

26<sup>th</sup> January 2020

# PARISH NEWS

“The Sunday of the Word of God” (3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday Yr A)  
The Parish of Our Lady of the Rosary, Bexhill-on-Sea

Comprising St Mary Magdalene, Town Centre & St Martha's, Little Common

“Year of the Word:  
The God who Speaks”

## **Commissioning of Readers for 2020**

At all Sunday Masses this weekend we will specially commission our parish readers for service of the parish in this Pastoral Year: “*The Year of the Word: the God who Speaks*”. This happens after the Collect and before the 1<sup>st</sup> Reading, when all our readers come forward for a blessing.

## **Enrolment of Confirmandi**

At 6pm Mass this Sunday, the Confirmation Candidates will be formally enrolled as *Confirmandi* for our parish.

Please keep them in your prayers.

**Next Weekend: Whitstable Retreat!**

**Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2020**

## **The Feast of the Presentation of the Lord (Candlemas)**

Both the 9am Mass at St Martha's and 11am Mass at St Mary Magdalene will begin in the parish halls (*as we do on Palm Sunday*) for the blessing of candles and Candlemas Procession. *At the 11am Mass at St Mary Magdalene, we welcome St Mary Magdalene Primary School for their annual Parish Mass*, and the children will lead the liturgy. This takes the place of Children's Liturgy of the Word.

## **Proclaiming God's Word: A handbook for Readers**

By Margaret Rizza

ISBN 9781840032710

Publisher: Kevin Mayhew Ltd

Available on Amazon and at [www.eden.co.uk](http://www.eden.co.uk)

## **The Lord is my Light and my help.**



In his recent letter *Aperuit illis* Pope Francis has designated today as **The Sunday of the Word of God**. This day takes on a particular significance for us this year here in England & Wales, as we reflect very particularly on the theme: “The God Who Speaks.” The Scriptures are, of course, central to our lives. Our reading and reflection on the inspired texts of Old and New Testaments enable us to encounter the God Who is love; Who sustains His people on their pilgrim way; Who is always faithful to us even when we go our own way; Who calls us back to Him and Who sends His Son, the Word made flesh, to dwell amongst us, to suffer and die for us and enable us to find new life through His resurrection. It is in the Scriptures that we read the account of the early Church as those who first responded to Jesus' call, through their encounter with the Holy Spirit at Pentecost, began the Mission that we continue today. The practice of *Lectio Divina* has been spreading in the Diocese in recent years and renewed copies of the leaflet outlining this way of prayer are available in parishes today. Join me in your encounter with the Word Who is Life through this way of prayer. During this year, we shall have particular opportunities to join with our brothers and sisters in England & Wales in our celebration of “The God Who Speaks”, notably at the Corpus Christi Celebration at Arundel Cathedral and – most especially for our school communities – at the Good Shepherd Celebration and the Secondary Schools' Pilgrimage to Arundel. May we all deepen our experience of God's love for us as we read the Scriptures and hear them proclaimed in our Liturgy, that we may be formed by the Word for the Mission to which we are called. With every Blessing,

*Hidraw*

Bishop of Arundel & Brighton

**We pray for those who have died:** Kathleen Randall, Fr Brenden McCarthy and Stephen Crooks.

**We pray for the sick especially:** 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**  
19<sup>th</sup> January  
£930.31  
Gift aid: £590.61

**2<sup>nd</sup> collection**  
£296.45  
Gift Aid:

**Pax Christi**  
(Peace Sunday)

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**26<sup>th</sup> January**  
In gratitude to  
Worth Abbey  
(to include Fr  
Stephen)  
(not in our  
scheme)

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**9<sup>th</sup> February**  
Catholic  
Association for  
Racial Justice  
(not in our  
scheme)

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**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

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**Holy Communion for Housebound Parishioners**  
Please contact  
**Ron Brazier:**  
844177

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



**CTiB Prayer List**

**This week: Bexhill United Reformed Church** (Terry Jin)

**Next week: St Peter's** (David Reynish)

**Evening Weekday Mass**  
**Thursdays**  
**7pm at St Martha's**

For all parishioners, but especially to give those who work a second opportunity to get to Holy Mass each week. A great new year's resolution!

**Silent Auction**  
**of Promises and Gifts**  
**Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> February 7.45pm**  
**St Martha's Hall**

Come and bid silently to help raise funds for **Foodbank**  
Raffle and refreshments  
Contact: Frances Haragan 734044

This is preceded by the  
**CWL meeting at 7:30pm.**  
All welcome.

**The Diocese of Arundel & Brighton**  
**Diocesan Directory**  
**and Liturgical Calendar 2020**

These are now available to purchase from the repository or the parish office, cost: £5. (*Limited numbers*).

**Confirmation 2020**

The next meeting is: **4pm, Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> January in St Mary Magdalene Hall**

*If you haven't done so, please return your Whitstable Retreat Paperwork ASAP*  
*The Retreat is 31 Jan – 2 Feb.*

**Parish Marriage Anniversary Mass**  
**"Votive Mass of St Valentine"**  
**Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> February 2020**

The 10am Mass at St Mary Magdalene will be a celebration in which we pray with all those who are celebrating an anniversary of Holy Matrimony (Marriage) in 2020, whatever number of years that has been! At the end of Mass all married couples will receive an anniversary blessing, and after Mass there will be tea and coffee in the hall.

**Pastoral Care Group**

A date for your diary-  
**Afternoon tea at Holy Cross Priory April 22nd 2.00 - 5.30pm.**  
Details to follow shortly.

**'The Two Popes'**

This is an excellent film imagines a meeting between Pope Benedict and Pope Francis and will be shown in the presbytery on:

**Monday 27<sup>th</sup> January (fully booked) and on 10<sup>th</sup> February (a few spaces available) from 2.30 - 4.30pm.**

**Fr Desmond Baker**  
**Golden Jubilee Celebration**

Thank you so much to all who contributed in any way to the preparations and the celebration, and indeed to all who attended the Mass and celebration.

It was a wonderful event, which was attended by a large number of clergy and parishioners from all around the country. Fr Desmond was delighted and very happy throughout the evening.

**Parish Diary - January/February**

Sunday 26 <sup>th</sup> January	New Parishioners Welcome	3 pm Presbytery
Sunday 26 <sup>th</sup> January	Confirmation Session 5.	4 pm <b>St Mary Magdalene Hall</b>
Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> January	Film showing 'The Two Popes'	2 pm Presbytery
Wednesday 29 <sup>th</sup> January	<b>Requiem Mass of Kathleen Randall R.I.P.</b>	10 am St Mary Magdalene
Wednesday 29 <sup>th</sup> January	RCIA Session 6.	7 pm Presbytery.
Fri 31 <sup>st</sup> Jan - Sun 2 <sup>nd</sup> Feb	Confirmation - Weekend Retreat	St Vincent's, Whitstable
Sun 2 <sup>nd</sup> Feb (Candlemas)	St Mary Magdalene School "Parish Mass"	11 am Parish Mass St Mary Magdalene
Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Mother's Prayer Group	7:30 pm Prayer room
Monday 10 <sup>th</sup> February	Film showing 'The Two Popes'	2 pm Presbytery
Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup> February	WJT Session 6.	6:30pm Presbytery
Saturday 15 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Parish Marriage Anniversary Mass	10 am St Mary Magdalene
Tuesday 18 <sup>th</sup> February	SVP Meeting	6 pm Presbytery
Wednesday 19 <sup>th</sup> February	Mothers Prayer Group	7:30 pm Prayer Room

**The application process for the 2020 Lourdes Pilgrimage is now open.**

The online application form for those applying as a helper, chaplain, member of the medical team or as a pilgrim who needs no assistance can be found at: <https://www.my-holiday-booking.co.uk/crm/introduction/index/i/17/eid/9>

If you would like to go to Lourdes as an Assisted Pilgrim, please contact the Pilgrimage Office who will post a form to you:

E: [office@ablourdes.org](mailto:office@ablourdes.org)

T: 01403 740110

**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](http://www.worth.co.uk)

**A&B News**

February's Free Edition is available in the Church porch or on the Diocesan website.

**Holocaust Memorial Day Monday 27<sup>th</sup> January 2020**

This year's Holocaust Memorial Day has increased significance as this year we mark the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz. Additionally, we have seen a rise in antisemitism which for Christians is completely out of step with our spiritual bond with the People of the Covenant as we revere the same patriarchs and prophets in our liturgy. As such, we will celebrate a Mass 'for Reconciliation' at the 10am Mass on Monday so we may pray for healing, justice, love and peace. Fr Simon.

**CAFOD AREA MEETING Wednesday, 5th February, at 7 pm, in the John Fisher Room at St Thomas of Canterbury Church, TN37 6ET.**

Jenny Finlayson from CAFOD A & B will be present, along with local CAFOD Parish Contacts. All Welcome! .

**Parish Memorial Garden Gate Lock**

After persistent problems with the front lock gate, it will be replaced. It will be installed and ready from Friday 31<sup>st</sup> January. The last lock lasted 20 years! The code will be the same as before but omitting the Y. If you encounter any problems, please contact the parish office.

**Lost Property**

**St Mary Magdalene's & St Martha's**  
Please check the boxes at the back of the churches. We have accumulated quite a lot of lost property.

**Second Collection: For Worth Abbey & Fr Stephen Ortiger**

An opportunity to express our gratitude for them in assisting the parish in the transition period.

**Eastbourne and Bexhill Newman Association**

**Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> February 7pm for 7.30pm - 9pm 'Mercy and the Migrant Crisis'**

A talk by Georgia Clarke from Catholic Voices. Christ the King Parish Room, 3 Princes Road, Eastbourne. BN23 6HT. Entrance Free. All warmly welcome. For further information contact Alex 07957632208 or Barbara 01424 219788 or John 01323 726334.

## 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**

**Parish Office**  
**Administrators:**  
Bonita Osmond-Maher  
Lisa Young  
**Telephone: 01424 210263**  
**Email:**  
[stmm@btconnect.com](mailto:stmm@btconnect.com)

**Website:**  
[www.stmmbexhill.co.uk](http://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](mailto:admin@strichardscc.com)  
[www.strichardscc.com](http://www.strichardscc.com)

**St Mary Magdalene's**  
**Primary School**  
**Interim Head:**  
Mrs Siobhan Andrews  
01424 735810  
[office@stmarymagsbex.e-sussex.sch.uk](mailto:office@stmarymagsbex.e-sussex.sch.uk)  
[www.stmarymags.co.uk](http://www.stmarymags.co.uk)

## PARISH NEWS

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# Parish Mass Diary and Intentions

<b>Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> January</b>	<b>Feast</b>	<b>The Conversion of St Paul</b>
St Mary Magdalene	9:30am	Confession
St Mary Magdalene	10:00am	Altar Servers Mass
St Mary Magdalene	<b>10:40am-12 noon</b>	<b>Altar Servers Morning of Reflection</b>

## Third Sunday Yr A: "Sunday of the Word of God"

*Isaiah 8:23 - 9:3, Corinthians 1:10-13.17, Matthew 4:12-23*

St Mary Magdalene	5:30pm	Confessions
St Mary Magdalene	6:00pm	Denis, Mary & Joan O'Sullivan RIP
<b>Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> January</b>		<b>Special Commissioning of our Parish Proclaimers of the Word (Readers)</b>
St Martha	9:00am	Dennis Driscoll RIP
St Mary Magdalene	11:00am	Edna Agnes Coward RIP
St Mary Magdalene	6:00pm	People of the Parish & <b>Mass of Enrolment of Confirmandi</b>

**In Gratitude to Worth Abbey (to include Fr Stephen)**  
(not in our scheme)

<b>Monday 27<sup>th</sup> January</b>		<b>Holocaust Memorial Day &amp; Mass</b>
St Mary Magdalene	10:00am	Robert Stevens RIP
<b>Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> January</b>	<b>Memorial</b>	<b>St Thomas Aquinas</b>
St Mary Magdalene	10:00am	Leslie Gardner RIP
<b>Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> January</b>		
St Mary Magdalene	10:00am	Requiem Mass of Kathleen Randall RIP followed by Hastings Crematorium
<b>Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> January</b>		
St Mary Magdalene	10:00am	Lisa Young & Family
St Martha	7:00pm	Priests Intentions
<b>Friday 31<sup>st</sup> January</b>	<b>Memorial</b>	<b>St John Bosco</b>
St Mary Magdalene	10:00am	Harry & Peggy Paris 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
<b>Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> February</b>		
St Mary Magdalene	9:30am	Confession
St Mary Magdalene	10:00am	Holy Souls

## The Presentation of the Lord "Candlemas"

*Malachi 3:1-4, Hebrews 2:14-18, Luke 2:22-40*

St Mary Magdalene	5:30pm	Confessions
St Mary Magdalene	6:00pm	Denis, Mary & Joan O'Sullivan RIP
<b>Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> February</b>		
St Martha	9:00am	Anne Pitt-Payne GE <b>Mass with procession: gather in hall</b>
St Mary Magdalene	11:00am	Irene Herring RIP <b>St Mary Magdalene Primary School Parish Mass at St Mary Magdalene.</b> <b>Mass with procession: gather in hall</b>
St Mary Magdalene	6:00pm	People of the Parish

**Parish Poor Fund**  
(parish scheme-blue envelopes)