

# PARISH NEWS

10<sup>th</sup> December 2017  
Second Sunday of Advent Yr B

St Mary Magdalene's, St Martha's, Our Lady of the Rosary  
The Catholic Parish serving Bexhill-on-Sea, Little Common, Sidley and the surrounding areas

## Parish Advent and Christingle Service



Including our children's Nativity Play

Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> December  
at 2.30 pm

St Martha's Church

Please join us for the Service and after in the hall for refreshments.

All participants in the Nativity to arrive at 2.15pm on Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> December please.

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## Parish Christmas Day Lunch

St Martha's Hall  
12:30pm for 1pm



All parishioners and their friends welcome (*singles, pairs and families*) for a traditional turkey and pudding feast (with a vegetarian option).

Wine and other drinks will accompany the meal.

Although there is no charge, donations will be gratefully received on the day.

If you would like to join us, please contact

Parish Office: 210263

or Julia Dance: 213078.

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## Peter Robinson RIP

It is with great regret that we inform you of the death of Peter Robinson. He was a good man who worked tirelessly to support the Church here and elsewhere, including CAFOD and numerous other charities. Please pray for Peter and for his family at this difficult time.

His funeral will be:

**A Requiem Mass at St Mary Magdalene's, 10am, Monday 11<sup>th</sup> December, followed by**

**a Service at Eastbourne Crematorium at 3:15pm**

Please do contact Ron Brazier if you need a lift on 01424 844177.

Let us see, O Lord,  
your mercy and give us your saving help.



Last weekend marked the start of a new year in the life of the Church. It is a good time to reflect on where we are going as the Church, and the challenges we face in the future. We have an actual crisis of vocations to the priesthood across England and Wales. I have mentioned before that, on current figures, it is probable that by the year 2030 the Diocese will have just fifty priests under the age of sixty five compared with ninety active priests today. The problem has in fact already arrived with 2/3 parishes awaiting the appointment of a permanent priest. It is becoming increasingly difficult for the Bishop to cover all bases.

It is certainly important to pray for more priests and support them in their priestly ministry. It is also necessary for the people of the Diocese to think seriously about how to meet the crisis. A number of you have already spoken to me about your thoughts on this. At the same time we need to see this as an opportunity to take a fresh look at the vision of the Church set out by the Second Vatican Council. The Church will only grow when all the Baptised recognise their vocation "to be Christ in our world".

Our parish vision is to be a vibrant faith community through the love of the Father, through the example of the Son and through the power of the Holy Spirit. Each one's presence and service in our parish is very impressive and important in so many ways visibly and invisibly. I am indeed impressed by the obvious commitment of so many parishioners. Let us continue in the same spirit in taking care of our parish life and ministry along with the clergy. I want to say a big "Thank you" for all that you have been doing for our parish community.

As we continue our preparations for Christmas. Let's make sure we do not neglect the spiritual preparations, so may I leave you with a thought, a simple but vital question for all of us: If you knew Jesus was coming to you today, what would you need to do to be ready to meet him?

Wishing you a blessed Advent.

With my love and prayers for each of you,

Fr Rajesh.

**We pray for those who have died: Peter Robinson and Elizabeth Cooper RIP.**

**We pray for the sick especially:** Steve Allingham, Diane Batkin, Angela Burden, Yvonne Gibbs, Anne Griffiths, Jackie Hearn, Leanne Hearn, Carly Hearn, Neil Jenkins, Margaret Keep, George Thomas Lowry, Frances McNaughton, Paddy Pearson, Angela Simon, Terry Standen, Rosanna De Souza, Amalia Young, Sally Moore, Anne Wilkinson, Mary Stewart, David Spooner, James Burden, Carol Standen and Tony Batkin.

**Plate Collections**

**3<sup>rd</sup> December**  
£651.11  
**Gift Aid: £755.72**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Collection**  
£121.60  
**Gift Aid: £138.07**

**(Christmas Flowers)**  
(blue envelopes)

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**10<sup>th</sup> December**  
**(Parish Poor Fund)**  
(blue envelopes)

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**17<sup>th</sup> December**  
**(Friends of the Holy Land)**  
(not in our scheme)

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**24<sup>th</sup> December**  
**(Parish Charity Fund)**  
(blue envelopes)

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**Conquest Hospital Chaplaincy**  
For a visit from one of the Catholic Chaplaincy Team for Anointing, Holy Communion, or a general visit. Volunteers needed for visiting patients please contact:  
The Conquest Chaplain:


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**Cecilia Weathers**  
**01424 757088**

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**Holy Communion for Housebound Parishioners**

**St Mary Magdalene's**  
**Sr Collette: 214818**

**Our Lady of the Rosary**  
**Mary Carroll:**  
**220334**

**St Martha's**  
**Clare Brazier: 844177**



**CTIB Prayer Cycle**

This week **St Mark's** (Jonathan Frais)

Next week: **Crowhurst Healing Centre** (Steve Gendall)

**World Meeting of Families Pilgrimage**  
**21<sup>st</sup> August-26<sup>th</sup> August 2018**

**Bishop Richard is leading a pilgrimage to Dublin to participate in the World meeting of families.**

For more information about the event: Please see flyers or go to:  
[www.worldmeeting2018.ie/en/](http://www.worldmeeting2018.ie/en/)



Please contact Katherine Bergin on 01293 651152 or [katherine.bergin@dabnet.org](mailto:katherine.bergin@dabnet.org)

**Advent Penitential Service**  
**Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December,**  
**7.30pm at St Thomas of Canterbury Church, St Leonards on Sea.**

**Churches Together in Bexhill Foodbank Advent 2017 Foodbox:**

An alternative way of preparing for Christmas - instead of getting a chocolate or similar reward each day why not have a box into which is placed daily an item for someone in need in your local area.

Please see poster at the back of church for details. The Foodbank Team.

**Bishop Richard on Diocesan Vision for Mission**

Bishop Richard has issued a video on which he sets out briefly his thinking on the future Mission of the Church in this Diocese and summarises his presentation made to deaneries over the last couple of months and can be viewed at:  
<http://www.dabnet.org>

A hard copy of the PowerPoint presentation by the Bishop is now available from the back of all three churches.

There will also be the following presentations:

**St Mary Magdalene's Hall**  
**Tuesday, 12<sup>th</sup> December - 7pm**  
**Wednesday, 13<sup>th</sup> December - 10.45am**  
*and*  
**St Martha's Hall on**  
**Sunday, 17<sup>th</sup> December - 10.15 am**

All parishioners are encouraged and welcome to attend. A response has to be prepared for Bishop Richard, with the general consensus of the parish and the other suggestion offered, for a second meeting with him in February 2018 and it will be available to parishioners in the New Year.

Your responses need to be returned to the parish office **by 20<sup>th</sup> December 2017.**

**Altar Servers Rome Pilgrimage**

At the invitation of the Holy Father, the Archconfraternity of St Stephen (Guild of Altar Servers) is organising a five-day trip to Rome in July, 2018.

For more information and to book go to <http://www.paxtravel.co.uk/guild-of-st-stephen>

**Advent Sharing Groups 2017**  
**A Simple Path for Advent - Prayer and Reflection programme**

<b>Monday 11<sup>th</sup></b>	2.30 pm	Anne Wilkinson	215710
<b>Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup></b>	8.00 pm	Cathy Bate	224031
<b>Friday 15<sup>th</sup></b>	10.45 am (after 10am Mass in The Prayer Room)	Anne Barry & Lisa Young	846031 or 07801658296

To take part in any of these meetings, please contact the appropriate group leaders. To purchase a book for personal reflection (£1.50) call the Parish Office. Or download: [www.dabnet.org/Resources/AdultFormation](http://www.dabnet.org/Resources/AdultFormation)

**Parish Diary - December**

Monday 11<sup>th</sup> Dec  
Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> Dec

FHC Monday group session  
CCRS Session

6:30pm St Martha's hall  
7:00pm Presbytery



**St Mary  
Magdalene's  
Catholic  
Independent  
Nursery**

There are currently places available for 2-5 yr olds at our Parish Nursery.

For more information please contact the Nursery Supervisor - Gemma:

01424 224499 or  
07821 530044 or

[infor@stmmnursery.co.uk](mailto:infor@stmmnursery.co.uk)

**Jolly Parish  
Lunch**

Christmas gathering

**12 noon,**

**Tuesday,**

**12<sup>th</sup> December,**

**West Station, Bexhill.**

*Menu orders needed in advance please contact Angela: 220752*

**Free Event for Local  
Elderly People  
Sidley Working Men's  
Club on Sunday  
10<sup>th</sup> December  
from 1pm-5pm.**

Bingo, a live singer,  
buffet & hot drinks.

**Sacrament of  
Baptism**

Please pray for Blake James O'Donoghue and family and friends as he becomes part of the family of the church through the sacrament of baptism this weekend.

**Readers & Extraordinary  
Ministers of Holy  
Communion  
for Christmas Masses at  
St Mary Magdalene's**

If you are a **Reader and/or Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion** and are planning to attend any of the following Masses could you please sign the sheets at the back of the churches, please leave contact details as well.

Alternatively you can email Anne Barry: [a.barry@talktalk.net](mailto:a.barry@talktalk.net)

Please let us know by:  
**Monday 18<sup>th</sup> December  
at the very latest.**

Inevitably, some Masses will be oversubscribed and others less so - please do not be disappointed if you are not required to Minister at your selected Mass:

- **Midnight Mass at Midnight** on Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> / Monday 25<sup>th</sup> December
- **Christmas Day morning** at 11am

**RCIA**

**Rite of Acceptance**

Well done to the following:

**Natalie Sadlier  
and  
Sonny Rutherford**

Who were enrolled on the RCIA course last Sunday evening.

The next step in the RCIA journey will be **The Rite of Election at Arundel Cathedral on 17<sup>th</sup> Feb 2018**

to coincide with the start of Lent, and the final stage during Lent will lead to **Reception into the Church at the Easter Vigil on Saturday, 31<sup>st</sup> March 2018.**

Please pray for all our candidates, sponsors and catechists on our parish RCIA.

**Christmas Masses 2017  
St Mary Magdalene's Parish**

**Christmas Eve  
Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> December**

- 6.00pm Children's Mass St Mary Magdalene's
- 8.00pm Christmas Mass St Martha's
- Midnight - Midnight Mass St Mary Magdalene's

*6pm Children's Mass and Midnight Mass - Carols will commence 30 mins before Mass*

**Christmas Day  
Monday 25<sup>th</sup> December  
The Nativity of the Lord**

- 8.00am Dawn Mass St Mary Magdalene's
- 9.00am Children's Mass St Martha's
- 10.00am Children's Mass Our Lady of the Rosary
- 11.00am Christmas Mass St Mary Magdalene's

*Christmas Collection is the 'Clergy Offering'*

**Feast of St Stephen  
Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> December**

- 10.00am Mass St Mary Magdalene's

*Crib Offering is for the 'Catholic Children's Society A & B Crisis fund'*

**St Richards Catholic College  
Temporary Part-time Teacher of  
RE/English**

Required for the spring and summer terms 2018 to teach KS3 classes. Further details and an application form are available at

[www.strichardscc.com](http://www.strichardscc.com) . Apply immediate for a January start. St Richard's is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of its pupils and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

## Parish Information

The Presbytery  
**St Mary Magdalene's**  
Sea Road, Bexhill on Sea,  
TN40 1RH. Tel: 01424 210263  
**St Martha's**  
Cooden Sea Road, TN39 4SL  
**Our Lady of the Rosary**  
Southlands Road, TN39 5HG

### Clergy:

**Fr Rajesh Minz**  
**Fr Clement Anaedevha**  
**Deacon Simon Kirkdale**

**Sisters of Providence**  
**(Rosminian)**  
01424 214818

**Parish Office**  
**Administrators:**  
Bonita Osmond-Maher  
Lisa Young  
**Telephone: 01424 210263**

### Email:

[stmm@btconnect.com](mailto:stmm@btconnect.com)

### Website:

[www.stmmbexhill.org.uk](http://www.stmmbexhill.org.uk)

### Office Hours:

**Mon - Fri 9am - 1pm**

### Finance:

Charles Durrant

### Email:

[stmm.finance@btconnect.com](mailto:stmm.finance@btconnect.com)

### Hospitals

**Conquest Hastings**  
01424 757088

### Bexhill - Irvine Unit

Contact: Mary Williams  
[marycharltonwilliams@live.co.uk](mailto:marycharltonwilliams@live.co.uk)

**St Vincent de Paul Society**  
**(SVP) Mary Williams**  
[marycharltonwilliams@live.co.uk](mailto:marycharltonwilliams@live.co.uk)

### Parish Schools

**St Richard's**  
**Catholic College**

**Principal:** Miss Doreen Cronin  
01424 731070

[admin@strichardscc.com](mailto:admin@strichardscc.com)

[www.strichardscc.com](http://www.strichardscc.com)

**St Mary Magdalene's**  
**Primary School**

### Headteacher:

Miss V. Vanderschelden

01424 735810

[office@stmarymagsbex.e-sussex.sch.uk](mailto:office@stmarymagsbex.e-sussex.sch.uk)

[www.stmarymags.co.uk](http://www.stmarymags.co.uk)

**St Mary Magdalene Catholic**  
**Independent Nursery**

**Supervisor:** Gemma Oliver-Taylor  
01424 224499

[info@stmmnursery.co.uk](mailto:info@stmmnursery.co.uk)

## PARISH NEWS

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# Parish Mass Diary and Intentions

### Sat 9<sup>th</sup> December

St Mary Magdalene's 9:30am Confessions  
St Mary Magdalene's 10:00am Susan Theobold & Family

## Second Sunday of Advent Yr B

*(Isaiah 40:1-5. 9-11, St Peter 3:8-14, Mark 1:1-8)*

St Mary Magdalene's 6:00pm Margaret & Jimmy Hilder RIP and  
Tom Friary & Mick Farrell RIP

### Sun 10<sup>th</sup> December

St Martha's 9:00am Priests Intentions  
Our Lady of the Rosary 10:00am Mary Bunyan RIP  
St Mary Magdalene's 11:00am Terry D. Young RIP  
St Mary Magdalene's 12:30pm Baptism of Blake James O'Donoghue  
St Martha's 2:30pm Parish Advent/Christingle Service  
St Mary Magdalene's 6:00pm People of the Parish

### Parish Poor fund

(blue envelopes)

### Mon 11<sup>th</sup> December

St Mary Magdalene's 10:00am Requiem Mass of Peter Robinson RIP and  
after at Eastbourne Crematorium at 3:15pm

### Tues 12<sup>th</sup> December

St Mary Magdalene's 10:00am Edith Haywood RIP  
Eastbourne Crematorium 3:45pm Funeral of Richard Lennon RIP

### Wed 13<sup>th</sup> December

St Mary Magdalene's

### Memorial

10:00am

### St Lucy

Dorothy Haywood RIP

### Thurs 14<sup>th</sup> December

St Mary Magdalene's

### Memorial

10:00am

### St John of the Cross

Holy Souls

### Fri 15<sup>th</sup> December

St Mary Magdalene's

10:00am

Audrey Draude GE & Maureen Grace GE

St Mary Magdalene's

10:30am to

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

12:30 pm

### Sat 16<sup>th</sup> December

St Mary Magdalene's

9:30am Confessions

St Mary Magdalene's

10:00am

Rosemaria Thanksgiving GE (Birthday)

## Third Sunday of Advent Yr B

*(Isaiah 61:1-2. 10-11, Thessalonians 5:16-24, John 1:6-8. 19-28)*

St Mary Magdalene's 6:00pm Nancy & Don Simmons RIP and  
Lionel & Lawrence Keep RIP

### Sun 17<sup>th</sup> December

St Martha's 9:00am Priests Intentions  
Our Lady of the Rosary 10:00am Josephine & Louis Gramme RIP  
St Mary Magdalene's 11:00am Robert (Bob) Stevens RIP  
St Mary Magdalene's 6:00pm People of the Parish

### Friends of the Holy Land

(not in our scheme)

### Catholic Women Preach

A new website offering reflections on the Sunday  
readings by Catholic women.

An additional resources for preparation for Sunday  
Mass.

Go to [www.catholicwomenpreach.org](http://www.catholicwomenpreach.org)

### A & B News

This month's free  
copy is available  
from the back of  
all churches.