

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

Monthly Churches Clean

After all Masses this Sunday 19th July.

St Mary Magdalene Feast Day

Celebration: *This* Sunday 19th July, after 11am Mass. Refreshments in the porch and grounds.

St Martha's Feast Day Celebration will take place in the Hall after 9am Mass, 26th July. Please bring any religious memorabilia looking for a new home. There will be a box at the back of the Church next Sunday to collect Statues, Rosaries, Books, Pictures etc. Also come along on the day and see the story of a Family Bible spotted on St Martha's Table last year, and researched by a parishioner, is now back with the very grateful descendants of a Victorian emigre Railwayman.

Bexhill Foodbank Summer Picnic

Project: We will provide food parcels to any local family that needs us, and alongside that, we want to provide a picnic cool bag, full of snacks, sandwich items, juice cartons, fruit and some fun outdoor summer toys and suncream to ensure the kids can stay safe in the sun. Non-perishable donations welcome. Thankyou.

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

19th July 2026

ST MARY MAGDALENE YR A

O Lord, you are good and forgiving.

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. Next week, we shall honour and ask the intercession of St Martha, sister of Lazarus.

This week, we do the same for St Mary Magdalene. She 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. The Church has, for her unwavering faith in proclaiming the Resurrection, accorded her the title *apostola apostolorum*- apostle of the apostles.

Perhaps we might pray today, asking for her intercession and inspiration.

Mary Magdalene, faithful disciple of the Lord, you stood at the tomb of Jesus with a heart filled with sorrow and longing. Though you did not yet understand what God had prepared, you remained faithful in the midst of confusion, doubt, and loss.

Pray for all who are burdened by grief, uncertainty, or suffering. Through your witness of unwavering love and your joyful encounter with the Risen Christ, lead us to the hope of the Resurrection and to a deeper faith in our Savior. (Mention your request here...)

Saint Mary Magdalene, pray for us.

God bless, Fr Stephen.

We pray for those who have died: Margaret Davey, James Green, Cathy Smulders, Phil McGowan 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, Angela Burden, John Fitzpatrick.

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.

June Deanery Magazine: [Magazine June 2026 Final.pdf](#)

Liturgy & Prayer

‘Kendal 66’ Requiem Mass - 10am – Tuesday 21st July – St Mary Magdalene Church: In September 2025 the bones of 66 men, women and children, including infants, were found under a boundary wall of Kendal Parish church during the construction of the Kendal Flood Risk Management Scheme. The bones were carbon dated and found to date between the 11th and 13th century. It was decided by the church community that the bones should be re-interred, and 8 caskets were provided for the service, which took place in May this year. This decision was certainly commendable, and the caskets were generously provided by the parish. However, unfortunately, although the bones obviously belonged to Catholics no Catholic clergy were invited to be involved in the ceremony. I spoke to Fr Stephen about my sadness at this event and he suggested that rather than having a normal weekday Mass for the repose of their souls, which was my intention, we should have a Requiem Mass for them.

Prayer for Priests: *Please note there will not be meetings during August.* Every first Friday of the month, after 10am Mass, St Mary Magdalene (Rosary before the Blessed Sacrament and prayer).

Prayer Ministry Training Hub Session, "Set the Captives Free" - 10.45am – 3.30pm, Saturday 18th July 2026, Holy Redeemer hall, St Leonards. This is a key training course for anyone who wants to grow in confidence or is discerning a call to offer Prayer Ministry in their parish or in a prayer group. The teaching is rooted in Jesus’ mission “to proclaim liberty to captives” (Luke 4:18), the day includes - teaching on ministering with humility, discernment, but also in authority; Practical workshops to allow confidence and growth in this ministry; Developing expectant faith and to listen to the Holy Spirit; Safeguarding expectations. Registration essential, please remember to bring your lunch. For more information – text Ghislaine 07491 477773.

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: *Bexhill Foodbank Summer Picnic Project (not our GA)*

They will provide food parcels to any local family in need, they also want to provide a picnic cool bag, full of snacks, juice cartons, fruit and some fun outdoor summer toys and suncream. If you can donate money online, every £1 that you give will be doubled as they have a local company happy to match-fund all donations up to £2500. To give online <https://www.crowdfunder.co.uk/p/qr/BWdm8rbn>

Parish Collections 12th July: Offertory: £915.12 / GA: £294.00 / 2nd Collection: £276.57

Formation & Sacraments

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.

Social & Pastoral

Next SVP Tea at 3: Monday 10th August, 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 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.

CTiB Open Air Community Hymn Singing: 4pm, 19 July, Coronation Bandstand, De La Warr Parade.

Synodality: Pope Leo is actively encouraging the growth of synodality as the way forward for the global Church as seen in his encyclical Magnifica Humanitas. If you are interested in finding out more about synodality you are warmly invited to an Introductory Course to be led by the Synod Group from the parish of the Good Shepherd in the locality soon. It consists of 5, one and a half hour sessions. For more information contact churchgroup33@aol.com (Carmen Gomez)

Beachy Head Chaplaincy Team Vacancy: Paid Part-Time Chaplain Role, closing date 1st August. For more information go to: www.bhct.org.uk/join-our-team

Saturday 18th July	Opt. Mem	Saturday Memorial of the BVM
St Mary Magdalene Church	10.00am	People of the Parish Inc. Baptism Marley Munro
St Mary Magdalene Church	10.30am	Confessions on Request
St Mary Magdalene Church	12.30pm	Baptism Arabella Finch

ST MARY MAGDALENE YR A

Wis 12:13, 1619, Rom 8:26-27, Mat 13:24-43

Saturday 18th July	Vigil	
Mary Magdalene Church	5.30pm–5.50pm	Confessions on Request
St Mary Magdalene Church	6.00pm	Livia Knoll RIP
St Mary Magdalene Church	(after Mass)	(Church Clean Transept)
Sunday 19th July		
St Martha's Church	9.00am	Monica Whillson White RIP
St Martha's Church	(after Mass)	(Whole Church)
St Mary Magdalene Church	11.00am	People of the Parish
St Mary Magdalene Church	(after Mass)	(Church Clean Nave & Porches)
St Martha's Church	11.00am	Syro-Malabar Mass

Second Collection: Bexhill Foodbank Summer Picnic Project (not our GA)

Monday 20th July	Ferial	Monday in 16th week OT
St Mary Magdalene Church	10.00am	Fr Lawrence Quinn-Morris & Fr Stephen Ortiger RIP
Tuesday 21st July	Ferial	Tuesday in 16th week OT
St Mary Magdalene Church	10.00am	Requiem Mass for the Kendall 66
Wednesday 22nd July	Feast	St Mary Magdalene
St Mary Magdalene Church	No Mass	-
Thursday 23rd July	Feast	St Bridget of Sweden
St Mary Magdalene Church	6.30pm	Stephen Palakunnel RIP
Friday 24th July	Ferial	Friday in 16th week OT
St Mary Magdalene Church	10.00am	Ann & Charles Wright RIP
Saturday 25th July	Feast	St James, Apostle
St Mary Magdalene Church	10.00am	John & Clare Keegan RIP
St Mary Magdalene Church	10.30am	Confessions on Request
St Mary Magdalene Church	12.30pm	Wedding Kirsty Hoggins & Thomas Szyzsko

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY OT YR A

1 Kgs 3:5-6a,7-12, Rom 8:28-30, Mat 13:44-52

Saturday 25th July	Vigil	
St Mary Magdalene Church	5.30pm–5.50pm	Confessions on Request
St Mary Magdalene Church	6.00pm	Baby Angelo Di Mascio RIP
Sunday 26th July		
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

Second Collection: Bexhill SVP (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.

Christian Voices, the Musical Drama Group: next play is "In the Eyes of God".

Based on the parable of the Pharisee and the Tax Collector: 11am, Saturday 18th July, Catsfield Village Hall (Coffee & Cake 10am); 10.30am, Sunday 19th July, Little Common Methodist Church. All performances are in aid of "Warming Up the Homeless"