



3rd Sunday of Easter 26th April 2020



**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)

*“Did not our hearts burn within us as he talked to us on the road
and explained the scriptures to us”*

We might have lost count what day of lockdown this is, but more importantly it is day 15 of 50 in the Easter Season, the year of Our Lord 2020. The two disciples walking on the road to Emmaus are downcast and it prevents them from recognizing the Lord as he approaches. As he explains the scriptures to them, their hearts are set ablaze and their hope is restored. Like the two disciples, we welcome the Lord into our dwelling place: our homes, but especially our hearts as we too recognize that we will share in the Resurrection of the Dead on the Last Day.

This allows us to join St Peter (1st reading) in his joyful proclamation of Psalm 15(16): *‘And so my heart rejoices, my soul is glad; even my body shall rest in safety. For you will not leave my soul among the dead, nor let your beloved know decay. You will show me the path of life, the fullness of joy in your presence, at your right-hand happiness for ever’*. This is the Easter joy that we share with others, the reason for our catechesis.

Last week we welcomed Mr Damien McKeever as the new substantive Headteacher of St Mary Magdalene Primary School. The handover could not have happened in stranger circumstances, but we are excited to see and experience everything that he brings to the school. That means we also say goodbye to Mrs Siobhan Andrews who has been a superb Interim Headteacher over the past two years and been at St Mary Magdalene for the past 19 years. We wish her every blessing and good wish as she too becomes a substantive Headteacher in her new school. My two letters to them both can be found in the Newsletter section of our Parish website or here:

<https://catholicparishofbexhill.files.wordpress.com/2020/04/headteacher-transition-st-mary-magdalene-primary-school.pdf>

With my prayers and best wishes, Fr Simon.

Due to COVID-19 all public liturgies remain suspended

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 26th April 3 rd Sunday of Easter	People of the Parish	Gladys E Rowe RIP	Robert Stevens RIP
Monday 27th April Monday Easter Week 3	Requiem of Francesco Marino RIP	-	<i>See Parish Facebook page for details of any Livestream Masses, which will be uploaded afterwards to our Parish You Tube Channel.</i>
Tuesday 28th April Tuesday Easter Week 3	Edna Agnes Coward RIP	Holy Souls	
Wed. 29th April St Catherine of Siena	Kathleen Randall RIP	Requiem Hilda Patricia Searson & Desmond Arthur Searson RIP (12 th anniversary)	
Thursday 30th May Thursday Easter Week 3	Robert Moggridge RIP	Holy Souls	
Friday 1st May St Joseph the Worker	Ray Ford GE	Fr Geoffrey Nixon RIP	
Saturday 2nd May Saint Athanasius	Frank Ratcliffe	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:

Eastbourne: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCyByhHVIFgDkDpZlr_H5bZw

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-VZfzO01zrnerQ>

New Notices

Angela McEwan and George Keates: Angela and her son George were on Good Morning Britain with Lorraine on Tuesday 21st April talking about working in Conquest ICU together:



Confirmation Update: Bishop Richard has written to say that all the Confirmation Masses for this academic year have been cancelled. The programme of Masses across the diocese was due to begin this weekend. This means that our St Leonard's Deanery celebration due for Trinity Sunday, 7th June 2020 will no longer happen. He has said that it will not be possible to re-schedule 25 Confirmation Masses this year into his diary. Once public Masses have been given clearance to resume, we will schedule a parish celebration of Confirmation, the faculty to administer the sacrament having now been delegated by the bishop to Parish Priests.

First Holy Communion: The current strict restrictions on public gatherings will be reviewed on Thursday 7th May. We are all hopeful that they will not be extended again, but we must be realistic. I think it quite possible that we will still not be able to have public gatherings in our Churches by the dates of our three celebrations currently scheduled for 30th May, 6th June or 13th June. For the time being we should assume that the dates are suspended, but I think we will know more on 7th May.

Baptisms: All baptisms scheduled for the month of May are hereby suspended. They can be rearranged when restrictions on public Masses and services have been lifted.

Updated Notices

BACS payments: Some Parishioners have reported trouble setting up BACS payments because of our long account name, but we have discovered that if you simply use “**St Mary Magdalene**” and ditch the rest, it all works fine!

- Account name: St Mary Magdalene
- Account number: 21077139
- Sort Code: 40-05-20

You can set up a direct debit or if you wish to offer week by week, use the reference: *off day/month*.

Otherwise please use the Diocesan Just Giving Page:

www.justgiving.com/campaign/parishoffertory

remembering to add the comment: “**for 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!

Thank you to parishioners who continue to support the parish through standing orders, BACS payments or the Just Giving Page. Without your support the parish finances will suffer. If you do not have online banking, perhaps use a ‘*piggybank*’ and save up your weekly offering, returning it once the COVID-19 precautions are over.

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).

Your donation can be sent by BACS transfer (**see above**). 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.

Reminders

Sacrament of the Sick

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/>

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*

**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.