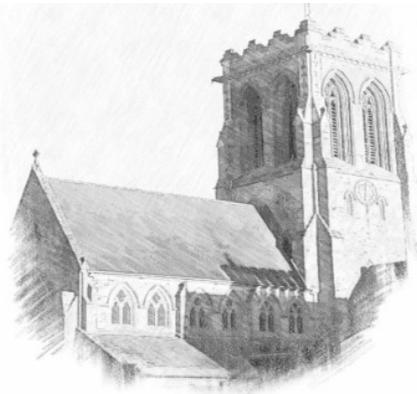


St Michael and All Angels Belmont Abbey



PARISH NEWSLETTER

16 July 2017

**15th Sunday in
Ordinary Time**

PARISH PRIEST

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Congratulations to all our young people who made their First Holy Communion last Sunday. It was a very special occasion. A special thank you to our catechists Jacqui & Rob Corrigan for all their hard work over the last few months.

We are planning to hold a parish lunch on Sunday 6th August to say thank you to our parishioners who help in one way or another. If you help with the liturgy, fund raising, parish administration or one of the other many ways that keep our parish going – then please come along to our lunch. The weather will determine whether it's inside or out! Please complete one of the forms in the porch if you would like to come along.

We have made a few changes to the Parish Graveyard Policy. Copies of the new guidelines are available in the porch.

The second collection today is for the Martha Trust in Hereford. The Martha Trust was established in 1996, as a registered charity, to provide lifelong and respite care for young people with profound intellectual and physical disabilities.

Fr Nicholas

Last Sunday's	1 st Collection	£398.68
	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	£262.28
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: Apostleship of the Sea. Thank You!		



During July, our parish outreach second collection will be going to the Apostleship of the Sea (9th July), the Hereford Martha Trust Disabled Children's Charity (16th July), the Hereford Food Bank Appeal (July 23rd) and Hereford Close House (30th July).



Summer Lunch Party

For all Parish Volunteers

Sunday 6th August

See front page



The Herefordshire Catholic History Society

The next meeting of the HCHS takes place on Thursday 27 July in the

Kemble Room, Belmont Abbey at 2.30 pm when we will have a talk on the History of Longworth Chapel and Bartestree Convent. All welcome. Further information : bmwarde@aol.com.



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

18 July
Tea & Chat
2:30 pm

28 July
Church Cleaning
9:00 am

30 July
Pay & Collect
Tesco Vouchers

6 August
Summer Lunch Party
Parish Volunteers



Hereford Food Bank

The Food Bank is in urgent need of more supplies and is short of **everything**. **Please contribute what you can do help them build up supplies again.** Thank you for your continued support. Chris



† † † † †

This afternoon, we welcome into the Church of Christ, through the sacrament of Baptism, Joshua James Morris. Please pray for him and his family.

† † † † †

**Forthcoming Marriages
at Belmont Abbey**

Sat 29th July
Jennifer Woodman &
Charles Kirby

Sat 19th August
Kitty Massarella &
Jonathon Nicholls

Sat 26th August
Natalie Dewhurst &
Robert Dewen

† † † † †

Today Sunday, July 16th I shall be joining hundreds of other cyclists in Hereford to ride 32 miles in aid of St Michael's Hospice.

If you are able to help me raise money for this great cause please donate directly to my fundraising page

[www.justgiving.com/ Christopher-Moore13](http://www.justgiving.com/Christopher-Moore13).

JustGiving sends your donation straight to St Michael's Hospice (Hereford) and automatically reclaims Gift Aid if you are a UK taxpayer, so your donation is worth even more.

Thank you for your support!

Chris Moore

† † † † †

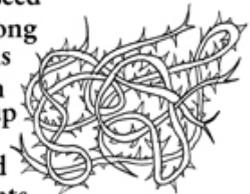
NOAH'S CAMP

A new Catholic family camp set in rural Gloucestershire from 7th – 11th August 2017.

Inspiring talks, fun times for families, live worship band, Quiet prayer times, Taize evening, age related kids 7 youth groups. All denominations welcome. You can camp or commute daily, only about 40 minutes from Hereford. For more information visit our website: www.noahscamp.co.uk, Tel 07961 346343 or contact Jacqui/Rob Corrigan on 01432 352241 for more information.

† † † † †

Other seed
fell among
thorns
which
grew up
and
choked
the plants...



www.BibleProject.com



Homily

"Imagine a sower going out to sow."

Illustration

Catch people's attention with your first sentence" is the advice offered to public speakers. The same is true for preachers. If we send you to sleep at the beginning of a homily there is not much hope of getting your concentration at all. A teacher may be able to employ visual aids to grab the students' attention. Public speakers often use digital presentations. But priests don't usually have these advantages. At seminary we are encouraged to begin homilies with a good story, though it isn't always easy to think of one. Occasionally some local or national event, with implications for the faith, may put an idea for a homily into our minds.

Perhaps something like this once happened when Jesus was preaching. His mother and relations appeared at the back of the crowd, anxious to have a word with him. Someone pushed through the throng to tell Jesus, who stretched out his hands towards his disciples, saying, "Here are my mother and my brothers. Anyone who does the will of my Father in heaven, he is my brother and sister and mother." That same day, a little later, Jesus told

his famous parable of the sower, and it seems it may have been the sudden appearance of his mother that inspired him to preach it.

Gospel Teaching

In Jesus' day, farmers in Palestine suspended a large bag of seed from their necks and, walking up and down the field, threw the seeds out with both hands as far as they could. Inevitably some seed fell on the edge of the path, some landed on rocks, others among thorns. But other seed landed in rich soil where it produced a great crop. It is one of the few parables that Jesus explains in detail. The seed is the word of God. Some of the scattered seed inevitably bears no fruit when people don't understand it, or if they get overwhelmed by trials or persecution, or with "the worries of this world" and the "lure of riches". But the great point of the parable is that the word of God produces a bumper crop, maybe thirty or sixty per cent, some even one hundred per cent. It is powerful. Palestinian farmers thought they had done well if their seeds yielded seven per cent. Ten per cent was a great harvest, thirty per cent unheard of.

Perhaps Jesus had his mother in mind when he spoke of a hundredfold response. She above all others heard the word of God and kept it. "Let it be to me according to your word," she

said, and never for a moment did she ever deviate from that fidelity and love.

Application

Where are we in all this? If we are tempted to think that we belong among the seed that fell on the edge of the path or on the rocks or among weeds, think again. Jesus did not relate this parable to discourage us, but rather the reverse, to emphasise that there is no limit to what God's grace can do in us, what God can make of us, and what goodness and fruit God can produce.

Of course we are realistically aware of our faults, for, as St Paul said, "all of us who possess the first-fruits of the Spirit... groan inwardly as we wait for our bodies to be set free". There is a struggling, a breaking away from the things that hold us back. We may fall, but we rise again, praying, "Lord, have mercy." The saints, like Our Lady, never look down on us with our sixty or thirty per cent. They do not regard us as failures. The fact is that we all vary. Some do become wonderful saints; we ask them to pray for us and we can learn from them as role models. There are other people, maybe not saints, whom we nonetheless admire for their goodness, love and kindness. But in all the struggles and temptations of our life Jesus tells us never to

be discouraged. We may sometimes feel we are just hanging on to Jesus by our fingertips; in reality he is the one who is holding on to us, because he loves us. As the Lord declared to Isaiah, "the word that goes from my mouth does not return to me empty, without carrying out my will and succeeding in what it was sent to do". Mary said the same: "Nothing is impossible to God."





St Mary Magdalen whose feast is on Saturday



Preacher or sinner?

The Magdalene was not looked upon as a sinner during the first centuries after Christ. On the contrary, she was hailed as a close friend of Jesus, an early disciple who sat at his feet while her sister Martha prepared the dishes (Luke 10:28-42). She stood under the cross with Jesus' mother and Maria Salome. She informed the apostles that the tomb was empty and, afterwards, became the first person to meet the risen Lord (John 20:1-18).

The second-century apocryphal Gospel of Mary relates that the Magdalene played a leading role in saving the faith of the apostles after the crucifixion. She convinced them that Jesus had truly risen. It earned

her, in early tradition, the title "Apostle of the Apostles," a title still used by Pope Francis last June when he raised the memorial of St. Mary Magdalene to the dignity of a feast.

Ancient legend describes how she sailed from Palestine to Marseilles, then called Massilia, from where she began to spread the faith in the South of France. A string of pilgrimage centres throughout the Provence and Languedoc record her progress.

Her story was documented in frescoes on church walls, through illustrated accounts on parchment, stained-glass windows in the many churches dedicated to her.

On all of them evangelizing Mary figured supreme. In days when women were forbidden to preach, Mary was the counter heroine, the woman depicted as addressing large crowds in village squares and lecturing the faithful from the pulpit. But this role had to compete with a sober image, that of being the exemplary penitent.

If you want to read the full essay on this saint, go to:

www.ncronline.org/person/mary-magdalene



Ministers, etc. for next <u>Sunday 23 July, 16 Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A - Cycle 1</u>			
	08:30	9:30	11:00
Celebrant	Fr Nicholas		Fr Nicholas
Welcomers	Kath Parry	Brenda Warde	Rita Chamberlain & Jennifer Hackman
Sacristan			Chris Moore
1 st Reading	Fran Grant	Phyll Buckley	Margaret Rose
2 nd Reading	Fran Smallwood		Lucy Reed
Bidding Prayers	Adrian Eyre		Sally Johns
Offertory	Parish Children	Nickerson Family	
Extraordinary Ministers	Frances Dees & Jacqui Ramage-S		Chris Moore & Monica Russell
Next Sunday - Parish Outreach (Hereford Food Bank)			

Anniversaries	CHILDREN'S LITURGY	
	These are noted below. Our week starts on Sunday- the anniversaries include all those which occurred on the Sunday date to the following Saturday.	16-Jul
23-Jul		Pat Wood & Monica Russell
		None until beginning September

Please pray for all who have died: **May they rest in peace.** (W/C 16 July)

Deaths: Sr Phillipa, Bernadette Higgins, Teazel Chowles and Mary Walsh .

Anniversaries: Vera Davies, Hugh Robert Keeler, Major Francis Worsley, Craig Naudain, Peter Lee, Winifred Delaney, Charles Gaines, Elizabeth Pracy, Nicholas Smith, Victoria Stelling, Ellen Deveraux, Joan Tomlin, John Friend, Kerry Anne Niblett and Norman Owen.

The Sick: Please pray for: Seamus Hayes, Denise Ellis, Carol Baines, Michael Kennedy, Chris Rogers, Peter Draper, Ruby Chandler-Marsh, Rachel George, Norma Naudain, Ann Thomas, Dominique Wetz, Marie Williams, Sally Hayward, Lillian Allsopp, Kenny Hanna, Shirley Brymer, Edward Medlicott, 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 16th July 2017 *Cycle A; Weekdays: Cycle 1 (Wk 15)*

<p>15th Sunday In Ordinary Time</p>	<p>Entrance: As for me, in justice I shall behold your face; I shall be filled with the vision of your glory. Acclamation: When we eat this Bread ... Communion: The sparrow finds a home and the swallow a nest for her young: by your altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God. Blessed are they who dwell in your house, for ever singing your praise.</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	Hayes Family	Desmond Keohane	Morawiecki Family
Sacristan			Jeremy Hogan
1 st Reading	Mary Hayes	Sally Johns	Liz Morawiecki
2 nd Reading	Jacqui Ramage-S		Monica Tomlin
Bidding Prayer	Margaret Rose		Pat Draper
Offertory	Ramage-H Family	Anthea Morton-S & Teresa Harriss	
Extra-Ordinary Minister(s)	Julia Davey & Kath Parry		Andre Pavia & David Wood
Mass Intention	<i>Kerry Niblett RIP</i>	<i>The Parish</i>	<i>Craig Naudain RIP</i>
Second Collection - Parish Outreach (Martha Trust)			
Food Bank Collection: John Goodall-Copestake			

<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 Oratory: Tridentine Mass at 7:00 pm
Thu	Feria: Mass at 8:00 am
Fri	Feria: Mass at 8:00 am: Exposition at 11 am and Midday Mass at 12 noon
Sat	St Mary Magdalene: Mass at 8:00 am: Reconciliation at 10:00 am: