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

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY 8th November 2026
THIRTY-SECOND SUNDAY YR A

For you my soul is thirsting, O Lord, my God.

This Sunday, we come to Remembrance Sunday- the day which commemorates the sacrifice of so many in the pursuit of freedom. Remembrance Day was first instituted after the Great War, as the guns fell silent on the Western Front at the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month. It was moved to Sunday after World War II, as that War began on Sunday, 3rd September in 1939. It is a day deep with significance, both in remembrance of those who gave up their lives that we might live in freedom and peace, and of the horror which can so easily happen when nations do not live in harmony.

It occurs, perhaps most appropriately, as we begin November- a time in the Church's year when we especially remember all those of our loved ones who have gone before us. We recall with love our memories of those we have lost, and think of them with affection.

However, we have something more mysterious, and yet more wonderful, that we can and must do. St Paul, in our second reading, wants to reassure us of our loved ones' journey in faith. We can rejoice at God's love in this, but also we must make that wonderful prayer for the repose of their souls. Through our prayers, and with God's love and forgiveness, not only may they be in Purgatory- a place for those already destined for Heaven, where we are made ready to see Jesus face to face. Our prayers matter- they are heard by the Lord, and with them our loved ones may already be in the presence of the Beatific Vision. Let us offer that most wonderful prayer- may their souls, and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Let us, with St Paul, not be afraid, but trust in God's mercy. Let us know that, through a life of grace and forgiveness, through God's mercy and love, that our loved ones, with our prayers, may already be hearing those wonderful words from God- "Well done, good and faithful servant".

God bless, Fr Stephen.

The Month of the Holy Souls

Blessing of the Memorial Garden

12.15pm, Saturday 7th November

During November we pray for the Holy Souls in Purgatory, especially those in our funeral books of remembrance: *'Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them, may they rest in peace. Amen'.* We invite you to place a photograph of a loved one you are grieving for on the Pieta Side Altar (St Mary Magdalene) or Our Lady's Side Altar (St Martha's) up until 20th November so we can pray for them.

The photographs from St Martha's will be transferred to St Mary Magdalene where we will celebrate our **Annual Bereavement Mass at 2.30pm on Saturday 21st November**. Please attach contact details on the back of the photograph/frame.

Advent Reconciliation Service for East Hub: Monday, 14th December at 7pm at St Thomas of Canterbury, St Leonards. All Welcome.

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

Dona Card Machines: We are hoping to have a New Dona Machine available in each Church by next weekend. As they are a different provider, if you are a Gift Aider, you will need to re-register your details on this new machine. You can do this either via the Machine or make a donation online and re-register for Gift Aid, however, this will only be possible when the machines are set up. Also with this new method, you will be able arrange a standing order if you wish. Please listen at Mass and look for notices in the newsletter for confirmation of set-up.

We pray for those who have died: Joan Matthews, Neil Crossingham, Margaret Hargan, John Fitzpatrick, Margaret Hitchman, Jean Clifford RIP.

We pray for the sick: Dorothy Smyth, David Spooner, Samuel Barden, Pete Cornfield, Cecila Weathers, Margaret Carley, Jackie & Laurence Keep, Stephen Doyle, Ron Harbin, Margaret McNamara, Elizabeth Doust, Pat Payne, David Ball, Sian Stevens, Kate Brignall, Sally Moore, Terence Phillips, Jackie Malcolm, Bridget Bailey, Angela Burden, Mary Cunningham, Michael Spillane.

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.

Autumnal Deanery Magazine: autumn-2026-deanery-magazine.pdf

Liturgy & Prayer Altar Servers: Volunteers are welcome to become Altar Servers at all Masses, at both St Mary Magdalene and St Martha's. You need to have received your First Holy Communion. Full training will be given. Please contact the parish office or speak to Andrew.

Sacristy Volunteers Needed at St Mary Magdalene Church: Volunteers needed to help to set up the Altar for Mass and to clear up afterwards. This is a very rewarding role to do. Please contact Barbara for more details: 07749 835879.

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

Diocesan Lighthouse Charismatic Event: Saturday 28th November at St Martha's Church in Bexhill. 11:30am – 5:00pm. Volunteers for refreshments and home-made cakes including allergen listed ingredients: email g_pilard@hotmail.co.uk Normal Masses will continue in St Mary Magdalene Church.

Eastbourne & Bexhill Newman Association: Thurs 19th November - Magnifica Humanitas: Zoom talk by Fr Andrew Pinsent on Pope Leo's encyclical by. Contact bjechlin@btinternet.com for zoom link to watch at home. Or go to OLR Church Hall (Eastbourne BN21 4EU) to watch on the large screen.

SIF Signing for St Peter & St Paul Primary School, Bexhill: Fr Stephen has kindly said he would be available for signing on the following: **4pm, Thursday 12th November, at St Mary Magdalene Church.** Please remember to bring child's Baptism Certificate, in order for your form to be signed.

Christian Voices Musical Drama Group: The next play is called, "Everyone is Loved". Performances:
11am, Sat 14th November, Christchurch Methodist Church Hall, 10am for Refreshments.
10am, Sun, 15th November, St Peter's Community Centre;
10.30am, Sat 21st November, St Barnabas Church; 10.30am, Sun 22nd November, Little Common Methodist Church. All proceeds in aid of 1066 Pink Ladies, Hastings & Bexhill Breast Cancer Support. Come along and support if you can.

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: Church Maintenance (GA)

Parish Collections 1st November: Offertory: £947.03 / GA: £189.00 / 2nd Collection: £268.07

October SO: Offertory: £622.00 / GA: £3055.00

Formation & Sacraments

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

First Holy Communion 2027: This course is now full; applications are now closed. It is imperative parent / carers attend ***every*** monthly session, and regular Mass attendance is ***fulfilled***.

Update: **Church Tours For all First Holy Communion Candidates and their Parent/Carers:** *Please note the change of dates*: As part of the " I Belong" Course, Sarah Surman will conduct A Tour of the Church after each of the weekend Masses: 7th & 8th November. Meet Sarah at the front of the Church.

Confirmation 2027: Next Session: 5pm, 8th November, St Martha's Hall.

Journey in Faith: Adult Formation & RCIA 2027 - Adult Baptisms, Receptions & Confirmations: Applications are now closed.

Marriage: 12-months' notice required. Please contact the parish office if getting married in Summer 2027.

Home Visits: If you need a non-urgent sacramental or pastoral visit, please use the form: https://stmmbexhill.co.uk/visiting-the-sick-and-housebound/ or telephone 01424 210263 opt, 4.

Social & Pastoral

Next SVP Tea at 3: Monday 9th November, St Martha's Hall. Info: bexhill@svp.org.uk All Welcome. Volunteers needed to help the team put out tables and chairs on the day, 1-1.30pm and 4.15-5pm contact Chris Jones on 07783 598238 or by email: popsy57@outlook.com

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 Pimm's, Canapes and Music Night with The Shady Ladies**: Saturday 7th November, 7.30pm in St Martha's Hall - tickets £10, on sale after Sunday Masses.

Hastings Council 630 of The Knights of St Columba Meeting: Thursday, 19th November, 7pm**,** Parish Meeting Room, St Thomas of Canterbury, Magdalen Road, St Leonards. Any interested Catholic men are welcome to attend. Contact Flavio 07854 932595.

Saturday 7th November	**Opt. Mem**	**Saturday Memorial of the BVM**
St Mary Magdalene Church	10.00am	Rogelio & Myrna Granil GE (Golden Wedding Anniversary)
St Mary Magdalene Church	10.30am	Confessions on Request
Memorial Garden	12.15pm	Blessing of Memorial Garden

THIRTY-SECOND SUNDAY YR A

Wis 6:12-16, Thess 4:13-18, Mat 25:1-13

(& Remembrance Sunday)

Saturday 7th November	**Vigil**	
Mary Magdalene Church	5.30pm–5.50pm	Confessions on Request
St Mary Magdalene Church	6.00pm	People of the Parish
Sunday 8th November		
St Martha's Church	9.00am	For Those Fallen in War
St Mary Magdalene Church	11.00am	Anne Ford RIP & For Those Fallen in War
St Martha's Church	11.00am	*Syro-Malabar Mass*

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

Monday 9th November	**Feast**	**Dedication Lateran Basilica**
St Mary Magdalene Church	***No Mass***	**-**
Tuesday 10th November	**Memorial**	**St Leo the Great, Pope, Dr**
St Mary Magdalene Church	***No Mass***	-
St Michaels, Battle	***11am***	Deceased Clergy Mass ***All welcome***
Wednesday 11th November	**Memorial**	**St Martin of Tours, Bishop**
St Mary Magdalene Church	***10.00am***	**Joseph Thomas RIP**
Thursday 12th November	**Memorial**	**St Josaphat, Bishop, Martyr**
St Mary Magdalene Church	6.30pm	Bartolomeo Visconti RIP Inc. Baptism & FHC Zoey & Heidi Sear
Friday 13th November	**Ferial**	**Friday in 32nd week OT**
St Mary Magdalene Church	***11.00am***	Requiem John Fitzpatrick RIP
Saturday 14th November	**Opt. Mem**	**Saturday Memorial of the BVM**
St Mary Magdalene Church	10.00am	Private Intention
St Mary Magdalene Church	10.30am	Confessions on Request
St Mary Magdalene Church	12.30pm	Baptism Reggie James-Dillard

THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY YR A

Prov 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31, 1 Thess 5:1-6, Mat 25:14-30

Saturday 14th November	**Vigil**	
St Mary Magdalene Church	5.30pm–5.50pm	Confessions on Request
St Mary Magdalene Church	6.00pm	People of the Parish
Sunday 15th November		
St Martha's Church	9.00am	Mark Blackwell RIP
St Mary Magdalene Church	11.00am	PM & Mariamma Zachariah RIP
St Martha's Church	11.00am	Syro-Malabar Mass

No Second Collection this week

'Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord,

and let perpetual light shine upon them, may they rest in peace. Amen'.

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.