

## Church Cleaning (updated)

Thank you to the 99% of people who happily cleaned their own seat after each Mass, and for being attentive to parishioners who needed help. This personal responsibility is the '*new-normal*', so please be vigilant in leaving your space COVID-secure for the next person / liturgy. **You can help us by bringing your own virus wipes.** Post COVID (*whenever that may be*), the cleaning of the Church is being handed back to parishioners, and so, each Mass community will need to establish its own cleaning teams to keep the Church clean.

## Legal Restrictions have been lifted but precautions remain

*(Our local guidance)*

<https://catholicparishofbexhill.files.wordpress.com/2021/07/bexhill-parish-stage-4-guidance-19th-july-2021.pdf>

***'It is most important that we exercise great caution in the implementation of this guidance'*** (Bishop Richard Moth)

**Face Coverings:** Face coverings are strongly recommended to be worn by those in Church. Bishop Richard says, *'the wearing of face coverings is a protection for others, I urge most strongly that face coverings continue to be worn during the course of celebrations, in accord with the now well-established practice.'*

## Taste and see that the Lord is good.

### Parish Finances

Each summer, we publish the '*Accounts*' from the previous financial year. In the diocese, our financial year runs in conjunction with the calendar year, so these accounts are for 2020. The accounts have been published in the newsletter section of the parish website and can be found here:

<https://catholicparishofbexhill.files.wordpress.com/2021/08/2020-accounts-for-the-parish-of-our-lady-of-the-rosary-bexhill.pdf>

***Please help those parishioners you know without internet to access the accounts.***

As you may recall from the previous accounts, the parish was (pre-COVID) in a difficult financial position, struggling to balance the operational budget. COVID with its lockdowns and lengthy periods of restrictions has compromised our financial security, and we are in a precarious position. The decisions taken in 2019 to close the Nursery, close Our Lady of the Rosary Church and restructure staffing has only bought us a year's cushion. There is now a move away from the parish '*paying for services*' except where it is demanded by the Health & Safety Risk Assessment. Where possible, such as with Church Cleaning, service tasks need to be completed by volunteers from the parish, liaising with the parish office. We know from the Pastoral Plan that a restructuring in the Diocese was necessary in the run up to 2030. Clearly, COVID has accelerated the need for change. If we wish to maintain the current estate, then we must be able to pay for it. Last year it cost us £3,500 a week to run the parish but our income was only £2,600 a week, so once again, the message is to ask all people to review their offertory, increase it, and move it online as a standing order. These are challenging times!

The Parish Finance Committee. (*Endorsed by Fr Simon*)

**We pray for those who have died:** Pat Nelson, Kate Forsythe, Fr Adrian Cadwallader & Deacon Ivor Pelling RIP.

**We pray for the sick:** Roy Cox, Margaret Pink, Margaret Hitchman, Martin Stiles, David Spooner, Doreen Turner, Samuel Barden, Roy Mitchell, Pete Cornfield, Pat Nelson, and Baby Neveah O'Leary

**Recommended Church Capacities: 112 people at St Martha's and 150 people at St Mary Magdalene.**

**Fr Stephen O'Brien:** On 4<sup>th</sup> July, Bishop Richard ordained Stephen as a priest for our Diocese. Fr Stephen will be assistant priest at St Joseph's, Epsom but before taking up his appointment, we welcome him to Bexhill to celebrate Mass for the Solemnity of the Assumption of the B.V.M. (15<sup>th</sup> August 2021). He will celebrate the 9am Mass at St Martha's and then move onto celebrate the 11am Mass at St Mary Magdalene. We pray that his visit will inspire us to pray for vocations to the priesthood from our parish.

**Church Boilers:** This week the boilers at St Mary Magdalene & St Martha's Church have been fully serviced to minimize the chances of heating trouble this winter. Both received a clean bill of health.

**Parish Halls:** The Diocesan Property Team (*based on the advice of the insurers*) has issued its guidance on hall opening. The requirements are extensive, and we must move forward slowly and cautiously. To open, all the usual Health & Safety precautions must be in place, and all checks up to date. Secondly, each activity requires its own detailed risk assessment. Thirdly, determined by the risk assessment, some of the COVID precautions (*face coverings, restricted capacity, and social distancing*) may still be required. **Finally, and most importantly**, regular cleaning is required: not only, must the hirer clean after their activity, the parish must perform a daily clean. At present, as the parish cannot afford to pay a contractor to clean weekly, let alone daily, this is a major stumbling block. Therefore, to open the hall, even in a limited way, needs a **volunteer team of cleaners (and coordinator) to step forward and be trained**. [Remember, St Mary Magdalene Hall is out of commission due to the flood damage].

**The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary (15<sup>th</sup> August 2021):** this beautiful feast falls on a Sunday this year. Mass times can be found on the last page of the newsletter. The obligation remains suspended but there is capacity for 562 people over the four Masses, including the Saturday Vigil Mass.

**40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Diocesan Youth Service:** This will be 2pm to 5pm on 4<sup>th</sup> September in Arundel Cathedral. To book a place: <https://abdiocese.churchsuite.com/events/10x4omvx>

**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](mailto:ruth.gerun@abdiocese.org.uk)

**Beginning Experience Weekend: 8<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> October, at the Sion Community, Brentwood, Essex:** A residential weekend for those who are single again following divorce, separation, or the death of a partner. To book or discuss: Freda 01322-838415, Maura 07795-498445, [besouthofengland@gmail.com](mailto:besouthofengland@gmail.com).

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

**Sacraments:**

**Baptism:** applications can still be submitted: [www.stmmbexhill.co.uk/baptismal-form/](http://www.stmmbexhill.co.uk/baptismal-form/)

**First Holy Communion:** please do not submit applications for 2022. We are not ready to receive them, as we have not yet determined the arrangements for the course.

**Confirmation:** Confirmation Mass at 7pm in St Mary Magdalene on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> October 2021..

**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](mailto: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.

**Catholic Women's League: Meeting: 1st Mon. of each month at 7-30pm.** More information: 01424 221803 or 211717. We are a National & International Organization for women, who share our faith, skills, and friendship, supporting our parish and the Church's mission. We invite speakers, go on pilgrimages & outings, plus have a good laugh, drink tea and wine! On 8<sup>th</sup> July, we did a sponsored walk for the Medaille Trust and raised £1436.13. Thank you to all who sponsored us.

**Sunday Obligation:** as it may not be possible for everyone to return to Mass at present, the obligation to hear Mass on a Sunday remains suspended; restored on **1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent (28<sup>th</sup> November 2021).**

**Anniversaries Mass:** Taking place at St Joseph's Guildford, on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> October, at 11.30 am, with Bishop Richard. For couples and their families celebrating a landmark or significant anniversary. Numbers limited to 150. Parking off site. You can sign up by emailing: [katherine.bergin@abdiocese.org.uk](mailto:katherine.bergin@abdiocese.org.uk)

**Syro-Malabar First Holy Communions (11am Mass on 15<sup>th</sup> & 29<sup>th</sup> August):** St Martha's Church will be decorated the day before each celebration, so we can expect a colourful Church at the 9am Mass!

**Parish Offertory:**

A simple way to donate (+gift aid) online via Diocesan Website: <https://abdiocese.churchsuite.com/donate/>

**For Mass intentions & other payments: BACs: Name: St Mary Magdalene, Acct No. 21077139, S/C 40-05-20.**

**(Please add a suitable reference)**

**Mass Intentions:** Requests to: [bexhill@abdiocese.org.uk](mailto:bexhill@abdiocese.org.uk)

## Parish Office

Remains closed to casual callers.

All enquiries:

[bexhill@abdiocese.org.uk](mailto: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](mailto:bexhill@abdiocese.org.uk)

01424 210 263 opt 4

out of hours

[simon.dray@abdiocese.org.uk](mailto: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](https://www.facebook.com/stmmbexhill)

### Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> August

St Mary Magdalene  
St Mary Magdalene  
St Mary Magdalene

### Opt. Mem

10.00am  
10.30am  
11.30am

### Saturday Memorial of the BVM

**Public Mass:** Pearl Murphy RIP

**No Adoration & Confessions**

Wedding Service of Sophia Green & Christopher Slatter

Adoration & Confessions

**Public Mass:** Buckle Family RIP

*No stewards, maintain social distance and clean own bench afterwards*

## 19<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME B

1 Kings 19:4-8, Eph 4:30-5:2 & Jn 6:41-51

### Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> August

St Martha's  
St Mary Mags. (& Facebook)  
St Mary Magdalene  
St Mary Magdalene

### Sunday

9.00am  
11.00am  
12.30pm  
6.00pm

### 3 Public Masses (first-come, first served)

Pamela R. Bourne GE

Terence & Josephine Dolan RIP

Baptism & FHC of Christianne Jamieson

People of the Parish

### Second Collection: Church Flowers

[St Martha's]

[11.00am]

[Syro-Malabar Rite Mass]

*Please clean your own bench at the end of each Mass.*

### Monday 9<sup>th</sup> August

Facebook Live Mass

### Feast

10.00am

### St Teresa Benedicta of the Cross

Priest's Intentions

### Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> August

St Mary Magdalene

### Ferial

10.00am

### St Laurence, Deacon, Martyr

**Public Mass:** Elizabeth Francis RIP

### Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> August

Presbytery (Said Privately)

### Memorial

N/A

### St Clare, Virgin

Joseph Thomas RIP

### Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> August

St Mary Magdalene

### Ferial

6.30pm

### Thursday in 19<sup>th</sup> Week in OT

**Public Mass:** Gladys Elma Rowe RIP

### Friday 13<sup>th</sup> August

St Mary Magdalene  
St Mary Magdalene  
St Mary Magdalene

### Ferial

10.00am  
10.30am  
7.00pm

### Friday in 19<sup>th</sup> Week in OT

**Public Mass:** Thresiamma Joseph RIP

**Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament**

**No Adoration during August**

### Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> August

St Mary Magdalene  
St Mary Magdalene  
St Mary Magdalene  
St Mary Magdalene  
St Mary Magdalene

### Memorial

10.00am  
10.30am  
12.30pm  
5.15pm  
6.00pm

### St Maximillian Kolbe, Priest & Martyr

**Public Mass:** Brian Hick RIP

Adoration & Confessions

Baptism of Isabel Miller

Adoration & Confessions

**Public Mass:** Priest's Intentions

*No stewards, maintain social distance and clean own seat afterwards*

## THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

Apoc. 11:19,12:1-6, 10, 1 Cor 15:20-26 & Lk 1:39-56

### Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> August

St Martha's  
St Mary Magdalene  
St Mary Magdalene

### Solemnity

9.00am  
11.00am  
6.00pm

### 3 Public Masses (first-come, first served)

Holy Souls

Sr. Imelda GE

*Morning Mass will be celebrated by Fr Stephen O'Brien, newly ordained priest.*

St Mary Magdalene

People of the Parish

### Second Collection: Overseas Missions

[St Martha's]

[11.00am]

[Syro-Malabar Rite Mass]

*No stewards, maintain social distance and clean own seat afterwards*

**Please do make sure you have read the Parish's 2020 Financial Statement**

<https://catholicparishofbexhill.files.wordpress.com/2021/08/2020-accounts-for-the-parish-of-our-lady-of-the-rosary-bexhill.pdf>