

THIS SUNDAY
Parish Advent Service
Inc. Nativity Play & Christingle

St Martha's, 2.30pm
Sunday 15th December
Followed by refreshments.
Part of the Confirmation
service project

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).

Parish Advent Confessions
8.15am -9am St Martha
(3rd & 4th Sunday of Advent) &
Saturday 14th & 20th at 9.30am & 5.30pm
at St Mary Magdalene.

Parish Office & Newsletter
If you have business with the Parish Office, please complete this by Friday 20th December. Please remember that the office is open to personal callers on Monday, Wednesday and Fridays 9am to 1pm.

The Office will be closed on 24th Dec
and reopens to the public on
Friday 3rd January.

Next weekend's Double Newsletter is the edition covering 4th Sunday of Advent, Christmas & Holy Family and is a special edition highlighting the work of the Pastoral Care Group. The Next Standard Newsletter will be Epiphany 4/5 Jan 2020.

Come, Lord and save us.

The 3rd Sunday of Advent is also known as "*Gaudete Sunday*," a word meaning "*to rejoice*." Throughout Advent we are preparing to live a new experience of love and faith in God. As we come closer to Christmas, the church encourages us to rejoice because, as the proper entrance antiphon for this Sunday sings, the '*Lord is near*'; our God is about to fulfill his promise to us. However, our Advent preparations have not come to an end and our readings continue their theme of this being a time of expectation; a time of waiting. We are not waiting to get over or beyond something – to be done with it – rather, we are reminded of the great coming of the Lord at Christmas when Isaiah tells us, "*Here is your God he comes with vindication; with divine recompense he comes to save you.*" The coming of the Lord is something that should also impact our lives. Isaiah was not speaking of some conceptual idea, but rather describing the joy-filled return of the Jewish people from exile to the Promised Land.

Christmas will soon be upon us. As it approaches, we become more conscious of the Nativity story which now gradually unfolds before us as we are drawn into that stable in Bethlehem. We look forward to welcoming St Mary Magdalene's Primary School for their Advent Service at 6pm on Tuesday evening **and look forward to the presentation from our parish children at the Christingle Service this afternoon.** These Nativity plays and carols draw us deeper into the scriptures and remind us of that other birth of Christ; the birth of the Saviour into our lives. If we do nothing else this Christmas, we should let him be born again in our hearts so that he may fill us with his truth and love. Always remember that '*Jesus is the reason for the season*', he is why we rejoice; and the Lord is near; that is why we make an effort to amend our lives because it is He who, as our Saviour, raises us to eternal life. Wishing your every blessing, Fr Rajesh.

We pray for those who have died: Father Frank McHugh.

We pray for the sick especially: Helen Ambrose, Steve Allingham, Patrick Atwell, Stephanie Bacon, Tony Batkin, Angela Burden, Kate Brignall, 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
8th December
£779.04
Gift Aid: £507.51

2nd Collection:
£420.45
Gift Aid: 206.50

Parish Charity Fund

15th December
Parish Poor Fund
(blue envelopes)

22nd December
Friends of the Holy Land
(blue envelopes)

25th December
Clergy Christmas Offering
(green 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: Next week: Living Word Church (Dale Barrett)

Next week: St Mark's (Jonathan Frais)

Volunteers Needed to Decorate St Mary Magdalene Church
On Christmas Eve from 10.30am, volunteers are needed to help decorate the Church for Christmas.
Please call Helga: 01424 848504

Children's Liturgy of the Word
Weekly: St Martha's

1st Sunday: St Mary Magdalene
(next date: Epiphany, 5th Jan).

These liturgies are for children old enough to engage with the word, up until about First Holy Communion. As the catechists are experienced there is no need for parents to go out and miss the richness of the Liturgy of the Word.

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.

Cafod World Gifts:

Booklets now available at the back of the churches.

Advent Prayer for Young Adults & Students (18yr – 40yrs)
4th Sunday of Advent, 22nd Dec
Our Lady of Ransom, Eastbourne

7.30pm Mass in the Extraordinary Form,
8.30pm Adoration & Confessions,
9pm Hot Chocolate / Mulled Wine

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'.

"Rejoice in the Lord always, and again I say rejoice; the Lord is near"

Parish Diary - December

17 th December	St MM Primary Advent Service	St Mary Magdalene (6pm)
18 th December	Mass in the Extraordinary Form	St Mary Magdalene (11.30am)
19 th December	Mass in the Extraordinary Form	St Mary Magdalene (11.30am)

Congratulations to our Christmas Card Competition Winner 2019

Roshna Benoy age 10yrs, who attends St Mary Magdalene's church and St Mary Magdalene primary school.

Roshna will receive a £20 voucher.

Thanks and congratulations to Roshna and 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.

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.

Reconciliation Service

7.30pm at Christ the King Catholic Church, Langley, Eastbourne. Wed 18th Dec.

Readers, Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion and Server's for Christmas Masses at St Mary Magdalene's

If you are a **Reader and/or Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion** or a **Server** and are planning to attend the following Masses:

- **6pm Vigil Mass (24th Dec)**
- **Midnight Mass**
- **8am Dawn Mass**

Please contact the parish office and provide your name and contact details by Friday 19th Dec.

We will then contact you with a rota. Thank you.

For the **11am Mass**, please speak with the Mass co-ordinator this Sunday or Next Sunday.

MISSIO Red Boxes

Please bring your boxes into the parish office for counting, ensuring they are labelled with your name and church you attend.

Thank you for the £1159.39 collected last year.

Do look at missio.org.uk to see how your money helped all around

Crib Offering 2019

This Christmas our Crib Offering will be donated to the **Catholic Children's Society A & B Crisis Fund.**

This fund provides emergency grants for children and families in our Diocese who are facing a crisis in their lives.

Every single penny donated to the Crib will be given out via these Grants.

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.

Cheques:

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

Worth Abbey - Open Cloister

A wonderful place for a retreat for groups. Availability in 2020 on some weekdays and weekends.

Full details at www.worth.co.uk

St Vincent de Paul Society (SVP)

Our Meeting in December has been cancelled. The next SVP Meeting will be on 21st January in the Parish Offices at 6pm.

Holy Communion for Housebound Parishioners

Sadly, Sr Bernadette has retired but I have done my best to ensure that everyone still receives Holy Communion at home as before.

If there has been a hitch, then please contact me ASAP so I can sort it out. Thanks - Ron Brazier 844177

Homeless Unity Group (H.U.G) Collections

Thank you for your second collections as part of our Parish Charity Fund. There is a further chance to contribute today in the second collection and at the Parish Christingle.

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)

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

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Parish Mass Diary and Intentions

Saturday 14th December	Memorial	St John of the Cross
St Mary Magdalene	9:30am	Confession
St Mary Magdalene	10:00am	Anthony N Bedford RIP

Third 'Gaudete' Sunday of Advent Yr A

Isaiah 35:1-6.10, St James 5:7-10, Matthew 11:2-11

St Mary Magdalene	5:30pm	Confessions
St Mary Magdalene	6:00pm	Bernard A Bedford RIP

Sunday 15th December

St Martha	8:15am	Confessions
St Martha	9:00am	Clare Simon RIP
St Mary Magdalene	11:00am	Robert Stevens RIP
St Martha	2:30pm	Parish Advent Service Led by the confirmation group (Service group project)
St Mary Magdalene	6:00pm	People of the Parish

Second Collection to support the work of those who work with the poor & homeless
(blue envelopes)

Monday 16th December

St Mary Magdalene	10:00am	Fr's Arthur & Bernard Holland & Fr Fenning RIP
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Tuesday 17th December

St Mary Magdalene	10:00am	O Sapientia (O Wisdom) Elizabeth Francis RIP
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Wednesday 18th December

St Mary Magdalene	10:00am	O Adonai (O Lord) Margaret & Jimmy Hilder & Tom Friary & Mick Farrell RIP
St Mary Magdalene	11:30am	Mass in the Extraordinary Form
<i>Christ the King, Eastbourne</i>	6.30pm	<i>Reconciliation Service & Confessions</i>

Thursday 19th December

St Mary Magdalene	10:00am	O Radix Jesse (O Root of Jesse) Mary, Pat & Theresa Oliver RIP
St Mary Magdalene	11:30am	Mass in the Extraordinary Form
St Martha	7:00pm	Priests Intentions

Friday 20th December

St Mary Magdalene	10:00am	O Clavis David (O Key of David) Noreen Corness RIP
St Mary Magdalene	10:45am - 12:30pm	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament And Benediction
St Mary Magdalene	5pm - 8pm	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Saturday 21st December

St Mary Magdalene	9:30am	Confession
St Mary Magdalene	10:00am	Edna Herring RIP

Fourth Sunday of Advent Yr A

Isaiah 7:10-14, Romans 1:1-7, Matthew 1:18-24

St Mary Magdalene	5:30pm	Confessions
St Mary Magdalene	6:00pm	Denis, Mary & Joan O'Sullivan RIP
Sunday 22nd December		O Rex Gentium (O King of the Gentiles)
St Martha	8:15am	Confessions
St Martha	9:00am	Florence Raey RIP
St Mary Magdalene	11:00am	Juliane O'Haloran RIP
St Mary Magdalene	12:30pm	Baptism of Theodore & Olive Over
St Mary Magdalene	6:00pm	People of the Parish
<i>Our Lady of Ransom,</i>	7.30pm	<i>Mass in Extraordinary Form and Advent</i>
<i>Eastbourne</i>		<i>Prayer for Young Adults</i>

Friends of the Holy Land
(blue envelopes)