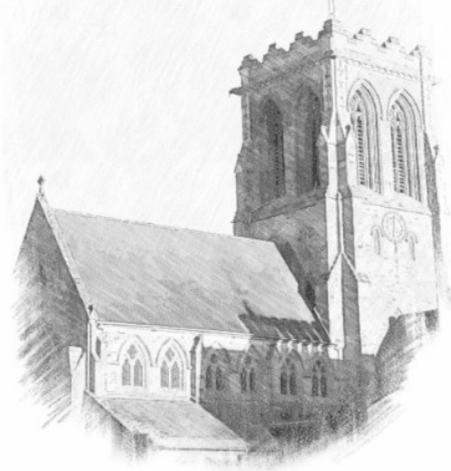


St Michael and All Angels Belmont Abbey



PARISH NEWSLETTER

14 May 2017

5th Sunday of Easter

PARISH PRIEST

Fr. Nicholas Wetz OSB

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Parish Deacon

Rev Deacon Eddie Wyman

Tel: 01432 - 263575

Safeguarding Representative

Gabrielle Stanley 07939 472059

The lateness of Easter this year and the recent bout of good weather encourages us to start thinking about summer – and the Parish Summer Fete! This year the Fete is on Saturday 17th June. If you can help in any way with the organisation, stalls or have any bright ideas, do get in touch with the Parish Office. Volunteers are always welcome! The stall holders will also be looking for items, so please read the note inside the Newsletter. Can you help by growing a few plants (in five weeks!) or baking a few cakes (some can be frozen). Raffle tickets for the Grand Draw are now available – do help us to sell these to family and friends. Thank you.

The second collection today is towards supporting the training of Belmont monks.

Fr Nicholas

Last Sunday's	1 st Collection	£298.40
	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	£223.61
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: Diocesan Priests Training Fund. Thank You!		

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Parish Outreach

This month our second collections are essentially the mandatory ones for May: Priests Training Funds, World Communications Day and the annual mission appeal which this year will be made by the Verona Fathers on Sunday 28th May.

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Congratulations to Louise Spencer & Aaron White who were married in the Abbey yesterday. We wish them every blessing and our prayers on this wonderful occasion.

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Please pray for Matias James Lloyd and Mollie Bea Ashton who will be baptised this afternoon. We wish them and their families every blessing on this wonderful occasion.

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Election 2017 - Choosing which candidate to vote for can be a tricky exercise, especially when none of the candidates meet **all** our own criteria for different policies. SPUC are urging its members to question candidates regarding their position on abortion and euthanasia. John Hargaden is trying to organise a small group to meet with candidates to put these questions to them. Please contact John on (H 508316) for more information.

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Our Lady's Lunch Club

A training session is also being arranged for Monday 15th May from 7-9pm also at Our Lady's, on the challenges and difficulties of ministering to those in need, how to stay safe, and the issues that many of those in need are facing. This training is being given by a local Consultancy firm run by two retired police officers. All volunteers are asked to attend if possible.

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Pentecost Vigil Service

Pentecost Vigil Service at Our Lady's Church on Saturday 3rd June. To include: Exposition, music and readings. Starts at 7.00 pm, all welcome.



Forthcoming Marriages at Belmont Abbey

Sat 20th May Hayley Gethins & Piotr Gass
Sat 10th June Matthew Corrigan & Esther Rich



Belmont Fete

The Fete is only 5 weeks away. We would be very grateful if you could start bringing in items for the Grand Tombola, books, bric-a-brac, toys and clothes: these should be washed and ironed and in very good condition. We would grateful if the gardeners among you would grow some plants for the plant stall and of course we need bottles for the very popular Bottle Stall. We need about 400 + bottles so if you could start bringing them in, it would be much appreciated. Thank you for your help!



DEANERY PILGRIMAGE TO FATIMA

Fr Matthew, the Dean, and Parish Priest of Our Lady’s in Hereford is organising a pilgrimage to Fatima for the Deanery, in this the 100th anniversary year of the apparitions; there are still places available.

There are booking forms in Church or available from Fr. Matthew –01432 265177. Monday 25th - Friday 29th September, flying from Manchester. 4 nights, half board. Price £599/person, £120 extra for single rooms (only a few available) and insurance. Organised by Leisure Time travel in Liverpool.



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

16 May
Tea & Chat
Parish Hall 2:30 pm

20 May
First Holy Communion Class
10:30

19 May
Church Cleaning
9:00 am

6 June
Diamond Diners
Three Horseshoes
12:45

17 June
Belmont Abbey Fete
2:00 pm



More information about THE MARCH FOR LIFE which will take place in Birmingham on the the 20th May. A small group of us from Hereford are planning to join it and you would be very welcome if you would like to come with us. We will be meeting at the railway station at 10. 15 am (the train leaves at 10.39 am). There will be a LIFE stall in Victoria Square from 12 noon until 4 pm, the March will leave from the stall and we will walk through the city streets. Lynne (01432 371654) and Josephine.



Emmaus Youth

Emmaus Youth are next meeting at Our Lady's Parish Hall, 2.30-5.30 pm on Saturday 20th May. 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 Ridgeway and Ben Aldridge. 01432 352241 07739 566578



Vocations Weekend for young women (20s and 30s)

Theme: Discerning God's Call in my life
Dates: 26th - 28th May 2017
Location: Broadstairs, Kent
The weekend is organised by the

sisters, Faithful Companions of Jesus (FCJ).

There will be input from the FCJ sisters on different aspects of vowed life and time for prayer, reflection and discussion with other young women who are also considering a vocation. It's an opportunity to live community life for a weekend and meet some sisters! For more information contact Sr Lynne fcJ at lynnefcj@hotmail.com or visit our website www.fcjsisters.org.



SFX FILM NIGHTS

presents the

Award-Winning

"THE LETTERS" (PG)

The untold story of Mother Teresa

Where: SFX Hall: When: Friday 26 May: Time 7:15 pm. All Welcome, free admissions and refreshments.



Homily

"I am the Way, the Truth and the Life."

Illustration

Some parts of the South African Bushveld are more like a moonscape than a place fit for human habitation. Dried-up riverbeds, red dusty soil, stones and rocks, snakes and scorpions, scrubby plants and hot, unrelenting sun are the order of the

day. It was such inhospitable land that was designated as suitable for the indigenous African population, while the better land was taken over by the farmers of the colonial powers. It was to such an area that Redemptorist Father Paxton Hallett was sent in the 1960s. How do you build the Church in such places? With architectural drawings sketched on the back of a cigarette packet and stones collected by the people on their way to Mass each Sunday, he built churches, schools and clinics, and, with the help of loyal catechists and teachers, and the support of many missionary-minded people overseas, a local Church was established. Father (later Bishop) Hallett was not only a missionary priest and builder, he was dentist, ambulance driver, agricultural advisor, arbitrator of disputes and much loved by the people.

Gospel Teaching

The image of people gathering stones in order to build their church helps us to see at a deeper level how St Peter can describe the community of faith as the living stones that make a spiritual house. The Church is not so much the building as the community of those who live close to Jesus, believing in him and living according to the example he has given. The Temple in Jerusalem was central to the life of the Jewish people in the

time of Jesus. It was the symbol of their election as God's chosen people because it was the holy place where God was experienced, living among them. Faithful Jews were expected to come to Jerusalem to offer sacrifices to God in thanksgiving and praise for all God's saving works and also in atonement for their own sins and for the sins of the nation.

While Jesus himself took part in the national pilgrimages to Jerusalem to celebrate the great feasts of the Jews, he gave offence to the religious leadership by cleansing the Temple of all those who had turned it into a marketplace and then by claiming that if they destroyed this sanctuary, he would raise it up in three days. It was only after the events of Easter that the disciples were able to grasp the full meaning of what Jesus was saying: that he was himself the sanctuary where God had made God's dwelling among God's people, he was the new Temple. Jesus went even further. He taught his disciples that if they loved him and kept his word, the Father would love them and he and the Father would come and make their home with them. In the understanding of St John, Jesus was replacing the Temple in Jerusalem with himself and his faithful and believing disciples. In the words of St Peter, he is the living stone rejected by the builders, which has become

the keystone, and his disciples are the living stones making a spiritual house.

Application

The house that Jesus built in this world is modelled on and is a visible representation of his Father's house in heaven. Having completed his work on earth, Jesus told the disciples that they shouldn't worry because he was going to prepare a place for them in the Father's house where there are many rooms. They now knew how to follow him because he was their Way, their Truth and their Life. By living with Jesus and loving him, they were welcoming the Father, allowing him to make a home with them, and by living at home with the Father and with Jesus, they were preparing for eternal life with God in heaven.

We started with poor African Catholics gathering stones to build their mission church in the harsh conditions of the Bushveld. We arrived at the home of our Father in heaven. The connection is Jesus, who is the Way, the Truth and the Life. All of us are responsible for building the Church of Jesus in the world today. It's a house with many rooms. In fact, it is a place where everyone is welcome. And we build it as we continue to bring our individual stones, all different shapes and sizes; all our different contributions to building the loving and caring

relationships that help all our fellow believers to know and love Jesus, who draws us together in our Father's house.



Jesus now begins what is commonly called his "farewell discourse". This section follows a literary form common in the ancient world, not least within Judaism. There are numerous examples of a great man or woman giving a final speech to those who are close to him or her. The great man or woman tells of his or her impending death and in some cases offers comfort in the face of the grief this announcement produces. This is in keeping with the belief that one about to die is given prophetic powers. These farewell discourses also contain instruction on how those left behind should behave, and at times the discourses conclude with a prayer for those left behind.

Although Jesus' farewell discourse fits this pattern, there is the notable exception that the one who is about to leave will continue to be present through the Spirit and will return at the end of the age. Indeed, the way Jesus speaks in this section transcends time, for he speaks in oracular style and often as if the glorification has already taken place. "He is really speaking from heaven; although those who hear him are his disciples, his words are directed to Christians of all times".

Ministers, etc. For next <u>Sunday 21 May 6 Easter Year A - Cycle 1</u>			
	08:30	9:30	11:00
Celebrant	Fr Nicholas		Fr Nicholas
Welcomers	Annette Mansie	Clare Wichbold	Morawiecki Family
Sacristan			Chris Moor
1 st Reading	Adrian Eyre	Paul Nickhold	Jennifer Hackman
2 nd Reading	Richard Batho		Liz Morawiecki
Bidding Prayers	Liz Norman		Lucy Reed
Offertory	Parish Children	Frances Wood & Menna McBain	
Extraordinary Ministers	Seamus Hayes & Jacqui Ramage-S		Margaret Evans & Joao Pavia
Next Sunday - Parish Outreach (Catholic Communications)			

Anniversaries	CHILDREN'S LITURGY	
	8.30 Children's Liturgy - temporarily cancelled	
	14-May	Jackie King & Monica Russell
	21-May	A Morawiecki & Rob Blackburn
	28-May	No Children's Liturgy
	04-Jun	No Children's Liturgy
11-Jun	Jacqui Moore & Jan Wyman	

These are noted below. Our week starts on Sunday- the anniversaries include all those which occurred on the Sunday date to the following Saturday.

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

Deaths: Sister Clare, Mary Jo Donnelly, Maureen Toner and Eduards Sardiko

Anniversaries: Mary Blackmon, Milborough Plummer, Jeffrey James Ardoino, Emily Bray, Leslie Norman, Jackson, Kenneth Worthington, Simon Cox, Dom Philip Owen, Mary Wegg-Prosser, David Bridges, Beatrice Donovan, Elijah Hodges, Daniel Stokes, Gordon Surrell, Abbott Alphege Gleeson OSB and Patricia Hunn.

The Sick: Please pray for: Carol Baines, Michael Kennedy, Chris Rogers, Patrick Walesby, Peter Draper, Fr Simon, Ruby Chandler-Marsh, Rachel George, Norma Naudain, Ann Thomas, Dominique Wetz, Marie Williams, Sally Hayward, 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 14th May 2017 *Cycle A; Weekdays: Cycle 1*

<p>5th Sunday Of Easter</p>	<p>Entrance: O sing a new song to the Lord, for he has worked wonders; in the sight of the nations he has shown his deliverance, alleluia.</p> <p>Acclamation: When we eat this Bread ...</p> <p>Communion: I am the true vine and you are the branches, says the Lord. Whoever remains in me and I in him, bears fruit in plenty, alleluia.</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	Kath Parry	Anne Stapleton	Ross & Anne Williams
Sacristan			Tony Archer
1 st Reading	Fran Grant	Brenda Warde	Jennifer Hackman
2 nd Reading	Josie Gwizdala		Gabrielle Stanley
Bidding Prayer	Julia Davey		Jacqui Corrigan
Offertory	Hayes Family	Anthea Morton-S & Menna McBain	
Extra-Ordinary Minister(s)	Frances Dees & Fran Smallwood		Monica Russell & Margaret Evans
Mass Intention		<i>The Parish</i>	
Second Collection - Belmont Training Fund			
Food Bank Delivery: Kath Parry			

<i>What's On for the week</i>	
Mon	St Pachomius: Mass at 8:00 am
Tue	Easter Feria: Mass at 8:00 am
Wed	Easter Feria: Mass at 8:00 am: Midday Mass in Oratory : Tridentine Mass at 7:00 pm
Thu	Easter Feria: Mass at 8:00 am
Fri	Ss Dunstan, Oswald & Ethelwold: Mass at 8:00 am: Exposition at 11, Midday Mass in Oratory
Sat	St Ethelbert : Mass at 8:00 am: Reconciliation at 10:00 am