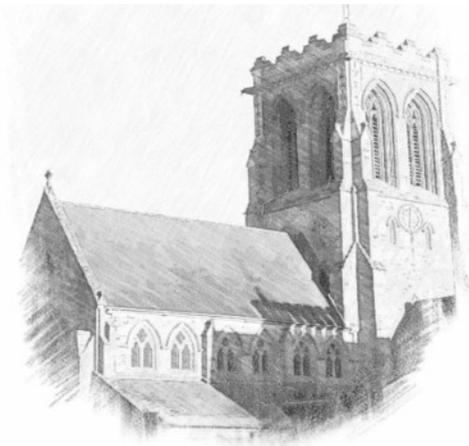


St Michael and All Angels Belmont Abbey



PARISH NEWSLETTER

Pentecost

15th May 2016
(Cycle C)

PARISH PRIEST

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Items for the Newsletter to
admin@belmontparish.org.uk
or The Parish Office

Pentecost celebrates the outpouring of the Holy Spirit as described in the Acts of the Apostles. Fifty Days after Jesus' resurrection the apostles were gathered together probably wondering "what's next" when the Holy Spirit rested upon them and they began to boldly proclaim the Gospel of the Risen Lord. Pentecost is also the Greek name for the Jewish Feast of Weeks, falling on the 50th day of Passover.

This feast also commemorates the occasion when the earthly Church of Christ began its apostolic mission to the ends of the world. Pentecost is the first time the apostles feel able to launch out on their own. Today is truly when the apostles are commissioned to go out and take the Good News about Jesus Christ to all people. The message for us here is the same. All of us who have been baptised have received the gift of the Holy Spirit and it is for us to realise this gift and share the gospel message with those about us.

Next Sunday, at the 11am Mass, we will welcome Archbishop Stack to Belmont Abbey when he will celebrate the sacrament of Confirmation. Please pray for our candidates and their families.

Fr Nicholas

Last Sunday's	1 st Collection	£251.26
	Standing Orders	£412.48
The 1 st collection goes towards the maintenance of our Abbey church and parish, diocesan levies and other related costs.		
	2 nd Collection	£227.61
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 <i>World Communication Day. Thank you!</i>		



Hospital Dilemma for Chaplains

It almost goes without saying that most Catholics in hospital would like, and expect, a visit from the Catholic chaplain/priest and sacramental support. An unfortunate consequence of the Data Protection Act 1998 is that chaplains no longer have right of access to information about patients' religious affiliation. They rely entirely on commendations from patients, their families and friends and hospital staff. Unless you as a patient, or someone from the family tells them, they cannot know you are there and cannot visit you. So if you are going into hospital or you know someone who is going to be admitted and would like a visit, please inform the hospital catholic chaplain or your parish priest. If you are not sure on how to contact him, please ask the

staff nurse on the work, the hospital switchboard or your parish priest.



Belmont Annual Garden Fete

Five weeks only until the Fete!! Once again we are asking for your help in presenting a wonderful Garden Fete, even better than last year.

It would be great if all the gardeners out there would start growing some plants for the flower stall and if you need small pots for your seedlings - we have a lot of them to give away.

We also need clean and ironed "Nearly New" Clothes. And as always we need bric-a-brac and books, soft toys and children's toys so we can make a great success with these stalls.

If you have an idea for a different stall or have any questions or are willing to help run a stall, especially the games please contact Kath Parry on 01981 250304.

We also need items for the **Grand Tombola:** unwanted presents etc. This is a popular stall and at the moment we have very little for it.

As was mentioned earlier, if every parishioner could bring in just one bottle or even two - we could hit the 400 bottles that the Bottle stall needs.

At the moment we have no jewellery or nice handbags for this stall. So if you have anything that you no longer need or use, please pass them on to us.

Please leave all items for the Fete in the Parish Porch not the Glass Porch. Closer to the date we will ask you for help with items for the Tea Tent.

Draw tickets are now on sale. Please take some to sell to friends and neighbours. Many thanks for your help!



150 Club - May

- 1st Peter Lee
- 2nd Ann Loader
- 3rd Jen Hackman



Forthcoming Marriages at Belmont Abbey

Sat 4th June Hugh Loughrey & Carley Yapp



Parking

Drivers are asked to respect the disabled parking areas – especially on a Sunday!

Parish Centre – unless you are dropping something off at the parish cen-

tre, please park in the car parks adjacent to the Parish House rather than on the road in front.



Tea & Chat

The next date for Tea & Chat is Tuesday June 21st. Anyone who would like to meet others over a drink and slice of cake, and a good chat will be very welcome. These meetings are proving very popular so don't be shy. Come along, bring your knitting or anything else and enjoy the company of others. All meetings start at 2.30 pm and finish around 4.00 pm.



HEREFORD CATHOLIC HISTORY SOCIETY

Please note that the next meeting of the HCHS will be on Wednesday 25th May in the Kemble Room at Belmont Abbey at 2:30 pm when we will have a talk by Gordon Amand on “Reginald Charles Schomberg (1880-1958), soldier, explorer, diplomat, priest and parishioner of St. Frances of Rome, Ross-on-Wye.” Visitors welcome. Further info from bmwarde@aol.com



Parish Deanery Representative

Would any one like to take on the role of Parish representative to the Dean-

ery pastoral Council? There are usually four evening meetings a year, generally held at Our Lady's Church hall. Please see Fr Nicholas or Chris Moore for more details.



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Tuesday 17 May
2:30 pm
Tea & Chat

Sunday 22 May
Confirmation Mass
11:00 am

Friday 27 May
Church Cleaning
9:00 am

Queen's Jubilee Picnic
12 June

Belmont Grand Fete
18 June

Tuesday 21 June
2:30 pm
Tea & Chat

16 July
Grandparents' and
Grandchildren's Day



Eucharistic Adoration

Friday 27th May - Sunday 29th May
Poor Clare Monastery
See poster for details



**The Queen's 90th Birthday Picnic
June 12th 2016**

It would be good if Belmont Parish could take part in the Picnics that are being organised to celebrate the Queen's 90th Birthday. Perhaps we could have a shared table, with everyone attending bringing a plate of food, i.e. cold meat, sausage rolls, cheese, baguettes, ready-made sandwiches etc. If we all bring enough to feed ourselves, then share it with others this should not make too much work, especially as we have the Garden Fete the following Saturday. The food could be put on tables in the Parish Centre spilling out onto the Presbytery Front Garden if the weather is fine. This could take place at 12:30 pm ish, until we want to go home. The TV in the Parish Centre would be on to watch the festivities in London.





Hereford Food Bank Coffee Morning

At The Deanery, College Cloisters, Hereford, Tuesday 31st May 10.00 — 12.00. The Dean, Michael Tavinor, and the Hereford Food Bank cordially invite you to a coffee morning to be held in the Deanery's lovely gardens. In the event of rain we will be relocating to College Hall. Come and enjoy: Coffee and cakes, lovely gardens, cake stall, Raffle. No entrance charge — donations welcome.



Homily

"We hear them preaching in our own language about the marvels of God."

Illustration

Anyone who attempts to describe the natural world will sooner or later find it difficult to put what is seen or experienced into words. Confronted by the grandeur of a mountain range, the tranquillity of a starlit sea or a flock of migrating birds soaring into the evening sky, it may be hard for us to find the words to describe their beauty. Yet, in his book *Landmarks*, Robert Macfarlane shows that language has a power, "in strong style and single words", to "shape our sense of space".

He gathers over three thousand words accumulated over the centuries "from dozens of languages and dialects for specific aspects of landscape, nature and weather". (And these are only from Britain and Ireland.) In Shetland, "pirr" means "a light breath of wind, such as will make a cat's paw on the water"; then there is "klett", meaning "a low-lying earth-fast rock on the seashore". "Summer geese" in Yorkshire are not geese at all but "steam that rises from the moor when rain is followed by hot sun". Just one word in the Sussex dialect, "smeuse", describes the "gap in the base of a hedge made by the regular passage of a small animal".

Gospel Teaching

Some might ask, "Wouldn't it be easier if we spoke the same language?" but others might answer, "How boring that would be!" If we go to the book of Genesis we find the story of the Tower of Babel, which presents a world in which all people *do* speak the same language with the same vocabulary. However, when they settle and build a city and tower they do so to "make a name" for themselves; and God reacts to their pride by confusing their language so that they cannot understand each other. It is an ancient legend about the origin of different languages, but clothed by the writer of Genesis with a theological meaning, namely, that their sin of pride has its cause in the

disruption brought about by the original sin of Adam. The result is the alienation of men and women from God and from one another.

In complete contrast is today's first reading with its account of the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. The apostles are no longer terrified and in hiding after Jesus' crucifixion, but, driven by what seems like a powerful wind from heaven and tongues of fire, they go out into the market square proclaiming the marvels of God. The people are from many foreign places but everyone hears and understands in his or her own language what is being said. It signifies a reversal of the confusion of language in the story of Babel and the beginning of humanity's restoration to unity.

Even more, it inaugurates the fulfilment of Jesus' promise in today's Gospel to ask the Father to give his followers "another Advocate to be with you for ever". The first Advocate is Jesus himself. The Holy Spirit is the Advocate "whom the Father will send in my name". "Advocate" is derived from the Latin word *vocatus* ("call") and primarily refers to a judicial advocate who is called to help a person conduct a case, or prepare a defence, before a court. Another biblical word used of the Spirit is "Paraclete", with a similar meaning:

"called to the side" of one in need of help, especially in a legal process. Though the words are not used here in a legal sense they express the Holy Spirit's mission of being with us as our helper, to teach and guide us in the truth. The action of the Holy Spirit explains the change in the apostles at Pentecost and their ability to preach as they did.

Application

Not only is the Spirit of God our helper but also, as Paul says in the second reading, he has "made his home" in us. The source of this divine life of the Spirit within us is the Father "who raised Jesus from the dead". Having received the gift of the Spirit we are called to live "spiritual lives". An example given in the first letter of Peter is that we are to "speak in words which seem to come from God".

We may lack the power to describe the beauty of God's creation, but with the help of the Holy Spirit we can speak in words that bring love, healing and reconciliation. When the words are accompanied by actions of self-giving they will be understood and accepted, whatever the language of the recipient.



Ministers, etc. For next Sunday - Holy Trinity - 22nd May Year C			
	08:30	09:30	11:00
Celebrant	Fr Nicholas		Fr Nicholas
Welcomers	Cooper Family	Brenda Warde	Anne & Ross Williams
Sacristan			Rob Corrigan
1 st Reading	Fran Grant	Patrick Walesby	Confirmandi
2 nd Reading	Julia Davey		Confirmandi
Bidding Prayers	William Jackson		Confirmandi
Offertory	Children's Liturgy	Frances Riddell & Teresa Harriss	Confirmandi
Extraordinary Ministers	Frances Dees & Gabrielle Stanley		Jane Davies
Next Sunday -Parish Outreach			

<p>One Foot in the Grave <i>June 10-12 (2 Days Reg Fee £26)</i> <i>How do we enter the latter part of life with a modicum of humour and good grace?</i> <i>Abbot Paul Stonham</i></p>	CHILDREN'S LITURGY	
	8.30 am Children's Liturgy - 22 May	
	11.00 am Liturgy	
	15-May	A Morawiecki & Pauline Gill
	22-May	Pat Wood & R Blackburn
	05-Jun	Marje Hayes & Rachel Cowdrey
12-Jun	Jackie King & Mary Wood	

Please pray for all who have died: **May they rest in peace.**

Deaths: *Bernard Clayton, Sue Ball, Mary Carroll, John Wallin and John Keeler*

Anniversaries: *Jeffrey James Ardoino, Emily Bray, Leslie Norman Jackson, Mary Webster, Kenneth Worthington, Simon Cox, Dom Philip Owen, Robert Phillips, Mary Wegg-Prosser, David Bridges, Beatrice Donovan, Bro Sylvester Sullivan, Edna Wood, Elijah Hodges, Daniel Stokes, Gordon Surrell, Abbot Alphege Gleeson OSB, Patricia Hunn and Dom Placid Smith osb.*

The Sick: Please pray for: *Lesley Hayes, David Kinsey, Polly Maund-Powell, Denise Ellis, Lillian Allsopp, Duncan Sykes, Margaret O'Connor, Kenny Hanna, Peter Lee, Fr Luke, Shirley Brymer, Valerie Blake, Sr Trish, Edward Medicott, Bridie Gittoes, Sr Philipa, Teresa Chowles, Elaine White, Edna Ledford, 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 15th May Sunday Cycle C; Weekdays: Cycle 2 (Wk 7 OT)

<p><i>THE FEAST OF PENTECOST</i></p>	<p>Entrance: The Spirit of the Lord has filled the whole world and that which contains all things understands what is said, alleluia.</p> <p>Acclamation: Save us Saviour of the world...</p> <p>Communion: They were filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke of the marvels of God, alleluia.</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	Kath Parry	Marion Luscombe	Morawiecki Family
Sacristan			Chris Moore
1 st Reading	Jacqui R-Smith	Basil Nickerson	Jennifer Hackman
2 nd Reading	Richard Batho		Liz Morawiecki
Bidding Prayer	Mary Hayes		Sally Johns
Offertory	Hayes Family	Margaret Campbell & Maria Large	
Extra-Ordinary Minister(s)	Kath Parry & Fran Smallwood		Stephen Fisher
Mass Intention		Pro Populo	Don Rose RIP
Second Collection - Parish Outreach			
Food Bank Delivery: Jan & Eddie Wyman			

<i>What's On for the week</i>	
Mon	Feria: Mass at 8:00 am
Tue	Feria: Mass at 8:00 am
Wed	Feria: Mass at 8:00 am: Midday Mass in the Oratory: Tridentine Mass at 7 pm
Thu	Sts Dunstan, Oswald & Ethelworld: Mass at 8:00 am.
Fri	St Etherlbert: Mass at 8:00 am: Exposition & Midday Mass in the Oratory
Sat	BVM: Mass at 8:00 am: Reconciliation at 10:00 am