

PARISH NEWS

First Holy Communion (updated)

2020 Children: please check your emails, as Fr Simon has sent a letter explaining the COVID-secure arrangements for our delayed parish celebrations on either 25th June (full) or 3rd July which will be celebrated in conformity to the Roadmap Stage 3 regulations that remain in-force.

2021 Children: there is one final opportunity in this set of dates for your child to make their 1st Reconciliation (Confession). Our priests are hearing First Confessions at **10.30am on Saturday 19th June**. After that, 1st Confessions will resume on Saturday 17th July. Please remember that you cannot book in to receive your 1st Communion if you have not made your 1st Confession. You need to have completed the first four chapters of 'I Belong' before your 1st Confession.

2022 Children: please do not submit any applications for next year as we are not accepting them until we know what we are able to offer. Please check back in September for more information.

**O give thanks to the Lord,
for his love endures for ever.**

Father's Day

In 1909 Sonora Smart Dodd sought to establish an equivalent to 'Mother's Day' to honour paternal bonds. As 'Mother's Day' is really 'Mothering Sunday' a day to return to the Mother Church or Church of Baptism, can we, perhaps, discern a more spiritual outlook for Father's Day than just another day dedicated to consumerism? Certainly, one key aspect of Jesus' mission was to reveal God as Father, an astonishing idea to the world at the time, that God invites us to enter a personal relationship with Him and not be like pagan deities who were to be feared and revered from a distance. In some countries, 'Father's Day' is celebrated on the Feast of St Joseph, which suggests a link to his role as the foster-father of Jesus, and elsewhere, it is celebrated on the Feast of the Ascension, the day that Jesus returns to his Father. Here in the UK, we celebrate 'Father's Day' on 3rd Sunday in June but with no obvious spiritual link. However, in June we celebrate the 'Faith of our Fathers' with the Feast Day of Saints John Fisher and Thomas More and our Apostolic Fathers, Peter, and Paul, and so, *'may the Father of Our Lord Jesus Christ enlighten the eyes of our minds, so that we can see what hope his call holds for us'*.

With every blessing for Father's Day, Fr Simon.

COVID-secure Church Capacities: to be reviewed on 19th July 2021

Liturgy	St Mary Magdalene	St Martha's
Mass	60 units of people <i>(Up to a maximum of 80 individuals)</i>	50 units of people <i>(Up to a maximum of 66 individuals)</i>
Funerals	as Mass numbers above	as Mass numbers above
Weddings	as Mass numbers above	as Mass numbers above
Baptisms:	Up to a maximum of 30 people	Up to a maximum of 30 people
1st Holy C:	20 family units	20 family units
Other:	as agreed with the Parish Priest	as agreed with the Parish Priest

We pray for those who have died: Sheila Spencer RIP, Martin Murphy RIP & Anna Vent RIP (**NB: 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, Samuel Barden, Baby Hope Leahy.

Church Capacities: 50 units of people (up to a max of 66 individuals) at St Martha's and **60 units of people** (*max 80 individuals*) at St Mary Magdalene. See note below "Government Roadmap".

Parish Halls (updated)

St Martha's Hall: The opening of St Martha's Hall will be reviewed **no earlier than 19th July** and will depend entirely on what social distancing and sanitization is required by the Diocesan Insurers. At present, the hall must be cleaned and sanitized after every booking and done in a COVID-secure manner. We are not permitted to leave this to the hall hirer. This means it is not practical or economical to re-open this hall until the lifting of restrictions. It will also depend on the pastoral needs of the parish.

St Mary Magdalene Hall: This is closed for extensive and complicated repairs following an underground flood discovered just before Easter. There is no date for completion of these repairs, as we are being guided by the Insurance's Loss Adjustor. Therefore, we have no estimate on when it might re-open.

The Presbytery: The administrators are present to deal with your email and telephone traffic. The office is not open to casual callers. The Pastoral Centre in the Presbytery is only open to pre-booked appointments that relate to the administration of the sacraments and not to other pastoral activity. Once the Quinquennial has been completed in July for the whole parish estate we will have a better understanding of the maintenance needs of the parish and any temporary adjustments to the use of our buildings while repair work is being carried out. This will require your on-going financial support and understanding.

From CAFOD (updated): In November, the UK will host the 'COP26' climate talks in Glasgow. Many of the poorest countries are struggling to cope with the effects of climate change such as increased droughts, floods, and cyclones. We need world leaders to put the poorest people at the heart of their talks and the UK has a critical role to play as host. Sign the petition: <https://cafod.org.uk/Campaign/Reclaim-our-common-home> A small group from the parish met our MP, Huw Merriman on the 11th June, online, to let him know how strongly we feel as Catholics about protecting our earth and helping our sisters and brothers around the world. CAFOD also thanks us all for supporting the most vulnerable throughout the COVID-19 fundraising campaign, reaching many thousands of people in more than 30 other countries.

Bexhill Fairtrade Group (updated): The Fairtrade update can still be found here:

<https://catholicparishofbexhill.files.wordpress.com/2021/05/latest-update-from-the-bexhill-fairtrade-group-may-2021.pdf> "Have you written down your few aspirations for a better fairer world on your buntings yet?" Regarding our Fairtrade sales stall, we've missed over £2,000 in sales of Fairtrade produce due to pandemic, so watch this space for parish sales, very soon after COVID restrictions are lifted, thank you for concerns and enquiries; in the meantime, please look for the Fairtrade logo when you're shopping."

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.

Grandparents' Pilgrimage to the Shrine at West Grinstead: All Grandparents, or honorary grandparents, are invited to join Bishop Richard for our annual pilgrimage to West Grinstead on Wednesday, 7th July, from 10 am. This is always a lovely event. It is a day to meet other grandparents and share the joys and excitement of this wonderful vocation. There will be opportunities for Mass, Adoration, Reconciliation, Stations of the Cross, Rosary, and a visit to the Secret Chapel (flat shoes advised). Packed lunch needed. Drinks provided. To book a place: <https://abdiocese.churchsuite.com/events/wpjpxxir>

Day for Catechists Saturday 25 September, Worth Abbey: A gathering of Catechists from around the Diocese, to share our experiences and offer support and resources. The day ends with mass with Bishop Richard. To book contact ruth.gerun@abdiocese.org.uk

Catholic Women's League (updated and corrected): The contact numbers for CWL to find out more about joining are: 01424 221803 and 211717. The plan is to meet in person once the restrictions are lifted and St Martha's Hall has reopened*. Otherwise, we meet on ZOOM on 1st Monday of the Month at 7.30pm. On 8th July, members of the CWL are taking part in a sponsored walk for the Medaille Trust, a UK Charity founded by several Catholic Congregations which aims to bring freedom from human trafficking. They offer safe housing, support victims, raise awareness in communities and work with law enforcement offices. Pope Francis: " An economy without human trafficking is an economy of care." If you are able to sponsor us, you can do so via BACs: Name: Catholic Womens League CIO Bexhill. Number: 14087607. S/C: 40-34-18. Our target is to raise £500.

Future event: 15th August: Summer Garden Party & Fair at St Martha's

**Please see the note about halls on page 2 of the newsletter.*

Parish Mass Diary and Intentions

Facebook Live: www.facebook.com/stmmbexhill

Saturday 19th June	Opt. Mem	Saturday Memorial of the BVM
St Mary Magdalene	10.00am	Public Mass: James Gordon RIP
St Mary Magdalene	10.30am	Confessions and <i>(including 1st Reconciliations for 2021 children)</i>
Facebook Live Mass	6.00pm	Vigil of Sunday: Capaldi Family RIP

12th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME B

Job 3:1,8-11, 2 Cor 5:14-17 & Mk 4:35-41

Sunday 20th June	Sunday	3 Public Masses (first-come, first served)
St Martha's (& Facebook)	9.00am	People of the Parish, esp. our Dads
St Mary Mags	11.00am	Mary Driscoll RIP
St Mary Magdalene	6.00pm	Neil Jenkins RIP
<i>[St Martha's]</i>	Second Collection: Day for Life	
	<i>[11.00am]</i>	<i>[Syro-Malabar Rite Mass]</i>

Monday 21st June	Memorial	Saint Aloysius Gonzaga Religious
Facebook Live Mass	10.00am	Mae Pinsent RIP

Tuesday 22nd June	Feast	SS John Fisher & Thomas More
Facebook Live Mass	10.00am	Lucie & Claude Tanti RIP

Wednesday 23rd June	Ferial	Wednesday in 12th Week in OT
Presbytery (said privately)	N/A	Priest's Intentions

Thursday 24th June	Solemnity	The Nativity of St John the Baptist
St Mary Magdalene	6.30pm	Public Mass: Vincent Frain GE

Friday 25th June	Funeral	Requiem Mass: 60 units of people
St Mary Magdalene	11.00am	Requiem Mass: Sheila Spencer RIP
St Mary Magdalene	10.30am	No Adoration because of Funeral
St Mary Magdalene	7.00pm	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Saturday 26th June	Opt. Mem	Saturday Memorial of the BVM
St Mary Magdalene	10.00am	Public Mass: Jean Haywood RIP
St Mary Magdalene	10.30am	Confessions
Memorial Garden	11.30am	Burial of Ashes of Amalia Young RIP
<i>St Martha's (by pre-booking)</i>	12noon	First Holy Communion Mass (2020)
Facebook Live Mass	6.00pm	Vigil of Sunday: NO MASS

13th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME B

Wis 1:13-15, 2:23-24, 2 Cor 8:7, 9, 13-15 & Mk 5:21-43

Sunday 27th June		3 Public Masses (first-come, first served)
St Martha's	9.00am	David & Lisa Young GE
St Mary Magdalene	11.00am	Alvyn Luck RIP
St Mary Magdalene	6.00pm	People of the Parish
<i>[St Martha's]</i>	Second Collection: Parish Charity Fund	
	<i>[11.00am]</i>	<i>[Syro-Malabar Rite Mass]</i>

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.

Mass Intentions: Requests to: bexhill@abdiocese.org.uk

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.