

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

Christmas Masses 2017 St Mary Magdalene's Parish

Christmas Eve Sunday 24th 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 25th 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

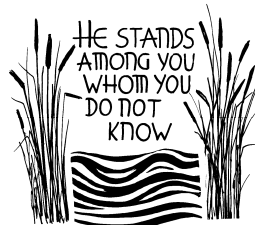
Christmas Collection is the 'Clergy Offering'

Feast of St Stephen Tuesday 26th December

- 10.00am Mass
St Mary Magdalene's

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

My soul rejoices in my God.



In the Gospel this Sunday John's role is to be 'a witness to speak for the light'. The light in question was Jesus. Today Jesus still needs witnesses to speak for him because today for a great many people Christ has become a dim and distant figure. The words in the Gospel 'There stands among you - unknown to you - the one who is coming after me'. He needs people who can effectively make him present to other people.

We can't be a witness for the light if we ourselves are living in darkness. We have to be living in the light. We witness for Christ when we live our lives according to our faith and that is the most powerful form of witness possible and a clear proclaiming of the Gospel. We cannot separate our faith from our everyday lives and when the two are intertwined a powerful witness is given. Look at the examples set by Saint Teresa of Calcutta and Pope Francis.

Without our witness, the face of Christ will continue to fade from the world. He will remain amongst us, unknown and unrecognised by others. As Bishop Richard points out in his presentation, we are all called to go outside our comfort zone and to discern what the Lord asks of us.

It is not a task just for the individual but for whole communities and if whole communities are involved it becomes easier.

As we reflect and pray in these few remaining days of Advent, as we prepare to celebrate the birth of the Holy Child, Jesus, let us remember the example set for us by Christ. The servant King who came not to be served but to serve and remember we are called to follow him and his example and to be a witness for him and walk the road that he himself walked.

*Christ has no body but yours,
No hands, no feet on earth but yours,
Yours are the eyes with which he looks
Compassion on this world,
Yours are the feet with which he walks to do good,
Yours are the hands, with which he blesses all the world.
Yours are the hands, yours are the feet,
Yours are the eyes, you are his body.
Christ has no body now on earth but yours* **St. Teresa of Avila**

God bless you,
Deacon Simon.

We pray for those who have died: Elizabeth Cooper RIP, Eileen Purfield 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

10th December
 £650.60
Gift Aid: £521.50

2nd Collection
 £107.00
Gift Aid: £110.50
(Parish Poor Fund)
 (blue envelopes)

17th December
(Friends of the Holy Land)
 (not in our scheme)

24th December
(Parish Charity Fund)
 (blue envelopes)

25th December
Clergy Christmas Offering
 (Christmas envelopes)

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:

Cecilia Weathers
01424 757088

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

Next week: **Churches Together in Bexhill (CTiB)**

World Meeting of Families Pilgrimage

21st August-26th 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/

Please contact Katherine Bergin on 01293 651152 or katherine.bergin@dabnet.org

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

Parish Office Christmas Opening Hours

Please note that the Parish Office will be **closed** for the Christmas Holidays:
Friday 22nd December to Monday 2nd January 2018
Re-opens
Tuesday, 3rd January 2018
Please ensure any articles for the newsletter reach us by no later than 9:30am Thursday 21st December.
Thank you.



Bishop Richard on Diocesan Vision for Mission

This 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 be one more presentation:

St Martha's Hall on Sunday, 17th December following the 9am mass

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.

Please return your responses to to the parish office by **20th December.**

Fr Boniface Moran OSB celebrates the Golden Jubilee of Ordination to the Priesthood. In recognition of this special occasion, Fr Boniface will celebrate at the **10am Mass on 30th December, St Mary Magdalene's Church.** This will be followed by food, refreshments and a celebration in the hall. This is a great opportunity for our parish community to celebrate with Fr Boniface and to rejoice with him for 50 years of service to the Lord.

Sr Maximilianne RIP

We would like to thank all those who have offered masses, sent cards and given condolences following the tragic loss of Alan's sister, Diana. (Sr M. Maximilianne). These kind gestures of support were very much appreciated. *Alan and Jac Young.*

Advent Sharing Groups 2017

A Simple Path for Advent - Prayer and Reflection programme

Monday 18th	2.30 pm	Anne Wilkinson	215710
Tuesday 19th	8.00 pm	Cathy Bate	224031
Friday 22th	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

Parish Diary - January

Wednesday 10th Jan
 Saturday 13th Jan
 Sunday 14th Jan
 Monday 15th Jan
 Wednesday 17th Jan
 Saturday 20th Jan

RCIA Session
 FHC Sat group Session
 Confirmation Session
 FHC Mon group session
 Baptism Preparation session
 CCRS Day of Reflection

7:30pm Presbytery
 11am St MM hall
 4pm St MM hall
 6:30pm St Martha's hall
 7:30pm
 10:30am 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

**First Steps
 Parish Parent &
 Toddler Group**
 Wishes everyone a
 Happy Christmas
 Re-opens:
 Fri 12th January 2018

Wednesday Club
 We will take a break from:
 28th December
 Re-opens on:
 10th January 2018

Good Luck..
 Carol Dickens is moving away. We wish her well in her new home and we thank her for all her contributions to the parish. With love and prayers from all her friends in the parish.

**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

Please let us know by:
Monday 18th December

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 24th / Monday 25th December
- **Christmas Day morning at 11am**

Parish Advent with Christingle

Thank you to the children for making the service so special. We raised **£152.37** which will be shared between CAFOD and The British Heart Foundation in loving memory of Peter Robinson RIP.

Thank you...

The following charities would like to thank the parishioners of St Mary Magdalene's for their donations:

Poppy Appeal: £176.70
Pax Christi: £231.77
Marys Meals: £100.00

Thank you for your generosity.

Crib Offerings

This year, with the encouragement of Bishop Richard, this parish will be donating crib offerings to:

**'Catholic Children's Society
 A & B Crisis fund'**

Every single penny will go towards the Crisis Fund and will support local children and families who have nowhere to turn.

**Christmas Card
 Competition Winner 2017**

Jeseena Joseph age 10yrs, who attends St Mary Magdalene's church and St Mary Magdalene's primary school. Jeseena will receive a £20 voucher.

Thanks and congratulations to all the other entrants who will each receive a small gift. Please come to the parish office to collect your prize and gifts.

Christmas cards with Mass times are now available from the back of all three churches.

**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.strichardsc.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

Website:

www.stmmbexhill.org.uk

Office Hours:

Mon - Fri 9am - 1pm

Finance:

Charles Durrant

Email:

stmm.finance@btconnect.com

Hospitals

Conquest Hastings
01424 757088

Bexhill - Irvine Unit

Contact: Mary Williams
marycharltonwilliams@live.co.uk

St Vincent de Paul Society
(SVP) Mary Williams

marycharltonwilliams@live.co.uk

Parish Schools

St Richard's
Catholic College

Principal: Miss Doreen Cronin
01424 731070
admin@strichardscc.com
www.strichardscc.com

St Mary Magdalene's
Primary School

Headteacher:

Miss V. Vanderschelden
01424 735810
office@stmarymagsbex.e-sussex.sch.uk
www.stmarymags.co.uk

St Mary Magdalene Catholic
Independent Nursery

Supervisor: Gemma Oliver-Taylor
01424 224499
info@stmmnursery.co.uk

PARISH NEWS

Parish Mass Diary and Intentions

Sat 16th 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 17th 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)

Mon 18th December

St Mary Magdalene's 10:00am Reginald Eyre RIP

Tues 19th December

St Mary Magdalene's 10:00am Johanna O'Sullivan RIP

Wed 20th December

St Mary Magdalene's 10:00am Noreen Corness RIP

Thurs 21st December

St Mary Magdalene's 10:00am Edna Herring RIP (Anniversary of death)

Fri 22nd December

St Mary Magdalene's 10:00am Joshua Milne GE
St Mary Magdalene's 10:30am to 12:30 pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
Bexhill Cemetery 12noon Funeral Service of Eileen Purfield RIP

Sat 23rd December

St Mary Magdalene's 9:30am Confessions
St Mary Magdalene's 10:00am Mary & Theresa Oliver RIP and Pat Hlder
& Mrs Florence Raey RIP

Fourth Sunday of Advent Yr B

(Samuel 7:1-5. 8-12. 14. 16, Romans 16:25-27, Luke 1:26-38)

St Mary Magdalene's 5.30pm **No Mass -Confessions Only**

Sun 24th 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 Peggy & Roy Fisher RIP

Parish Charity Fund (blue envelopes)

Christmas Masses - Sunday 24th December - Evening Masses of the Vigil of Christmas/Midnight

*(Vigil Mass: Isaiah 62:1-5, Apostles 13:16-17. 22-25, Matthew 1:1-25)
(Midnight Mass: Isaiah 9:1-7, Titus 2:11-14, Luke 2:1-14)*

St Mary Magdalene's 6:00pm People of the Parish
St Martha's 8:00pm People of the Parish
St Mary Magdalene's Midnight People of the Parish

(One collection at the Christmas Masses – your personal gift to the priests)

(Please use Green Christmas envelopes also available at the back of the church)

Monday 25th Christmas Day, The Nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ

*(Mass at dawn: Isaiah 62:11-12, Titus 3:4-7, Luke 2:15-20)
(Mass during the day 52:7-10, Hebrews 1:1-6, John 1:1-18)*

St Mary Magdalene's 8:00am SVP for Sick & Housebound
St Martha's 9:00am SVP for Sick & Housebound
Our Lady of the Rosary 10:00am SVP for Sick & Housebound
St Mary Magdalene's 11:00am SVP for Sick & Housebound

No Evening Mass on Christmas Day.