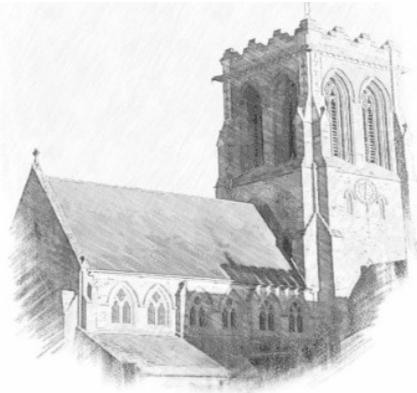


St Michael and All Angels Belmont Abbey



PARISH NEWSLETTER

17th September 2017

24th Week Ordinary Time

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Today, the Catholic Church celebrates Home Mission Sunday. Often when we hear the word 'Mission' it is associated with the valuable work of sharing our faith and helping people in other countries. Whilst this is still important, the Home Mission Office helps Catholics to share their faith with those they love, know and meet on home turf. If home is where the heart is, the best place to start sharing our faith is with the people we carry in our hearts.

Many people find the idea of talking about their faith to others daunting, but we can take comfort from knowing that it is the Holy Spirit who will spark an interest in the hearts of those whom we long to know the Good News of Jesus Christ. Our first step is therefore to pray for those we love and care for, that they be open to the Holy Spirit.

Please consider contributing to today's second collection. The money received from this collection ensures that the Catholic Faith Centre is resourced and is able to respond to those who have questions about the Catholic Faith.

Fr Nicholas

Last Sunday's	1 st Collection	£528.97
	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	£200.29
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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: **Catholic Education Service. Thank You!**



Parish Outreach - During September, our second collections will be for the SVP (4 & 24) and the mandatory ones for the Catholic Education Service (10) and Home Mission Sunday (17).



Jumble Sale

We need all the usual things but please only clean clothing - no rags. We need books and bric-a-brac. Sale takes place on 30 Sept at 12:00 noon at OLQM Parish Hall.



Forthcoming Marriages at Belmont Abbey

Sat 30th September

Arabella Anderson & Chris Haughian



Congratulations to Chelsie Jones & David Shutt who were married in the abbey church yesterday.

We offer them our prayers and best wishes for their future life together.



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

22 September
Church Cleaning
9:00 am

29 September
Macmillan Coffee
Parish Hall
2:00-4:00 pm

Saturday 30 Sept
Jumble Sale
OLQM Parish Hall
12:00 pm

3 October
Diamond Diners
Three Horseshoes
Allensmore
12:45

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

17 November
Quiz Night
Hedley Lodge
7:00 pm

23 November
Rise Theatre
Hedley Lodge
7:30 pm





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.



Hereford Hospital Chaplaincy

Fr. Matthew who is a member of the Hereford Hospital Chaplaincy team and who acts as Catholic Chaplain no longer has access to the lists of catholic patients; hopefully this will be resolved soon. So if you have a friend/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-265177 or fr.matthew@live.co.uk. For the time being Fr. Matthew is absolutely dependant on receiving this information from relations and friends, it is not available via the hospital.



We shall be holding our **Macmillan Coffee Event** this year on 29th September. Please join us in the Parish Centre between 2 and 4 pm to raise a good amount for this very worthy cause. If you would like to bring a cake to share it would be really appreciated. For more information please call Jan Wyman on 01432 263575.



EMMAUS YOUTH next meeting at Our Lady’s Parish Hall, 2.30-5.30 pm on Saturday 23rd September. We are also meeting on 14th October and 18th November. You are invited to share in some Praise and Worship, Liturgy, refreshments and time to socialize. Come and join us for some fun!! Rob and Jacqui Corrigan, Annie Ridgway and Ben Aldridge. 01432 352241 & 07739 566578 jacqui.corrigan@btopenworld.com.



We are having a **Vennture Event** on 24th September 7-9 pm in St Paul’s Church where we would love to give an update on current projects and share some vision and stories about how lives are impacted by volunteers.



A Local Opportunity to Learn about the Work of TEARFUND

At 7.00 pm on 22 September, in the Ewyas Harold Baptist Church Hall Andrea Sheppick of Tearfund will give a presentation on the work of this Christian charity which aids and encourages worldwide communities in their struggle against poverty and its effects. All are welcome and light refreshments will be provided.





**Herefordshire & Belmont Abbey
Walsingham Group**

The next meeting will be at the Abbey on Wednesday 27 Sept, commencing with Vespers in Church at 5:55 pm. All welcome. The dates for the 2018 pilgrimage to Walsingham are 18-21 May. Full details available soon.



Visit Harvington Hall, Sat 23rd

Sept: the parish of St Frances of Rome, Ross-on-Wye has arranged a visit to this manor house rich in Catholic history. There are some places available on the coach picking up in Monmouth at 10 am and Ross at 10.30 am. Cost £15.50 coach and entrance fee. If you would like to join this visit or for more information, please contact Janet Baker 01989 565027, mrsjanetbaker6@gmail.com.



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.



Holy Days of Obligation

The Holy See has confirmed the decision of the Bishops Conference of England and Wales to reinstate two of

the Holy Days of Obligation which had been transferred to the nearest Sundays in 2006. The two feasts are the Epiphany of the Lord on 6 January and the Ascension of the Lord, 40 days after the celebration of Easter. These feasts are intimately linked in biblical, liturgical and theological ways to the Mystery of Faith celebrated at Easter and Christmas.



World Day of Prayer of the Poor

Pope Francis has been recognised both within and outside the Church as a champion of the poor. He has identified himself totally with those who are ‘on the margins’ and have need of respect for their human dignity. He has invited Catholics throughout the world to join him on 19 November in a World Day of Prayer of the Poor. The title is important. It is not “for” the poor but “of” the poor, reminding us of the words of mother Teresa that here in the West we have different kinds of poverty, including poverty of spirit. On that day, we are hoping to hold an Archdiocesan awareness event in The Cornerstone, Cardiff, supported by the Catholic Social Action Network.

CAFOD Briefing Meeting - For the forthcoming Harvest Fast day on Thursday 21st September in Our Lady's Parish Room at 7 pm. Come and learn about CAFOD's work in El

Salvador which is the country of focus for this year's Harvest appeal.

World Day of Prayer of the Poor - Deanery Preparation meeting
Wednesday 4th October at Our Lady's 7 pm. This is in preparation for the Archdiocesan event on Sunday 19th November in Cardiff, where each Deanery is asked to give some input.

Would anyone like to represent the parish at these meetings?



Homily

"Were you not bound, then, to have pity on your fellow servant just as I had pity on you?"

Illustration

Mahatma Gandhi once said, "An eye for an eye will make the whole world blind." Yet how hard it is not to seek revenge, and instead to choose to forgive, when a person has wounded you deeply. Among extraordinary stories of forgiveness, Margaret and Barry Mizen's ability to forgive the young man who killed their son stands out. Jimmy Mizen was killed the day after he turned sixteen in May 2008. He and his older brother Harry were waiting in a local bakery in South London when Jimmy stood up to another customer who barged past them. The nineteen-year-old was

angry and threw a glass dish, which cut into Jimmy's neck, fatally wounding him.

Margaret Mizen says of that day: "The house was full of people and the table stacked with food people brought over. There was this immense outpouring of grief but with it came a huge outpouring of love too. As terrible as this tragedy was, we felt blessed to have so much love in our lives. Love and prayer is what kept us going. For me forgiveness is about not wanting revenge and not being angry. I'm not shouting from the rooftop 'I forgive' but by not wanting revenge I have an inner peace that a lot of people in our position don't seem to have. Jimmy's murder has done a lot of damage to this family and I can't let it do any more."

Her husband Barry explained further: "For me, forgiveness means I don't want to do to Jimmy's killer what he did to Jimmy. And I thank God for that. I don't want retribution. I don't want revenge. In the end, if I want to live in a more peaceful, compassionate society then I have to be more peaceful and compassionate."

Gospel Teaching

In today's Gospel Peter asks Jesus about forgiveness. Jewish tradition limited forgiveness to three times, so Peter thought his willingness to forgive seven times would be regarded as

generous. Peter's question indicated that he still wanted to count how many times he should forgive. Jesus is, in effect, telling him not to count. Jesus stresses the importance of forgiveness, that a person cannot expect mercy from God if there has not been the same generosity of spirit demonstrated towards others. He uses the parable of the unmerciful servant to urge forgiveness and mercy. As we say so often in the Lord's Prayer, "forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us". Jesus talks about forgiving seventy seven times, but it is not the mathematics that matters. What Jesus describes is vast and cosmic, a forgiveness permeating all creation, making all things new. Refusal to forgive will make it impossible for us to understand and experience the generous forgiveness of God for us.

Application

The Roman philosopher Seneca wrote: "The sins of others are before our eyes, our own are behind our backs." We all know we should forgive, but that doesn't mean it's easy to do so, especially when a person has wronged us in a terrible way. Withholding forgiveness can cause a toxic cloud to hang over our lives and prevent us from truly finding joy. Refusal to forgive can consume the heart and drain the energy. Forgiveness does not tolerate

revenge. Learning to let go and forgive will heal our souls and help us to find happiness in this life. Experiencing God's generous mercy transforms who we are and the way we see our lives. We can recognise the blessings given to us. We cannot heal ourselves by clinging to our wounds. And neither can we contribute to the repairing of the world without practising forgiveness.

The practice of forgiveness can both soften our own hearts and transform the world community. We often hear about peace processes in various countries. In every case, each party must listen sympathetically to the stories of the other, overcome misunderstandings and exaggerations, recognise its own misdeeds and begin to forge common links. The spirit of forgiveness is essential for the preservation of human community, whether in the home, the neighbourhood, the nation or the world. The strongest motive is the realisation of our own great need of forgiveness and of the extremes to which God has gone in order to bring us the healing we need. C.S Lewis said: "To be Christian means to forgive the inexcusable because God has forgiven the inexcusable in you."



Ministers, etc. for next Sunday 24 September - 25 Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A - Cycle 1

	08:30	9:30	11:00
Celebrant	Fr Nicholas		Fr Nicholas
Welcomers	Cooper Family	Nickerson Family	Monica Russell & Maureen Stacey
Sacristan			Rob Corrigan
1 st Reading	Fran Grant	Patrick Walesby	Jennifer Hackman
2 nd Reading	Liz Norman		Pat Draper
Bidding Prayers	Jacqui Ramage-S		Niamh Coyle
Offertory	Ramage-H Family	Anthea Norton-S & Maria Large	
Extraordinary Ministers	Kath Parry & Fran Smallwood		Chris Moore & Jan Wyman
Next Sunday - Parish Outreach (Home Mission Sunday)			

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.	17- Sept	Andrew M & Pauline Gill
		24 -Sept	Jacqui Moore & Rob Blackburn
		1-Oct	Jacqui Corrigan & Mary Wood
		8- Oct	Jackie King & Monica Russell
		15 Oct	Andrew M & Pauline Gill

Please pray for all who have died: **May they rest in peace.** (W/C 17 Sept)

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

Anniversaries: Peter Stacey, John Williams, John Bevan, Marie-Madeleine Chelly, Cyril Duffield, Winifred Gittins-Jones, Roy Anthony Bailey, Maurice McGinn, Emrys Williams, Elsie Donovan, Annie Williams, Witold Drezewski, Rev. Rowland Evans, Veronica Rigby, Maria Hubert von Staufen and Gertrude Harris.

The Sick: Please pray for: Sally Johns, Sam Evans, Jennifer Hackman, Denise Ellis, Carol Baines, Michael Kennedy, Chris & Sue 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 Medicott, Elaine White, Joanne Savory, Dame Catherine, Vincent Hanna and Sadie Bowyer.

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

Liturgy for Sunday 17 September 2017 Cycle A; Weekdays: Cycle 1 (Wk 24)

<p>24th Week In Ordinary Time</p>	<p>Entrance: Give peace, O Lord, to those who wait for you, that your prophets be found true. Hear the prayers of your servant and of your people Israel.</p> <p>Acclamation: When we eat this Bread and ...</p> <p>Communion: How precious is your mercy, O God! The children of men seek shelter in the shadow of your wings.</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	Liz Norman	Clare Wichbold	Ross & Anne Williams
Sacristan			Jeremy Hogan
1 st Reading	Adrian Eyre	Polly Maund-Powell	Pat Wood
2 nd Reading	Fran Smallwood		Sergio Pavia
Bidding Prayer	Mary Hayes		Rob Corrigan
Offertory	Hayes Family	Paul Nickhold & Lucy Zammit	
Extra-Ordinary Minister(s)	Frances Dees & Julia Davey		Andre Pavia & David Wood
Mass Intention	Dick Hayes & Tom Dawson RIP	Pro Populo	Peter Russell RIP

Second Collection - Parish Outreach (SVP)

Food Bank Collection: Chris Moore

What's On for the week

Mon	Feria: Mass at 8:00 am
Tue	Feria: Mass at 8:00 am
Wed	St Andrew Kim Taegon & Comp: Mass at 8:00 am: Midday Mass in Oratory:
Thu	St Matthew: Mass at 8:00 am
Fri	Feria: Mass at 8:00 am: Exposition at 11 am & Midday Mass at 12 noon in Oratory
Sat	St Pius of Pietrelcina: Mass at 8:00 am: Reconciliation at 10:00 am