

# PARISH NEWS

13<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup> February 2022

Sixth & Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time, C

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

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

## 27<sup>th</sup> Jan 2022: COVID Precautions

Although Face coverings are no longer legally required, case rates, especially in our schools, remain significant. The bishops therefore recommend their continued use for now. The Church is ventilated, so please wear warm clothing.



Although our liturgies continue to have brevity in mind, we will see a gradual return of suspended items, such as holy water, hymn books, sign of peace, and bidding prayers, but let us remain kind and patient with one another and not expect everything in one go. Although sanitizing is not strictly needed, it remains a courtesy to others to leave our place clean and ready for the next person, so please continue to wipe down your place.

**Recommended Capacities:**  
*112 in St Martha's and 150 in St Mary Mags.*

## Parish Office

The Parish Office is closed to casual callers (**access by appointment only**). Please do not come to the presbytery unless you have an appointment. Instead, please email: [bexhill@abdiocese.org.uk](mailto:bexhill@abdiocese.org.uk) and the office will respond. Alternatively, you can ring 01424 210 263 opt 4 between 09:15 and 4:45pm but you may need to leave a voicemail. Many thanks. Fr Simon.

6<sup>th</sup> Sun: Happy the man who has placed his trust in the Lord.

7<sup>th</sup> Sun: The Lord is compassion and love.

## 13<sup>th</sup> February: St Valentine (14<sup>th</sup> Feb. 2022).

In the reformed liturgical calendar, St Valentine has been bumped by the Feast of St Cyril and Methodius. Dare I say it, this is an own goal. As people go 'loopy in love' on St Valentine's Day, what they need to hear from the Church is a robust sermon on love; an 'agape' love which is sacrificial. As the Communion antiphon sings, 'God so loved the world that he gave his Only Son, so that all who believe in him may not perish, but may have eternal life'. Real love is Eucharist, 'this is my body which is given up for you', hence why Christian Marriage must be brought before the Altar on the wedding day and throughout married life. As ascribed to St Francis of Assisi, it is 'in giving that we receive', so 'agape' love seeks the good of the other, a subject of freedom and never an object of our desire. May God bless you in love. Fr Simon.

## 20<sup>th</sup> February 2022: Preparing for 1<sup>st</sup> Reconciliation

By 20<sup>th</sup> February, the children enrolled on the 2022 First Holy Communion Course should now be beginning **Chapter 4 of the I Belong Course book** ahead of their 1<sup>st</sup> Reconciliation (Confession) in St Mary Magdalene. Fr Simon and Fr Rajesh will both be available to hear Parish & First Confessions at **10.30am on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup>, and 26<sup>th</sup> March**. Your child will be asked to bring their course book to show the priests their progress, and they should be able to say the **Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be, and an act of Contrition** (these are all in the course book). Parents and carers are also encouraged to make a Confession, not only setting a good example to their child, but also as a normal part of their spiritual preparation for Easter. If you have not yet done so, First Holy Communion families should be making their return to **in-person worship at Mass**. God Bless. Fr Simon.

**We pray for those who have died:** Mary McKenna, Derek Knoll, and Vera Stevens RIP.

**Mary McKenna's Funeral Mass: 12noon on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> Feb at St Martha's**

**We pray for the sick:** Jim Green, Margaret Hitchman, Martin Stiles, David Spooner, Doreen Turner, Samuel Barden, Pete Cornfield, Baby Neveah O'Leary, Veronica Phillips, Stanley Pryke, Winifred Broughton, Cecila Weathers, Margaret Carley, Jackie & Laurence Keep, Peter Stanley.

**Catholic Women's League (CWL):** CWL is the only group for women within the Parish who share faith, skills, and friendship, while supporting the local community and keeping the parish and world-wide Church in our hearts. Our group invite speakers to enrich and entertain us, we go on pilgrimages and outings. CWL meets: first Monday of each month @ 7-30pm. Contacts: 211717 or 221803. **Coffee & Cake Morning after 9am Mass on Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> Feb in St Martha's Hall. Donations of Cake requested.**

**The Catenians:** Catholic Association for laymen (& their widows) whose purpose is to establish a support network of friends. More info: Robert on 07394 925611. New Website: <https://sussexcatenians.org/>

**St Vincent De Paul Society (SVP):** If you feel you need help or support, please contact our team on 07783 598238, or e-mail [popsy57@outlook.com](mailto:popsy57@outlook.com) and they will be happy to speak with you.

**Worth Abbey Retreats:** 'The Wisdom of St Benedict' (15-17<sup>th</sup> Feb) and 'Time Out' (18-24<sup>th</sup> Feb).

More info: <https://worth.co.uk/retreats/retreat-programme-2022/> Book: [retreats@worth.org.uk](mailto:retreats@worth.org.uk)

**Beginning Experience (8-10<sup>th</sup> April):** Residential weekend at the Sion Community, Brentwood - for those single again following divorce, separation, or death of your partner, to help you to heal.

More info: E: [besouthofengland@gmail.com](mailto:besouthofengland@gmail.com) or Freda: 01322 838415 or Maura 07795 498445

**CAFOD:** keep abreast of news and campaigns: <https://cafod.org.uk/> Lent is approaching; information about CAFOD Family Fast Day can be found here: <https://cafod.org.uk/Fundraise/Family-Fast-Day>

**A&B Lourdes:** On 13<sup>th</sup> Feb, +Richard invites a special second collection to support the Diocesan Central Fund. You can also donate here: <https://abdiocese.churchsuite.com/donate/fund/nlsoju5j>

Pope Francis Message for the 'World Day for the Sick' can be found at the Vatican Website:

[https://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/messages/sick/documents/20211210\\_30-giornata-malato.html](https://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/messages/sick/documents/20211210_30-giornata-malato.html)

**World Day of Prayer (10.30am on Fri. 4<sup>th</sup> March, St Martha's):** An Ecumenical Service, prepared by Women across England, Wales and Northern Ireland. The service is celebrated with Little Common Methodists and St Marks. All welcome. Any volunteers who can help with welcoming and / or the serving of light refreshments greatly appreciated. Contact: Bridget Grant 01424 845015 / 07749 482033.

**Clergy Leave:** Fr Simon is away 9<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> Feb. If possible, please resist sending him or copying him into emails, contacting [bexhill@abdiocese.org.uk](mailto:bexhill@abdiocese.org.uk) instead or if urgent, emailing [rajesh.minz@abdiocese.org.uk](mailto:rajesh.minz@abdiocese.org.uk)

**St Martha's Hall:** with a growing number of hall hires, please do not enter the hall without checking with the parish office that it is free. Please leave the hall how you found it, in line with the COVID assessment.

**Three Churches in Little Common:** Next meeting is 11am Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> February at Little Common Methodist Church. Track & trace, hand sanitiser in place, masks encouraged please.

**Fairtrade Fortnight (21<sup>st</sup> February - 6<sup>th</sup> March):** Fairtrade Breakfast, St Martha's Hall, Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> March, after Mass. With guests Mayor Councillor Paul Plim and Deputy Mayor Claire Baldry.

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

**The Sacraments**

**Adult Baptism (Aged 18+):** new applications can be submitted from September 2022 for Baptism at Easter 2023. Prospective applicants can book an initial appointment to see Fr Simon from Easter 2022.

**Infant Baptism (Aged 0-6):** applications submitted via the website: <https://stmmbexhill.co.uk/baptism/>

**Children of Catechetical (Aged 7-12):** Children aged 7+ have reached the age of reason and need to be prepared individually. These applications are assessed on a case-by-case basis and an initial interview with Fr Simon may be necessary before accepting your application. Applications can be submitted via the website: <https://stmmbexhill.co.uk/we-journey-together/> (Please also use this form for children baptised in the Anglican Communion now seeking to be received into full communion with the Catholic Church).

**Young Adults (Aged 13-17):** Please book an appointment to see Fr Simon to discuss your needs. It is likely that we will prepare you using the Confirmation Course which begins in the autumn of 2022.

**First Holy Communion:** Applications are now **closed** for 2022. Throughout February the children should be aiming to complete **Chapters 3 & 4 of 'I Belong'**, ahead of 1<sup>st</sup> Confessions during the first half of Lent.

**Marriage:** those getting married in 2023 should see Fr Simon soon, as 12 months' notice is required.

**Appointments: email the parish office:** [bexhill@abdiocese.org.uk](mailto:bexhill@abdiocese.org.uk)

**Sacrament of the Sick:** Please plan ahead. COVID protocols make 'out of hours' visits undesirable. 'Last Rites do not mean Last Minute'. A priest should be requested in good time to *hear the person's confession, to anoint them, and give Holy Communion*. 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. Due to the condition of the presbytery, we are not always on-site, so please do not rely on answerphones, please use both email addresses listed on the back page of this newsletter.

**One-off, non-urgent pastoral visits:** <https://stmmbexhill.co.uk/visiting-the-sick-and-housebound/>

<b>Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> February</b>	<b>Opt. Mem</b>	<b>Saturday Memorial of the BVM</b>
St Mary Magdalene	10.00am	<b>Public Mass:</b> Shelagh Smith RIP
St Mary Magdalene	10.30am	Confessions & Adoration
St Mary Magdalene	12.30pm	Baptism of Teddie Eden
St Mary Magdalene	5.15pm	Confessions & Adoration
St Mary Magdalene	6.00pm	<b>Public Mass:</b> James Spittal RIP

**EIGHT SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME C**

*Ecc. 27:5-8, 1 Cor. 15:54-58 & Lk 6:39-45*

<b>Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> February</b>	<b>Sunday</b>	<b>3 Public Masses (first-come, first served)</b>
St Martha's	9.00am	Peter Chapman RIP
St Mary Magdalene	11.00am	People of the Parish
St Mary Magdalene	12.30pm	Baptism of Dexter Picknell
St Mary Magdalene	6.00pm	Paula Murphy GE
[St Martha's]	[11.00am]	[Syro-Malabar Rite Mass]

**Second Collection: Bexhill H.U.G. (Homeless Unity Group)**

**Online Offertory  
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)

**Parish Mass Diary and Intentions**

**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) &  
[rajesh.minz@abdiocese.org.uk](mailto:rajesh.minz@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.**

<b>Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> February</b>	<b>Opt. Mem</b>	<b>Saturday Memorial of the BVM</b>
St Mary Magdalene	10.00am	<b>Public Mass:</b> Holy Souls
St Mary Magdalene	10.30am	Confessions & Adoration
St Mary Magdalene	5.15pm	Confessions & Adoration
St Mary Magdalene	6.00pm	<b>Public Mass:</b> David McGuckin GE

**SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME C**

*Jer. 17:5-8, 1 Cor. 15:12, 16-20 & Lk 6:17, 20-26*

<b>Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> February</b>	<b>Sunday</b>	<b>3 Public Masses (first-come, first served)</b>
St Martha's	9.00am	Mary Chapman RIP
St Mary Magdalene	11.00am	People of the Parish
St Mary Mags	6.00pm	Joseph Thomas RIP
<i>[St Martha's]</i>	<i>[11.00am]</i>	<i>[Syro-Malabar Rite Mass]</i>

**Second Collection: Diocesan Lourdes Fund**

<b>Monday 14<sup>th</sup> February</b>	<b>Feast</b>	<b>Saints Cyril and Methodius</b>
Facebook Live Mass	10.00am	<b>No Mass</b>
<b>Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> February</b>	<b>Funeral</b>	<b>Requiem Mass</b>
St Martha's	<b>12noon</b>	<b>Requiem Mass:</b> Mary McKenna RIP

<b>Wed. 16<sup>th</sup> February</b>	<b>Ferial</b>	<b>Wednesday in 6<sup>th</sup> Week in OT</b>
Presbytery (said privately)	10.00am	Mary Horner RIP

<b>Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> February</b>	<b>Ferial</b>	<b>Thursday in 6<sup>th</sup> Week in OT</b>
St Mary Magdalene	6.30pm	<b>Public Mass:</b> Irene Herring RIP

<b>Friday 18<sup>th</sup> February</b>	<b>Ferial</b>	<b>Friday in 6<sup>th</sup> Week in OT</b>
St Mary Magdalene	10.00am	<b>Public Mass:</b> Robert Stevens RIP

<b>Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> February</b>	<b>Opt. Mem</b>	<b>Saturday Memorial of the BVM</b>
St Mary Magdalene	10.00am	<b>Public Mass:</b> Anatoli Epsom, Kate Epsom, Aziza el Heri RIP
St Mary Magdalene	10.30am	Confessions & Adoration
St Mary Magdalene	5.15pm	Confessions & Adoration
St Mary Magdalene	6.00pm	<b>Public Mass:</b> Kathleen McGuckin GE

**SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME C**

*1 Sam. 26:2, 7-9, 12-13, 22-23, 1 Cor. 15:45-49 & Lk 6:27-38*

<b>Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> February</b>	<b>Sunday</b>	<b>3 Public Masses (first-come, first served)</b>
St Martha's	9.00am	Peter Koe RIP
St Mary Magdalene	11.00am	Devasia Joseph RIP
St Mary Magdalene	6.00pm	People of the Parish
<i>[St Martha's]</i>	<i>[11.00am]</i>	<i>[Syro-Malabar Rite Mass]</i>

**Second Collection: Racial Justice Sunday**

*From 21<sup>st</sup> Feb, all Masses are celebrated publicly unless stated otherwise*

<b>Monday 21<sup>st</sup> February</b>	<b>Opt. Mem</b>	<b>Saint Robert Southwell, Martyr</b>
St Mary Magdalene	10.00am	Mammer Varghese & Family RIP

<b>Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> February</b>	<b>Feast</b>	<b>St Peter's Chair</b>
St Mary Magdalene	10.00am	Cherian Thomas & Family RIP

<b>Wed. 23<sup>rd</sup> February</b>	<b>Memorial</b>	<b>Saint Polycarp, Martyr</b>
St Mary Magdalene	10.00am	John De Freitas RIP

<b>Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> February</b>	<b>Ferial</b>	<b>Thursday in 7<sup>th</sup> Week in OT</b>
Eastbourne Crematorium	11.00am	Funeral Service for Derek Knoll RIP
St Mary Magdalene	6.30pm	Francesco Russo RIP

<b>Friday 25<sup>th</sup> February</b>	<b>Ferial</b>	<b>Friday in 7<sup>th</sup> Week in OT</b>
St Mary Magdalene	10.00am	Harry & Peggy Paris RIP