



5th Sunday of Easter 10th May 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)

“They elected seven men full of the Holy Spirit”

It came as no surprise at Thursday's Coronavirus briefing that the lockdown would continue. This Sunday, we expect the Prime Minister to outline a 'roadmap' for the lifting of lockdown, Dominic Raab speaking of gradual 'milestones'. What about the re-opening of Churches? As soon as I hear from the Bishops Conference and from Bishop Richard, I will update you. Like many companies, they are trying to work out how to re-open our buildings safely, in terms of both social distancing and cleanliness, ensuring that the Church is regularly sanitized to a suitable standard; and these plans must work for every parish. *Pure speculation*: I would imagine it is easier to manage social distancing in large Churches, but harder to clean, and vice versa in smaller chapels. Judging from Ireland's five step plan, public worship may be some time off.

In the Acts of the Apostles we hear of the institution of the sacred office of Deacon. The Pope's intention for May is: *'For Deacons: we pray that deacons, faithful in their service to the Word and the poor, may be an invigorating symbol for the entire Church'*. At his ordination, the bishop, (the apostle) hands him the book of the Gospels: *"Receive the Gospel of Christ, whose herald you now are. Believe what you read, teach what you believe, and practice what you teach"*. The Deacon (*from Diakonos meaning 'servant'*) makes himself available to all as a minister of the Word, of the Altar and of Charity. Please keep our Deacon Simon Kirkdale and his family in your prayers, so that we will always recognize Christ in him who came *'not to be served but to serve and give his life as a ransom for many'*. Priests also retain their diaconal ministry as part of their sacred priesthood, reminding us of the intrinsic link between the three offices of Bishop, Priest and Deacon which make up the Sacrament of Holy Orders.

May, the Month of Mary: this week in the month of May, on Wednesday 13th May, we keep the memorial of Our Lady of Fatima.

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>	Some of these Masses will be Live Streamed over Facebook, usually 10am but check the Parish Page for times which may be affected by other pastoral needs.
Sunday 10th May 4 th Sunday of Easter	Dorothy, Peter & William Bird RIP	Joseph Thomas RIP	
Monday 11th May Monday Easter Week 5	Mick Hanson RIP		
Tuesday 12th May Tuesday Easter Week 5	Joseph Thomas RIP	Fr Gerry Flood RIP	
Wed. 13th May <i>Our Lady of Fatima</i>	Priest's Intention	Denis Connor	
Thursday 14th May <i>St Matthias, Apostle</i>	Frances Brignall RIP	Fr Anthony Quinn RIP	
Friday 15th May Friday Easter Week 5	Freda Joyce Breda RIP	People of the Parish	
Saturday 16th May Saturday Easter Week 5	SVP Mass for the Sick & Housebound	Ela Szepinska RIP	

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

improved: now filmed in Landscape

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](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/UC71-pXF8v-VZfzO01zrnerQ>

New Notices

Induction of Mr McKeever: This Sunday, we had hoped to welcome Bishop Richard to formally induct Mr McKeever as Headteacher of St Mary Magdalene Primary School. This will now happen later in the year, but we know that he is already in post, leading the school and doing a fantastic job providing a safe environment for children of key workers and will be working with the Governors to get the school ready for a reopening when asked to do so by the Department for Education.

Those who have died:

Please pray for the repose of the souls of *Robert Ffrench RIP, Margaret Malone RIP*. Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them, may they rest in peace. Amen.

Updated Notices

CAFOD Appeal: Video: <https://cafod.org.uk/Fundraise/Parish-fundraising>

CAFOD launched its coronavirus emergency appeal on 30 April. The effects of coronavirus on developing countries where CAFOD works are likely to be devastating. Families without enough to eat and without access to clean water and healthcare are particularly vulnerable to coronavirus. The poorest and most marginalised communities will be pushed further into poverty. Your prayers and gifts are needed now more than ever to help protect the lives of those in poor communities. While we are not able to hold physical collections in our church, you can donate as individuals at cafod.org.uk/coronavirusappeal . **CAFOD Prayer Resources:** <https://cafod.org.uk/Pray/Prayer-resources/Coronavirus-prayers>

Reminders

Diocesan Resources for Mental Health and well-being:

<https://www.dabnet.org/news/view/314>

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.

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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.

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 parish finances at the end of the newsletter**). 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.

Bexhill Food Bank: How to donate.

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

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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

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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. And, *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*

Parish Finances

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.

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