

PARISH NEWS

First Reconciliation for the 2021 First Holy Communion Children:

Our priests will hear 1st Reconciliations (Confessions) for the **2021** Children during the Saturday morning Confession Slot at St Mary Magdalene Church at 10.30am on 29th May, 5th June, 12th June, and 19th June. No need to book, just turn up at 10.30am. If there is a small queue, this can help refresh your examination of conscience. Children should bring their 'I **Belong**' books to show the priests their progress with their home learning. **You should have completed the 1st Four Chapters before your 1st Confession.**

We encourage Catholic parents to set a good example and make a good confession. A Confession help sheet can be found here:

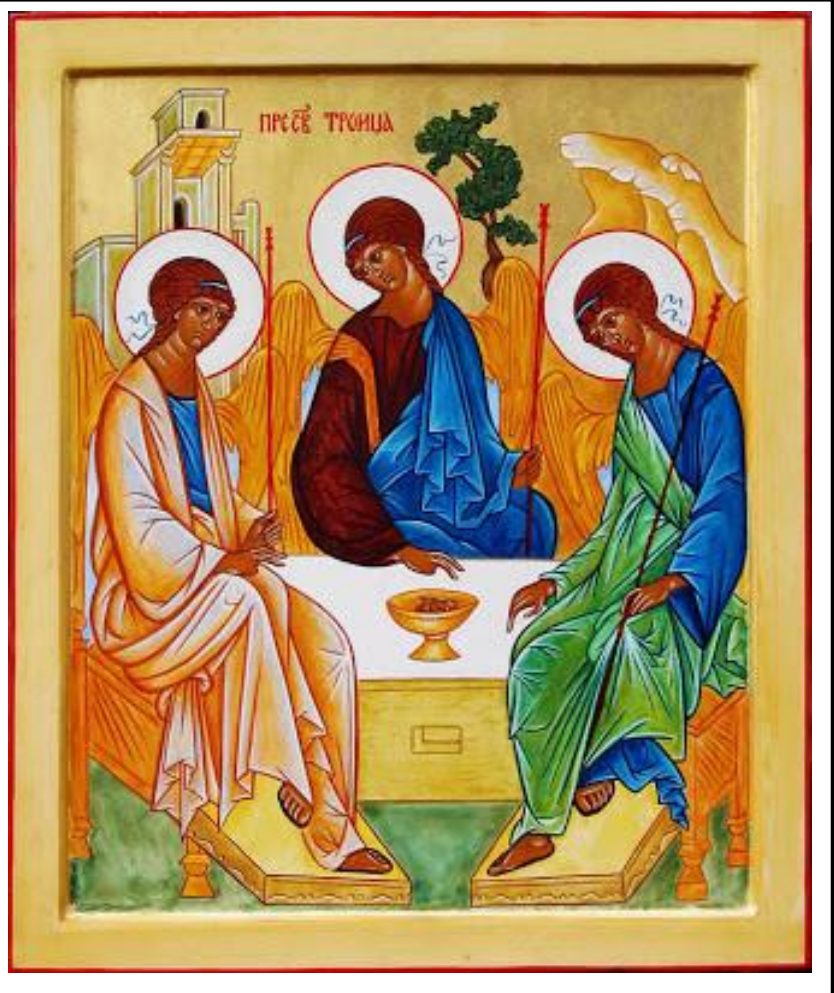
<https://catholicparishofbexhill.files.wordpress.com/2021/05/fhc-reconciliation-children-and-parents.pdf>

If possible, please print it and bring it with you to your 1st Reconciliation.

Dates for the 2021 First Holy Communion Masses:

After your First Reconciliation, you can book in for a First Holy Communion Mass, at 12noon on 25th September or on 2nd October at St Martha's. The FHC Masses scheduled for 26/ 6 & 3/7 are for the **2020** children who have waited patiently since last year. As an aside, please do not ask about First Holy Communions for 2022 as this might just tip Fr Simon over the edge!

Happy the people the Lord has chosen as his own.



Stewarding at Mass: Please follow their instructions carefully and treat them with courtesy.

In the newsletter for 6th Sunday of Easter, I reminded people of the need to follow the instructions of the stewards to comply with the routines of social distancing and cleaning, asking everyone to treat our stewards with courtesy. Unfortunately, last weekend, there were two incidents that were unacceptable. One of our stewards was **physically accosted** by a parishioner and another steward was hassled after the Mass had started by a parishioner who could not find their gift aid envelopes. Please note, while the restrictions remain, if we do not have stewards, there will be no Mass!

Thank you for your co-operation. Fr Simon.

We pray for those who have died: William Coughlan RIP (NB: it is taking about two weeks to arrange funerals at the moment, and although the 30 limit on funerals was lifted on 17th May, we understand the COVID capacities apply (see below). Other COVID precautions may still apply.

We pray for the sick: Roy Cox, Margaret Pink, Margaret Hitchman, Martin Stiles, David Spooner, Doreen Turner, Martin Murphy, Samuel Barden, Baby Hope Leahy.

Church Capacities: 43 units of people (up to a max of 60 individuals) at St Martha's and 60 units of people (max 80 individuals) at St Mary Magdalene. See note below "Government Roadmap".

Government Roadmap: 3: 17th May: new guidance was received on 16th May. Fr Simon has released a separate note in the newsletter section of the parish website, detailing what impact it will have on our parish moving forward: <https://catholicparishofbexhill.files.wordpress.com/2021/05/covid-guidance-for-collective-worship-stage-3.pdf>

Parish Halls: There is a requirement that the parish must ensure (*either by paying a contractor or training a parish volunteer team*) that the hall is sanitized after every booking, and that we cannot leave it to the hall hirer. This is what is currently preventing us from re-opening St Martha's hall. Hopefully, this requirement will be relaxed when all restrictions are lifted on 21st June, until then, at the earliest, we do not have a date for re-opening. St Mary Magdalene Hall is currently undergoing, via an insurance claim, extensive repairs following the flood at Easter. Further investigations this week, suggested the damage may have been more significant and a further survey may be needed. Initial conversations with our heating engineer also suggest the boiler in St Mary Magdalene Hall has reached the end of its life and needs replacing. The second collections this weekend and next will support ongoing maintenance costs.

Gift Aid Offertory Envelopes: we have not ordered any new gift aid offertory envelopes this year as they are expensive and most (*due to the pandemic*) lay uncollected last year. If you need envelopes, **please contact the parish office** who will see if your envelopes from last year are still available or put together a pack for you. Alternatively, you could buy a pack of envelopes from any good shop and simply write your gift aid number and date on it. Better still, why not move your offertory online by setting up a standing order. If you need help doing so, contact your bank or the parish office.

From CAFOD: As coronavirus devastates India, CAFOD is working with the local Church agency, Caritas India, to provide vital support. Donations to CAFOD's Coronavirus Appeal will help Caritas India distribute PPE kits to frontline health workers, promote COVID & vaccine awareness campaigns, and set up isolation & quarantine centres. You can donate online here: cafod.org.uk/give. Please keep praying for the people of India and all those affected by the pandemic.

Bexhill Fairtrade Group: Jack Doherty has provided an update, which can be found in the newsletter section of our parish website: <https://catholicparishofbexhill.files.wordpress.com/2021/05/latest-update-from-the-bexhill-fairtrade-group-may-2021.pdf> which includes suggestions on how we might begin to create the future we want: a more inclusive, fraternal, peaceful and sustainable world.

Parish Clergy: Fr Simon Dray, Fr Rajesh Minz, Deacon Simon Kirkdale
Administrators: Bonita Osmond-Maher & Lisa Young
Safeguarding: Sylvia Cousins

Baptism: applications can still be submitted: www.stmmbexhill.co.uk/baptismal-form/ and you will then be directed to the online preparation. Baptisms are now permitted as part of the Roadmap Stage 3.

Confirmation: Bishop Richard will celebrate the Confirmation Mass at 7pm in St Mary Magdalene on Friday 8th October 2021. We are very fortunate to have our own parish celebration.

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) & Christian Initiation of Children of Catechetical Age (7+) (CICCA): these courses are not due to begin until October and November respectively, and we will update you on plans later in the summer, once we have more certainty with the unlocking.

Non-Urgent Pastoral Visits to the Housebound: If you need the Sacraments, please contact the Parish Office on 01424 210263 or email bexhill@abdiocese.org.uk to make an appointment for a priest to make a one-off visit. Please let us know of any COVID concerns.

Fighting Modern Slavery (Steering Group): The latest edition of 'Fighting Modern Slavery' (issue 3) can be downloaded from the newsletter section of the parish website:

<https://catholicparishofbexhill.files.wordpress.com/2021/05/modern-slavery-newsletter-issue-3.pdf>

The Steering Group seeks parish and deanery Modern Slavery Awareness Ambassadors. More information: Rosie Read at rosie.read@abdiocese.org.uk

Mass Intentions: a principal role of the priests is to offer Holy Mass for your intentions, perhaps the repose of the soul of a loved one or the good estate (well-being) of a family member. There is availability throughout the summer months: requests to: bexhill@abdiocese.org.uk

NB: Syro-Malabar Mass on Sundays moves to 11am as Fr Jose has another Mass in Littlehampton

An Invitation from the Catholic Women's League: The Catholic Women's League (CWL) is a National and International Organization, and the only one for all women in the parish. We share our faith, our skills and our friendship. We support the local community, we keep the parish, and the church in the world and in our hearts and we invite speakers to enrich and entertain us. We also go on pilgrimages and outings, plus we have a good laugh, drink tea and wine!

Come & Join Us (*when the restrictions allow, and the parish halls reopen*):

1st Monday of the Month at 7.30pm St Martha's.

And please join us for our fundraising events

- 8th July: Sponsored walk for the Medaille Trust
- 15th August: Summer Garden Party & Fair at St Martha's

[Please also see note about the halls on page 2 of this newsletter]



Parish Office

Remains closed to casual callers.

All enquiries:

bexhill@abdiocese.org.uk

Sacrament of the Sick

Urgent Requests

Last Rites does not mean Last Minute!

As soon as a person begins to be in danger of death because of illness, injury or old age, the time for anointing has surely already come.

Office hours

bexhill@abdiocese.org.uk

01424 210 263 opt 4

out of hours

simon.dray@abdiocese.org.uk

Hospital Visits

For **DGH Eastbourne & Conquest Hastings** you must contact the Conquest Chaplaincy on 01424 757088 who co-ordinate all visits to both hospitals (out of hours ask the Ward to call the on-call Catholic chaplain). For **Bexhill Hospital**: contact Fr Rajesh on 01424 210263

Care Home Visits

You must first clear the visit with the Home before contacting us to arrange a visit. We will discuss with you / the home as to what is most appropriate.

Home Visits

Please contact us above to discuss the most appropriate response. A member of the family bubble should be present when a priest visits, stepping out of the room for Confession.

Please do not wait until the end, as the priests may be otherwise engaged.

Parish Mass Diary and Intentions

Facebook Live: www.facebook.com/stmmbexhill

Saturday 29th May	Solemnity	Vigil Masses of Trinity Sunday
St Mary Magdalene	10.00am	Public Mass: Int. of Peter French
St Mary Magdalene	10.30am	Confessions and (including 1 st Reconciliations for 2021 children)
Facebook Live Mass	6.00pm	Vigil of Trinity: People of the Parish

THE MOST HOLY TRINITY B

Deut 4:32-34, 39-40, Rom 8:14-17 & Mt 28:16-20

Sunday 30th May	Solemnity	3 Public Masses (first-come, first served)
St Martha's	9.00am	Priest's Intentions
St Mary Mags (& Facebook)	11.00am	John Wimsey & Ellen Ripley RIP
St Mary Magdalene	6.00pm	Denis Lucey RIP
[St Martha's]	[11.00am]	[Syro-Malabar Rite Mass]

Second Collection: Maintenance Fund

Monday 31st May	FEAST	The Visitation of the BVM
Facebook Live Mass	N/A	No Live Stream Mass today

Tuesday 1st June	Memorial	St Justin, Martyr
Facebook Live Mass	10.00am	Priest's Intentions

Wednesday 2nd June	Opt. Mem	St Marcellinus and St Peter, Martyrs
Presbytery (Said Privately)	N/A	No Mass in the parish today

Thursday 3rd June	Memorial	Saint Charles Lwanga & Companions
St Mary Magdalene	6.30pm	Public Mass: Fred Herring RIP

Friday 4th June	Votive	First Friday of the Sacred Heart
St Mary Magdalene	10.00am	Public Mass: Mr A.H. Busby RIP
St Mary Magdalene	10.30am	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
St Mary Magdalene	7.00pm	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Saturday 5th June	Solemnity	Vigil Masses of Corpus Christi
St Mary Magdalene	10.00am	Public Mass: Fr Boniface Moran GE
St Mary Magdalene	10.30am	Confessions and Adoration including 1 st Reconciliations (Confessions)
St Mary Magdalene	3.00pm	Baptism of Mia Dadswell
Facebook Live Mass	6.00pm	Vigil of Corpus Christi: People of the Parish

CORPUS CHRISTI B

Ex 24:3-8, Heb 9:11-15 (Sequence) & Mk 14:12-16, 22-26

Sunday 6th June		3 Public Masses (first-come, first served)
St Martha's	9.00am	Richard Coombes RIP
St Mary Magdalene	11.00am	Intentions of Adam Clarke
St Mary Magdalene	6.00pm	Those fallen on D-Day
[St Martha's]	[11.00am]	[Syro-Malabar Rite Mass]

Second Collection: Parish Lourdes Fund

Parish Offertory: A simple way to donate (+gift aid) online via Diocesan Website:

<https://abdiocese.churchsuite.com/donate/>

For Mass offerings & other payments: BACs: Name: St Mary Magdalene, Acct

No. 21077139, S/C 40-05-20.

Please indicate what the payment is for in the reference.

NB: As with Pentecost last weekend, the 10am Public Mass on Saturday (and next) will be an anticipated Mass for the Major Feasts of Trinity & Corpus Christi