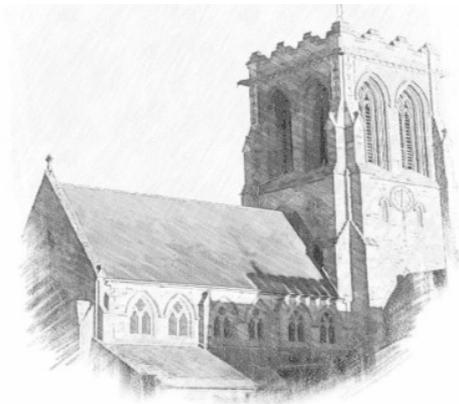


# *St Michael and All Angels Belmont Abbey*



## PARISH NEWSLETTER

### **12<sup>th</sup> March**

2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Lent

#### PARISH PRIEST

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#### Parish Deacon

Rev Deacon Eddie Wyman

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Items for the Newsletter to  
[admin@belmontparish.org.uk](mailto:admin@belmontparish.org.uk)  
or The Parish Office

Today's gospel reading is of the Transfiguration. At the end of this extraordinary event, when the voice from heaven commands us to "listen to him", we are challenged to be transfigured by the divine presence in our own lives. This should prompt us to deepen our prayer lives and our lives of love and charity. This is the hall mark of our Lenten Season.

Dementia Prayer Week 12-19th March - "Jesus invited us to pray to God as 'Our Father.' In so doing he defined God as the one who is full of tenderness and compassion. During this week we remember especially the often forgotten pain of those suffering with dementia, and those who care for them."

Each day during the week is linked to the Walk with Me Lent book and the following prayer is printed inside the back cover. *Loving Father, you are close to the broken hearted. Look with compassion on those whose lost memories have robbed them of home and belonging. Comfort and strengthen those who care for them. May they make their home in you. This we ask through Christ Our Lord.*

**The second collection today is for Cafod.** God created a world of abundance with enough food for everyone, but we have turned it into a world of want. Let's share the abundance of God's creation with our global family by supporting Cafod's Lent appeal.

*Fr Nicholas*

Last Sunday's	1 <sup>st</sup> Collection	<b>£267.52</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>£178.99</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>Parish Outreach: - Thank You!</b>		

† † † † †

### Second Collection – Parish Outreach

In February we supported the local Vennture charity in their religious based work looking after vulnerable young people in Hereford. There was also a collection for Marriage Care and one supporting aid projects in Malawi. In March there will be Second Collections for CAFOD (12 March), Aid to the Church in Need (19 March) and for the Poor & Homeless.

† † † † †

### HEREFORD CATHOLIC HISTORY SOCIETY

Please note that the next meeting of the HCHS will be on Monday 27 March in the Kemble Room at Belmont Abbey at 2.30 p.m. when we will look at the fascinating history of the pre-Reformation monastic foundations of Herefordshire. Visitors welcome. Further information from [bmwarde@aol.com](mailto:bmwarde@aol.com)

† † † † †

### Ecumenical Companion

Fr Cadfan will be commissioned as one of two new Ecumenical Companions at the Sunday Evensong in Hereford Cathedral at 3:00pm on the 19 March. Please try and be there to support him at this time.

*Ray Rose*

† † † † †

### Week of Prayer & Awareness for Dementia: 12<sup>th</sup> March to 19<sup>th</sup> March

The **ANNUAL ARCHDIOCESAN MASS WITH THE SACRAMENT OF THE SICK** will be celebrated on **Saturday 18th March at 2:30pm in Llantarnam Abbey, Cwmbarn, Torfaen, NP44 3YJ** for people with dementia and their carers. Please consider bringing your loved one or come simply as a relative, carer, or friend of people with dementia, to pray for them. We also especially remember those who have died as a result of dementia over the past year. Following Mass, refreshments will be served.

† † † † †

The 150 Club winners for February are:

- 1<sup>st</sup> No 44 Anna-Teresa Rossini
- 2<sup>nd</sup> No 108 Mary Jo Donnelly
- 3<sup>rd</sup> No 131 Laura Broadfoot

May I thank those who responded to the call for new members, more are always welcome!



**THE BIRTH OF JESUS TO THE LAST AMEN** What is actually in the New Testament, besides the stories of Jesus we find in the Gospels, and how does it all fit together? Why should we be concerned with these ancient letters and stories? What can they possibly have to do with us as modern people?

On Saturday 25th March Alan de Ste Croix will lead us through the entire New Testament exploring the stories of the major characters and why they are still relevant to us today. We will meet in St Dyfrig's Church Hall, Broadway, Treforest, Pontypridd, CF37 1DB at 10am until 3pm. Tea, coffee and biscuits are provided but please bring your own packed lunch



**Lent Study Lunches at Ewyas Harold:**  
*Living an Authentic Life*

On five Thursdays beginning 9<sup>th</sup> March at 12.30 in the Ewyas Harold Baptist Hall. (With soup lunch first)



Belmont Abbey – a recent short film about the monastery entitled *Belmont Journal* is available to view at [youtube.com/watch?v=1CCR9UpkpfC](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1CCR9UpkpfC).



The **Deanery Station Mass** will be celebrated by Archbishop Stack at Our Lady's Church on Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> March at 7 pm. All welcome, refreshments follow.



<p><b>DATES FOR YOUR DIARY</b></p> <p>21 March Tea &amp; Chat 2:30 pm Parish Hall</p> <p>25 March First Holy Communion Class 10:30</p> <p>30 March Station Mass OLQM at 7:00 pm</p> <p>1 April Jumble Sale At OLQM 12:00</p>
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**The Fires of Mount Carmel**  
Morning Coffee 10.00, Talk 10.30, Mass 12.00, 1.00 Simple Bread and Soup lunch; Talk 2.00; Finishes with Tea 3.30 pm. Suggested Offering £10, including soup lunch.

**15 March**  
The Passion of St Thérèse  
Dom Brendan  
**22 March**  
John of the Cross:

Living Flame of Love

Abbot Paul

**29 March**

Teresa of Avila,

Daughter of the Church

Dom Bernard

**5 April**

Edith Stein:

The Science of the Cross

Dom Andrew



### **EMMAUS YOUTH**

We are putting on an overnight retreat on 8 and 9 April with some fantastic activities planned. If you are interested please contact us to reserve a space on: 01432 352241 or at [jacqui.corrigan@btopenworld.com](mailto:jacqui.corrigan@btopenworld.com) There will be more details to follow. We hope you can join us. Annie, Ben, Jacqui & Rob.



### **Catholic Social Teaching - cont**

Catholic Social Teaching is a collection of teachings that are designed to reflect the Church's social mission in response to the challenges of the day. The teachings are founded in scripture and includes statements and letters written by popes and bishops and reflections on Christian tradition. This tradition calls all members of the Church, rich and poor alike, to work to eliminate the occurrence and effect of poverty, to speak out against injus-

tice, and to shape a more caring society and a more peaceful world. **This week's theme is:**

The Dignity of the Human Person The basis for the theme of Human Dignity, the bedrock of Catholic Social Teaching, is that humans were created in the image and likeness of God. Regardless of any factors or reasons we can think of, individuals have an inherent and immeasurable worth and dignity; each human life is considered sacred. This theme is about our radical equality before God that leads us to think no less of somebody because they are from a different place or culture, because they believe something different to you, or because of their work or employment situation.

The principle of Human Dignity means that Catholic Social Teaching takes a strong position on issues around the start and end of life but it also has big consequences for everything in-between. For example it can affect how we think about how our society supports those with disabilities, how we address global inequality and the approach we take to civil rights issues. It is from this idea that all people have inherent dignity that the themes of 'Preferential Option for the Poor' and 'Authentic Human Development' develop within Catholic Social Teaching.

The Catholic Church proclaims that human life is sacred and that the

dignity of the human person is the foundation of a moral vision for society. This belief is the foundation of all the principles of our social teaching. In our society, human life is under direct attack from abortion and euthanasia. The value of human life is being threatened by cloning, embryonic stem cell research, and the use of the death penalty. We believe that every person is precious, that people are more important than things, and that the measure of every institution is whether it threatens or enhances the life and dignity of the human person.

Human dignity is something that can't be taken away. Catholic Social Teaching states that each and every person has value, are worthy of great respect and must be free from exploitation.

Whatever insults human dignity, such as subhuman living conditions, arbitrary imprisonment, deportation, slavery, prostitution, the selling of women and children; as well as disgraceful working conditions, where men are treated as mere tools for profit, rather than as free and responsible persons; all these things and others of their like are infamies indeed. They poison human society, but they do more harm to those who practice them than those who suffer from the injury. (Second Vatican Council, The Church in the

Modern World (Gaudium et Spes No 27)

The idea that each life has value isn't something Catholic Social Teaching has a monopoly on; it shares a lot in common with International Human Rights which are also universal, inviolable and inalienable. But Catholic Social Teaching differs slightly because of its basis. It grounds Human Dignity in the firm foundations of the Catholic Church's traditions.

Ultimately we must remember that God is present in every human person, regardless of religion, culture, nationality, orientation or economic standing. Each one of us is unique and beautiful. We are all called to treat every person and every creature with loving respect.



### **HOMILY**

*"This is my Son, the Beloved; he enjoys my favour."*

### **Gospel Teaching**

In the story of Jesus' transfiguration, Peter, James and John have an experience of seeing Jesus as being truly amazing. On the mountain, Jesus shines as the true source of light that he is, and the Father affirms his delight in him and the trust he has placed in him. Naturally, recognising that they are in the presence of God,

the disciples are frightened and they fall on their faces, but they want to stay in that presence. “Lord,” Peter says, “it is wonderful for us to be here.” Through Jesus’ transfiguration, the disciples see the true face of Jesus, and there is not a thing that they would change; for suddenly they know he is truly amazing just the way he is – that is to say, fully human and fully divine.

The Father’s showing of Jesus for who he really is in the transfiguration is an encouragement for his disciples, and no less for Jesus himself, for what is lying ahead of them. The revealing of Jesus as the fulfilment of the law and the prophets, puts fresh heart into his followers and spurs Jesus on at a time when the cross will soon loom large. In time, following Jesus’ resurrection and ascension, the disciples will be able to look back, with the enlightenment of the Spirit, and recall the truth of this incredible encounter. What happened on the mountain will be an inspiration for countless generations to come.

### **Application**

Reflecting on today’s Gospel at this point in Lent is also an encouragement for us today to see who we really are as God’s amazing children. The manifestation of God’s glory in Jesus is a gift to us to help us to see something that very often we find it hard to acknowledge – that in Christ we too are beloved sons and

daughters of God. After all, if we are honest with ourselves, few people see the real “us”. We probably all wear different masks for different places – work, home, church. Many of us are terrified of criticism and rejection. However, when we venture deep inside ourselves, we catch a glimpse of the people we truly are. We start to see ourselves as God sees us. Once we remove the mask and reveal the real “us”, change happens. All those negative things come into clarity, and our dreams become much clearer.

We are God’s children – beautifully made as God’s unique creations; wonderfully designed to live a joyful life growing ever more into fullness. St Paul talks in his letter to Timothy about the “Appearing of our saviour Jesus Christ”, in whom we have been given grace from the beginning of time. We have been chosen; just as Abraham was singled out for great blessings, so too are we. Lent is a perfect time to look beyond the surface and get in touch with our uniquely fashioned selves. We all need to hear those words, “You’re amazing just the way you are.” Jesus, transfigured and hearing how he is the Father’s Beloved, can speak those same words to our hearts today.



**Ministers, etc. For next Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> March-3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Lent Year A - Cycle 1**

	<b>08:30</b>	<b>09:30</b>	<b>11:00</b>
Celebrant	Fr Nicholas		Fr Nicholas
Welcomers	Kath Parry	Brenda Warde	Ross & Anne Williams
Sacristan			Jeremy Hogan
1 <sup>st</sup> Reading	Mary Hayes	Clare Nickerson	Pat Draper
2 <sup>nd</sup> Reading	Bill Jackson		Liz Morawiecki
Bidding Prayers	Ann Jackson		Rob Corrigan
Offertory	Ramage-H Family	Frances Riddell & Menna McBain	
Extraordinary Ministers	Jacqui Ramage-S & Julia Davey		Chris Moore & Margaret Evans

**Next Sunday - Parish Outreach - Aid to the Church in Need**

<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>8.30 Children's Liturgy - temporarily cancelled</b>	
	<b>12-Mar</b>	Pat Wood & Rachel Cowdrey
	<b>19-Mar</b>	Andrew M & Rob Blackburn
	<b>26-Mar</b>	Jackie King & Monica Russell
	<b>02-Apr</b>	Jacqui Moore & Monica Russell
<b>09-Apr</b>	<b>No Children's Liturgy</b>	

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

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

**Anniversaries:** Bernadette Doverman, Michael Veale, Sybil Leggett, Germane Marshall, Patrick Egan, William Kemeys, Ria Lynch, Francis McLoughlin, Peter Meiklejohn, Doreen Stewart, Charles Dowdeswell, Ann McLoughlin, Daisy Meredith, Mary Burge, Olive Hill, Saul Jones and Dom Edmund Whiskey.

**The Sick:** Please pray for: Mary Jo Donnelly, Jennifer Hackman, 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 Medicott, Sr Philipa, Elaine White, Sue Rogers, Joanne Savory, Sr Catherine, Vincent Hanna and Sadie Bowyer.

**Liturgy for Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> March 2017** *Cycle A; Weekdays: Cycle 1*

<p><b>2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday</b></p> <p><b>In</b></p> <p><b>Lent</b></p>	<p><b>Entrance:</b> Of you my heart has spoken; Seek his face. It is your face, O Lord, that I seek; hide not your face from me.</p> <p><b>Acclamation:</b> When we eat this Bread .....</p> <p><b>Communion:</b> This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him.</p>
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<b>Principal Celebrants, Extraordinary Ministers, Readers, etc.</b>			
	08:30 am	09:30 am	11:00 am
Celebrant	Fr Nicholas		Fr Nicholas
Welcomer	Annette Mansie	Anne Stapleton	Rita Chamberlain & Monica Russell
Sacristan			Rob Corrigan
1 <sup>st</sup> Reading	Julia Davey	Basil Nickerson	Jennifer Hackman
2 <sup>nd</sup> Reading	Fran Grant		Lucy Reed
Bidding Prayer	Adrian Eyre		Jacqui Corrigan
Offertory	Hayes Family	Maria Large & Teresa Harriss	
Extra-Ordinary Minister(s)	Frances Dees & Fran Smallwood		Margaret Rose & David Wood
Mass Intention		<b>Pro Populo</b>	
<b>Second Collection - Parish Outreach -CAFOD</b>			
<b>Food Bank Delivery: Jan &amp; Eddie Wyman</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>Feria:</b> Mass at 8:00 am: Midday Mass in Church: Tridentine Mass at 7:00 pm
Thu	<b>Feria:</b> Mass at 8:00 am
Fri	<b>St Patrick:</b> Mass at 8:00 am: Exposition 11:00 Midday Mass in the Oratory
Sat	<b>Feria:</b> Mass at 8:00 am: Reconciliation at 10:00 am