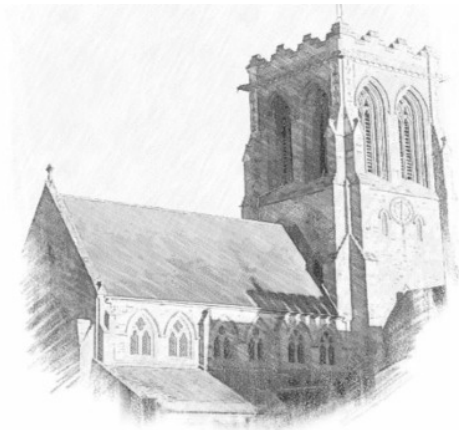


St Michael and All Angels Belmont Abbey



PARISH NEWSLETTER

16th Sunday
In Ordinary Time
(Cycle C)

PARISH PRIEST

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The First Reading and the Gospel today are about the important virtue of hospitality. Of course, this is not an exclusively Christian virtue since it predates Christianity by thousands of years. The world in which Abraham and his people lived was very hot and arid and life was not easy especially for travellers. Everyone understood this and always went out of their way to make travellers welcome. They knew that they had to be hospitable because it was very likely that they would need the same sort of help on another occasion.

As members of the church part of our ministry is to greet and welcome others who celebrate our liturgy with us. Although we come to Mass as individuals or individual families, as members of the Body of Christ we are to be welcoming to those around us. This is, in fact, part of what forms us into the Body of Christ. Feeling welcomed helps to make it possible for people, especially visitors, to participate freely. If we know someone near us is a newcomer or visiting, we should make it a point to help them feel comfortable and to invite them back. As members of the parish, we reach out to others we do not know. Even if they are already parishioners our friendliness can assist them in feeling more comfortable at Mass. Don't forget to offer help with hymn books and Mass sheets or to point them in the direction of the Parish Hall if there is coffee after Mass.

Fr Nicholas

Last Sunday's	1 st Collection	£273.84
	Standing Orders	£412.50

The 1st collection goes towards the maintenance of our Abbey church and parish, diocesan levies and other related costs.

	2 nd Collection	£195.13
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The 2nd 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!***



With sadness we report the death of Fr Jerome Hodkinson who died on Tuesday evening after a short illness in hospital. Fr Jerome was abbot of Belmont between 1970 and 1986 and was also, briefly, Parish Priest of this parish. His requiem will be on Friday 29th July at 2.30 pm. May he rest in peace.



2nd Collections

During the month of June the 2nd collections were devoted to both local and international charities. These included 'Day for Life', the Alzheimer's Society Hereford, Headway and DEC (Disaster Emergency Relief Fund).

During this month, July, the 2nd collections will be devoted, again, to both local and international charities. These will include Peter's Pence, the Apostleship of the Sea, Retired Priests' fund, and St Michael's Hospice.

Occasionally there will have to be last minute changes and the actual charities supported will be confirmed retrospectively. From time to time more detailed information about the charities supported will appear either in the Newsletter or in the Angel.



Forthcoming Marriage at Belmont Abbey

Sat 23rd July Kerry Mathews and Jon Dallow

Thu 28th July Andzela Kacinskaite & Gerard Cleugh



Tea & Chat

The next dates for Tea & Chat are 19th July & 16th August. All are welcome in the Parish Centre from 2:30 pm until 4:00 pm.

Diamond Diners

The forthcoming date for the Lunch Club is 2nd August. If you are over 60 and would like to join a friendly group for lunch at the Three Horseshoes at

1:00 pm just tick or add your name to the list in the Parish Centre.



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Tuesday 19 July
2:30 Tea & Chat
Parish Centre

Thursday 21 July
2:00 pm
Mass at Longworth Chapel
(Note time change)

Friday 22 July
9:am
Church Cleaning

Sunday 31 July
Pay for and Collect
Tesco Vouchers



REFUGEE CRISIS

Thanks to those who donated items for us to take across to Calais/Dunkirk on our visit at the beginning of June and for all your prayers. We had an amazing time and met many kind people who have given up their jobs to be volunteers.

Many of you have asked us what you could do to help and here are some

suggestions:- while we were putting together food bags to be delivered into the camps we noticed that small bags of spices were included. These spices have to be weighed and packed into bags by the volunteers; this obviously takes time so our friend David Bland decided to get members of the Leominster Priory congregation together in small groups to pack these bags. If anyone is interested in getting together in small groups locally to pack spice bags, please let us know and we'll give you the details. We will then make sure they get delivered to David who is again going over to Calais at the beginning of August. Donations are still needed so if you can help in any way please contact Rob and Jacqui on 01432 352241.



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 Angel

If you have any photos of any suitable parish event that you would like to see published in the forthcoming edition of the Angel, do please email them in to me, or the parish office, **before Wednesday.**



Jumble

We would be very grateful if you would stop bringing jumble to the Parish Hall until further notice. We are still sorting things out after the Fete and could also do with a break. We will let you know when you can bring jumble again. Many thanks for your help.



HOMILY

“You worry and fret about so many things, and yet few are needed.”

Illustration

It is a common enough tension in family life: the daily chores of cooking, cleaning and laundry tend to fall to one person, most often a parent, and frequently the mother of the family. How many women have found themselves hot and stressed in the kitchen, listening to the happy laughter of

guests, as they work away feeling left out and overburdened? For one mother, at the end of such an evening of entertaining, it was all too much. The guests had gone, and she sat down exhausted and burst into tears. Angrily she regaled her family with what a hard evening she’d had: she just felt like a servant to everyone else’s enjoyment; she’d felt like no one cared about her or wanted her around. “But Mum,” the eldest child tried to comfort her, “you know we *love* you!” “I know you feel that and say it,” Mum replied, “but love is a doing word – and I’ve been doing all evening on my own!”

Gospel Teaching

Hospitality – opening our homes, and sharing our food with others – is a basic, practical, bodily doing of love. It is this deeply human way of friendship that is at the heart of the ways in which God comes to people in the scripture readings of today. For Abraham and Sarah their hospitality to the mysterious visitors marks a turning point in their lives, as the gift of the child they thought they’d never have is promised. A whole people is born from this simple act of welcoming the strangers and tending to their needs. For Martha, however, the great gift of receiving Jesus into her home has a different kind of blessing – one of challenge. The challenge comes from

Jesus himself, and there's no getting away from it: far from feeling sorry for Martha's stress and busyness, and her sister's apparent lack of sisterly concern, Jesus (rather hurtfully, we might think) suggests that Martha is fussing about too many things.

What are we to make of this challenge to Martha's hospitable instincts and hard work? It is a hard text; but perhaps Martha's difficulty, as far as Jesus is concerned, is that she is forgetting something that must lie at the heart of all our practical care. When we cook for guests, when we welcome people into our homes and share a bit of our lives with them, it is an act of practical loving, not a performance of our own expertise. The danger is that it is the "stuff" of our caring that becomes the focus, rather than the person we are loving through that stuff. A simpler meal offered with care, which leaves room for the conversations of friendship, is more enabling of the doing of love than the extravagant feast that leaves some people exhausted and resentful, and can actually get in the way of real personal sharing.

Application

Our world today is one where hospitality is a practice of love that is much needed. Whether we look at our own cities and towns and the loneliness that is so often to be found there, or further afield, to the refugees fleeing

war and suffering, the many thousands of displaced people of our time – wherever we look, there is a call to share and befriend. This call is also a challenge, as it was for Martha. We are not called to grand gestures or lavish actions that we can take some pride in as the giver or the brilliant host. Rather, our giving is always, like Mary's, to be centred on *meeting* the person whom we welcome. We need to learn to sit still with those we are called to care for, and listen to them, and let them know they are heard. Too often our fretting over too many things, so as to "get it right", gets in the way of loving; busyness is only really godly when it is a practice of love.

In the week ahead let's recognise the moments of hospitality that are opened up to us: buying a coffee for a workmate – *and* then spending some time chatting over it with them; inviting someone new to our homes – *and* getting to know them better; giving some food or money to the rough sleeper – *and* stopping to talk and listening to his or her story. If our generosity keeps the love of that person central, these moments of generosity will surely also be moments of meeting God.





St Mary Magdalene

St. Mary Magdalene is one of the greatest saints of the Bible and a legendary example of God's mercy and grace. The precise dates of her birth and death are unknown, but we do know she was present with Christ during his public ministry, death and resurrection. She is mentioned at least a dozen times in the Gospels.

Mary Magdalene has long been regarded as a prostitute or sexually immoral in western Christianity, but this is not supported in the scriptures. It is believed she was a Jewish woman who lived among Gentiles, living as they did.

The Gospels agree that Mary was originally a great sinner. Jesus cast seven demons out of her when he met her. After this, she told several women she associated with and these women also became followers.

There is also debate over if Mary Magdalene is the same unnamed woman, a sinner, who weeps and washes Jesus' feet with her hair in the Gospel of John. Scholars are sceptical this is the same person.

Despite the scholarly dispute over her background, what she did in her subsequent life, after meeting Jesus, is much more significant. She was certainly a sinner whom Jesus saved, giving us an example of how no

person is beyond the saving grace of God.

During Jesus' ministry, it is believed that Mary Magdalene followed him, part of a semi-permanent entourage who served Jesus and his Disciples.

Mary likely watched the crucifixion from a distance along with the other women who followed Christ during His ministry. Mary was present when Christ rose from the dead, visiting his tomb to anoint his body only to find the stone rolled away and Christ, very much alive, sitting at the place they laid Him. She was the first witness to His resurrection.

After the death of Christ, a legend states that she remained among the early Christians. After fourteen years, she was allegedly put into a boat by Jews, along with several other saints of the early Church, and set adrift without sails or oars. The boat landed in southern France, where she spent the remaining years of her life living in solitude, in a cave.

St. Mary Magdalene's feast day is July 22. She is the patroness of contemplative life, converts, glove makers, hairdressers, penitent sinners, people ridiculed for their piety, perfumeries, pharmacists, sexual temptation, tanners and women.



Ministers, etc. For next <u>Sunday 24th July - 17th in Ordinary Time Year C</u>			
	08:30	09:30	11:00
Celebrant	Fr Nicholas		Fr Nicholas
Welcomers	Kath Parry	Marion Luscombe	Rita Chamberlain & Brenda Sherwood
Sacristan			Rob Corrigan
1 st Reading	Mary Hayes	Anthea Morton-S	Jennifer Hackman
2 nd Reading	Fran Grant		Sally Johns
Bidding Prayers	Ann Jackson		Tony Archer
Offertory	Ramage-Hill Family	Paul Nickhold & Lucy Zammit	
Extraordinary Ministers	Frances Dees & Kath Parry		Tony Archer
Next Sunday - Parish Outreach			
<p><i>Cistercian Cloister: the School of Love</i> <i>August 15-18 (Reg Fee £28 & £22</i> <i>Transport/Entry)</i> <i>Reflections on St Bernard and the great</i> <i>Cistercian saints and a visit to Tintern Abbey</i> <i>Dom Brendan, Dom Bernard, Dom Alistair</i></p>	CHILDREN'S LITURGY		
	8.30 am Children's Liturgy - 17 July		
	11.00 am Liturgy		
	17-Jul	Jackie King & Pauline Gill	
	24-Jul	Pat Wood & Mary Wood	
	31-Jul	Jacqui Moore & Rachel Cowdrey	
	No Children's Liturgy in August		
<p>Please pray for all who have died: May they rest in peace. (W/C 17 July) Deaths: <i>Father Jerome, Shaun Harrington, Edna Ledford and Fr Luke.</i> Anniversaries: <i>Ma Francis Bede, Hugh R Keeler, Araminta Meredith, Major Francis Worsley, Craig Naudain, Leslie Smith, Winifred Delaney, Elizabeth Pracy, Nicholas Smith, Victoria Stelling, Ellen Deveraux, Joan Tomlin, Thomas Davey, John Friend, Alma Jones, Kerry Anne Niblett, Norman Owen, Elizabeth Waldron and Frances Walters.</i> The Sick: Please pray for: <i>Bernard Johnson, Marie Williams, Sally Hayward, Sue Savory, Stephen Fisher, Gordon Wilson, Syliva Evans, David Kinsey, Polly Maund-Powell, Denise Ellis, Lillian Allsopp, Duncan Sykes, Margaret O'Connor, Kenny Hanna, Peter Lee, Shirley Brymer, Valerie Blake, Sr Trish, Edward Medicott, Sr Philipa, Teresa Chowles, Elaine White, Sue Rogers, Fr Michael Cronin, Elaine Campbell, Joanne Savory, Sr Catherine, Vincent Hanna and Sadie Bowyer.</i></p>			

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

Liturgy for Sunday 17th July Sunday Cycle C; Weekdays: Cycle 2 (Wk 16 OT)

<p>16th Sunday In Ordinary Time</p>	<p>Entrance: See, I have God for my help. The Lord sustains my soul I will sacrifice to you with willing heart, and praise your name, O Lord, for it is good. Acclamation: Save us Saviour of the world ... Communion: The Lord, the gracious, the merciful, had made a memorial of his wonders; he gives food to those who fear him.</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	Hayes Family	Nickerson Family	Ross & Anne Williams
Sacristan			Jeremy Hogan
1 st Reading	Adrian Eyre	Brenda Warde	Gabrielle Stanley
2 nd Reading	Jacqui- R-Smith		Marje Hayes
Bidding Prayer	Richard Batho		Pat Draper
Offertory	Children's Liturgy	Frances Wood & Menna McBain	
Extra-Ordinary Minister(s)	Seamus Hayes & Fran Smallwood		Chris Moore
Mass Intention	Edna Ledford RIP	Pro Populo	Craig Naudain RIP
Second Collection - Parish Outreach			
Food Bank Delivery: John Goodall-Copestake			

What's On for the week	
Mon	Feria: Mass at 8:00 am ; Requiem Mass for Jeanne Morin RIP 10:00 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	St Mary Magdalene: Mass at 8:00 am: Exposition & Midday Mass in Oratory
Sat	St Bridget: Mass at 8:00 am: Reconciliation at 10:00 am