

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

DOUBLE EDITION NEWSLETTER THIS WEEK.

Latest Deanery Update

We have had a first meeting of a new Deanery Leadership Group, some priests and lay people from across the deanery. They will be working closely with the team of parish priests, and with our Hub Leadership groups to build on the good work that he has already been done over the past year in beginning to build foundations for our parishes coming together and working and sharing closely in the mission of the Church. From September, by which time we may (please God) have a good new Bishop in post, the work of these various groups will begin to impact more directly within the church communities, inviting everyone to play their part in the important work ahead. Everything we do will only be done if it clearly aims to build up our communities in strong faith, to support the most needy, and to reach out to share the Good News with all those around us. *God bless – Fr Kevin Dring.*

The Parish Office

**Please note the Parish Office
will be closed:**

Friday 12th June, Monday 15th June.

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

**THE MOST HOLY BODY & BLOOD OF CHRIST
& 11th SUNDAY OT Yr A 7th & 14th June 2026**

THE MOST HOLY BODY & BLOOD OF CHRIST

O Jerusalem, glorify the Lord!

11th SUNDAY OT Yr A

We are his people, the sheep of his flock

This is a poem by the Victorian Jesuit priest, Gerard Manley Hopkins:

God's Grandeur

The world is charged with the grandeur of God.
It will flame out, like shining from shook foil;
It gathers to a greatness, like the ooze of oil
Crushed. Why do men then now not reck his rod?

Generations have trod, have trod, have trod;
And all is seared with trade; bleared, smeared with toil;
And wears man's smudge and shares man's smell: the soil
Is bare now, nor can foot feel, being shod.

And for all this, nature is never spent;
There lives the dearest freshness deep down things;
And though the last lights off the black West went
Oh, morning, at the brown brink eastward, springs —
Because the Holy Ghost over the bent
World broods with warm breast and with ah! Bright wings.

As we head into summertime, we see the early light of the day returning, the sharp light of the noontime, both the gentle summer breeze and the unseasonal gale, the fiery glory of the sunset, and the slow march into night. We see the finest and sometimes the harshest of nature.

It is always both vital and inspiring to know that we live in God's world. He it is who has appointed the nature of the sunrise and sunset. He it is who set our sun to shine in one of the spiral arms of our galaxy, and who ordained that, out of the planetary nebula surrounding it, worlds should come together, and that, on the third planet out, human life, together with all flora and fauna, should evolve.

He it is, too, who loves us so much that he cares for us. He gives us both natural and supernatural gifts, and protects us from the worse things in the world. As we approach the feast day of St Richard of Chichester, let us rejoicingly join in his prayer:

Thanks be to thee, my Lord Jesus Christ, for all the benefits thou hast given me, for all the pains and insults thou hast borne for me.

O most merciful redeemer, friend and brother, may I know thee more clearly, love thee more dearly, and follow thee more nearly, day by day. Amen.

God bless, Fr Stephen.

We pray for those who have died: Margaret Davey, Paul Balzan 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, Angela Burden.

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 Choir: I am delighted that we are beginning to build up the choir again and are now going to start having regular practices. We will meet at 6 pm on Fridays in St Mary Magdalene church, for an hour, once a fortnight, starting on Friday 22nd May. We would love more singers and musicians so this would be a great time to join. You can contact me on 07815 182189 / megsmart82@aol.com or just turn up on the evening. Margaret.

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. We are very grateful for the wonderful volunteers we currently have, but we do need more to balance out duties. There is no heavy lifting, just simple house duties to complete before and throughout the Mass. All roles are very fulfilling, so please do help if you can.

Child Led Mass: Our next children's led mass will be on Sunday 21st June. We will be joined by children who have recently made their First Holy Communion, and they will be celebrating their "Going forth" Mass. Could any children wanting to read a reading or a bidding prayer at this mass see Sarah for a practice after the 9.00 a.m. next Sunday 14th June.

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

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/>

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.

Second Collection this Sunday: *Church Maintenance (GA)*

Collections 31st May: Offertory: £1025.08 / GA: £185 / Diocese Missionary Endeavour: £199.55 / GA: £75

May SO: Offertory: £608.90 / GA: £3231.00

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

First Holy Communion 2026: For those who have completed the course: FHC Mass – 3pm, 6th June & 3pm, 13th June, St Martha's

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/>

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

Social & Pastoral

Next SVP Tea at 3: Monday 8th June, 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 are holding a Strawberry Tea on Sunday 19th July at 2.30pm in St Martha's Hall. Tickets will be available after Masses from 5th July. Adults £5 / Families £10.

CAFOD: If you would like to know anything regarding CAFOD and their campaigns, please go to their website where you will find any information you require: <https://cafod.org.uk/>

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

GBGW: Next week is Great Big Green Week, a huge reminder again for each of us to live simply and curb our emissions; reduce electrical usage, transport, methane from wasted food. *Jack Doherty.*

Saturday 6th June	Opt. Mem	Saturday Memorial of the BVM
St Mary Magdalene Church	10.00am	Bijimol Aju GE (Birthday)
St Mary Magdalene Church	10.30am	Confessions on Request
St Martha's Church	3.00pm	First Holy Communion Mass
St Mary Magdalene Church	5.30pm–5.50pm	Confessions on Request
St Mary Magdalene Church	6.00pm	Yseult & Gordon Phillips RIP

THE MOST HOLY BODY & BLOOD OF CHRIST YR A

Deut 8:2-3, 14b-16a, 1 Cor 10:16-17 & Jn 6:51-58

Sunday 7th June		
St Martha's Church	9.00am	People of the Parish
St Mary Magdalene Church	11.00am	Pat Billingham RIP
St Martha's Church	11.00am	Syro-Malabar Mass

Second Collection: Church Maintenance (GA)

No Mass: Monday 8th, Tuesday 9th, Wednesday 10th June

Thursday 11th June	Memorial	St Barnabas, Apostle
St Mary Magdalene Church	6.30pm	Joseph Thomas RIP
Friday 12th June	Solemnity	Most Sacred Heart of Jesus
St Mary Magdalene Church	11.00am	Requiem Paul Balzan RIP
Saturday 13th June	Memorial	The Immaculate Heart of Mary
St Mary Magdalene Church	10.00am	No Mass
St Martha's Church	3.00pm	First Holy Communion Mass
St Mary Magdalene Church	5.30pm – 5.50pm	Confessions on Request
St Mary Magdalene Church	6.00pm	Olimpio & Iolanda Forte RIP

11th SUNDAY OT YR A *Ex 19:2-6a, Rom 5:6-11 & Mt 9:36-10:8*

Sunday 14th June		
St Martha's Church	9.00am	Cronin & Dreland Families RIP
St Mary Magdalene Church	11.00am	Reg Chapman RIP
St Martha's Church	11.00am	Syro-Malabar Mass

Second Collection: Church Maintenance (GA)

Monday 15th June	Memorial	St Anthony of Padua, Priest, Dr
St Mary Magdalene Church	10.00am	Fred Herring RIP
Tuesday 16th June	Memorial	St Richard of Chichester, Bishop
St Mary Magdalene Church	10.00am	Yseult Phillips RIP
Wednesday 17th June	No Mass	-
Thursday 18th June	Ferial	Thursday in 11th week OT
St Mary Magdalene Church	6.30pm	In Thanksgiving
Friday 19th June	Ferial	Friday in 11th week OT
St Mary Magdalene Church	10.00am	Holy Souls
Saturday 20th June	Opt. Mem	Saturday Memorial of the BVM
St Mary Magdalene Church	10.00am	No Mass
St Mary Magdalene Church	5.30pm–5.50pm	Confessions on Request
St Mary Magdalene Church	6.00pm	Deceased Capaldi Family

12th SUNDAY OT YR A *Jer 20:10-13, Rom 5:12-15 & Mt 10:26-33*

Sunday 21st June		
St Martha's Church	9.00am	Jerry Edouard RIP
St Mary Magdalene Church	11.00am	People of the Parish
St Martha's Church	11.00am	Syro-Malabar Mass

Second Collection: Day for Life (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

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.

The Parish Office will be closed: Friday 12th June & Monday 15th June.