

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



## PARISH NEWSLETTER

**14<sup>th</sup> August 2016**  
**Assumption of Our Lady**  
(Cycle C)

### PARISH PRIEST

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Items for the Newsletter to  
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or The Parish Office

Today we keep the transferred **Solemnity of the Assumption of Our Lady**. Pope Pius XII, in *Munificentissimus Deus* (1950), defined that Mary, "after the completion of her earthly life was assumed body and soul into the glory of heaven." As Christians we believe that one-day we too will be raised in a glorious form and rendered immaculate to be with God forever. As the first person to say "yes" to the good news of our Saviour Jesus Christ, Mary is in a sense the prototypical Christian, and received early the blessings we will all one day be given.

During the month of August the Parish Outreach 2nd collection will be devoted to both local and international charities. These will include Mary's Meals and St Joseph's School, Makeni.

Mary's Meals provides life-changing meals to some of the world's poorest children every day they attend school. Mary's Meals is named after Mary, the mother of Jesus, who brought up her own child in poverty. Their vision is that every child receives one daily meal in their place of education.

St Joseph's is a very special school, started in Makeni, Sierra Leone in 1979, destroyed in the civil war of the 90s, & lovingly re-established in 2003. Care & education is provided for over 250 hearing impaired students aged 3 to 18 from very poor backgrounds, who are often marginalized or rejected.

*Fr Nicholas*

Last Sunday's	1 <sup>st</sup> Collection	<b>£267.22</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>£187.52</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><i>Parish Outreach. Thank you!</i></b>		



### Tea & Chat

The dates for forthcoming meetings are: August 16th, September 20th, October 18th, November 15th. Meet in the Parish Centre starting at 2:30 pm.

### Diamond Diners

The dates for forthcoming dinners are: September 6th, November 1st, December 6th. Meet at the Three Horseshoes, Allensmore at 1.00 pm.



### MacMillan Coffee Morning

This year the Coffee Morning is on Friday 30<sup>th</sup> September. As I shall only just be back from the Belmont Pilgrimage to Rome, I do not feel able to organise it. I have been hosting it for several years now and feel it would be good for someone else to take over. It would be great if someone came forward to organise support for this very worthwhile cause. We usually raise about £300+ which is all spent locally. Most of us know of someone who has benefited from the MacMillan Nurses. Please contact me on 01432 376782 and I will pass on all the contacts and information necessary to run a very enjoyable Coffee Morning.

Many thanks *Margaret Rose*



The 25<sup>th</sup> - 29<sup>th</sup> of August are the dates for **Youth 2000's Walsingham retreat 2016!** A 5 day Prayer Festival, packed with dynamic talks, live-band worship, powerful prayer services, fun social activities, and loads more with over a thousand other young Catholics from the UK. With top speakers from the USA and all over the country, all descending on the National shrine of Walsingham. For more details on the festival, e-mail: [info@youth2000.org](mailto:info@youth2000.org) or find us on Facebook.



### Rotherwas Chapel

On Monday 15<sup>th</sup> August the Mass of the Assumption will be celebrated in Rotherwas Chapel by Abbot Paul at 11 am. This will be the first Mass to be

said since 1914 in this beautiful, historic Catholic chapel, formerly belonging to the Bodenham family of Rotherwas House, and so an important occasion for the Catholic community in Hereford. All are welcome. Further information: [bmwarde@aol.com](mailto:bmwarde@aol.com).



**DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

Tuesday 16 August  
2:30  
Tea & Chat  
Parish Hall

Friday 19 August  
9:00 am  
Church Cleaning

**Sunday 21 August**  
**Collect & Pay for**  
**Tesco Vouchers**

Friday 2 September  
9:00 am  
Church Cleaning



**Sick and Housebound Parishioners**

If you know of any sick or housebound parishioners please let the Parish Office know. We can then make

arrangements for Fr Nicholas or an extraordinary minister to bring them Holy Communion or for a priest to come and hear confession if that is required. This also applies to parishioners who move into a care or nursing home. Please remember that hospitals no longer advise us of Catholics in hospital!



Would you like to help the Welsh Georgian Trust to buy the 'Gunter Mansion' in Abergavenny? The Mansion is an important part of Catholic heritage: both St. Philip Evans and St. David Lewis said Mass in the chapel hidden in the attic. Learn more about the significance of the house, and the project to secure it, online: [tinyurl.com/GunterMansion](http://tinyurl.com/GunterMansion).



Annual Pilgrimage to the grave of St John Kemble – Sunday 21st August, 3.00 pm Welsh Newton Graveyard, followed by Benediction in St. Mary's Church, Monmouth. Fr. Matthew will be preaching.



With sadness we report the death of Margaret O'Connor who died on Thursday morning.  
May she rest in peace.



### 150 Club Winners

- 1<sup>st</sup> Jo Hourahane
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Donated to Food Bank
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Lillian Allsop
  
- 1<sup>st</sup> Maureen Stacey
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Rob Blackburn
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Mary Jo Donnelly



### Forthcoming Marriages

We offer our prayers and best wishes to the following couples who are preparing for marriage here at Belmont Abbey over the next few weeks:

- 3rd September Agnieszka Chepa &  
Roberto Degl'Innocenti
- 9th September Natalie Sadler &  
Michael Paiano
- 17th September Bryony Barling &  
Victor Lamarque



No children's liturgy of the Word during August. Don't forget we are always looking for new volunteers to lead or merely help with these sessions. Please see Fr Nicholas for more details.



### HOMILY

*"The Almighty has done great things  
July for me."*

#### Illustration

Children love to hear stories in which the wicked are defeated and the good triumph and live happily ever after. Hardened by bitter experience in our modern world, adults tend to say, "if only", "I wish"; life, unfortunately, is just not like that. And for some people the Bible is just a storybook, with many stories they consider to be totally unsuitable for adults, never mind children. One such story is that from the book of the Apocalypse in today's first reading. Pregnancy, childbirth and a ravenous dragon waiting to eat a newborn infant may seem unusual subjects for Sunday Mass! However, we have to understand that the revelations made to John in the book of the Apocalypse are in fact coded messages to a Christian community undergoing persecution. It is the classic story of the defeat of evil and the triumph of good; the ultimate victory of God over the power of the devil, as this is experienced by the community at the hands of the Roman Empire. No matter what they may be suffering at present, the members of the Christian community are assured that the dragon, that is imperial Rome, has been defeated by this special child,

born under such dramatic circumstances.

of life in the glory of heaven for all eternity.

### **Gospel Teaching**

In the Gospel today, the coded language is dropped, but the message is the same: God has shown the power of his arm and overthrown the powers of this world. In the context of a happy family celebrating the prospect of new life, Mary sings her Magnificat, a hymn to the triumph of God over the powers of evil. The rich and the powerful of this world have been put in their place, while those who are poor and disadvantaged have been exalted. Presented like this, the message of scripture is a programme of social revolution.

Again, in his first letter to the Corinthians, Paul celebrates the ultimate triumph of Christ. The most powerful weapon of mass destruction in the hands of our enemy the devil is death. As children of Adam, every one of us is subject to death. But when Christ rose from the dead, death lost its power and now the children of God are destined for resurrection and eternal life. Christ has done away with every sovereignty, authority and power so as to hand over the kingdom to God our Father. This is the "happy ever after" ending that cannot be bettered. It is the promise of God to all of us, who are faithful followers of Jesus, that we shall enjoy the fullness

### **Application**

Some people complain that the doctrine of Mary's assumption into heaven is not found in scripture. If they are looking for a historical narrative, they are right. But scripture is more than simple history; it is the revelation of God's love through the lived experience of men and women of faith. The stories from the Bible we have heard today tell us more than the fact that Mary at the end of her life was taken up body and soul into the glory of heaven. They tell us that through the death and resurrection of Mary's son, Jesus, the power of our ancient enemy has been permanently overcome and the destiny of each one of us, as children of God, is to be taken up into the glory of heaven.

While this is our destiny, however, we are called to follow the example of Mary if we are to achieve it. Throughout her life, Mary united herself with Jesus, in his mission and in his suffering and death. Her surrender to God's will at the time of the annunciation continued through faithfully pondering in her heart all that was happening, until she stood beneath the cross on Calvary. United with Jesus in his life and death, she is united with him in his resurrection

and ascension into glory. This, then, is the pattern for all of us to follow.

The assumption of Mary is our sign of hope. It is a reminder that if we are faithful to Jesus, like Mary, heaven is our destiny. Whatever turmoil we experience in the world today is merely the dying spasm of a defeated enemy. Christ has risen from the dead; he has conquered sin and death; he now reigns in heaven with Mary as his queen. Let us continue to live our lives in the hope and expectation of sharing in this glory for ever.

† † † † †

The Blessed Virgin Mary  
From *The Paradiso*, Canto 33

O Virgin mother, daughter of thy Son  
Created beings all in lowliness  
Surpassing, as in height above them all;  
Term by the eternal counsel pre-  
ordain'd;  
Ennobler of thy nature, so advanced  
In thee, that its great Maker did not  
scorn,  
To make himself his own creation;  
For in the womb rekindling shone the  
love  
Reveal'd, whose genial influence makes  
now  
This flower to germin in eternal peace:  
Here, thou to us, of charity and love,  
Art, as the noon-day torch; and art,  
beneath,  
To mortal men, of hope a living spring.  
So mighty art thou, lady, and so great,

That he, who grace desireth, and comes  
not

To thee for aidance, fain would have  
desire

Fly without wings. Not only him, who  
asks,

Thy bounty succours; but doth freely oft

Forerun the asking. Whatsoe'er may be

Of excellence in creature, pity mild,

Relenting mercy, large munificence,

Are all combined in thee. Here kneeleth

one,

Who of all spirits hath review'd the

state,

From the world's lowest gap unto this

height.

Suppliant to thee he kneels, imploring

grace

For virtue yet more high, to lift his ken

Toward the bliss supreme. And I, who

ne'er

Coveted sight, more fondly, for myself,

Than now for him, my prayers to thee

prefer

(And pray they be not scant), that thou

wouldst drive

Each cloud of his mortality away,

Through thine own prayers, that on the

sov'ran joy

Unveil'd he gaze. This yet, I pray thee,

Queen,

Who canst do what thou wilt; that in

him thou

Wouldst, after all he hath beheld,

preserve

Affection sound, and human passions

quell.

*Dante*

<b>Ministers, etc. For next <u>Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> August- 21<sup>st</sup> in Ordinary Time Year C</u></b>			
	<b>08:30</b>	<b>09:30</b>	<b>11:00</b>
Celebrant	Fr Nicholas		Fr Nicholas
Welcomers	Annette Mansie	Nickerson Family	Rita Chamberlain & Monica Russell
Sacristan			Tony Archer
1 <sup>st</sup> Reading	Liz Norman	Patrick Walesby	Pat Draper
2 <sup>nd</sup> Reading	Fran Smallwood		Margaret Rose
Bidding Prayers	Mary Hayes		Jane Davies
Offertory	Ramage-H Family	Nickerson Family	
Extraordinary Ministers	Seamus Hayes & Kath Parry		Monica Tomlin
<b>Next Sunday - Parish Outreach (St Joseph)</b>			

<p><b>Cistercian Cloister: the School of Love</b>  <b>August 15-18 (Reg Fee £28 &amp; £22</b>  <b>Transport/Entry)</b>  <b>Reflections on St Bernard and the great</b>  <b>Cistercian saints and a visit to Tintern Abbey</b>  <i>Dom Brendan, Dom Bernard, Dom Alistair</i></p>	<b>CHILDREN'S LITURGY</b>	
	8.30 am Children's Liturgy - 4 Sept	
	11.00 am Liturgy	
	No Children's Liturgy in August	
	For 8:30 am or 11:00 am Masses	

Please pray for all who have died: **May they rest in peace.** (W/C 14 August)

**Deaths:** Margaret O'Connor, Robert Morawiecki, Peter Lee and Father Jerome.

**Anniversaries:** Thomas Lacey, Francis Wegg-Prosser, Bernard Carney, Ella McGinn, John Quinn, Alphons Sikora, William J Williams, Ivon Bontej, Archbishop Vaughan OSB, Hilda Lampard, Andrew Massey, Josephine Mussell, John Bennallack-Hart, Vincent Hourahane, Andrew Pracey and Rose Rogers.

**The Sick:** Please pray for: Connie Luxon, Sheila Langford, Dominique Wetz, Eddie Wyman, Bernard Johnson, Marie Williams, Sally Hayward, Sue Savory, Stephen Fisher, Gordon Wilson, Syliva Evans, David Kinsey, Polly Maund-Powell, Denise Ellis, Lillian Allsopp, Duncan Sykes, Kenny Hanna, Shirley Brymer, Valerie Blake, Sr Trish, Edward Medlicott, Sr Philipa, Teresa Chowles, Elaine White, Sue Rogers, Fr Michael Cronin, Elaine Campbell, 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 14<sup>th</sup> August** Sunday Cycle C; Weekdays: Cycle 2 (Wk 20 OT)

<p><b>Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary</b></p>	<p><b>Entrance:</b> A great sign appeared in heaven: a woman clothed with the sun and the moon beneath her feet, and on her head a crown of twelve stars</p> <p><b>Acclamation:</b> We proclaim your Death, O Lord ...</p> <p><b>Communion:</b> All generations will call me blessed, for he who is mighty has done great things for me.</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	Hayes Family	Clare Wichbold	Hackman Family
Sacristan			Jeremy Hogan
1 <sup>st</sup> Reading	Adrian Eyre	Polly Maund-Powell	Monica Tomlin
2 <sup>nd</sup> Reading	Richard Batho		Tony Archer
Bidding Prayer	Jacqui Ramage-S		Sally Johns
Offertory	Hayes Family	Teresa Harris & Menna McBain	
Extra-Ordinary Minister(s)	Frances Dees & Julia Davey		Rob Corrigan
Mass Intention	<b>Margaret O'Connor RIP</b>	<b>Pro Populo</b>	
<b>Second Collection - Parish Outreach (Mary's Meals)</b>			
<b>Food Bank Delivery: Ray &amp; Margaret Rose</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: <b>NO Midday Mass</b> :Tridentine Mass at 7:00 pm
Thu	<b>Feria:</b> Mass at 8:00 am
Fri	<b>Feria:</b> Mass at 8:00 am: Exposition and Midday Mass in Oratory
Sat	<b>St Bernard:</b> Mass at 8:00 am: Reconciliation at 10:00 am