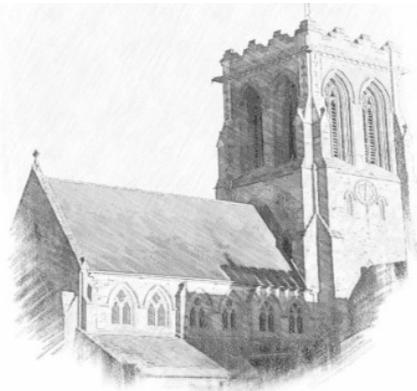


St Michael and All Angels Belmont Abbey



PARISH NEWSLETTER

**14 January 2018
2 Sunday in OT**

PARISH PRIEST

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This Sunday is kept as Peace Sunday, the 51st World Peace Day to be celebrated. Pope Francis reminds us that we are all artisans of peace. No one can be unaware of the tens of thousands of people around the globe who have been displaced and forced to leave their homes because of violence, war, trafficking and climate-related disasters, so it is no surprise that Pope Francis has chosen the theme 'Migrants and Refugees – men and women seekers of peace,' for his 2018 Peace Day message. He reminds us "It is not enough to open our hearts to the suffering of others. Much more remains to be done before our brothers and sisters can once again live peacefully in a safe home."

As we begin a new year, we are asked to re-commit ourselves through prayer and example to making peace a true reality in our world. "Nothing is impossible if we turn to God in prayer. Everyone can be a maker of peace".

It is hoped to have another go at producing the winter edition of the Angel – any articles please to the parish office by next Sunday.

The Second collection today is for St Joseph's School, Makeni. 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 st Collection	£305.20
	Standing Orders	£501.23
The 1 st collection goes towards the maintenance of our Abbey church and parish, diocesan levies and other related costs.		
	2 nd Collection	£209.98
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: Makeni. Thank You!		



Parish Outreach

In January, our Parish Outreach collections will go towards supporting the St Joseph's School, Makeni project (7th & 14th Jan); and the local Acorns Children's Hospice (21st Jan) and the St Barnabas Society appeal (28th Jan).



Hereford Hospital Chaplaincy

If you have a relative or fellow parishioner in hospital and they would like to be visited by Fr. Matthew, please contact him with the details on 01432 265177 or fr.matthew@live.co.uk.



Interested in forming a model railway group in the area ? Ring John on 508316.



Ecumenical Service next Sunday at 3 pm in the Methodist Chapel, Ewyas Harold. Organised by Churches Together in Ewyas Harold this is a service to mark the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, to which all are welcome.



The **Week of Prayer for Christian Unity**, which begins on Thursday, is a worldwide movement of Christians of many denominations, languages, and great diversity of race and culture, who are engaged in praying and working for the unity of Christians. Traditionally the week of prayer for Christian Unity is celebrated between 18-25 January.



EMMAUS YOUTH

The dates for the next few meetings of Emmaus Youth are 20 January, 17 February and 17 March at Our Lady's Parish Hall, 2.30-5.30 pm. 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



Holy Father's Catechesis

on the Eucharistic Celebration: in the context of the rites of introduction, on the penitential act.

The full text is available on:
<https://zenit.org/articles/general-audience-on-the-penitential-act-full-text/>.



Tea & Chat

Resumes this Tuesday, 16th January. We are a very friendly group which meets on the third Tuesday of each month for a cup of tea/coffee and a piece of cake and a pleasant chat amongst each other. New members, from the wider Belmont community, are always welcome, including gentlemen. So if you feel like coming along and making new friends and having a cheerful afternoon then the Parish Centre at 2:30 pm is the place for you.



Dates for your Diary

16 January

Tea & chat
Parish Hall - 2:30

21 January

Last Date for articles
The Angel

26 January

Church Cleaning
9:00 am

6 February

Diamond Diners
Three Horseshoes
12:45

17 February

Emmaus Youth
OLQM Parish Hall
2:30



Homily

"Come and see."

Illustration

Everybody knew Josh. He was an elderly man, always ready to do a good turn for anyone. He had a son who was a priest, and he was widely respected in the parish. One day a group of parishioners were talking about what they would like to do in life, if they had their time again. When it came to Josh's turn, he took everyone by surprise: "What I'd want to be is what I've always wanted to be, a good plumber!" Everyone knew that Josh was a plumber. Plumbing was his job, his vocation, though Josh would never have called it that because in those days the word "vocation" was pretty well restricted – at least in Catholic circles – to priests and nuns.

But in fact "vocation" simply means a calling. And all of us share in that first, most basic and most wonderful calling, the one we received at baptism – that of being a follower of Christ. But within that vocation the Lord calls us to serve him in a variety of other ways – as married or single, priest or religious, teacher, police officer or plumber.

Gospel Teaching

Today's readings give us two vocation stories. The first concerns a young boy called Samuel, who lived in the ancient Hebrew temple at Shiloh. One night he heard a voice calling his name. Assuming it was the old priest Eli, he went to him, only to be told to go back to bed because Eli certainly hadn't called him. The same thing happened twice more, and Eli realised that it was God who was doing the calling; he advised young Samuel that if he heard the voice again he should respond: "Speak, Lord, your servant is listening." Samuel did as he was told, and the outcome was that he "grew up and the Lord was with him and let no word of his fall to the ground". It seems that Samuel continued listening for God's word and was always ready to follow it. He became a great leader of God's people.

The second vocation story is in the Gospel, and concerns two of John the Baptist's disciples. One day, as Jesus passes by, John says: "Look, there is the lamb of God." The disciples begin following Jesus. He turns and asks: "What do you want?" Perhaps taken by surprise, they answer rather vaguely: "Rabbi... where do you live?" But in John's Gospel words like "live" or "stay" or "dwell" often have a deeper meaning; they are asking:

where do we meet you, where do we encounter you, how do we get to know you? Jesus' answer is simple: "Come and see." They respond to his invitation; they stay with him all that day; they become his friends for life.

Application

God has a call for everyone; it's the call to holiness, to intimate friendship; and that vocation is fulfilled principally in the living out of our daily life and the various vocations it involves. Like young Samuel, who prayed: "Speak, Lord, your servant is listening," we are called to have a listening ear or, better, a listening heart, a heart open enough and alert enough to hear God's word and respond to it. We listen to God's word not only at Mass, or when we read the scriptures, but also when God speaks to us, softly and gently, through the people we meet, the events that make up our lives, the inspirations that come to our minds and hearts.

There is sound advice for us behind the question Jesus put to the two disciples-to-be. "What do you want?" he asked them. It's a question he always puts to those who want to be his friends. The answer he's looking for is not some smart flippant reply, like winning the lottery, but an absolutely serious one, an answer on

which we pin our lives. And the answer is not for God's benefit but for ours. It shows where our priorities lie in relation to God, to other people and to the world around us. Perhaps in a moment of silence in this Mass, we might hear the Lord asking us: "What do you want, really want above all else?" If, in our stumbling way, we can reply: "I want you; I want to be your friend. Where do you live?", then he will answer, as he answered those first friends of his: "Come and see." Come and you will see for yourself that you have answered the most wonderful calling of all.



St Wulstan

Wulfstan, the last Anglo-Saxon saint, gave an example of perfection in various states of life. His youth was passed in innocence. Once, when flushed with victory in sport, being inclined to succumb to a temptation he had before successfully resisted, he fled into a thicket to spend the night in prayer and was never again subject to that temptation.

He became a priest and afterwards a monk at Worcester, where he spent twenty-five years of holy life. Named bishop of Worcester by St Edward the Confessor, Wulstan frequently visited

his flock, ministering to the wants of all and defending them against the Bristol slave-traders.

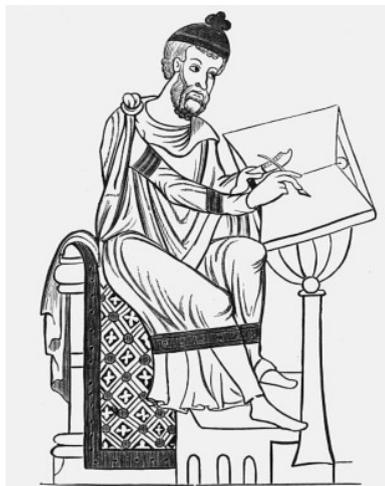
He fasted three days in every week and never failed by night or day to say office in church at the appointed hours, even when travelling, although for this he often walked far in snow and rain. His saw his country laid low under the Norman invasion which he called the scourge of God for its sins. He did not fear the conquerors but continued his holy life and gained their respect at last. He refused to adopt the splendid dress of Norman prelates and would himself cut off the flowing locks of young dandies. Wulfstan has been called “a faultless character” a model monk and bishop of his time. He died in his eighty-seventh year in 1095.

At one time in his life, summoned by the Norman Archbishop Lanfranc to resign his see, as being too simple to govern it, Wulfstan refused: he had, he declared, received his pastoral staff from King Edward by authority of the Apostolic See and to him alone would he resign it.

Thereupon, it is said, he went up to the king’s tomb and placed his staff upon it, saying, “Take this, my master, and deliver I to whom you will.”

The staff remained imbedded in the stone; no force would dislodge it. So Lanfranc reinstated him in his see and bade to ask his holy master King Edward to restore him the staff. Wulfstan did so and the staff yielded to his hand at once and all praised God who is wonderful in His saints.

After overcoming initial doubts about his ability to hold the office of bishop, he demonstrated such skill after the Norman Conquest that he was the lone bishop to be kept in his post by William the Conqueror (r. 1066-1087). For the next three decades, Wulfstan rebuilt his cathedral, cared for the poor, and struggled to alleviate the harsh decrees of the Normans upon the vanquished Saxons. He was canonized in 1203. Feast day: January 19.



Ministers, etc. for next Sunday 21 January 2018 - 3 Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B Cycle 2

	08:30	9:30	11:00
Celebrant	Fr Nicholas		Fr Nicholas
Welcomers	Cooper Family	Nickerson Family	Ross & Anne Williams
Sacristan			Jeremy Hogan
1 st Reading	Richard Batho	Clare Wichbold	Jennifer Hackman
2 nd Reading	Liz Norman		Pat Draper
Bidding Prayers	Bill Jackson		Sergio Pavia
Offertory	Parish Children	Maria Large & Menna McBain	
Extraordinary Ministers	Kath Parry & Jacqui Ramage-S		Gabrielle Stanley & Joao Pavia

Next Sunday - Parish Outreach - Acorns Children's Charity

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	
	14-Jan	Jacqui Moore & Jan Wyman
	21-Jan	Andrew M & Pauline Gill
	28-Jan	Jackie King & Mary Wood

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

Deaths: Phillip Cook, Rebecca Dykes, Philomena Nicholas and Sister Mary Clare

Anniversaries: John Teighe, Dom Dominic Blaney OSB, Minnie Mc Loughlin, William Donegan, Anthony Stokes, Mary Bower, Christopher Bates, Helen Bates, Bernard Berto, Gwendolin Massey-Lynch, Dom Laurence Maxwell, Kevin McGinn, Dorothy Passmore, Frances Roebuck, Gerard Wakelam and Fanny West.

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

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

<p>2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time</p>	<p>Entrance: All the earth shall bow down before you, O God and shall sing to you, shall sing to your name, O Most High!</p> <p>Acclamation: When we eat this Bread ...</p> <p>Communion: You have prepared a table before me and how precious is the chalice that quenches my thirst.</p>
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Principal Celebrants, Extraordinary Ministers, Readers, etc.			
	08:30 am	9:30 am	11:00 am
Celebrant	Fr Nicholas		Fr Nicholas
Welcomer	Liz Norman	Anne Stapleton	Hackman Family
Sacristan			Tony Archer
1 st Reading	Mary Hayes	Brenda Warde	Lucy Reed
2 nd Reading	Fran Smallwood		Monica Tomlin
Bidding Prayer	Ann Jackson		Margaret Rose
Offertory	Hayes Family	Frances Riddell & Teresa Harriss	
Extra-Ordinary Minister(s)	Seamus Hayes & Fran Smallwood		Rob Corrigan & Jane Davies
Mass Intention		<i>Pro Populo</i>	
Second Collection - St Joseph's School, Makeni			
Food Bank Collection: Eddie & Jan Wyman			

What's On for the week	
Mon	SS Maurus & Placid: Mass at 8:00 am
Tue	Feria: Mass at 8:00 am
Wed	St Antony of Egypt: Mass at 8:00 am: Midday Mass in the Oratory
Thu	Feria: Mass at 8:00 am
Fri	St Wulstan: Mass at 8:00 am: Exposition at 11 and Midday Mass
Sat	BVM: Mass at 8:00 am: Sacrament of Reconciliation at 10:00