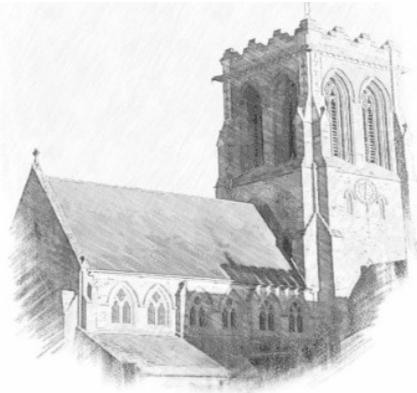


# ***St Michael and All Angels Belmont Abbey***



PARISH NEWSLETTER

**1 April 2018**

***The Resurrection of  
The Lord***

PARISH PRIEST

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A very happy and blessed Easter to you all! Fr Abbot and the Community, together with the Parish, welcome you all to our Easter Masses here at Belmont Abbey, especially to any visitors to Hereford this weekend.

Today we celebrate like no other day because of the victory over death won for us by our saviour, Jesus Christ. During Holy Week we journeyed with Christ through our liturgies that celebrated his passion and death and now we rejoice in His resurrection. Easter is a day of celebration because it represents the fulfillment of our faith as Christians. St Paul wrote that, unless Christ rose from the dead, our faith is in vain ([1 Cor 15:17](#)). Through his death, Christ saved mankind from bondage to sin, and He destroyed the hold that death has on all of us; but it is His Resurrection that gives us the promise of new life, both in this world and the next. I pray that the joy of Easter will be with you all, today and every day. *Surrexit Dominus Alleluia!*

Thank you also to all those who exercised ministries of one sort or another during Holy Week and indeed those who helped clean and prepare the Abbey Church. **No Coffee after Masses today.**

*Fr Nicholas*

***Welcome to Belmont Abbey. If you are a visitor here and you would like to Gift Aid your offertory collection, please collect an envelope from the Porch. Thank You!***

Last Sunday's	1 <sup>st</sup> Collection	<b>£623.79</b>
	Standing Orders	<b>£501.23</b>
<p>The 1<sup>st</sup> collection goes towards the maintenance of our Abbey church and parish, diocesan levies and other related costs.</p>		
	2 <sup>nd</sup> Collection	<b>£185.85</b>
<p>The 2<sup>nd</sup> collection is reserved for specific charitable causes or appeals and our own Outreach projects as detailed in the Newsletter. Last week was for <b>Church in need. Thank You!</b></p>		



***Today, Easter Day, there is only one collection which is the traditional offering to the Parish Priest and the Belmont Community.***



**Gift Aid**

The financial tax year draws to a close in a few weeks and the new Gift Aid envelopes are now available for collection. Don't forget, Gift Aiding costs you nothing but allows the parish to reclaim the tax paid.



**Hereford Hospital Chaplaincy**

If you know of anyone in hospital who would like a visit from Fr Matthew, please let him know on 01432 265177 / [fr.matthew@live.co.uk](mailto:fr.matthew@live.co.uk).



**Dates for your Diary**

**3 April**  
Diamond Diners  
Three Horseshoes  
12:45

**14 April**  
Jumble Sale  
OLQM 1:30 pm

**17 April**  
Tea & Chat  
Parish Hall 2:30



**Jumble Sale**

Our next jumble sale is on 14 April at OLQM parish hall. As always we could do with clean clothing, books, bric-a-brac and children's toys. Please leave all items in the Parish Porch not in the Church porch. If you can help on the day, please let Kath know. Thank you.



If you cannot get to Mass- remember that you can go to our website to find out what is going on in the parish. Website address is on the first page.





**EMMAUS YOUTH** - The date for the next meeting of Emmaus Youth is Saturday 12th May, from 2.30-5.30 pm. A group are also attending the Celebrate Conference in Cardiff on 21st-22nd April. You are invited to share in some Praise and Worship, Liturgy, refreshments and time to socialize. Come and join us for some fun!! Rob and Jacqui Corrigan, Annie Ridgway and Ben Aldridge 01432 352241, 07739 566578 [emmausyouth@hotmail.com](mailto:emmausyouth@hotmail.com)



**CELEBRATE WALES:21-22 APRIL 2018**  
Celebrate Wales, the Catholic Family Charismatic Conference, is in its 7 year and will be held at Mary Immaculate High School, Wenvoe, Cardiff, CF5 5QZ. There are groups for all ages with amazing young leaders and inspirational speakers. The theme is 'See I am doing a new thing' Come and hear some inspired teachings along with adoration, reconciliation, prayer ministry and workshops. [wwcelebrateconference.org/wales](http://wwcelebrateconference.org/wales) or ring Michael Coyle on 01952 417223. Bursaries are available for those in need. Alternatively, you can ring Rob or Jacqui Corrigan on H. 352241 if you would like more information.



## The Paschal Candle

One of the symbols of our Easter joy is the presence of the Paschal (Easter) Candle, which is lit from the Easter fire during the Vigil. The Candle takes a central position in the Church for the next fifty days.

The decorated Paschal candle is marked with a cross, and with Alpha and Omega symbols, the first and last letters of the Greek alphabet which remind us that Christ is the first and the last, He existed before any of us and will be here at the end of the world. The year is also marked, reminding us that this year, as with all others, is the year of the Lord, we live in God's time.

After Pentecost the paschal candle stands near the baptismal font. Here it provides a reminder that baptism

is a symbolic death and re-birth with Christ; just like Christ's death and Resurrection.





## Homily

*“Till this moment they had failed to understand the teaching of scripture, that he must rise from the dead.”*

### Illustration

Fr Andrew had a genuine rapport with the First Communion class in his parish. The children enjoyed his stories and he tried hard to help them understand the wonder of all that Jesus had done by coming into our world and promising that he would be with us always. In the final session before Holy Week and Easter, Fr Andrew popped in to see that the children were on course in their preparations for the great events that were about to be celebrated. He was particularly concerned that they would understand the importance of the Mass of the Last Supper on Maundy Thursday when Jesus gave us the great gift of himself in Holy Communion. He also wanted to introduce them to the idea that by sacrificing his life the following day, Jesus had shown us the ultimate in love: he had literally loved us to death.

Young Michael was following the conversation very closely and eventually put his hand up to ask a

question. “Father,” he said, “I don’t understand why we call Good Friday ‘good’ when it was obviously so bad.” Fr Andrew was taken aback but delighted that Michael was clearly thinking seriously about all that they had been discussing. He said: “Michael, you are absolutely correct. It was a quite dreadful Friday and the only reason we can call it ‘good’ was because of Easter Sunday. If Jesus had not risen from the dead then none of this makes any sense. In fact St Paul once said that if Christ is not risen, we are still in our sins and our faith is futile.”

### Gospel Teaching

Today is the great Christian feast. We may be tempted to think that Christmas is the feast of feasts because it captures our imagination, and it is so much easier to relate to a vulnerable little child than to enter into, let alone understand, the mystery of a God who, having died a horrendous death as a public criminal, should be raised again to life. We should not be dismayed if, like Michael, sometimes we struggle to piece the jigsaw together. The apostles were the same, struggling to understand what was happening. St John describes the drama in the early morning of Easter Sunday when Mary of Magdala reports that the tomb is empty. John is keen to let us know that he was in on the act and ran with

Peter to check for himself. It is worth remembering that John was writing his Gospel with the benefit of having been able to piece the story together after a lifetime of meditating on it. He notes that this was the moment that he began to see the connections and the fulfilment of what had been prophesied in the scriptures. He tells us: "Till this moment they had failed to understand the teaching of scripture, that he must rise from the dead." And he is not afraid to go on and tell us what happened in the evening of Easter Sunday when Jesus came to the apostles who were hiding behind locked doors. It is not insignificant that Thomas, who was absent, refused to accept the evidence of the others. We will hear more about this next Sunday.

In the Acts of the Apostles, over and over again the disciples return to the key elements of the faith. We see them in Peter's address to Cornelius and his household: Jesus is the awaited Messiah; he was crucified for us; he was raised from the dead; he is now appointed to judge everyone.

### **Application**

Today it is enough for you and me to realise that we are being asked to accept our call to be faithful witnesses of the resurrection. Now, as heralds of this good news – news which even makes the Friday of Holy Week "good" – we are proclaiming not only

that Christ was brought back to life, but that we too have been brought back to life with him. There is a temptation to think that we must wait until our earthly life comes to an end before we will experience this new life. But it is clear from the writings of St Paul that this is not so. We have already been brought back to life and freed from the sin that held us bound. Paul is keen that we set our sights on heavenly things and realise that Christ is our life now.

A very happy Easter.



***Easter Sequence***

***Christians, to the Paschal Victim  
offer sacrifice and praise.***

***The sheep are ransomed by the Lamb;  
and Christ, the undefiled,  
hath sinners to his Father reconciled.***

***Death with life contended: combat strangely ended!  
Life's own Champion, slain, yet lives to reign.***

***Tell us, Mary: say  
what thou didst see upon the way.***

***The tomb the Living did enclose;  
I saw Christ's glory as He rose!***

***The angels there attesting;  
shroud with grave-clothes resting.***

***Christ, my hope, has risen:  
He goes before you into Galilee.***

***That Christ is truly risen  
from the dead we know.  
Victorious King, Thy mercy show!  
Amen. Alleluia.***



**Ministers, etc. for next Sunday 8 April 2018 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Easter Year B Cycle**

	08:30:	9:30	11:00
Celebrant	Fr Nicholas		Fr Nicholas
Welcomers	Hayes Family	Anne Stapleton	Monica Russell & Maureen Stacey
Sacristan			Tony Archer
1 <sup>st</sup> Reading	Julia Davey	Patrick Walesby	Pat Wood
2 <sup>nd</sup> Reading	Fran Grant		Jacqui Corrigan
Bidding Prayers	Bill Jackson		Gabrielle Stanley
Offertory	Ramage-H Family	Anthea Morton-S & Maria Large	
Extraordinary Ministers	Frances Dees & Jacqui Ramage-S		Andre Pavia & Jane Davies

***Next Sunday - Catholic Education***

Low Mass in the Extraordinary Rite (Tridentine Mass) is celebrated here at Belmont Abbey on Wednesday evenings at 7 pm and Sunday afternoons at 4 pm.	CHILDREN'S LITURGY	

Please pray for all who have died: **May they rest in peace.** (W/C 1 April)

**Deaths:** William Padden, Elaine White, Sheila Langford and Phillip Cook

**Anniversaries:** Zofia Heathcock, Bro Peter Jones osb, William Payne, Francis Heathcote, Lyra Learmouth, Mary Ann Bagley, Gertrude Prosser, Michael Quinlan, Lancelot Watkins, Theresa Holley, Alan William Weaver, Mervyn James, Nathaniel Opoku-Boateng and Florence Wegg-Prosser.

**The Sick:** Please pray for: Gill Wiseman, Neal Harries, Kenny Hanna, Fr Aidan, Rachel Thompson, Phillip Archer, Sonja Hayes, Robin Hayward, Gil Savory, Denise Ellis, Chris & Sue Rogers, Peter Draper, Dominique Wetz, Sally Hayward, Lillian Allsop, Shirley Brymer, Edward Medicott, Joanne Savory, Dame Catherine, Vincent Hanna and Sadie Bowyer.

*Belmont Abbey Parish is part of Belmont Abbey Mission Trust (Registered Charity - 226277)*

<p><b>The Resurrection of The Lord</b></p>	<p><b>Entrance:</b> I have risen and I am with you still, alleluia. You have laid your hand upon me, alleluia. Too wonderful for me, this knowledge, alleluia, alleluia.</p> <p><b>Acclamation:</b> We proclaim your Death ...</p> <p><b>Communion:</b> Christ our Passover has been sacrificed, alleluia; therefore let us keep the feast with the unleavened bread of purity and truth, alleluia, alleluia.</p>
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<b>Principal Celebrants, Extraordinary Ministers, Readers, etc.</b>			
	08:30:	09:30	11:00:
Celebrant	Fr Nicholas	Fr Nicholas	
Welcomer	Cooper Family	Ross & Anne Williams	Nickerson Family
Sacristan		Rob Corrigan	
1 <sup>st</sup> Reading	Fran Grant	Jennifer Hackman	Anthea Morton-S
2 <sup>nd</sup> Reading	Jacqui Ramage-S	Tony Archer	
Bidding Prayer	Mary Hayes	Monica Tomlin	
Offertory	Hayes Family		Gillick Family
Extra-Ordinary Minister(s)	Kath Parry & Julia Davey	Deacon Eddie & Margaret Evans	
Mass Intention	<b>Hayes Family</b>	<b>William Payne RIP</b>	<b>Pro Populo</b>
<b>Second Collection - Traditional offering for Parish Priest and the Clergy</b>			
<b>Food Bank Collection: Chris Moore</b>			

<b>What's On for the week</b>	
Mon	<b>Easter Monday :</b> Mass at 9:00 am
Tue	<b>Easter Tuesday:</b> Mass at 8:00 am
Wed	<b>Easter Wednesday:</b> Mass at 8 am & NO Midday Mass in the Oratory
Thu	<b>Easter Thursday:</b> Mass 8 am :
Fri	<b>Easter Friday:</b> Mass 8 am: Exposition and Midday Mass in the Oratory
Sat	<b>Easter Saturday:</b> Mass 8 am: Reconciliation: 10 am