



2nd Sunday of Easter “Low Sunday” / “Divine Mercy Sunday”

Parish of Our Lady of the Rosary, Bexhill on Sea
St Mary Magdalene, Town Centre & St Martha’s, Little Common

From the desk of the Parish Priest (updated)

“My Lord and My God”

This Sunday, the second of Easter, has several names: It is the ‘*Octave Day*’, meaning that we still celebrate it as Easter Sunday itself, but call it ‘*Low Sunday*’ to distinguish it from last Sunday. Pope St John Paul II designated this Sunday as ‘*Divine Mercy Sunday*’ and is the culmination of the novena to the Divine Mercy of Jesus, a devotion given to St Faustina. At **3pm this Sunday afternoon** we will have a ‘**Facebook Live Stream**’ of the Divine Mercy Devotion. This Sunday we implore the mercy of God for those who have died from the Coronavirus (COVID-19): ‘*Eternal Rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them, may they rest in peace. Amen.*’

Occasionally, it is referred to as ‘*Quasimodo Sunday*’, a play on words of the entrance antiphon “*Quasi modo geniti*”, meaning ‘*as new-born infants*’, to mark that this Sunday the newly baptised should have been taking their place as ordinary members of our congregation. Therefore, please continue to pray for the ‘*Elect of God*’ whose baptisms are still pending and for the Candidates for Reception into Full Communion who, like the early Christians of the 1st Reading, long to ‘*break bread with us*’ in the Eucharist. It is sometimes referred to as ‘*Thomas Sunday*’, to recall the profession of faith of Thomas the Apostle who declares. ‘*My Lord and my God*’. Regardless of what we call it, we know that being a Sunday it is always a celebration of the Resurrection and Fr Rajesh and I continue to wish you a happy and holy Easter, a season of great joy which lasts until Pentecost on 31st May 2020.

This week we celebrate St George, patron of England and we ask the intercession of this ancient Roman soldier who converts to Christianity, and who, after refusing to make sacrifice to the roman ‘gods’ is martyred for the faith. As a soldier, George came to understand that, ‘*victory and power and empire have been won by our God, and all authority for his Christ.*’ With my prayers and best wishes, Fr Simon.

**COVID-19 Restrictions on Public Gatherings remain in force:
Holy Mass is being celebrated privately by Fr Simon & Fr Rajesh**

Date	<u>Mass 1</u>	<u>Mass 2</u>	<u>Mass 3</u>
Sunday 19th April Low / Divine Mercy	People of the Parish	Frank Ratcliffe RIP	Stephen Crooks RIP
Monday 20th April Monday Easter Week 2	Sneha Joseph	<i>See Parish Facebook page for details of any Livestream Masses, which will be uploaded afterwards to our Parish You Tube Channel.</i>	
Tuesday 21st April Saint Anselm	Patrick & June Callaghan RIP		
Wed. 22nd April Wed. Easter Week 2	Mary Herring RIP		
Thursday 23rd April <i>Saint George</i>	PJC Durrant		
Friday 24th April Easter Friday	Neha Aju GE	-	
Saturday 25th April <i>Saint Mark</i>	Denis, Mary & Joan Sullivan RIP	People of the Parish	-

Some of these Masses will be “Live Streamed” from St Mary Magdalene Presbytery on our Parish Facebook Page: *Parish of Our Lady of the Rosary, Bexhill: St Mary Magdalene & St Martha’s*, which can be found at:

www.facebook.com/stmmbexhill

and uploaded afterwards to **You Tube Channel**:

Search: *Parish of Our Lady of the Rosary, Bexhill on Sea.*



For those unable to join the Bexhill Parish Mass through Facebook Live:

Alternatively, you can “stream” Mass live at:

Worthing Parish:

<https://www.stmaryoftheangels.org.uk/catholic-mass-online/>

Caterham:

http://www.caterhamcatholic.co.uk/Sacred_Heart_Catholic_Church/public.html

Guildford Parish:

<https://www.cpg.church/live.html>

Arundel Cathedral:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC7I-pXF8v-VzfO01zmerQ>

Sacrament of the Sick (updated)

For urgent requests do not ring the parish office as our administrators are now unavailable. Instead:

For people at home: email stmm@btconnect.com or simon.dray@abdiocese.org.uk and we will check what is the most appropriate option or speak directly with Fr Simon (opt 3) or Fr Rajesh (opt 2) on 01424 210 263; you may need to leave a voicemail.

For people in Care, Residential & Nursing Homes: Please first check with the care home to see if visits are possible / advisable and then ask the care home to ring the priests direct: Fr Simon opt 3 or Fr Rajesh opt 2 on 01424 210 263 – they may need to leave a voicemail message. We will discuss with them what is most appropriate.

For those in Eastbourne DGH or Conquest Hospital: You must ring the Conquest Hospital Chaplaincy on 01424 757088 who are co-ordinating emergency response for both hospitals (or ask the Ward to contact the on-call Catholic Chaplain who will determine what is appropriate).

For Bexhill Hospital: ask the ward to phone Fr Rajesh on 01424 210 263 (opt 2) and he will discuss with them what is appropriate.

It may be that visits are not appropriate, especially if the person is self-isolating to protect themselves. The most appropriate support might be via the telephone.

The Bishops' Conference of England and Wales have posted an extensive article on the ministry to the sick on their website: <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/home/our-work/health-social-care/coronavirus-guidelines/covid-19-and-the-ministry-to-the-sick-interim-guidance/>

Rother: Bexhill Emergency Action Team (BEAT):

Providing assistance for those in isolation due to Coronavirus:

Caring Community: 01424 215116, E: info@bexhillcaringcommunity.org

Rother Voluntary Action: 01424 327259, E: office@rva.uk.com

Rother Neighbourhood Watch: 07983 619622, E: chairman@rothernhw.co.uk

BEAT Facebook page: “Bexhill Emergency Action Team (Beat)”

https://www.facebook.com/groups/199886864601614/?epa=SEARCH_BOX

Advice around COVID-19 visit: www.rother.gov.uk/coronavirus

Bexhill Food Bank: How to donate.

<https://bexhill.foodbank.org.uk/give-help/donate-money/>

Mass Intentions: You can still book Mass intentions via email to: stmm@btconnect.com Please make your offering, if possible, by bank transfer, as we do not have facility to take cash. In your email please state the following:

- *Name of the Person for whom the Mass is offered*
 - (adding Good Estate or RIP).
- Your name, email address and tel. number.
- Date desired (but no guarantee can be made), and likely after June 2020

Your donation can be sent by BACs transfer: *HSBC Roman Catholic Diocese of Arundel & Brighton St Mary Magdalene, Bexhill on Sea. Sort Code: 40 05 20, Account No. 21077139.* If possible, use a reference: *Int. Surname (of person for whom the Mass is offered).* While the COVID-19 precautions are in place, Mass intentions are being offered privately. If you can't transfer money electronically, please put the donation aside and pop it into the office once the COVID-19 restrictions are lifted.

Spiritual Communion: I wish, Lord, to receive you with the purity, humility and devotion with which your most holy mother received you, with the spirit and fervour of the saints.

While we cannot access Confession:

Act of Personal Contrition: *“O my God, because you are so good, I am very sorry that I have sinned against you, and by the help of your grace, I will not sin again”.*

Support and assistance

If anyone has to self-isolate, do not feel afraid or lonely, the Parish Pastoral Care Group and the SVP may be able to assist you with shopping needs, prescription collections or simply for a chat on the end of the phone. The Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion have been asked, where possible, to keep in telephone contact with their assigned communicant: *Contact: Ron Brazier 844177 or Chris Jones 602914*

Weekly Offertory: We have had several enquiries about how parishioners can still give their offertory. **Bless you, for without your support the parish finances will suffer.** As there is no-one working in the parish office, please avoid posting envelopes through the presbytery door. The diocese has set up a simple way to give on-line via a “**Just Giving Page**” which is very easy to use:

www.justgiving.com/campaign/parishoffertory

Please remember to add a note: “**donation to go to St Mary Magdalene Bexhill**”
You can also choose, in the dropdown box, the additional % donation you wish to give to JustGiving, from 0% to 15%, whatever you choose the parish does not lose out!

You can still try and use your online banking, but some have reported difficulty setting it up because of our ridiculously long account name: BACS transfers to: *HSBC Roman Catholic Diocese of Arundel & Brighton St Mary Magdalene, Bexhill on Sea. Sort Code: 40 05 20, Account No. 21077139.* You can set up a direct debit or if you wish to offer week by week, use the reference: *off day/month.* If you don't have online banking, perhaps use a ‘piggybank’ and save up your weekly offering, returning it once the COVID-19 precautions are over. **Thank you for your continued support!**

**Regina Caeli Laetare, alleluia,
Quia quem merusiti portare, alleluia,
Resurrexit sicut dixit, alleluia,
Ora pro nobis Deum, alleluia.**

Queen of Heaven, rejoice, alleluia.
For He whom you did merit to bear, alleluia,
Has risen as he said, alleluia,
Pray for us to God, alleluia.