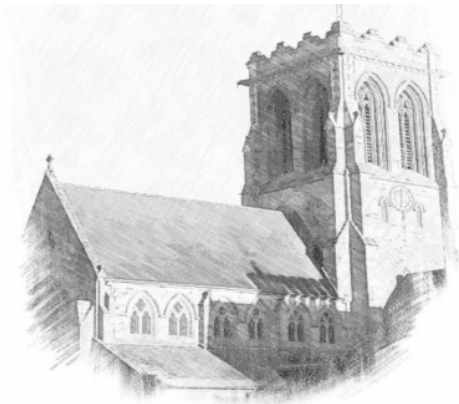


St Michael and All Angels Belmont Abbey



PARISH NEWSLETTER

12th February

6th Sunday in Ordinary Time

PARISH PRIEST

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Items for the Newsletter to
admin@belmontparish.org.uk

or The Parish Office

Marriage Week UK celebrates the diversity and vibrancy of marriage as the basis for family life in the UK. It is timed to include Valentine's Day (7th – 14th Feb 2017) and has been held every year since 1997.

Marriage remains incredibly popular – over 90% of young people in the UK aspire to be married at some point in the future, and the large majority will achieve this. Although the popular view is that marriages don't last, two out of every three first marriages will last until one partner dies, and one in two second or subsequent marriages will also last a lifetime. The Divorce rate (the number of divorces per 1000 married couples) has remained virtually static since the early 1980's.

Let us support and build up the ties of family and marriage through our example, prayers and the help and support we offer to couples we know. The second collection today is for Marriage Care and their work to support married life.

As an experiment coffee and tea will be available in Hedley Lodge after both the 8.30 and 9.30 Masses. Coffee after the 11 am Mass will continue to be in the Parish Centre.

Fr Nicholas

Last Sunday's	1 st Collection	£253.88
	Standing Orders	£412.50
The 1 st collection goes towards the maintenance of our Abbey church and parish, diocesan levies and other related costs.		
	2 nd Collection	£173.23
The 2 nd collection is reserved for specific charitable causes or appeals and our own Outreach projects as detailed in the Newsletter. Last week was for Parish Outreach: Venture - Thank You!		



Second Collections

Last month our Parish Outreach collections went towards supporting the St Joseph's School, Makeni project, SPUC and the local Acorns Children's Hospice. Thank you. This month there will be collections for Venture (5th & 26th Feb) and the annual collections for Marriage Care (12th Feb) and the Catholic Education Service (19th Feb).



With sadness we report the death of Tom Supple who died on Monday. May he rest in peace. His requiem Mass will be at **12 noon** on Friday 17th February



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

18 February
First Holy Communion Class
10:30 am

21 February
Tea & Chat
2:30 Parish Hall

24 February
Church Cleaning
9:00 am

26 February
Collect & Pay
For Tesco vouchers

30 March
Station Mass
OLQM at 7:00 pm

1 April
Jumble Sale
12:00
At OLQM



Tea and Chat

continues on 21st Feb, 21st March, and 18th of April. It is always on the 3rd Tuesday in the month. For any newcomers to the Parish this is a very friendly group that meets for a cup of tea and a piece of cake or a

biscuit and a good chat. We meet in the Parish Centre at 2.30 pm until 4.00 pm. There is no charge, but a donation is very welcome for us to buy coffee, tea and milk and help to pay for heating the hall. Everyone is welcome, so don't be shy just come along and join us.



Diamond Diners

This is a lunch club for those over 60 years. We meet at the "Three Horseshoes" public house at Allensmore, behind Locks Garage. We are a friendly group which enjoys eating together once a month on the 1st Tuesday in the month at 1 pm. The price for two courses is £6.95 and for three courses is £8.95. If you would like to join us, please let Ray Rose know, 0783 773 2611, or sign/add your name to the form in the Parish Centre.

Future dates are: - March 7th and April 4th. A full list of dates is available on the noticeboard in the entrance to the Church and in the Parish Hall. We look forward to meeting you there, it is best to be there by 12:45 to allow time to order food



**Catholic Charismatic Renewal
Golden Jubilee Celebration**
4th March 2017 10 am – 6 pm.

Bethel Convention Centre, Kelvin Way West Bromwich B70 7JW
www.bethelconventioncentre.co.uk
Sandwell and Dudley railway station nearby. Online booking at www.crr.org.uk or contact Helen helenwells.017@gmail.com or 07752134833. Booking charge £12; under 14's free (but must be booked on in advance) Inspired testimonies, anointed and engaging preaching and RISE THEATRE. Mass celebrated by Archbishop Bernard Longley and Archbishop Kevin McDonald will be the homilist.



Fatima - This year is the 100th anniversary of the apparitions in Fatima, Fr. Matthew from Our Lady's is proposing to run a pilgrimage for the Herefordshire Deanery, if there is sufficient interest. The dates would be Monday 25th - Friday 29th September, flying from Manchester. 4 nights in a good standard hotel very close to the shrine, half board. Price £599/person, £120 extra for single rooms (only a few available) and insurance. Includes courier with us and excursions. Organised by Leisure Time Travel in Liverpool. Booking forms at back of Church, deposit £200. Any questions please contact Fr. Matthew on 01432 265177 – fr.matthew@live.co.uk





150 Club

Thank you to everyone who supports the parish by holding one or more numbers in the 150 Club. Next Sunday, Chris will be available at coffee after all three Masses to encourage parishioners who do not currently participate, to join this fundraising scheme. The annual cost is £12 per number usually payable by standing order in December each year. Those who wish to be included from March will be able join for £10 cash or cheque and complete a standing order form for next year. The draw is made once each month with prizes of £50, £25 and £12.



National Flame Conference 2017

On Saturday the 11th of March CYMFed is holding a huge event for young people in the SSE Arena, London. Flame is a massive celebration with music, guest speakers, and activities and over 10,000 other young people! If you are aged 14-21 and would like more information, please see Fr Nicholas or Ben Ashridge asap.



Food Bank

The Food Bank is in urgent need of carrier bags, sugar in small bags,

coffee, tins of meat and fresh fruit and vegetables. Many thanks for your continued help.



Herefordshire & Belmont Abbey Walsingham Group

Pilgrimage to Walsingham - 5th to 8th May 2017. From £195 per person to include all travel and half-board accommodation. There are still a few places available.

The next meeting of the Group will be at Belmont abbey on Wednesday 22nd February at 5.55 pm for Vespers, Angelus, Rosary and Mass followed by refreshments. Everyone is welcome - you do not have to be a member of the group. For further information contact Menna MacBain on 01568 797077.



Jumble Sale

Some of you have already given us jumble. Thank you! The next jumble sale is on 1 April at OLQM but starting at 12 noon so that the leftovers can be taken to Charity shops. Do please give us only clean clothes and those that are usable. If anyone knows someone who buys clothes deemed to be "rags" we would be grateful to know. Our last buyer no longer does it. Many thanks for your help!



Homily

"But I say this to you."

Illustration

What do you think of Western civilisation?" The question was put to Mahatma Gandhi. His reply was, "I think it would be a very good idea." This was a clever reply, a very funny reply and also a very insightful reply. The questioner was looking for a positive affirmation of Western culture and the answer sought to remind the questioner that the West is by no means perfect.

Gandhi knew that only too well. He was a qualified lawyer, trained at the Inns of Court in London, and yet his life was constantly blunted and blighted by Western officialdom and Western attitudes to colour, race and class. Thrown out of a railway carriage in South Africa simply because of his race, Gandhi found himself time and time again thrown into jail for resisting the rules and regulations of authority that sought to preserve the status quo of white supremacy and power in the world. Gandhi's whole life was a series of encounters with unjust regulation and discrimination. He was a man of peace, who spent his whole life struggling with people who employed force and violence to preserve their way of life and to prevent change. People of peace can

never enjoy quiet lives, it seems, since they are forever in conflict with whatever is unjust in the world. Gandhi won the battle in his own heart and peace reigned there, but the world he lived in constantly brought him nothing but trouble and conflict.

Gospel Teaching

That pattern of life is also true of Jesus. The character that emerges from the Gospels is both gentle and strong, peaceable and forthright, calm and courageous. Never in his dealings does Jesus act in a violent manner, nor does he say things to provoke people to riot or revolt. Yet his every word is challenging and demanding. His call asks for nothing less than everything by way of commitment to him.

In his words that we hear today, part of the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus will not settle for outward observance or superficial fulfilment of God's commandments. Scribes and Pharisees are good at that, he says. It is not enough not to kill your enemy; you must seek actively to be at peace with the enemy. It is not enough to avoid adultery; you must live a sexually honest life. It is not enough to avoid the big sins; all sins are damaging. There is no need to swear oaths; just use honest and straightforward speech.

These are the deep roots of true life, of good life, and nothing less will do, says the Lord. The Sermon on the Mount challenges us every day to a deeper fulfilment of God's word. Superficial skimming will never be acceptable. Now we begin to see how and why Jesus became such a problem for people. If someone had asked Jesus, "What do you think of our civilisation?" Jesus could well have replied, "I think it would be a good idea."

Application

This is the vocation of each one of us, wherever we live. We are called to contribute to it by our life. Someone who did that was Fr Gerry Reynolds, a Redemptorist priest who spent thirty years of his life at Clonard Monastery in Belfast. A man of the south, the north of Ireland became his home and Belfast his place of work. Shortly after arriving there, in the midst of the "Troubles", Gerry asked his fellow Redemptorist Fr Alec Reid, "How do we stop the killing?" Fr Alec replied, "We have to dialogue," and so began their great work of reconciling that divided community. Fr Gerry became a great ecumenist, becoming friends with the Protestant communities, attending their services, getting to know people. He crossed the divide. He took to heart the words of the Lord that it is not enough not to kill your

enemy. You must seek to be reconciled with your enemy before anything else in life. Be willing to talk. Be willing to learn. Be willing to get to know others.

The great wisdom that we are asked to learn calls us to love one another. Those who did not know that killed the Lord of glory, just as another man put an end to Gandhi's life with a bullet. Peace of heart and mind, peace of attitude are tremendous gifts of grace, but they exist in a troubled world. But be brave, says the Lord, I have overcome the world.



CAFOD AND FAST DAY

If you would like to know more how your donations transform lives, join us on Monday 20 February at Our Lady, Queen of Martyrs, Belmont Road, Hereford at 7 pm. Come and learn about CAFOD's work in Zambia which is the country of focus for this year's Lenten appeal. Call 02920 344882or southwales@cafod.org.uk. All welcome.

Ministers, etc. For next Sunday 19th February- 7th Sunday in OT Year A - Cycle 1

	08:30	09:30	11:00
Celebrant	Fr Nicholas		Fr Nicholas
Welcomers	Kath Parry	Nickerson Family	Ross & Anne Williams
Sacristan			tba
1 st Reading	Fran Grant	Brenda Warde	Pat Wood
2 nd Reading	Mary Hayes		Liz Morawiecki
Bidding Prayers	Richard Batho		Tony Archer
Offertory	Parish Children	Frances Wood & Anthea Morton-S	
Extraordinary Ministers	Fran Smallwood & Julia Davey		Rob Corrigan & Margaret Evans

Next Sunday - Parish Outreach - Catholic Education Service

<p>Anniversaries</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>	CHILDREN'S LITURGY	
	8.30 Children's Liturgy - temporarily cancelled	
	12-Feb	No Children's Liturgy
	19-Feb	No Children's Liturgy
	26-Feb	Jacqui Corrigan & Pauline Gill
	05-Mar	Jacqui Moore & Mary Wood
12-Mar	Pat Wood & Rachel Cowdrey	

Please pray for all who have died: **May they rest in peace.** (W/C 12 Feb)

Deaths: Tom Supple, Gordon Wilson, Bridgid Smith, and Cornelius Linehan.

Anniversaries: Catherine Connely, Sarah Slattery, Lena Whitlock, Mary Anderson, Rhoda Linehan, William Tyler, Leslie Blackmon, Rev Hilary Brightling, Claude Meredith, Isabel Wheatly, Gordon Taylor, Maurice Cummings, Charles Hill and Olive Morgan.

The Sick: Please pray for: Betty Murray, Maureen Toner, Rachel George, Norma Naudain, Ann Thomas, Mary Smith, Fr Michael Cronin, Sheila Langford, Dominique Wetz, Marie Williams, Sally Hayward, Stephen Fisher, Denise Ellis, Lillian Allsopp, Kenny Hanna, Shirley Brymer, Edward Medlicott, Sr Philpa, Elaine White, Sue Rogers, Joanne Savory, Sr Catherine, Vincent Hanna and Sadie Bowyer.

Liturgy for Sunday 12th February 2017 *Cycle A; Weekdays: Cycle 1 (Wk 6)*

<p>6th Sunday In Ordinary Time</p>	<p>Entrance: Be my protector, O God, a mighty stronghold to save me. For you are my rock, my stronghold! Lead me, guide me, for the sake of your name.</p> <p>Acclamation: We proclaim your Death, O Lord.....</p> <p>Communion: They ate and had their fill and what they craved the Lord gave them; they were not disappointed in what they craved.</p>
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Principal Celebrants, Extraordinary Ministers, Readers, etc.			
	08:30 am	09:30 am	11:00 am
Celebrant	Fr Nicholas		Fr Nicholas
Welcomer	Annette Mansie	Anne Stapleton	Rita Chamberlain & Brenda Sherwood
Sacristan			Jeremy Hogan
1 st Reading	Fran Smallwood	Lucy Zammit	Niamh Coyle
2 nd Reading	Julia Davey		Sally Johns
Bidding Prayer	Ann Jackson		Pat Draper
Offertory	Hayes Family	Teresa Harris & Menna MacBain	
Extra-Ordinary Minister(s)	Seamus Hayes & Kath Parry		Tony Archer & Jan Wyman
Mass Intention	<i>Siobhan Hayes RIP</i>	<i>Benefactors & Parishioners</i>	Nori Nouman RIP
Second Collection - Marriage Care			
Food Bank Delivery: John Goodall-Copestake			

What's On for the week	
Mon	Feria: Mass at 8:00 am
Tue	SS Cyril & Methodius: Mass at 8:00 am
Wed	Feria: Mass at 8:00 am: No Midday Mass Tridentine Mass at 7:00 pm
Thu	Feria: Mass at 8:00 am
Fri	Feria: Mass at 8:00 am: Exposition 11- 11.50 am. No Midday Mass in the Oratory 12 Noon Requiem Mass for Tom Supple RIP
Sat	BVM: Mass at 8:00 am: Reconciliation at 10:00 am