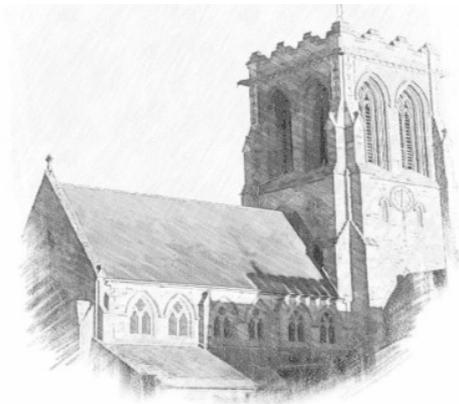


# ***St Michael and All Angels Belmont Abbey***



## **PARISH NEWSLETTER**

**15<sup>th</sup> January 2017**

2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

PARISH PRIEST

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**Parish Deacon**

Rev Deacon Eddie Wyman

Tel: 01432 - 263575

Safeguarding Representative  
Gabrielle Stanley 07939 472059

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

This Sunday is kept as Peace Sunday. 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. In his message for today, Pope Francis writes: "In 2017, may we dedicate ourselves prayerfully and actively to banishing violence from our hearts, words and deeds, and to becoming nonviolent people and to building nonviolent communities that care for our common home. "Nothing is impossible if we turn to God in prayer. Everyone can be a maker of peace".

Over the next few weeks I will be seeking the parish's help to fill some gaps in our rota of ministries. In particular we are in need of more Readers and Extra-Ordinary Ministers at both the 8.30 and 11 am Masses. Can you help?

Our parish First Holy Communion programme will begin on Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> January. Please see Fr Nicholas or Rob & Jacqui Corrigan for more details.

*Fr Nicholas*

Last Sunday's	1 <sup>st</sup> Collection	<b>£245.48</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>£167.72</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>St Joseph (Makeni)</b> . Thank You!		

† † † † †

### Second Collections

Last month our Parish Outreach collections went towards helping the refugees and children made homeless in Syria and we were able to send over £750 for their relief. Thank you. In January, our Parish Outreach collections will go towards supporting the St Joseph's School, Makeni project (1<sup>st</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Jan); the annual White Flower collection (15<sup>th</sup> Jan) and the local Acorns Children's Hospice (22<sup>nd</sup> Jan).

The second collection today is for the Society for the Protection of Unborn Children (SPUC). In common with the Catholic Church SPUC defends and upholds the sanctity of human life from conception until natural death. The Society opposes laws and policies, which violate or threaten human life

such as abortion, euthanasia and research on human embryos. SPUC also provides trained speakers for schools and colleges and a range of pro-life support services.

† † † † †

### New Rota of Ministries

The new rota runs from 29 January to and including 14 May 2017. This period includes Easter. Please let me know your NON-AVAILABLE dates by 18 January. You can contact me on [frangrant235@btinternet.com](mailto:frangrant235@btinternet.com) or on 01432 266307. Many thanks for your help.

*Fran Grant*

† † † † †

Please pray for the repose of the souls of **Brian Hayes, Cornelius Linehan and Brigid Smith** who died recently. May they rest in peace.

† † † † †

**Emmaus Youth** are next meeting at Our Lady's Parish Hall, 2-5 pm on Saturday 28th January. You are invited to share in some Praise and Worship, Liturgy and then some 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



### **DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

13 January  
Church Cleaning  
9 am

17 January  
Tea & Chat  
2:30 Parish Hall

29 January  
Pay & Collect  
Tesco Vouchers

1 April  
Jumble Sale  
12:00  
At OLQM



### **Tea and Chat**

will be resuming on January 17th 2017, then 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 Center at 2.30pm until 4.00pm. 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.



The **parish First Holy Communion programme** will be beginning in the New Year. The children are prepared by parishioners who have a great love for the Eucharist and who wish to pass on their love and understanding to the next generation of Catholics. The family, the school and the priest also have an important role to play in preparing the children. The children will make their First Holy Communion in early summer 2017 and there will be a series of preparatory classes which take place usually on Saturday mornings. Parents who would like their children (Year 3 and above) to be considered for First Holy Communion next Summer should speak to Fr Nicholas or Jacqui & Rob Corrigan.



### **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!



**The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity**, which begins on Wednesday, 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. The theme for 2017 was proposed by the churches in Germany based around 2 Corinthians 5:14-20. This announces that God has, in Christ, reconciled the world to himself. The love of Christ compels us to be ambassadors of this reconciliation, which is enacted by dismantling the walls. With the fall of the Berlin Wall, Germany experienced how a seemingly insurmountable wall could be brought down. The fall of this wall is a symbol of hope that, with the love of God, nothing is impossible.



### **Week of Prayer for Christian Unity**

The Week of Prayer provides a wonderful opportunity for discussion and prayer with other Christians. The theme is about Crossing Barriers and

is prepared by the churches in Germany. There will be daytime prayers and discussion from Wednesday 18 January to Wednesday 25 January (except for Sunday) at the Acres, Pontrilas Road HR2 0EN (Pam Wright's house) from 11.30 am to 12.15 pm. On Sunday 22 January at 3.00pm there will be a special service (followed by refreshments) at the Baptist Chapel.



### **HOMILY**

"I saw the Spirit coming down on him from heaven and resting on him."

### **Illustration**

In 2005 Pax Christi UK, part of the international Catholic movement for peace, held a celebration in London to mark its sixtieth anniversary. During a special service the participants recommitted themselves to the mission of peacemaking. It was decided to have them sprinkled with water from the River Jordan, where Jesus is believed to have been baptised by John the Baptist two thousand years ago as a prelude to his public ministry. The then Latin Patriarch of Jerusalem, Michel Sabbah, who was President of Pax Christi International, was attending the event and his office sent in advance a bottle of rather cloudy-looking water.

So, using an olive branch, this water from the River Jordan was sprinkled over the congregation of several hundred people. As the Patriarch moved up and down the aisles, all around were peace banners and badges with the symbol of the dove of peace. The people present reflected on their peace work – on protests against war and arms trading, on religious education work examining the causes of conflict and the Gospel imperative for peace, and on liturgies and vigils where people prayed for peace. A number of them asked afterwards if they could have the residue Jordan water left in the bowl, so significant did they feel it was that this was water from the actual river where Jesus was baptised.

### **Gospel Teaching**

The baptism of Jesus in the River Jordan, which John the Baptist speaks of to his followers in today's Gospel, was a moment when the world was changed for ever. Jesus was revealed as the second person of the Holy Trinity – the Son of God – as the Spirit descended upon him and the voice of God called from the heavens. At the same time, Jesus was revealed as the suffering servant of Isaiah, whom we heard about in our first reading – God's instrument for establishing a new world of justice and peace.

Elsewhere the Gospels tell us that John the Baptist didn't think it was necessary – or even appropriate – for him to baptise Jesus, who was more powerful than himself. And besides, John's baptism required confession of sins and Jesus was without sin. Yet Jesus insisted. Jesus was baptised in solidarity with the people, taking on the life of the people for the purpose of redemption. John tells us that the Spirit not only descended upon Jesus but rested with him. It is not simply the inspiration of a fleeting moment; it is something far more lasting. For John the Baptist, this was the sign that Jesus was "the Chosen One of God". Jesus was the beloved Son of God and he would be faithful to his Father, no matter what, for the rest of his short life. We too have his lasting presence through the Spirit. God, our creator, continues creating through us and with us to bring about the fulfilment of God's kingdom.

### **Application**

So what does all this mean for us? As followers of Jesus we share in the baptism of Christ, the ministry of Christ, the death of Christ and the resurrection of Christ. That means that, just as God said to Jesus, "You are my beloved," God says to each one of us, "You are my beloved." This is amazing. God loves us and affirms us. God has chosen us too.

What does all this mean for the world? God loves each one of us personally, individually and globally with an unconditional love. So if each one of us is a beloved son or daughter of God, like Jesus, that means each one of us is the beloved brother and sister of all God's children, which means every human being on the planet is our beloved sister or brother, whether a child playing somewhere in China, or a woman making breakfast in Brazil, or a goat herder in the Sudan, or a family in the Philippines, or children in Iraq. Everyone is our sister or brother, so we are called never to hurt anyone.

Once we enter into the spiritual life of baptism, we will not participate in the world's violence. From now on we love everyone the way God loves us. We are God's beloved, so, like Jesus, we are called to treat one another as God's beloved. Life is good and precious and wonderful, so why waste it on negativity, resentment and cruelty? Instead, let us live out our baptismal promises and share God's love and peace with everyone everywhere.

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### St Wulstan

Wulfstan (1008-1095) + Bishop and reformer, also called Wulstan and Wolstan. Born at Long-Itchington,

Warwickshire, England, he studied at the abbeys of Evesham and Peterborough, received ordination, and joined the Benedictines at Worcester. Wulfstan served as treasurer of the church at Worcester, was prior of the monastery, and finally was named bishop of Worcester in 1062. 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.

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**Ministers, etc. For next Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> January- 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in OT Year A - Cycle 1**

	<b>08:30</b>	<b>09:30</b>	<b>11:00</b>
Celebrant	Fr Nicholas		Fr Nicholas
Welcomers	Kath Parry	Clare Wichbold	Hackman Family
Sacristan			Jeremy Hogan
1 <sup>st</sup> Reading	Adrian Eyre	Clare Nickerson	Monica Tomlin
2 <sup>nd</sup> Reading	Fran Grant		Sally Johns
Bidding Prayers	Jacqui Ramage-S		Marje Hayes
Offertory	Ramage-H Family	Anthea Morton-S & Menna McBain	
Extraordinary Ministers	Fran Smallwood & Julia Davey		Jan Wyman & Gabrielle Stanley

**Next Sunday - Parish Outreach (Acorns Children's Hospice)**

<p><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>15-Jan</b>	Andrew Morawiecki & R Cowdrey
	<b>22-Jan</b>	Jacqui Corrigan & Monica Russell
	<b>29-Jan</b>	Pat Wood & Jan Wyman
	<b>5 Feb</b>	Jackie King & Mary Wood
<b>12-Feb</b>	<b>No Children's Liturgy</b>	

Please pray for all who have died: **May they rest in peace.** (W/C 15 Jan)

**Deaths:** Bridgid Smith, Cornelius Linehan, Brian Hayes, Wendy Lyle Cameron and Brian Holbery.

**Anniversaries:** William Donegan, Anthony Stokes, Mary Bower, Christopher Bates, Helen Bates, Bernard Berto, Gwendolin Massey-Lynch, Dom Laurence Maxwell, Kevin McGinn, Dorothy Passmore, Frances Roebuck, Jennifer Snell, Gerard Wakelam, Fanny West, Alice Locans and Caroline Martin.

**The Sick:** Please pray for: Rachel George, Norma Naudain, Marnie Archer, Ann Thomas, Mary Smith, Fr Michael Cronin, Sheila Langford, Dominique Wetz, Marie Williams, Sally Hayward, Stephen Fisher, Gordon Wilson, 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.

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

**Liturgy for Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> January 2017** *Cycle A; Weekdays: Cycle 1 (Wk 2)*

<p><b>2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday</b> <b>In</b> <b>Ordinary</b> <b>Time</b></p>	<p><b>Entrance:</b> 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><b>Acclamation:</b> Save us Saviour of the world .....</p> <p><b>Communion:</b> 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	09:30 am	11:00 am
Celebrant	Fr Nicholas		Fr Nicholas
Welcomer	Annette Mansie	Patrick Walesby	Rita Chamberlain & Marnie Archer
Sacristan			Rob Corrigan
1 <sup>st</sup> Reading	Adrian Eyre	Basil Nickerson	Jennifer Hackman
2 <sup>nd</sup> Reading	Fran Grant		Margaret Rose
Bidding Prayer	Jacqui Ramage-S		Tony Archer
Offertory	Hayes Family	Frances Riddell & Teresa Harriss	
Extra-Ordinary Minister(s)	Seamus Hayes & Gabrielle Stanley		Chris Moore & Rob Corrigan
Mass Intention		<i>Benefactors &amp; Parishioners</i>	<i>Evans Family unit</i>

**Second Collection - Parish Outreach (White Flower SPUC)**

**Food Bank Delivery: Ray & Margaret Rose**

<b>What's On for the week</b>	
Mon	<b>Feria:</b> Mass at 8:00 am
Tue	<b>St Antony of Egypt:</b> Mass at 8:00 am
Wed	<b>Feria:</b> Mass at 8:00 am:Midday Mass in Oratory:Tridentine Mass at 7:00 pm
Thu	<b>St Wulstan:</b> Mass at 8:00 am: Requiem Mass for Brian Hayes 2:00 pm
Fri	<b>Feria:</b> Mass at 8:00 am: Exposition at 11 and Midday Mass in Oratory
Sat	<b>St Agnes:</b> Mass at 8:00 am: Reconciliation at 10:00 am