 21 June and 19 July at the Coronation Bandstand, De La Warr Parade. See posters in church.

Three Churches in Little Common Meeting: 11am, Wed 20th May, St Martha's Church Hall. All are welcome to these informal meetings with our neighbour churches – Little Common Methodists and St Mark's. A short service followed by refreshments and a chat.

Pentecost Novena: If you would like to pray this, please follow this link:
<https://www.praymorenovenas.com/novena-to-the-holy-spirit>

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

Sussex Catenians: A Catholic organization for men and their families in Hastings & Bexhill. More info: <https://sussexcatenians.org/> or scan the QR opposite,



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.

No Second Collection this Sunday

Weekly Collections 26th April: Offertory: £965.07 / GA: £283.40 / Second Collection £397.30

April SO: Offertory: £322 / GA: £1964

Gift Aid Statements: if you wish to receive a Gift Aid statement, please email Bonita who will email you your statement (or post if necessary).

Formation & Sacraments

Confirmation: Next Session: Sunday 17th May – 5pm, St Martha's Church and Hall. Certificate presentation, film and pizza.

First Holy Communion 2026: The next meeting for FHC candidates - 6.30pm, 12th May, St Martha's Hall. This will be the Rehearsal for the FHC Mass, in St Martha's Church, for children and their parents / carers.

Infant Baptism (Aged 0-6): Applications submitted via the website: <https://stmmbehill.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://stmmbehill.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://stmmbehill.co.uk/visiting-the-sick-and-housebound/> or telephone 01424 210263 opt, 4.

Social & Pastoral

Next SVP Tea at 3: Monday 11th May, 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. On 1st June at 7-30pm, there will be a talk about Bexhill Caring Community. They recently raised £292.75 from Info Day/Cake Sale in aid of Beachy Head Chaplaincy & £219.40 from Sausage Sizzle in aid of Bexhill Caring Community.

KSC Charity Quiz Update: 2pm, Saturday 23rd May, St Martha's Hall. Tickets: £6 pp / £20 family of four (one person in fulltime education). All proceeds will go to HUG and local SVP. More info & Tickets: David 07771 757367 / Sean 07874 061235. All welcome. *A few tickets have accidentally been printed with 7.45pm; please ignore these, the correct time is 2pm!*

Saturday 9th May

St Mary Magdalene Church	10.00am	Joseph Thomas RIP
St Mary Magdalene Church	10.30am	Confessions of Request
St Mary Magdalene Church	5.30pm–5.50pm	Confessions of Request
St Mary Magdalene Church	6.00pm	Adam Clarke RIP

Saturday after 5th Sun Easter

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER YR A

Acts 8:5-8, 14-17, 1 Pt 3:15-18 & Jn 14:15-21

Sunday 10th May

St Martha's Church	9.00am	Florence Raey RIP
St Mary Magdalene Church	11.00am	People of the Parish
St Martha's Church	11.00am	Syro-Malabar Mass

No Second Collection

Monday 11th May

St Mary Magdalene Church	10.00	Noreen Corness RIP
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Monday after 6th Sun Easter

Tuesday 12th May

St Mary Magdalene Church	10.00am	Mick Hanson RIP
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Tuesday after 6th Sun Easter

Wednesday 13th May

St Mary Magdalene Church	No Mass	-
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Wed after 6th Sun Easter

Thursday 14th May

	Holy day of Obligation	Ascension of the Lord
St Mary Magdalene Church	10.00am	
St Mary Magdalene Church	6.30pm	Private Intention

Friday 15th May

St Mary Magdalene Church	10.00am	Velamkuneel Family RIP
St Mary Magdalene Church	2.00pm	Requiem Evelyn Rodway RIP

Friday after 6th Sun Easter

Saturday 16th May

St Mary Magdalene Church	10.00am	Elizabeth Francis RIP
St Mary Magdalene Church	10.30am	Confessions on Request
St Mary Magdalene Church	5.30pm – 5.50pm	Confessions on Request
St Mary Magdalene Church	6.00pm	People of the Parish

Saturday after 6th Sun Easter

SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER YR A

Acts 1:12-14, 1 Pt 4:13-16 & Jn 17:1-11a

Sunday 17th May

St Martha's Church	9.00am	Mike Boakes RIP
St Mary Magdalene Church	11.00am	Martin Malone RIP
St Martha's Church	11.00am	Syro-Malabar Mass

World Communications Sunday (Not our GA)

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

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.

Financial Support for Young Lourdes Helpers: Are you or your child 15 to 25 and already booked to go on the diocesan pilgrimage to Lourdes this July as a red shirt, purple shirt or young helper? The Knights of St Columba have generously provided some funds to support your costs. To apply, please email eastbourneolor@abdiocese.org.uk, providing your name, age and contact phone number, deadline 20th June 2026.