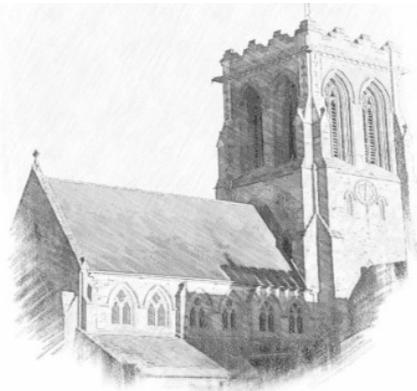


# ***St Michael and All Angels Belmont Abbey***



PARISH NEWSLETTER

**18 March 2018**

**5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent**

PARISH PRIEST

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Passiontide begins today - the last two weeks of Lent, when the readings and prayers of the liturgy begin to focus on the last days of Christ's earthly ministry leading to his Passion. Crucifixes and statues are often veiled because Christ during this time no longer walked openly among the people, but hid himself. However, the veiling serves to heighten the sombre and penitential mood and sense of expectation as the Church moves towards Holy Week and the celebration of Christ's death on Good Friday.

Next Sunday, Palm Sunday (25 March) there are only two Sunday Masses at Belmont Abbey - **8.30 & 10.00** am only. The Abbot will preside at the 10 am Pontifical High Mass, which, because of the long liturgy, replaces the 9.30 & 11 am Masses. Blessed Palms will of course be available at the 8.30 am Parish Mass

Parish Day of Reflection for those exercising Ministry in the Church, especially our readers and extraordinary ministers – Saturday 24 March 11 am to 3pm. Simple lunch included. Please sign the notice in the porch **today** if you are able to attend.

*Fr Nicholas*

***Welcome to Belmont Abbey. If you are a visitor here and you would like to Gift Aid your offertory collection, please collect an envelope from the Porch. Thank You!***

Last	1 <sup>st</sup> Collection	<b>£464.96</b>
Sunday's	Standing Orders	<b>£501.23</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>£277.59</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: **Hereford Food Bank. Thank You!**

### Parish Outreach

Last month our Parish Outreach collections went towards supporting Marriage Care, Mary's Meals and Cafod. Thank you. This month there will be collections to support local Catholic Education (4th), Hereford Food Bank (11th), Easter Flowers (18th) and Aid to the Church in Need (25th).



### Lenten Penitential Service

This Lent, the three Hereford parishes have decided to try and hold a joint penitential service. It will take place at Our Lady's Church, Belmont Road on **Thursday 22 March at 7 pm.**



**REAL FAIRTRADE EASTER EGGS** made by the Meaningful Chocolate Company with the Easter Story in the box. [www.traidcraftshop.co.uk](http://www.traidcraftshop.co.uk).



### Gift Aid

The financial tax year draws to a close in a few weeks and the new Gift Aid envelopes are now available for collection. Don't forget, Gift Aiding costs you nothing but allows the parish to reclaim the tax paid.



### Dates for your Diary

**20 March**

Tea & Chat  
Parish Hall 2:30 pm

**22 March**

Lent Penitential Service  
All parishes  
Our Lady's 7:00 pm

**23 March**

Church Cleaning  
9:00 am

25 March

Pay & Collect  
Tesco Vouchers

**3 April**

Diamond Diners  
Three Horseshoes  
12:45



## WHAT CAN I DO FOR LENT?

"CATHOLICISM-PIVOTAL PLAYERS"

Every Monday evening in Lent at SFX.  
7 pm - 8.30 pm in Parish Hall

**19 Mar: G. K. Chesterton**

**26 Mar: Michelangelo**

ALL WELCOME! Tea/coffee and  
informal discussion



## Wednesday Lent Days

### An English Spring

The 20th Century saw many powerful contributions to Christian life and letters in this country. Through their writings and witness they helped shape the Church in their lifetime and offer to us many fruits of the spirit. During Lent we enrich our faith through exploring this new inheritance.

The day starts with coffee at 10.00 am, Mass at 12 noon and includes a soup lunch with a suggested offering £10.

21 March Basil Hume – Dom David Yates



### Jumble Sale

Our next jumble sale is on 14 April at OLQM parish hall. As always we could do with clean clothing, books, bric-a-brac and children's toys. Please leave all items in the Parish Porch not in the Church porch. Thank you.



Don't forget on **Palm Sunday** (25 March) there are only two Sunday Masses at Belmont Abbey - **8.30 & 10.00** am only. The Abbot will preside at the 10 am Pontifical High Mass, which, because of the long liturgy, replaces the 9.30 & 11 am Masses. Blessed Palms will of course be available at the 8.30 am Parish Mass



## CELEBRATE WALES:21-22 APRIL 2018

Celebrate Wales, the Catholic Family Charismatic Conference, is in its 7 year and will be held at Mary Immaculate High School, Wenvoe, Cardiff, CF5 5QZ. There are groups for all ages with amazing young leaders and inspirational speakers. It starts on Saturday 21 April and ends on Sunday 22. The theme is 'See I am doing a new thing' (Is 43:19) Come and hear some inspired teachings along with Adoration, Reconciliation, prayer ministry and workshops.

[www.celebrateconference.org/wales](http://www.celebrateconference.org/wales) or ring Michael Coyle on 01952 417223. Bursaries are available for those in need. Alternatively, you can ring Rob or Jacqui Corrigan on H. 352241 if you would like more information.



## **Proposed “Relief” road and “bypass”**

In the latest public document, Belmont Abbey is recognised in the consultation and it highlights that all routes will have a “Severe/Adverse” effect on it. Breinton Parish residents were told that the new “bypass” will not improve congestion on routes into Hereford.

Liz Morawiecki who is working very hard to highlight the problems with the current proposal suggests as many people as possible complete either the paper questionnaire or the online survey. Please note that at Q3 if you choose a route or “no Preference” this will be recognised that you support the principle of a bypass. Ignore the question and just put in the box “no bypass” if this is your opinion.

The full consultation and the information the council are presenting can be found on here on [www.herefordshire.gov.uk/HTP](http://www.herefordshire.gov.uk/HTP).



### **Walsingham Association**

#### **Ledbury & Belmont Abbey Group**

Our next meeting will be Belmont Abbey on Wednesday 21 March, commencing with Monastic Vespers in the Abbey Church at 5:55 pm. The 2019 pilgrimage: 17 to 20 may 2019 with Hereford Cathedral. More details later.



## **Homily**

*“And when I am lifted up from the earth, I shall draw all men to myself.”*

### **Illustration**

One of the most moving religious films of all time is called *Of Gods and Men*. The film, based on the true story of a Cistercian monastery set in the Atlas Mountains in Algeria, describes how the monks lived and worked among the local Arab population, helping them with both medical aid and their education, and entering into fraternal dialogue with Muslim leaders and scholars. Then came the threat from terrorism and the decision as to whether to stay or return to Europe. The decision is taken through the practice of their daily worship and reflection. Perhaps the most powerful part of the film is this self-examination done with the support of prayer and the sacraments. In the end they decide to stay, knowing full well that they are choosing the path to martyrdom. The insurgents, who have already pressurised them for medical assistance, return to kidnap seven of them and lead them off, eventually, it is thought, to behead them. As Father Christian de Chergé wrote in his testament, sent sealed to his mother two years earlier, their lives in such circumstances would be given, not taken; given to God, Algeria and its people.

## **Gospel Teaching**

The time of the prophets in Israel is seen as the time when religious thinking moved from a concern with external structures and behaviour to convictions of the inner self. Oddly enough a similar transformation may be traced in other civilisations of the time, in Greek thought, Hinduism and Buddhism. As Jeremiah describes it, the Lord will plant his Law deep within us, writing it on our hearts. It is seen as God's response to our failure to keep the covenant. Instead of punishment God forgives our iniquity and never calls our sin to mind, giving us an image of God that will be taken up by the person of Jesus. In the synoptic Gospels Jesus faces his death with the agony in the garden, where he is described as struggling with what is being asked of him by God his Father. Today's extract from St John's Gospel sees Jesus troubled in similar fashion. The difference is that in John's vision this testing is seen in itself to be the hour in which the Son of Man is glorified, a view that is underlined by the voice from heaven, like a clap of thunder, declaring, "I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again." The symbol Jesus offers us is that of the wheat grain that falls on the ground and dies. It is only by falling on the ground and dying that the grain can yield a rich harvest. In a similar way we are asked to follow Jesus as the one who dies on our behalf and in so dying draws all

people to himself.

## **Application**

The experience of the monks in Algeria is a vivid example of how we may be asked to repeat in our lives what Jesus showed us in his own crucifixion. Most of us will not be asked to take such extreme steps in our lives. We will, however, be asked to take such steps in many little ways every day of our lives. How do we develop the ability to take such decisions? How do we create a framework in our lives that will help us respond with the same generosity that we see in Jesus and his followers? The monks found the way forward through the structure of their lives, their monastic prayer life and reflection, and the celebration of the sacraments together. We find Jesus in dialogue with others and indeed with himself. And we know that before any major decision he retired to be by himself or with a few special disciples to pray. These too create the framework for our own decision making. We do not get on the right track out of the blue. It is through prayer, open discussion and the sacraments that we prepare ourselves constantly for whatever decisions will be asked of us, especially the decisions that will demand generosity and self-sacrifice on our part. There is the vision too of the wider cause we serve, the world in all its variety that always awaits the healing touch of Christ.

## ***Holy Week & Easter 2018***

### **Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday of Holy Week**

Mass	8.00 am
Wednesday Mass in Oratory	12.00 pm

### **Holy Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> March**

Mass of the Lord's Supper	7.00 pm
Compline	9.00 pm

### **Good Friday 30<sup>th</sup> March**

Stations of the Cross	11.00 am
Liturgy of the Passion	3.00 pm
Compline	8.00 pm

### **Holy Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> March**

Morning Prayer	9.00 am
Vespers	6.00 pm
The Easter Vigil	9.00 pm

### **Easter Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> April**

Parish Mass	8.30 am
Parish Sung Mass	9.30 am
Monastic Conventual Mass	11.00 am
Vespers & Benediction	6.00 pm

### **Easter Monday 2nd April**

Sung Mass	9.00 am
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<b>Ministers, etc. for next <u>Sunday 25 March 2018</u> <u>Palm Sunday Year B Cycle 2</u></b>		
	<b>08:30</b>	<b>10:00</b>
Celebrant	Fr Nicholas	Fr Abbott
Welcomers	Monica Russell & Rita Chamberlain	Phyll Buckley
Sacristan		
1 <sup>st</sup> Reading	Monica Tomlin	Phyll Buckley
2 <sup>nd</sup> Reading	Jacqui Ramage-S	
Bidding Prayers	Margaret Rose	
Offertory	Hayes Family	
Extraordinary Ministers	Eddie Wyman & Seamus Hayes	
<b>Next Sunday - Parish Outreach - Aid to the Church in Need</b>		

Low Mass in the Extraordinary Rite (Tridentine Mass) is celebrated here at Belmont Abbey on Wednesday evenings at 7 pm and Sunday afternoons at 4 pm.	<b>CHILDREN'S LITURGY</b>	
	<b>18-Mar</b>	<b>Andrew M &amp; Pauline Gill</b>
	<b>25-Mar</b>	<b>Pat Wood &amp; Mary Wood</b>

Please pray for all who have died: **May they rest in peace.** (W/C 18 March)

**Deaths:** Ann Wooding, William Padden, Elaine White and Sheila Langford

**Anniversaries:** Olive Hill, Saul Jones, Dom Edmund Whiriskey, Maria Cochrane, Mary Gwilt, Mary Haan, Albert Milsom, Tom Walsh, Maria Hendrika Williams, Mary Donovan, Sarah Edmonds, Bernard Bray, Joan Curme and Frank Underwood.

**The Sick:** Please pray for: Gill Wiseman, Neal Harries, Kenny Hanna, Fr Aidan, Rachel Thompson, Phillip Archer, Sonja Hayes, Robin Hayward, Gil Savory, Denise Ellis, Chris & Sue Rogers, Peter Draper, Dominique Wetz, Sally Hayward, Lillian Allsop, Shirley Brymer, Edward Medicott, Joanne Savory, Dame Catherine, Vincent Hanna and Sadie Bowyer.

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

<p><b>5<sup>th</sup></b></p> <p><b>Sunday</b></p> <p><b>of Lent</b></p>	<p><b>Entrance:</b> Give me justice, O God, and plead my cause against a nation that is faithless. From the the deceitful and cunning rescue me, for you O God, are my strength.</p> <p><b>Acclamation:</b> When we eat this Bread ....</p> <p><b>Communion:</b> Amen, Amen I say to you: unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains a single grain. But if it dies, it bears much fruit.</p>
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<b>Principal Celebrants, Extraordinary Ministers, Readers, etc.</b>			
	08:30 am	9:30 am	11:00 am
Celebrant	Fr Nicholas		Fr Nicholas
Welcomer	Hayes Family	Clare Wichbold	Morawiecki Family
Sacristan			Jeremy Hogan
1 <sup>st</sup> Reading	Liz Norman	Paul Nickhold	Pat Draper
2 <sup>nd</sup> Reading	Jacqui Ramage-S		Liz Morawiecki
Bidding Prayer	Ann Jackson		Lucy Reed
Offertory	Ramage-H Family	Frances Riddell & Teresa Harriss	
Extra-Ordinary Minister(s)	Kath Parry & Julia Davey		Gabrielle Stanley & Margaret Evans
Mass Intention	<b><i>Mary Jo Donnelly</i></b>	<b><i>Pro Populo</i></b>	<b><i>Beryl Griffin</i></b>
<b>Second Collection - <i>Easter Flowers</i></b>			
<b>Food Bank Collection: Ray &amp; Margaret Rose</b>			

<b><i>What's On for the week</i></b>	
Mon	<b>St Joseph:</b> Mass at 8:00 am
Tue	<b>Lenten Feria:</b> Mass at 8:00 am
Wed	<b>St Benedict:</b> Sung Mass at 8 am & Midday Mass in the Abbey.
Thu	<b>Lenten Feria:</b> Mass at 8:00 am
Fri	<b>Lenten Feria:</b> Mass at 8:00 am: Exposition at 11 & Midday Mass in Oratory
Sat	<b>Lenten Feria:</b> Mass at 8:00 am: Sacrament of Reconciliation at 10:00