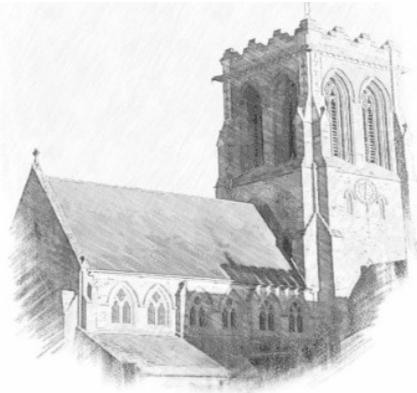


# ***St Michael and All Angels Belmont Abbey***



PARISH NEWSLETTER

**10<sup>th</sup> September 2017**

**23<sup>rd</sup> Week Ordinary Time**

PARISH PRIEST

Fr. Nicholas Wetz OSB

Tel: 01432 - 277319

email: [pp@belmontparish.plus.com](mailto:pp@belmontparish.plus.com)

[www.belmontparish.org.uk](http://www.belmontparish.org.uk)

Parish Deacon

Rev Deacon Eddie Wyman

Tel: 01432 - 263575

Safeguarding Representative

Gabrielle Stanley 07939 472059

Articles for newsletter:

[admin@belmontparish.org.uk](mailto:admin@belmontparish.org.uk)

For many years, the Catholic Church in England and Wales has celebrated Education Sunday. We pray for the work of our Catholic schools in the coming year, that they may continue to nurture a love of learning and of Christ in their students.

The theme of this year's Education Sunday is 'Gathered in my Name', taken from today's Gospel. In this reading Jesus teaches us that wherever two or more are gathered in His name, that He is there among them. This passage has a special resonance for Catholic schools, as we know that when children gather to learn and to pray, they are gathered in His name. Praying together is a central part of life at a Catholic school, and both Catholics and non-Catholics take part in this. On this day, it is important to give thanks for our teachers, governors, support staff and volunteers, who work hard every day to ensure our schools are inclusive welcoming centres of learning.

Let us pray that in the coming year, our Catholic schools continue in their faithfulness to the Gospel, enriching the lives of all the students they serve and drawing our schools and parishes ever closer together.

The second collection today is for the Catholic Education Service, an agency of the Catholic Bishops of England and Wales charged with safeguarding and promoting Catholic education.

*Fr Nicholas*

Last Sunday's	1 <sup>st</sup> Collection	<b>£359.78</b>
	Standing Orders	<b>£412.50</b>
The 1 <sup>st</sup> collection goes towards the maintenance of our Abbey church and parish, diocesan levies and other related costs.		
	2 <sup>nd</sup> Collection	<b>£161.07</b>
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>Marriage Care. Thank You!</b>		



Parish Outreach - During September, our second collections will be for the SVP (4 & 24) and the mandatory ones for the Catholic Education Service (10) and Home Mission Sunday (17).



### Jumble Sale

We need all the usual things but please only clean clothing - no rags. We need books and bric-a-brac. Sale takes place on 30 Sept at 12:00 noon at OLQM parish Hall.



EMMAUS Youth are next meeting at Our Lady's Parish Hall, 2.30-5.30 pm on Saturday 23rd September. 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  
jacqui.corrigan@btopenworld.



### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

22 September  
Church Cleaning  
9:00 am

29 September  
Macmillan Coffee  
Parish Hall  
2:00-4:00 pm

Saturday 30 Sept  
Jumble Sale  
OLQM Parish Hall  
12:00 pm

3 October  
Diamond Diners  
Three Horseshoes  
Allensmore  
12:45

17 October  
Tea & Chat  
Parish Hall  
2:30 - 4:00 pm

17 November  
Quiz Night  
Hedley Lodge  
7:00 pm

23 November  
Rise Theatre  
Hedley Lodge  
7:30 pm

✠ ✠ ✠ ✠ ✠  
**Forthcoming Marriages  
at Belmont Abbey**

Sat 16<sup>th</sup> September  
Chelsie Jones & David Shutt

Sat 30<sup>th</sup> September  
Arabella Anderson & Chris Haughian

✠ ✠ ✠ ✠ ✠  
**Hereford Food Bank** is in desperate need of the following: Rice, Fish, Soup, Baked beans, Tinned cold meat, Smash, UHT Milk, Baby formula milk, Baby washing products - shampoo, soap, wipes, Shampoo and Shower gel. Many thanks.

✠ ✠ ✠ ✠ ✠  
There will be **NO Tea and Chat** this month. We thought it better that we left everyone's energies free for the MacMillan Coffee day later in the month. Tea and Chat will resume on the third Tuesday in the month from October.

✠ ✠ ✠ ✠ ✠  
**Hereford Hospital Chaplaincy**  
Fr. Matthew who is a member of the Hereford Hospital Chaplaincy team and who acts as Catholic Chaplain no longer has access to the lists of catholic patients; hopefully this will be resolved soon. So if you have a friend/relative or fellow parishioner in hospital and you know they would like to be visited by Fr. Matthew then

please contact him with the details of the person concerned-265177 or [fr.matthew@live.co.uk](mailto:fr.matthew@live.co.uk). For the time being Fr. Matthew is absolutely dependant on receiving this information from relations and friends, it is not available via the hospital.

✠ ✠ ✠ ✠ ✠  
We shall be holding our **Macmillan Coffee Event** this year on 29th September. Please join us in the Parish Centre between 2 and 4pm to raise a good amount for this very worthy cause. If you would like to bring a cake to share it would be really appreciated. For more information please call Jan Wyman on 01432 263575.

✠ ✠ ✠ ✠ ✠  
**Fatima Pilgrimage** – Final preparation meeting for all pilgrims on Tuesday 12 September at 6.30 pm at Our Lady's Church.

✠ ✠ ✠ ✠ ✠  
We are having a **Venature Event** on 24th September 7-9 pm in St Paul's Church where we would love to give an update on current projects and share some vision and stories about how lives are impacted by volunteers.

✠ ✠ ✠ ✠ ✠

## A Local Opportunity to Learn about the Work of TEARFUND



At 7.00 pm on 22 September, in the Ewyas Harold Baptist Church Hall Andrea Sheppick of Tearfund will give a presentation on the work of this Christian charity which aids and encourages worldwide communities in their struggle against poverty and its effects. All are welcome and light refreshments will be provided.



### Herefordshire & Belmont Abbey Walsingham Group

The next meeting will be at the Abbey on Wednesday 27 Sept, commencing with Vespers in Church at 5:55 pm. All welcome. The dates for the 2018 pilgrimage to Walsingham are 18-21 May. Full details available soon.



**Visit Harvington Hall, Sat 23rd Sept:** the parish of St Frances of Rome, Ross-on-Wye has arranged a visit to this manor house rich in Catholic history. There are some places available on the coach picking up in Monmouth at 10 am and Ross at 10.30 am. Cost £15.50 coach and entrance fee. If you would like to join this visit or for more information, please contact Janet Baker 01989 565027, [mrsjanetbaker6@gmail.com](mailto:mrsjanetbaker6@gmail.com).



Recently, our parish treasurer, Peter Symonds, spoke about our finances and the importance of trying to balance the books in these difficult times. A short summary of his points is printed below and the blue leaflet distributed is available in the porch after Mass for any who were away.

Peter spoke of the misunderstanding that some often have as to our financial obligation to the monastery which itself struggles to financially 'break even'. Our Sunday first collections are not enough to support the parish, the deficit usually being met by our Gift Aid rebate and our fundraising. However, from Sept. we are expecting increases to our rent, the different diocesan levies and the general cost of running the parish. The death of some of our very generous parishioners has also reduced our income.

Peter asked that every parishioner think about whether they could increase their weekly (or monthly) contribution to the Parish First Collection. If this is difficult, perhaps more parishioners would consider Gift Aiding their offering to allow the charity to reclaim the tax paid. Another way would be to strengthen the financial planning of the parish

through a standing order whether you are a tax payer or not.

If you would like Standing Order or Gift Aid forms, or would like more information about our other revenue projects (Tesco Vouchers, 150 Club etc.) please speak to Fr Nicholas or put your name on the information request sheet in the porch.



### Homily

*"Where two or three meet in my name, I shall be with them."*

### Illustration

You can still watch on the Internet the opening of the Second Vatican Council over fifty years ago. It was a ceremony full of pomp and splendour as thousands of bishops from all over the world processed into St Peter's Basilica in Rome. Pope John XXIII arrived seated on the *sedia gestatoria*, a ceremonial throne with a silk covering. It was borne aloft on the shoulders of twelve footmen. Why did St John XXIII summon the council? He wanted to open up the doors of the Church to the world and offer the Gospel of Jesus Christ in a way that spoke to the contemporary world. In his opening speech the Pope said he did not want the council just to condemn the world like the prophets of doom who only saw things getting worse. Instead he

wanted the Church to use the medicine of mercy, rather than the weapons of severity, and to offer it a message of hope.

Since Vatican II the Church has tried to put into practice the council's decisions but also to restrain some excesses in the way they have been implemented. Some popes have condemned certain movements while others have put the emphasis on mercy. Judgement and mercy, exclusion and inclusion, severity and acceptance – these are the opposites that are held together in the church community.

### Gospel Teaching

We find the same sort of conflicting tensions when we turn to today's Gospel. It is taken from a chapter of Matthew's Gospel that is all about the way Jesus wanted his Church to function. But today's passage is about exclusion. What do you do if a member does something wrong? You follow a process of charity. Do you go straight to the top authority and report that person? No, you begin more personally by having it out with the one who has offended you. Only after that has failed do you call in others to help; and if that does not work then you appeal to the whole community. And then, only as a last resort, you may have to expel the person. And this decision is ratified by

God, for “whatever you bind on earth shall be considered bound in heaven”. This may seem rather severe. But we have to see this passage in its context – what is on either side of this teaching about excommunication.

Before it Jesus tells us that we are called to seek out the one lost sheep and leave behind the other ninety-nine. God does not want even a single sinner to be lost. And then after it we have Jesus telling Peter that he must forgive his brother not just seven times but seventy-seven times. God’s forgiveness is unlimited. So how do we reconcile these opposites – the judgement and exclusion of the sinner and yet God’s desire to embrace and save all God’s creatures? In any community such tensions are inevitable. There must always be boundaries and sin has to be identified or it cannot be forgiven. But we are called always to remember that at the heart of this community is the presence of Jesus: “For where two or three meet in my name, I shall be with them.” And the God who reveals himself in Jesus Christ does indeed pass judgement but shows that his preference is for the exercise of mercy and forgiveness.

### **Application**

These tensions we can see at home or at church. What happens if parents are always severe and condemning their

children? And what happens if they indulge and accept everything their children do, no matter how wrong? Both alternatives are inadequate. Boundaries have to be set in any community so that we know right from wrong. Forgiveness can never be preached with real authority without first preaching of repentance and judgement.

But we are to be very careful if we find ourselves deciding how the God of Jesus Christ ought to behave. The Gospel shows how often the Lord bursts the boundaries that have been set up by human beings and reaches out in love and mercy to seek out the sinner and the lost and to embrace the outcast. In the Year of Mercy we remembered that more people have been turned away from the Church by its severity and exclusion than by its forgiveness and mercy. And we could learn from that lesson in the way we live together in our homes and churches.



**Ministers, etc. for next Sunday 17 September - 24 Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A - Cycle 1**

	<b>08:30</b>	<b>9:30</b>	<b>11:00</b>
Celebrant	Fr Nicholas		Fr Nicholas
Welcomers	Liz Norman	Clare Wichbold	Ross & Anne Williams
Sacristan			Jeremy Hogan
1 <sup>st</sup> Reading	Adrian Eyre	Polly Maund-Powell	Pat Wood
2 <sup>nd</sup> Reading	Fran Smallwood		Sergio Pavia
Bidding Prayers	Mary Hayes		Rob Corrigan
Offertory	Hayes Family	Paul Nickhold & Lucy Zammit	
Extraordinary Ministers	Frances Dees & Julia Davey		Andre Pavia & David Wood

**Next Sunday - Parish Outreach (Home Mission Sunday)**

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Anniversaries</b></p> <p>These are noted below. Our week starts on Sunday- the anniversaries include all those which occurred on the Sunday date to the following Saturday.</p>	<b>CHILDREN'S LITURGY</b>	
	<b>10- Sept</b>	<b>Pat Wood &amp; Monica Russell</b>
	<b>17- Sept</b>	<b>Andrew M &amp; Pauline Gill</b>
	<b>24 -Sept</b>	<b>Jacqui Moore &amp; Rob Blackburn</b>
	<b>1-Oct</b>	<b>Jacqui Corrigan &amp; Mary Wood</b>
	<b>8- Oct</b>	<b>Jackie King &amp; Monica Russell</b>

Please pray for all who have died: **May they rest in peace.** (W/C 10 Sept)

**Deaths:** R D Anthony osb, Jo Berry, Kevin Hanna and Sr Phillipa.

**Anniversaries:** Arthur David McCabre, Margaret Treanor, Alice Johnson, Rev James Belt, Marjorie Hill, Evelyn Knights and Maria Vaughan.

**The Sick:** Please pray for: Sally Johns, Sam Evans, Jennifer Hackman, Denise Ellis, Carol Baines, Michael Kennedy, Chris & Sue Rogers, Peter Draper, Ruby Chandler-Marsh, Rachel George, Norma Naudain, Ann Thomas, Dominique Wetz, Marie Williams, Sally Hayward, Lillian Allsopp, Kenny Hanna, Shirley Brymer, Edward Medicott, Elaine White, Joanne Savory, Sr Catherine, Vincent Hanna and Sadie Bowyer.

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

**Liturgy for Sunday 10 September 2017** *Cycle A; Weekdays: Cycle 1 (Wk 23)*

<p><b>23<sup>rd</sup> Week</b></p> <p><b>In</b></p> <p><b>Ordinary Time</b></p>	<p><b>Entrance:</b> You are just, O Lord, and your judgement is right; treat your servant in accord with your merciful love.</p> <p><b>Acclamation:</b> We proclaim your Death, O Lord ...</p> <p><b>Communion:</b> Like the deer that yearns for running streams, so my soul is yearning for you, my God; my soul is thirsting for God, the living God.</p>
---	--

<b>Principal Celebrants, Extraordinary Ministers, Readers, etc.</b>			
	08:30 am	9:30 am	11:00 am
Celebrant	Fr Nicholas		Fr Nicholas
Welcomer	Kath Parry	Anne Stapleton	Brenda Sherwood & a.n. other
Sacristan			Chris Moore
1 <sup>st</sup> Reading	Liz Norman	Phyll Buckley	Pat Draper
2 <sup>nd</sup> Reading	Bill Jackson		Margaret Rose
Bidding Prayer	Ann Jackson		Sally Johns
Offertory	Parish Children	Gillick Family	
Extra-Ordinary Minister(s)	Seamus Hayes & Fran Smallwood		Monica Russell & Joao Pavia
Mass Intention		<i>Pro Populo</i>	
<b>Second Collection - Parish Outreach (Catholic Education Service)</b>			
<b>Food Bank Collection: Kath Parry</b>			

<b>What's On for the week</b>	
Mon	<b>Feria:</b> Mass at 8:00 am
Tue	<b>Feria:</b> Mass at 8:00 am
Wed	<b>St John Chrysostom:</b> Mass at 8:00 am: Midday Mass in Oratory: Tridentine Mass at 7:00 pm
Thu	<b>Exaltation of the Holy Cross:</b> Mass at 8:00 am
Fri	<b>Our Lady of Sorrows:</b> Mass at 8:00 am: Exposition at 11 am & Midday Mass at 12 noon in Oratory
Sat	<b>SS Cornelius &amp; Cyprian:</b> Mass at 8:00 am: Reconciliation at 10:00 am