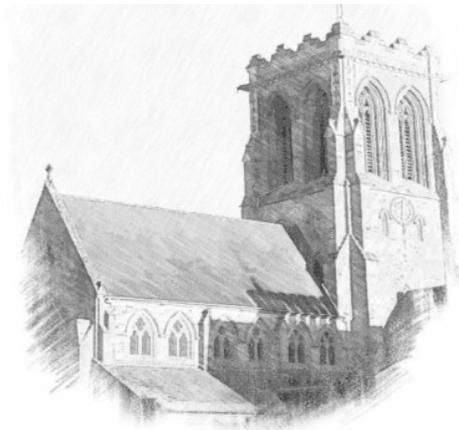


St Michael and All Angels Belmont Abbey



PARISH NEWSLETTER

16th October 2016

29th in Ordinary Time
(Cycle C)

PARISH PRIEST

Fr. Nicholas Wetz OSB
Tel: 01432 - 277319

email: pp.belmontparish@gmail.com
www.belmontparish.org.uk

Parish Deacon

Rev Deacon Eddie Wyman
Tel: 01432 - 263575

Safeguarding Representative
Gabrielle Stanley 07939 472059

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

In the Gospel today Jesus tells his disciples that they must pray continually and never lose heart. Obviously these words are addressed to us just as much as they were to them. We might think that this is a bit of a tall order! We must recognise, however, that prayer is something for busy people too. It cannot be over emphasized just how vitally important prayer is in the life of a Christian. We can build on our interior prayer, no matter how busy we are. By this I mean that dialogue with God that each person can have going on within themselves throughout the day. As you walk to the bus stop or as you go up the stairs or as you go through any of your other daily routines it is possible to keep up a dialogue with God. It is possible to simply talk to him, to tell him things or to make requests to him. Prayer may begin with reciting old and familiar prayers but it does not end there. Through prayer we become more grounded each day and grow in an ever deeper communion with the God we love.

I would like to thank the Parish for their greetings and cards and the wonderful lunch party they organised last week on the occasion of my Silver Jubilee. Thank you all very much.

Fr Nicholas

Last Sunday's	1 st Collection	£550.05
	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	£518.38
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 Cafod. Thank you!		

† † † † †

The next **JUMBLE Sale** is on 29 October - so we do need some more items. **Change:** Please do not send us any rag bags. We can no longer sell them. We could do with some more **books and bric-a-brac**. Thank you for your continued efforts.

† † † † †

**BELMONT ABBEY PARISH
QUIZ SUPPER
FRIDAY, 21. OCTOBER 2016
AT HEDLEY LODGE
6.45 FOR 7.00 PM SHARP PLEASE
APPLICATION SLIPS CAN BE HAD
FROM FOLDER IN FOYER
ENTRY BY TICKET ONLY - YOUR
SUPPORT WILL BE MUCH
APPRECIATED**

† † † † †

† † † † †

Operation Christmas Child

Leaflets are available in the porch for this year's Christmas shoebox appeal. Fill a shoebox with toys, sweets, basic hygiene items and school stationery for children in dire poverty. Filled shoeboxes can be left in the porch for collection.

† † † † †

Congratulations to Rebecca McKenzie & Thomas Green who were married in the abbey church yesterday. We wish them every happiness in the years ahead.

† † † † †

Diamond Diners

A lunch club for those over 60 years. We meet at the "Three Horseshoes" public house at Allensmore. If you would like to join us please let Ray Rose know, 0783 773 2611, or add your name to the form in the Parish Centre by the previous Sunday. The dates until December are: - Nov 1st and Dec 6th. We look forward to meeting you there, by 12:45 to allow time to order food.

Tea & Chat

We are an informal group who are all part of the wider Belmont Abbey Community. We meet in the Parish Centre at 2:30pm on the 3rd Tuesday of the month. The remaining dates are: - 18 October and 15 November .

Margaret Rose

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Tuesday - 18 October
Tea & Chat 2:30
Parish Hall

Friday - 21 October
6:45 for 7:00 pm
Quiz Supper
Hedley Lodge

Friday 28 October
9:00
Church cleaning

Saturday 29 October
2:00
Jumble Sale
OLQM Parish Hall

Sunday 30 October
Collect & Pay
For Tesco Vouchers



Don't forget the nave of the Church has a loop system. If you use a hearing aid, simply adjust your aid to the 'T' setting. We also have a wheelchair, kept near the porch, which is available for helping less mobile people to and from the Church.



Please respect other church users and parishioners and park safely and tidily on a Sunday morning. Please only park in the disabled parking bays if

you have the appropriate badge. Thank you.



Offer your hand for international friendship! Welcome an adult international student into your home this Christmas and make the world a little friendlier. Adult international students in the UK face a lonely holiday on a university campus, and would love to spend a few days with you, learning about British culture, experiencing Christmas festivities, and telling you about their own country. Hosting is a voluntary position suitable for all ages and is also available throughout the year with HOST, a charity set up in 1987. To find out more, please visit www.hostuk.org or call 020 7739 6292.



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 **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.



Missio (APF) Red Boxes

Please make arrangements to hand in your Red Box to your promoter. Name & Tel: No: on label on bottom of box.

New Box Holders

Your promoter will phone you in the coming weeks to make arrangements with you. Please can I have all monies in by the end of November.

I have been secretary of the APF for over 15 years and feel now is the time to hand over to someone else who can take this important work forward. I have given my resignation to head office and will leave at the end of December. Is there any one who would/could take this on? I am

more than willing to give help initially with procedures.

Please give this serious consideration and phone me on 01432-356878 if you are interested. *Liz Norman*



Celebrate Family Conference – Bristol Weekend 2016

Sat 22nd Oct 2016, 9 a.m. - 9 p.m. to Sun 23rd Oct 2016, 9 a.m. - 4.30 p.m.

Theme: “Act justly, love mercy and walk humbly with your God” Micah 6:8

We are looking forward to welcoming you to our Celebrate Weekend. CELEBRATE is a conference for all, young and old. We are expectant that the Lord shall move powerfully amongst us all during the coming conference: Encountering God in the Teaching, Praise & Worship, Healing through Prayer Ministry and Confession, Children’s & Youth Ministry through led streams.

A small fee includes an evening meal on Saturday. Tea, coffee, and refreshments are available throughout the conference. You should make provisions for a packed lunch on both conference days. For more information and for booking online please go to the website: [www. Celebrateconference .org /weekends/bristol](http://www.Celebrateconference.org/weekends/bristol) or e-mail [Bristol @celebrate conference.org](mailto:Bristol@celebrateconference.org) or phone Jane Davies 01432 267089. One of our own young people, togeth-

er with her husband, is part of the Core Team and Worship Ministry for this Conference. Hope to see you there.



HOMILY

“Will not God see justice done to his chosen who cry to him?”

Illustration

If you want to keep friends it is best not to describe them as “Machiavellian”. The word has a variety of uncomplimentary meanings, including: “scheming”, “amoral”, “artful” and “sly”. It derives from Niccolò Machiavelli (1469–1527), a diplomat, dramatist and author. He was born in Florence in the turbulent times of fifteenth-century Italy. The Medici, Borgia and other influential families vied for political dominance and Naples, Milan, Venice, Florence and the Papal States competed to expand their territories.

In his book *A Literary Tour of Italy*, Tim Parks explores Machiavelli’s life and examines why his name became a “popular term of denigration”. Machiavelli came into prominence after France invaded Italy in 1494. Over the next fourteen years he was Florence’s top diplomat, travelling extensively on missions to powerful rulers. But when Florence was made dependent on Rome, Machiavelli’s

diplomatic career came to an abrupt halt. He was suspected of conspiring against the new government, imprisoned, tortured, but then found innocent and released. Embittered, he set about writing what was to become his major work, *The Prince* (originally entitled *On Principalities*). It examined the history of how states and individuals obtained and kept power; and from his research and experience in matters of state he concluded that often a leader could only win and hang on to political power if that leader was prepared to act outside Christian ethics or an accepted moral code.

Parks says that had Machiavelli deplored this state of affairs or said that “power was hardly worth having if you had to sell your soul to get it” he could have avoided much criticism. Instead he accepted human cruelty, injustice and barbarity as inevitable and observed that “if there is one circumstance that a man cannot change it is his own character and his own way of reacting to events”. Though he did not reject Christian principles he did not see them as always being compatible with effective political leadership.

Gospel Teaching

The judge in today’s parable, described by Jesus as having “neither fear of God nor respect for man”, is

unconcerned about the widow's plea for help. Yet as an "elder" and local judge he would have known that the religious law directed him to lay aside the rule of impartiality in favour of the widow, orphan and stranger. It is only the widow's persistence in demanding justice that makes him give way. He does so not for justice's sake but to save himself from being pestered. He seems to fit neatly into Machiavelli's observation that a man cannot change his own character or way of reacting to events. Or does he?

"More things are wrought by prayer than this world dreams of," wrote the poet Tennyson. The parable is about the power of prayer and "the need to pray continually and never lose heart". The poor widow is an example for anyone whose life has entered into darkness: she persevered and refused to give up. The unjust judge, whatever his motive, finally acceded to her pleadings and to that degree, at least, he changed. Jesus compares the judge's reaction to God, who sees justice done to those "who cry to him... even when he delays to help them". The unjust judge delayed through indifference. Why God sometimes delays in answering our prayers is unknown to us in this life, but it may be that by our going through such time of waiting God helps us to change into a closer union with the crucified and risen Christ.

Application

The Scottish poet Tessa Ransford, in her book of poems *Shadows from the Greater Hill*, addresses two young trees uprooted and replanted: "You must explore the dignity you dwell in, / hold to purpose / keep direction/ It will pass / this injustice / – and you will have grown." It is the same for us when we pray, for God will see that in the end all will be well and that through the experience we shall grow.

Machiavelli lived when corruption in high office was rife and when, as Parks says, nothing appeared "beyond the reach of wealth and astute negotiation". Machiavelli reflected on what he observed. Yet he never seems to have considered the power of prayer to change hearts. Whatever our lives may bring, may we be persevering in prayer.



St Francis Xavier Film Night
OF GODS AND MEN
Friday 21 Oct
At 7:15

Ministers, etc. For next Sunday 23rd October- 30th in Ordinary Time Year C

	08:30	09:30	11:00
Celebrant	Fr Nicholas		Fr Nicholas
Welcomers	Hayes Family	Nickerson Family	Marnie Archer & Rita Chamberlain
Sacristan			Tony Archer
1 st Reading	Jacqui R-Smith	Polly Maund-Powell	Sally Johns
2 nd Reading	Fran Smallwood		Margaret Rose
Bidding Prayers	Julia Davey		Lucy Reed
Offertory	Parish Children	Frances Riddell & Maria Large	
Extraordinary Ministers	Seamus Hayes & Kath Parry		Gabrielle Stanley

Next Sunday - World Mission Sunday

<p>Anniversaries 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>	CHILDREN'S LITURGY	
	8.30 Children's Liturgy - temporarily cancelled	
	16-Oct	A Morawiecki & R Blackburn
	23-Oct	Marje Hayes & Mary Wood
	30-Oct	Pat Wood & Rachel Cowdrey
	06-Nov	Jacqui Moore & Monica Russell
	13-Nov	Jacqui Corrigan & Jan Wyman

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

Deaths: Diana Gosnell, Win Lewis, Connie Luxon and Margaret O'Connor

Anniversaries: Malcolm Brymer, Florence Conolly, Ada Hewer, Fr Ildephonsus Flannery osb, John Cotterell, Jos O'Farrell, Anne McManus, Teresa Nicholls, Ida Mary Osborne, Elizabeth Scullion, Fr Paul Bloom osb.

The Sick: Please pray for: Mother Regina, Ann Thomas, Mary Smith, Fr Michael Cronin, Philip Herderschee, Sheila Langford, Dominique Wetz, Marie Williams, Sally Hayward, Sue Savory, Stephen Fisher, Gordon Wilson, David Kinsey, Denise Ellis, Lillian Allsopp, Kenny Hanna, Shirley Brymer, Edward Medlicott, Sr Philipa, 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 October Cycle C; Weekdays: Cycle 2 (Wk 29 OT)

<p>29th Sunday In Ordinary Time</p>	<p>Entrance: To you I call; for you will surely heed me, O God; turn your ear to me; hear my words, Guard me as the apple of your eye; in the shadow of your wings protect me.</p> <p>Acclamation: We proclaim your death, O Lord...</p> <p>Communion: Behold, the eyes of the Lord are on those who fear him, who hope in his merciful love, to rescue their souls from death, to keep them alive in famine.</p>
---	--

Principal Celebrants, Extraordinary Ministers, Readers, etc.			
	08:30 am	09:30 am	11:00 am
Celebrant	Fr Nicholas		Fr Nicholas
Welcomer	Cooper Family	Clare Wichbold	Morawiecki Family
Sacristan			Jeremy Hogan
1 st Reading	Fran Grant	Patrick Walesby	Liz Morawiecki
2 nd Reading	Adrian Eyre		Pat Draper
Bidding Prayer	Mary Hayes		Marje Hayes
Offertory	Hayes Family	Anthea M- Saner & Margaret Campbell	
Extra-Ordinary Minister(s)	Kath Parry & Gabrielle Stanley		Jane Davies
Mass Intention	<i>The Parish</i>	<i>Pro Populo</i>	
Second Collection - Parish Outreach			
Food Bank Delivery: Ray & Margaret Rose			

<i>What's On for the week</i>	
Mon	St Ignatius of Antioch: Mass at 8:00 am
Tue	St Luke 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 & Midday Mass in Oratory
Sat	BVM: Mass at 8:00 am: Reconciliation at 10:00 am