

15<sup>th</sup> August 2021

# PARISH NEWS

The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary into Heaven

The Parish of Our Lady of the Rosary, Bexhill-on-Sea

Comprising St Mary Magdalene, Town Centre & St Martha's, Little Common

## Church Cleaning (reminder)

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.'*

## On your right stands the queen, in garments of gold

### The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

This Sunday is the celebration of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, body and soul, into Heaven. As a logical consequence of her Immaculate Conception and her subsequent sinless life, Mary is taken to heaven by the shortest possible route and is spared the ignominy of the corruption of the body, which is the result of sin. It is also the sign of a Son's great love for his Mother that she be with him in heaven, and on the octave day, we will celebrate also her coronation as Queen of Heaven. This Feast is the icon of our ultimate destiny. As a person is a unity of body and soul, our redemption will not be complete until we get our bodies back following the General Resurrection on the Last Day.

### Fr Stephen O'Brien (15<sup>th</sup> Aug.) (Visit Cancelled)

COVID protocols have struck! Fr Stephen, our newly ordained Diocesan Priest was due to celebrate the Assumption with us at 9am & 11am Masses. Unfortunately, Canon Bill, Parish Priest of Epsom must isolate ahead of a hospital visit and there is no cover. As such, Fr Stephen who has been appointed assistant priest in Epsom, must bring forward his start date and can, therefore, no longer be with us. That means the 9am & 11am will be celebrated by the parish clergy. With my prayers and best wishes, Fr Simon.

### Parish Finances

Please make sure that you have read the parish accounts published last weekend:

<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.***

**We pray for those who have died:** Pat Nelson, Kate Forsythe, Fr Adrian Cadwallader & Deacon Ivor Pelling RIP. **Kate Forsythe's Requiem Mass is 10am on Wed. 25<sup>th</sup> August in St Mary Magdalene.**

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

**Congregational Singing and Choirs:** the guidance allows for congregational singing but asks us to move forward cautiously, especially as we continue to wear face coverings and refrain from using hymn books. Our Masses continue to be celebrated with brevity in mind to allow time for individuals to clean their place afterwards. We must take a parish wide view of our liturgical music, not just for one Mass or community, and we have contacted our Diocesan Liturgy Coordinator for help (more information to follow). Meanwhile, our priority is to provide a **parish choir** for the First Holy Communion Masses (12 noon Sat. 25<sup>th</sup> Sept. & 2<sup>nd</sup> Oct) and when Bishop Richard celebrates our Patronal Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary (7pm on 8<sup>th</sup> Oct. 2021), which includes our Parish Confirmations. Margaret Rafferty & Chloe Seal (who have been coordinating our COVID-time music provision) will lead but welcome musicians from across the parish, so please contact the office on [bexhill@abdiocese.org.uk](mailto:bexhill@abdiocese.org.uk) and we will pass your details onto them.

**Parish Halls:** Following the guidance received, our halls remain closed. 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. 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].

**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).

**A-levels & GCSEs:** Congratulations to all those who received results this week, especially considering the extraordinary challenges of the pandemic. Every blessing for the next stage of your formation.

**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 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 Maximilian 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 bench 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 (& Facebook)  
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  
People of the Parish

### Second Collection: Overseas Missions

[St Martha's]

[11.00am]

[Syro-Malabar Rite Mass]

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

### Monday 16<sup>th</sup> August

Facebook Live Mass

### Ferial

10.00am

### Monday in 20<sup>th</sup> Week in OT

John & Pat Billingham RIP

### Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> August

St Mary Magdalene

### Ferial

10.00am

### Tuesday in 20<sup>th</sup> Week in OT

**Public Mass:** Stella McDermott RIP

### Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> August

Presbytery (Said Privately)

### Ferial

N/A

### Wednesday in 20<sup>th</sup> Week in OT

No Mass today

### Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> August

St Mary Magdalene

### Ferial

6.30pm

### Thursday in 20<sup>th</sup> Week in OT

**Public Mass:** Priest's Intentions

### Friday 20<sup>th</sup> August

St Mary Magdalene  
St Mary Magdalene  
St Mary Magdalene

### Memorial

10.00am  
10.30am  
7.00pm

### St Bernard, Abbott & Doctor

**Public Mass:** Robert Stevens RIP  
**Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament**  
**No Adoration during August**

### Saturday 21<sup>st</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 Pius X, Pope

**Public Mass:** Francis Steele GE  
Adoration & Confessions  
Baptism of Mikaella Caranto  
Adoration & Confessions  
**Public Mass:** Priest's Intentions

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

## 21<sup>st</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME B

Jos 24:1-2, 15-18, Eph 5:21-32 & Jn 60:60-69

### Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> August

St Martha's  
St Mary Magdalene  
St Mary Magdalene

### Sunday

9.00am  
11.00am  
6.00pm

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

Patricia Andrews RIP  
People of the Parish  
Joseph & Regi Thomas's Anniversary.

### Second Collection: to make up for lost offertory in 2020 & 2021 (suggested)

[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>