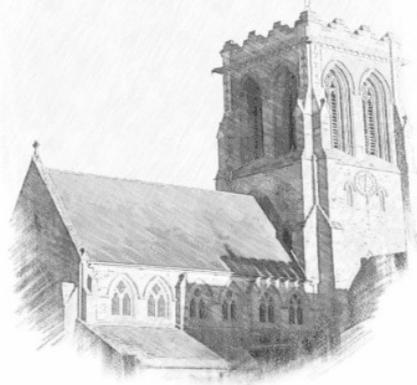


# ***St Michael and All Angels Belmont Abbey***



PARISH NEWSLETTER

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

**28<sup>th</sup> Week Ordinary Time**

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The Gospel today, whilst reminding us of our invitation to the heavenly banquet, finishes on a difficult note. We are reminded, through the ejection of the guest not wearing his wedding attire, not to be complacent or take for granted the great gift offered to each of us. If we take up the Lord's invitation we must still make sure that we are properly prepared. There are three possibilities for us in this parable. Are we the invited guests who choose not to attend? Are we those who do not prepare for the feast? Are we those who accept eagerly, prepare and enjoy the feast? Remember Jesus' words at the end of the gospel: "Many are called, but few are chosen".

Today's second collection is for the charity CBM, formerly known as the 'Christian Blind Mission'. Today the charity has grown into one of the world's leading disability and development organisations, working across the developing world and supporting people with all types of disability. Established by the missionary Ernst Christoffel over a century ago, the charity continues his passion for putting Jesus' love into action and for providing hope and opportunity to blind and disabled people.

Fr Nicholas is away on his summer holiday but back tomorrow!

Don't forget tea and coffee are available in Hedley Lodge after the 8:30 and 9:30 Masses and in Parish Hall after 11 Mass.

*Fr Nicholas*

Last Sunday's	1 <sup>st</sup> Collection	<b>£313.40</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>£454.51</b>
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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: **CAFOD**.  
**Thank You!**



**Parish Outreach** - During October, our second collections will be for Cafod (8 Oct), the CBM Charity, formerly known as the Christian Blind Mission (15 Oct), the annual mandatory collection on World Mission Sunday (22 Oct) and a collection supporting Catholic education on 29 Oct.



**Thank You**

To all who helped make the Jumble Sale such a success. Hard work but again we raised a goodly amount. As we could now do with a break please **DO NOT** bring anything for either jumble or fete until we ask you again. Many thanks.



**Hereford Food Bank** is in desperate need of the following: Rice, Fish, Soup,

Baked beans, Tinned cold meat, Smash, UHT Milk, Baby formula milk, Baby washing products - shampoo, soap, wipes, Shampoo and Shower gel. Many thanks.



**DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

3 October  
Diamond Diners  
The Three Horseshoes  
12:45

17 October  
Tea & Chat - Parish Hall  
2:30 - 4:00 pm

20 October  
Church Cleaning  
9:00

29 October  
Collect & Pay  
For Tesco Vouchers

17 November  
Quiz Night  
Hedley Lodge  
6:45 for 7:00 pm

23 November  
Rise Theatre  
Hedley Lodge 7:30 pm

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### RED MISSIO BOXES

It is collection time again, please give your red boxes to your promoter or give them to me at church, I go to the 8.30 mass but can wait to meet you at the start of the 9.30 if that helps. Please hand them in by 29 October.

If there is a problem and you'd like me to come and collect from you just give me a ring on 01885 488388.

If you would like a Red Box and you haven't already got one again contact me and I can issue you with one.

Every bit helps for this charity so please do not be embarrassed if you only have a small amount your box.

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### Hereford Hospital Chaplaincy

If you have a relative or fellow parishioner in hospital and you know they would like to be visited by Fr. Matthew then please contact him with the details of the person concerned – H. 265177 or [fr.matthew@live.co.uk](mailto:fr.matthew@live.co.uk). Patient details are now available, but it would be prudent to let Fr Matthew know.

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**Emmaus Youth** next meet on Saturday 18 November from 2:30-

5:30 at Our Lady's parish hall. Come and join us for some fun!! Rob & Jacqui Corrigan, Annie Ridgway & Ben Aldridge 01432 352241;07739 566578 [jacqui.corrigan@btopenworld.com](mailto:jacqui.corrigan@btopenworld.com) or [emmausyouth@hotmail.com](mailto:emmausyouth@hotmail.com)

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### Parish finances

If you would like Standing Order or Gift Aid forms, or would like more information about our other revenue projects (Tesco Vouchers, 150 Club etc.) please speak to Fr Nicholas or put your name on the information request sheet in the porch.

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In two weeks time the old £1 coin will cease to be legal tender. I suggest you search those bottom drawers and down the back of sofas for all these old coins. Please do not put them in collection bags after 8<sup>th</sup> October as the banks will no longer accept them.

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### TODAY

There will be a concert of Russian religious and folk music by the famous Russian choir VOSKRESH. It's this Sunday at 3 pm in the Abbey Church.

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## Christmas Shoebox Appeal

This year's Shoebox Appeal is now under way, leaflets are available in the porch. Please help spread the message of Christmas and change a child's life this year. A few small items and a lot of love are all that is required, surely we can each do that? If you need any help, advice, an empty shoebox or if you feel unable to fill a whole box but would like to contribute something, please speak to Kitty Nicholls. The deadline for completed boxes will be in the middle of November.



Many thanks to all who contributed in any way to our **Macmillan Coffee** event last Friday. We had an enjoyable afternoon and raised £220.00 for this very worthwhile cause.

*Jan Wyman*



## TRIANON MUSIC GROUP

On Thursday, 26th October, at 7.30 pm in the Abbey Church the Trianon Music Group from Cambridge will be giving a concert of choral and instrumental music.

There will be over 60 performers. Admission is free, but there will be a "retiring collection" towards the work of the Belmont Community in Peru. All are welcome



## Hereford Cathedral Songs of Praise

Many thanks to the parishioners who participated in the recording session at the cathedral. Over 600 people attended, which was wonderful! The programme for which most of the hymns were recorded will be broadcast on Sunday 29 October. The remainder will be part of other programmes being broadcast for Advent and Lent.



## THE HEREFORDSHIRE CATHOLIC HISTORY SOCIETY

The next meeting of The Herefordshire Catholic History Society will take place on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> November in the Kemble Room, Belmont Abbey at 2.30 pm when we will have a talk entitled: **How did they cope? "Ordinary Catholics" in Herefordshire c1580- the Civil War.** All welcome. Further information [bmwarde@aol.com](mailto:bmwarde@aol.com).



## Proclaim '17 - Archdiocese of Cardiff Evangelisation Conference

Saturday 21st October, St David's College, Cardiff

Come and be equipped to share the Gospel! This conference will give you practical steps forward in pursuing the Church's mission - to make disciples of all nations. After a keynote address from Archbishop Bernard Longley of Birmingham, we will be split into the five tracks that are designed to meet the needs of all parishes at different stages; Evangelising as an Individual, Teams for Mission - What can we do first?, The Unchurched, Non-Churchgoing Catholics, and Growing Parishioners into Disciples. Each track consists of a seminar and workshop which will inspire you but also give you practical help and resources as you take up the Church's mission. To book and for further information please go to [www.tinyurl.com/cardiffproclaim](http://www.tinyurl.com/cardiffproclaim).



## Homily

*"The wedding hall was filled with guests."*

### *Illustration*

It is hard to imagine that anyone receiving an invitation to a royal wedding would refuse to go. When Prince William married Catherine Middleton in 2011 guests naturally included their own families, members of other royal families, religious and political leaders; but, breaking with precedent, half the guests were friends from their childhood and

university days, as well as representatives of charities they supported, celebrities and some people who would never have expected an invitation. As everyone present at dinner was deemed "equally important" to the couple, the tables were a mix of royals, family members and friends.

Only fifteen of the two thousand invitees declined, most of them through ill health. The Crown Prince and Princess of Japan could not come because their country had been hit by earthquake and tsunami. And the Prince of Liechtenstein was attending the beatification of John Paul II, which clashed with the wedding.

### *Gospel Teaching*

In today's Gospel Jesus presents a strange story about a royal wedding. Servants delivered personal invitations to the wedding of a king's son, but no one turned up. When the banquet was ready the king sent more servants to tell them to come. But they made limp excuses, beat up the servants and killed them. Then the story becomes really bizarre. The furious king dispatched troops to burn down the town where these murderers lived. After that, by which time the food on the table must have been stone cold, he sent another lot of servants out into the streets to fetch in anyone at all, good and bad alike, until the hall was filled with guests.

The theme is the familiar one of the failure of God's chosen people to

respond to what God expected of them, and their replacement by others who did. It is a peculiar story, but those who first heard it would know some things we may not. They would know that the first servants sent out were the prophets Moses, Elijah, Elisha and others, whose message was ignored. The second lot of servants were more prophets, like Isaiah, who, in the first reading, talked about God preparing a banquet of rich food and fine wines for all people. The prophets made heartfelt appeals for men and women to repent and accept God's invitation to enter the kingdom of God, but they were scorned, ill-treated and some of them were killed. The sending of the troops to burn up the city while the food was on the table refers to the tragedy of AD 70: the destruction of Jerusalem by the Romans and the massacre of its inhabitants, which Jesus warned would happen because of their rejection of God's kingdom. The first readers of St Matthew's Gospel would have had vivid memories of it.

After that, the servants went out along the roads and invited anyone they could find, good and bad alike; people who would never have expected an invitation. These Gentiles responded to their invitation with joy, and the wedding hall was filled with guests.

#### *Application*

These last servants who travelled the roads to bring in guests were the

apostles and missionaries of the Church. The king told his servants to "go", the same word used later in Matthew's Gospel when Jesus tells the apostles to "go" and make disciples of all nations. They travelled beyond Jerusalem into Gentile lands, to Europe, Asia, Africa and eventually America and Australia. And they are still going out, these missionaries, priests, sisters and lay people, suffering hardships as Paul, in the second reading, told us he did, inviting men and women into the kingdom of God. And all of us in different ways are part of that mission of spreading the Gospel.

The beauty of this parable is that it presents the kingdom of God as a wedding banquet, highly desirable and attractive. Moreover, the Lord freely invites us to be his guests. We do not have to be worthy; we couldn't be worthy of God's invitation. God invites both the good and the bad. God wants us all to be there. But why was an unfortunate man thrown out for not wearing a wedding garment? At baptism a white garment is put on. We are clothed in Christ. It is a salutary reminder that we are called to grow into the likeness of Christ we have put on, and live the Gospel life.



<b>Ministers, etc. for next <u>Sunday 22 October - 29 Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A - Cycle 1</u></b>			
	<b>08:30</b>	<b>9:30</b>	<b>11:00</b>
Celebrant	Fr Nicholas		Fr Nicholas
Welcomers	Hayes Family	Nickerson Family	Rita Chamberlain & Monica Russell
Sacristan			Tony Archer
1 <sup>st</sup> Reading	Mary Hayes	Clare Nickerson	Jacqui Corrigan
2 <sup>nd</sup> Reading	Ann Jackson		Monica Tomlin
Bidding Prayers	Julia Davey		Margaret Rose
Offertory	Parish Children	Gillick Family	
Extraordinary Ministers	Frances Dees & Kath Parry		David Wood & Gabrielle Stanley
<b>Next Sunday - Parish Outreach (World Mission Sunday)</b>			

<b>Anniversaries</b>	<b>CHILDREN'S LITURGY</b>		
	These are noted below. Our week starts on Sunday- the anniversaries include all those which occurred on the Sunday date to the following Saturday.	15 -Oct	No Children's Liturgy
		22 Oct	No Children's Liturgy
		29-Oct	No Children's Liturgy
		05-Nov	Pat Wood & Rob Blackburn
		12-Nov	Jacqui Corrigan & Jan Wyman

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

**Deaths:** Rachel George, R D Anthony osb, Jo Berry, Kevin Hanna and Sr Phillipa.

**Anniversaries:** Malcolm Brymer, Florence Conolly, Ada Hewer, RD Ildephonsus Flannery osb, John Cotterell, Jos O'Farrell, Christopher Fookes, Anne McManus, Teresa Nicholls, Ida Mary Osborne and Elizabeth Scullion.

**The Sick:** Please pray for: Teresa Ingarfield, Liz Norman, Basil Nickerson, Sally Johns, Sam Evans, Denise Ellis, Carol Baines, Michael Kennedy, Chris & Sue Rogers, Peter Draper, Norma Naudain, Ann Thomas, Dominique Wetz, Marie Williams, Sally Hayward, Lillian Allsopp, Kenny Hanna, Shirley Brymer, Edward Medlicott, Elaine White, Joanne Savory, Dame Catherine, Vincent Hanna and Sadie Bowyer.

**Liturgy for Sunday 15 October 2017** *Cycle A; Weekdays: Cycle 1 (Wk 28)*

<p><b>28<sup>th</sup> Week</b></p> <p><b>In</b></p> <p><b>Ordinary Time</b></p>	<p><b>Entrance:</b> If you, O Lord, should mark our iniquities, Lord, who could stand? But with you is found forgiveness, O God of Israel.</p> <p><b>Acclamation:</b> Save us Saviour of the world .....</p> <p><b>Communion:</b> The rich suffer want and go hungry, but those who seek the Lord lack no blessing.</p>
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<b>Principal Celebrants, Extraordinary Ministers, Readers, etc.</b>			
	08:30 am	9:30 am	11:00 am
Celebrant	Fr Jonathan		Fr Jonathan
Welcomer	Kath Parry	Desmond Keohane	Ross & Anne Williams
Sacristan			Chris Moore
1 <sup>st</sup> Reading	Fran Smallwood	Clare Wichbold	Sergio Pavia
2 <sup>nd</sup> Reading	Fran Grant		Niamh Coyle
Bidding Prayer	Richard Batho		Pat Wood
Offertory	Ramage-H Family	Maria Large & Menna McBain	
Extra-Ordinary Minister(s)	Jacqui Ramage-S & Julia Davey		Gabrielle Stanley & Monica Tomlin
Mass Intention		<b>Pro Populo</b>	
<b>Second Collection - Christian Blind Mission</b>			
<b>Food Bank Collection: Eddie and Jan Wyman</b>			

<b>What's On for the week</b>	
Mon	<b>Feria:</b> Mass at 8:00 am
Tue	<b>St Ignatius of Antioch:</b> Mass at 8:00 am
Wed	<b>St Luke:</b> Mass at 8:00 am: Midday Mass in Oratory: Tridentine Mass at 7 pm
Thu	<b>Feria:</b> Mass at 8:00 am
Fri	<b>Feria:</b> Mass at 8:00 am: Exposition at 11 followed by Midday Mass
Sat	<b>BVM:</b> Mass at 8:00 am: Reconciliation at 10:00 am