

THIS SUNDAY

St Michael's Hospice:

'Lights of Love' Service

3pm for 3.15pm on Sunday 1st December
in St Mary Magdalene

NEXT SUNDAY

Parish Reconciliation Service

Inc. First Confessions

Deanery Priests available

3pm on Sunday 8th December
St Mary Magdalene

FOLLOWING SUNDAY

Parish Advent (Christingle) Service

Inc. Nativity Play

Followed by refreshments.

Part of the Confirmation service project

2.30pm on Sunday 15th December
St Martha's

Confession Times for Advent

St Martha's: 8:15am until Mass on the
four Sundays of Advent

St Mary Magdalene: 9:30am & 5.30pm on
Saturdays

Christmas Collection

From the Parish Finance Committee:

The collection at the Christmas Masses is your personal offering to the clergy of the Parish. They do not receive a salary from the Church / Diocese but rely on the generosity of parishioners who make their gift through the Christmas Collection. Please take a 'green' envelope and place it in the collection at your Christmas Mass (or if away, at any Sunday Mass throughout Advent).

Office Opening Hours

The office is open to personal callers on:
Monday, Wednesday & Friday
Access to the office on other days is by appointment and prior arrangement.

**I rejoiced when I heard them say:
'Let us go to God's house.'**

Nope! Still not Christmas yet, but it is New Year!

This Sunday we begin the Holy Season of Advent and begin a new liturgical year. In this Year A, we journey through the Gospel with St Matthew as our companion who will announce to us the coming of the Kingdom in the person of Jesus Christ, the long-expected Messiah of God. The Collect (opening prayer) of the Mass sings: *"Grant your faithful, we pray, almighty God, the resolve to run forth to meet your Christ with righteous deeds at his coming, so that gathered at his right hand, they may be worthy to possess the heavenly kingdom. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen"*. Advent means 'to come' or 'arrival', and to borrow a phrase from Tolkien, we await 'the Return of the King'. We must not forget, with all the work parties that inevitably happen, that 'Jesus is the reason for the season'. As Christians, 'we proclaim His Death and profess His Resurrection, until He comes again'. Therefore, in these first three weeks of Advent, we should focus as much as possible on Christ's Second Advent (Coming), at least until 17th December. There will be plenty of time to focus on and celebrate Christ's Nativity as the season of Christmas runs into January with the Baptism of the Lord on 12th January. If you are traditional Christmas lasts Candlemas (2nd February) and we keep our Cribs up until then.

RCIA & CICCIA

Service of Acceptance

On this Sunday, at the 11am Mass, the Church welcomes and accepts those **Adults and Children of Catechetical Age** who are preparing for Holy Baptism or Reception at Easter and who petition to be accepted formally as Catechumens. Responding to the Word of God and the invitation extended to them by the Lord, they have come before the Church to declare their intentions to become part of the household of Christ, whose cross is traced on their forehead as a sign that He strengthens them as they learn *'to know him more clearly, love him more dearly and follow him more nearly, day by day'*.

With the assurance of my prayers for a Blessed Advent,
Fr Simon

We pray for those who have died: Rod Pearson.

We pray for the sick especially: Steve Allingham, Patrick Atwell, Stephanie Bacon, Tony Batkin, Angela Burden, Winifrede Connellan, Andrew Cruikshank, Maria Cronin, Brendan Dillistone, Christopher Gardiner, Yvonne Gibbs, Michael Halse, Jackie Hearn, Leanne Hearn, Carly Hearn, Lawrence Hearn, Margaret Keep, George Thomas Lowry, Roy Mitchell, Sally Moore, Karl Pearson, Paddy Pearson, Rachael Smart, Janet Smith, David Spooner, Carol Standen, Terry Standen, Mary Stewart, Connie Stoddart, Rosanna De Souza, David Standen, Eileen Sullivan, Mary Tenneffe, Margaret Tuberet, Kathleen Tunny, Jordan Whyborne and Anne Wilkinson.

Plate Collections
 24th November
 £926.22
Gift Aid: £573.80
2nd Collection:
 £444.86
Gift Aid: 353.20
Parish Charity Fund

 1st December
Christmas flowers
 (blue envelopes)

 8th December
Parish Charity Fund
 (blue envelopes)

 15th December
Parish Poor Fund
 (blue 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
Ron Brazier:
844177

Adoration
St Mary Magdalene's Church
Friday 10:30am - 12:30pm & 5:00pm - 8:00pm

 **CTIB Prayer List**
This week: Christchurch (Tricia Williams)
Next week: St Martha's (Fr Simon Dray, Fr Rajesh Minz, Fr Stephen Ortiger, Deacon Simon Kirkdale)

Prayers
 Please remember Luigi Di Paolo in your prayers as he continues his journey to being commissioned a Missionary on 11th December 2019. May God bless him.

Children's Liturgy of the Word
St Mary Magdalene
 From the 1st Sunday of Advent (1st December) there will be Children's Liturgy of the Word at the 11am Mass at St Mary Magdalene. For now, it will run once a month on the 1st Sunday of the Month, the next being **Epiphany 5th January**.
 Reminder, this liturgy (and also the weekly one at St Martha's) is for children old enough to engage with the word, up until about First Holy Communion; and as the catechists are all very experienced there is no need for parents to go out and thus miss the richness of the Liturgy of the Word.

A & B News
 This month's free copy is now available from the back of both churches.

Readers for 11am Sunday Mass at St Mary Magdalene's
 If anyone who is currently a reader or interested in reading at the 11am Sunday Mass could they please leave your name and contact number with the Parish Office before Monday 9th December and you will be contacted with further details.

Christmas Masses 2019
Parish of Our Lady of the Rosary
Christmas Eve
Tuesday 24th December

- 6.00pm Vigil Mass of Christmas St Mary Magdalene
- 8.00pm Vigil Mass of Christmas St Martha's
- 10.00pm Syro-Malabar Mass St Martha
- Midnight - Midnight Mass St Mary Magdalene

Vigil Masses and Midnight Mass are preceded by Carols that commence 30 mins before each Mass.

Christmas Day
Wednesday 25th December
The Nativity of the Lord

- 8.00am Dawn Mass St Mary Magdalene
- 9.00am Dawn Mass St Martha
- 11.00am Day Mass St Mary Magdalene

Christmas Collection is the 'Clergy Offering'

Feast of St Stephen
Thursday 26th December

- 10.00am Mass St Mary Magdalene's

Crib Offering is for:
'The Arundel & Brighton Crisis Fund'

Cafod World Gifts:
 Booklets now available at the back of the churches.

Parish Diary - December

Sunday 1 st December	Confirmation Session 3.	4:00pm Presbytery
Wednesday 4 th December	RCIA Session 4.	7:00pm Presbytery
Wednesday 4 th December	Mothers Prayer Group	7:30pm Presbytery
Thursday 12 th December	WJT Session 4.	6:30pm Presbytery
Tuesday 17 th December	SVP Meeting	6:00pm Presbytery

Fairtrade 25th Birthday

Fairtrade respects the dignity of the poor producers and their dependents as a matter of justice. It changes lives when we buy their products. For this reason, CAFOD was one of the founders of Fairtrade system 25 years ago. Many thanks to all who support our Fairtrade stalls and Rice Challenge. Last year Our Lady of the Rosary and St Martha's had sales each of about £1,200.

This weekend:

On **Saturday** there will be a stall after the 6pm Mass at St Mary Magdalene and Sunday after Mass at St Martha's.

We will have a Fairtrade 25th Birthday cake in St Martha's Hall after Mass on Sunday 8th December -- come along and have a fair share!

MISSIO Red Boxes

Please bring your boxes into the parish office for counting. Thank you for the £1159.39 collected last year.

Do look at miisio.org.uk to see how your money helped all around the world.

Cheques: Please continue to write cheques to "St Mary Magdalene's Church". Thank you.

Day of Reflection & Music for Music Ministers

**Sat 14th December
11am-4pm**

**St Dunstan's, Woking,
GU22 7DT.**

01293 651164 or at ruth.gerun@abdiocese.org.uk

**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,
contact the Parish Office:
210263
or Julia Dance: 213078.**

**St Mary Magdalene's
Primary School**

Fr Simon will be available to sign **Supplementary Information Forms**

for Catholic children applying to St Mary Magdalene's on the following date:

Mon 2nd December 3:30-5pm
Please call the parish office to book an appointment.

Please note there will be a charge of £10 for the re-issue of any sacramental certificates.

**Hastings and District
Interfaith Forum (HDIFF)
Winter Festival of Faiths &
Cultures**

**Sunday 8th December
5.30 pm to 9.00 pm
Concordia Hall, Church Road,
St Leonards on Sea TN37 6HB.**

Once again, the St Mary Magdalene Keralan Community will be among the performers. They are featured on this year's poster available in both churches.

All are welcome.

Parish Finance Meeting

**7pm Thursday 9th January 2020
in the parish hall at St Martha's**

The Finance Committee will be on hand to talk through the last financial statement and to present the parish's financial position going forward. They will happily answer your questions but ask that they be submitted in advance.

**Christmas Card Competition
2019**

**If you are in years 4, 5 or 6
of Primary School you are invited to
enter our 'Parish Christmas Card
Competition'**

Entries should be A5, and should have child's name, date of birth, school, telephone number and name of church they currently attend. No words other than "Happy Christmas" on the picture please.

Entries to be put in an envelope and marked "Christmas Card Competition". Please send to the Parish Office or hand to the Priests. The Winning entries will be used to advertise our Christmas Mass times and the winner will also receive a voucher. **Final date for entries:
Wed 4th December.**

SOMETHING TO CELEBRATE

Huge thanks to everyone who came to STC on Saturday 24th November; the turnout - 120 people - was wonderful and the event brilliant; God was definitely with us. Three cheers for us and five cheers for God!

Your answers to 'What do you appreciate most about our parish?' and 'What would you most like to see?' are being collated; a summary will be published in early January. Watch this space.

The answers to the Cana question 'How many bottles? are, as near as makes no difference, 665 (120 gallons) and 997 (180 gallons) Definitely something to celebrate then; definitely something to celebrate now.

Renewed thanks for your wonderful participation in this very enjoyable parish event

Love and prayers. Fr Stephen

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

Clergy:

Fr Simon Dray

Fr Rajesh Minz

Deacon Simon Kirkdale

Fr Stephen Ortiger OSB

(Priest in Residence)

Sisters of Providence

(Rosminian) 01424 214818

Parish Office

Administrators:

Bonita Osmond-Maher

Lisa Young

Telephone: 01424 210263

Email:

stmm@btconnect.com

Website:

www.stmmbexhill.co.uk

Parish Office opening hours

Monday, Wednesday,
Friday: 9am-1pm

Safeguarding Rep

Sylvia Cousins

Hospitals

Conquest Hastings

01424 757088

Bexhill - Irvine Unit

01424 730077

St Vincent de Paul Society (SVP)

Contact: Mary Williams
via Parish Office - 01424 210263

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

Interim Head:

Mrs Siobhan Andrews
01424 735810

office@stmarymagsbex.e-sussex.sch.uk
www.stmarymags.co.uk

PARISH NEWS

Page 4

Parish Mass Diary and Intentions

Saturday 30th November

St Mary Magdalene

St Mary Magdalene

St Mary Magdalene Hall

Feast

9:30am

10:00am

After Mass

St Andrew, Apostle

Confession

Percy & Catherine Bedford RIP

Morning of Reflection for Advent

First Sunday of Advent Yr A

Isaiah 2:1-5, Romans 13:11-14, Matthew 24:37-44

St Mary Magdalene

St Mary Magdalene

Sunday 1st December

St Martha

St Martha

St Mary Magdalene

St Mary Magdalene

St Mary Magdalene

5:30pm

6:00pm

8:15am

9:00am

11:00am

3:15pm

6:00pm

Confessions

Peter Robinson RIP

Confessions

Margie Scrafield RIP

Catherine Cronin RIP

& RCIA Service of Acceptance

Lights of Love Service with

St Michael's Hospice

People of the Parish

Christmas Flowers

(blue envelopes)

Monday 2nd December

St Mary Magdalene

10:00am

Alan Kerlake RIP

Tuesday 3rd December

St Mary Magdalene

Memorial

10:00am

St Francis Xavier, Priest

Sue Olive RIP

Wednesday 4th December

St Mary Magdalene

10:00am

Anthony N Bedford RIP

Thursday 5th December

St Mary Magdalene

10:00am

Deceased Members of the Joseph &

Thomas Families

Priests Intentions

St Martha

7:00pm

Friday 6th December

St Mary Magdalene

St Mary Magdalene

Opt. Mem

10:00am

Saint Nicholas (Santa Claus!)

Luck, Mc Eniry & Yeo Families RIP

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

10:45am -

12:30pm

No Benediction today

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

5pm - 8pm

St Mary Magdalene

Saturday 7th December

St Mary Magdalene

St Mary Magdalene

St Mary Magdalene

St Mary Magdalene

Memorial

9:30am

10:00am

12 noon

2:00pm

St Ambrose, Bishop, Doctor

Confession

Susan Eyre

Baptism of Henry Malcolm

Syro-Malabar Mass

Second Sunday of Advent Yr A

Isaiah 11:1-10, Romans 15:4-9, Matthew 3:1-12

St Mary Magdalene

St Mary Magdalene

Sunday 8th December

St Martha

St Martha

St Mary Magdalene

St Mary Magdalene

St Mary Magdalene

St Mary Magdalene

5:30pm

6:00pm

8:15am

9:00am

11:00am

12:30pm

3:00pm

6:00pm

Confessions

Bernard A Bedford RIP

Confessions

Rosario Vilora RIP

Roy & Peggy Fisher RIP

Baptism of Kyrie Cabanlit

Parish Reconciliation Service

With 1st Confessions

People of the Parish

Parish Charity Fund (another chance to support those who work with the Homeless)

(blue envelopes)