

**Polite Notice:**

**Hard copies of the Newsletter.**

The hard copies of the newsletter are intended for parishioners who do not have access to the newsletter online. Please read online if you have a computer / tablet.

**Reminder:**

**Children's Liturgy of the Word**

**9am Mass at St Martha's**

*Resumes:* from 4<sup>th</sup> September 2022.

*Frequency:* every 2 weeks.

*Who:* for children in Reception to year 3 prior to First Holy Communion, who are able to attend without parental support.

*Leaders:* Liz Fox, Sarah Surman, Jewel Cole or Ian Smith

*Safeguarding Requirements:* A Parental Consent Form will need to be completed in advance. Our liturgy leaders are DBS checked and will ensure the correct ratios of adults to children, and so numbers are initially capped at 20 children. Consent forms are available at the back of both Churches, and the Parish Office and should be returned to one of the leaders named above or to the parish office by Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> September.

*More info:* Liz Fox on 07790 894718.

**Dates of Sessions for Terms 1 and 2**

**4/9, 18/9, 2/10, 16/10, 30/10,**

**13/11, 27/11, 11/12 and 18/12.**

**For you my soul is thirsting, O Lord, my God.**

**'Prima Testis'**

**(*'The First Witness'*)**

St Mary Magdalene is the first witness to the Resurrection and the first to share in the mission of announcing the gospel. The Church calls her the *'apostle to the Apostles'* after firstly being granted a great mercy in being alleviated from her grief, up to this point believing that Jesus is dead and buried. She has served Christ well throughout his pastoral ministry, bravely standing with him at the foot of the cross, taking special note of where the body lies. Even now, *'while it is still dark'*, she comes to the tomb to complete the burial rites now that the Sabbath day has ended. And yet, like the other disciples of the Lord she has not understood that the cross, far from being the end, is the means of our salvation.

Now we see the significance of the empty tomb, which is not a reason for weeping but an invitation to look beyond the natural, with eyes of faith. Here remains a question: *'who are you looking for?'* For us, the answer is found in the Mass, as we come to find Jesus Christ, present in the gathered assembly, in the priest, in the Word proclaimed, and in the Most Holy Sacrament of the Altar. Like Mary Magdalene, in the sacraments of Baptism and Confirmation he has called us by our name. These encounters draw us close to the risen Christ, and as the psalmist sings: *'for you, O Lord my God, my soul is thirsting'*. Again, like Mary, this encounter is not to be held onto, but shared as a great mercy with the community beyond these hallowed walls. Happy Feast Day! Fr Simon.

**2021 Parish Accounts**

The 2021 Parish Accounts Statement can be found here:

<https://catholicparishofbexhill.files.wordpress.com/2022/07/2021-bexhill-parish-accounts-statement.pdf>

**We pray for those who have died:**

**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, Winifred Broughton, Cecila Weathers, Margaret Carley, Jackie & Laurence Keep, Fr Andrew Pinsent, David Meyer and Stephen Doyle, Winifrede Yeo. **Perhaps, you might wish Holy Communion at home? Please see below.**

**Liturgy & Prayer**

**Parish Feast Days:** On Friday 29th July (at 10am in St Martha's), and then again on Sunday 31st July, the whole parish will celebrate the Feast of St Martha, Mary, and Lazarus of Bethany.

**Lourdes 2022:** Please pray for pilgrims from our parish who join the Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes this week. If you would like any petitions taken to the shrine, please email the parish office [bexhill@abdiocese.org.uk](mailto:bexhill@abdiocese.org.uk) by Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> July for Fr Simon to take with him. While in Lourdes, he will offer Mass in the Sanctuary for all People of the Parish. The pastoral theme for Lourdes is praying for priests, so please unite your prayers with the pilgrimage for our Diocesan Clergy and our Seminarians.

**Sunday Evening Mass:** With Fr Rajesh having a new appointment this September, Fr Simon will be the only priest in the parish. As such, the 6pm Sunday Evening Mass will end, the last Mass: 21st August. From September Fr Rajesh has been appointed to the Parish of Haslemere, having pastoral care of the parish of Haslemere, Hindhead and Chidingfold alongside Fr Jonathan How, parish priest of Godalming, with joint responsibility ('in solidum') for this parish. Please pray for him and for his new parish.

**Readers:** If you are a reader, take a look at the 'Wednesday Word' each week: <http://wednesdayword.org/>

**Churches Together in Bexhill (CTiB):** Prayers for Ukraine at St Mark's Church, Little Common, led by the Revd Jonathan Frais (Chair of Churches Together in Bexhill) are held at 8 pm Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> July.

**Social & Pastoral**

**SVP Monthly "Tea at 3":** Next Tea, Monday 25th July from 3pm to 4.30pm in St Martha's Hall. More information: 07783 598238 / [popsy57@outlook.com](mailto:popsy57@outlook.com)

**(Updated) Holy Communion for Housebound Parishioners:** We now have 18 parishioners regularly receiving Holy Communion at home. If you are housebound (even for a short period) and would like an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion to visit you with Holy Communion, please let the parish office know. The coordinator of the sick and housebound list can then allocate you with a regular visitor.

**Catholic Women's League (CWL):** CWL, a group for women in the parish to share faith, skills, and friendship, while supporting the local community and keeping the needs of the Church in our hearts. Invited speakers enrich and entertain us and we go on pilgrimages and outings. CWL meets at 7.30pm on the 1st Monday of each month in St Martha's Hall. Contact: 211717 or 221803 for further information.

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

### **Sacraments**

**Adult Baptisms, Receptions & Confirmations 2023:** If you are thinking of Baptism, or being Received as a Catholic, or a Catholic seeking Confirmation, the next RCIA course begins in the autumn of 2022. Applications can be submitted from September 2022. However, if you would like to chat through whether this might be for you, please book an appointment with Fr Simon ( [bexhill@abdiocese.org.uk](mailto:bexhill@abdiocese.org.uk) ).

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

**Children of Catechetical Age (7+):** These children must be individually prepared, and we will assess your needs on a case-by-case basis. Applications: <https://stmmbexhill.co.uk/we-journey-together/>

**First Holy Communion:** Applications for 2023 will open on 1<sup>st</sup> September when the application form will be available at the website. Therefore, please do not apply yet.

**Need a non-urgent clergy home visit?** Please use the online form: <https://stmmbexhill.co.uk/visiting-the-sick-and-housebound/> or telephone the parish office on 01424 210 263 opt 4

**Marriage:** 12 months' notice is required for weddings, so anyone thinking of getting married in the summer of 2023 is advised to book an appointment to see Fr Simon soon to begin the paperwork and preparation.

### **Other Notices**

**Worth Retreats:** please visit <https://worth.co.uk/retreats/retreat-programme-2022/> for retreat opportunities. The Abbot and Monks invite you to the Worth Abbey Festival - 'A Place of Beauty and Joy'. Bank Holiday Monday 29 August 2022 from 1pm – 4.30pm. Admission Free: There will be a guided walk through the Worth estate with pauses for prayers and reflection, tours throughout the day, activities for children and afternoon refreshments. Families welcome – plenty of car parking. For more information: W: [worthabbey.net](http://worthabbey.net) or email E: [pilgrims@worth.org.uk](mailto:pilgrims@worth.org.uk) or call T: 01342 710370.

**Young Adults Day at the Seaside with Fr Stephen Ortiger – Saturday 20 August 11am - 3pm**

Mass at Our lady Star of the Sea, East Preston, followed by a walk on the beach and a shared lunch at a beachside café. Contact E: [lizzie.wakeling@abdiocese.org.uk](mailto:lizzie.wakeling@abdiocese.org.uk) for more information.

**Bexhill Foodbank:** Shopping List Poster at the back of both Churches; to help you with your donations.

**FAIR TRADE:** Volunteer needed to take over fortnightly stall in St Martha's Hall after Mass on Sundays. Bridget Grant 07749 482033 for more details.

**CAFOD: World Food Crisis:** Please visit <https://cafod.org.uk/Campaign/Fix-the-food-system> to take part in the campaign to 'fix the food system'. East Africa facing its worst drought in 40 years and urgent support is needed. At the site, you can urge the Foreign Secretary to implement the UK's COP26 commitments. To donate: [https://cafod.org.uk/donations/picker?\\_Appeal=125900&defaultuniversaltype=single](https://cafod.org.uk/donations/picker?_Appeal=125900&defaultuniversaltype=single)  
And watch the latest webinar: <https://www.bigmarker.com/cafod/Food-Crisis?bmid=bcac0fa4f2f4>

## 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**: ask the ward to contact the Parish Office 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

### Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> July

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

### Feast

10.00am  
10.30am  
12.30pm  
5.15pm  
6.00pm

### St Bridget of Sweden

Thomas Callaghan RIP  
Confessions & Adoration  
Baptism of Bertie & Teddy Hill  
Confessions & Adoration  
Baby Angelo Di Mascio RIP

## ST MARY MAGDALENE SUNDAY

SoS 3:1-4, 2 Cor 5:14-17 & Jn 20:1-2, 11-18

### Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> July

St Martha's  
St Mary Mags & Facebook  
St Mary Magdalene  
[St Martha's]

### Sunday

9.00am Mick O'Conner RIP  
11.00am Ann & Charles Wright RIP  
6.00pm People of the Parish  
[11.00am] [Syro-Malabar Rite Mass]

### Second Collection: Retired Priests Fund

### Monday 25<sup>th</sup> July

St Mary Magdalene  
St Martha's Hall

### Feast

10.00am  
3.00pm

### St James, Apostle

Holy Souls  
SVP Tea at 3pm

### Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> July

St Mary Magdalene  
St Mary Magdalene

### Memorial

9.30am  
10.00am

### St Joachim & St Anne

Rosary at Our Lady's Altar  
Leanne Hearn RIP

### Wed. 27<sup>th</sup> July

St Mary Magdalene

### Ferial

10.00am

### Wednesday in 17<sup>th</sup> Week in OT

Priests Intentions

### Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> July

St Mary Magdalene

### Solemnity

6.30pm

### Vigil of St Martha, Mary & Lazarus

Patsy Gillam RIP

### Friday 29<sup>th</sup> July

**St Martha's**  
St Mary Magdalene

### Solemnity

10.00am  
7.00pm

### ST MARTHA, MARY & LAZARUS

Kim Fleming RIP  
Adoration

### Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> July

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

### Opt. Mem

10.00am  
10.30am  
5.15pm  
6.00pm

### Saturday Memorial of the BVM

**No Mass**  
Confessions & Adoration  
Confessions & Adoration  
Saji & Family GE

## ST MARTHA, MARY & LAZARUS SUNDAY

Deut. 6:3-9, 1 Jn 4: 7-16 & Lk 10: 38-42

### Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> July

St Martha's  
St Mary Magdalene  
St Mary Magdalene  
[St Martha's]

### Sunday

9.00am  
11.00am  
6.00pm  
[11.00am]

People of the Parish  
Allana Margaret McNamara GE  
Priest's Intentions  
[Syro-Malabar Rite Mass]

### Second Collection: Church Flower Fund

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)

**Seeking a Parish Pastoral Assistant:** The Parish of Our Lady of Ransom, St Gregory and St Agnes (Eastbourne) is seeking to employ a Pastoral Assistant to begin in post in early September. 10 hours per week (£11ph). The role will be to support the parish in the development of pastoral and sacramental programmes, to oversee the coordination and resourcing of catechists and those in the lay ministries in the parish. For further details or to apply, please contact Fr Kevin Dring (Parish Priest) by email via the Parish Office: [eastbourneolor@abdiocese.org.uk](mailto:eastbourneolor@abdiocese.org.uk) closing date 9am on Friday 5<sup>th</sup> August.