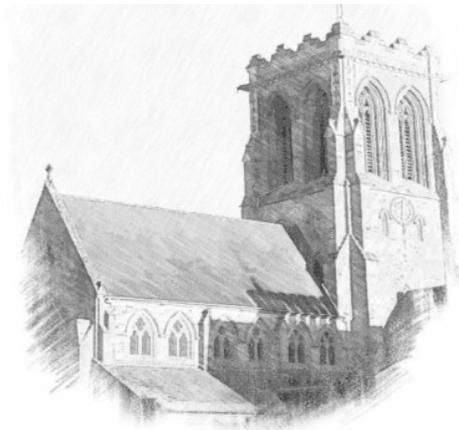


# ***St Michael and All Angels Belmont Abbey***



**PARISH NEWSLETTER**

**20<sup>th</sup> November 2016  
Christ the King**

**PARISH PRIEST**

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**Parish Deacon**

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Items for the Newsletter to  
[admin@belmontparish.org.uk](mailto:admin@belmontparish.org.uk)  
or The Parish Office

Today is the feast of Christ the King. We celebrate publicly that Jesus is first in our lives. We could say it is really a celebration of the first commandment, "I am the Lord your God. You shall not have strange gods before me." The feast asks a fundamental question: who exercises dominion over us? Who or what rules our lives and how? Today, is also dedicated as a day for the youth of our Church. Let us pray with them and for them that God may fill them with his grace and guide them in the years ahead.

To mark the end of the liturgical year, there will be an extended period of Exposition from 1pm and finishing with Vespers and Benediction at 6pm. Please try and pop in for a short while and take advantage of this special prayer opportunity. The Holy Door and the Year of Mercy will close after Vespers tonight.

Operation Christmas Shoe Boxes – Please make sure these are left in the porch by lunch time today. Thank you for supporting this project.

At the meeting of the Belmont Chapter last week, Abbot Paul was re-elected as abbot of the community for a further eight year term.

Draw Tickets are now available for the Christmas Raffle – lots of wonderful Christmas hamper type prizes to be won!

*Fr Nicholas*

Last Sunday's	1 <sup>st</sup> Collection	<b>£267.26</b>
	Standing Orders	<b>£412.50</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>£149.89</b>
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 <b>Parish Outreach. Thank you!</b>		

† † † † †

### Second Collections

During November, the Second Collections, marked as Parish Outreach, will be for local Hereford charities caring for the Homeless and the Hereford Food Bank

† † † † †

Each day during November Mass will be offered for the Holy Souls in purgatory especially the names of all our loved ones on our November lists resting on the high altar.

† † † † †

### 150 Club November winners:

1. Adrian Eyre No.1
2. Janet Matthews No.97
3. Ray Rose No.9

† † † † †

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**The Angel** - If you would like to write a piece for The Angel magazine or have any articles or digital photographs you would like published please submit them to the parish office, preferably by email, by 4th December.

† † † † †

### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Red Box  
Last hand in date  
27 November

Church Cleaning  
9:00 am  
25 November

Thursday 1 December  
Light up a Life 7:00 pm  
Abbey Church

Sunday 11 December  
Christmas Draw Parish Hall  
After 11 am Mass

Wednesday 14 December  
Retired Persons  
Christmas Lunch 12:30 pm

† † † † †

### Light up a Life Service Belmont Abbey

**Thursday 1st December at 7 pm.**

The Light up a Life Advent Service is an opportunity to remember and

celebrate the life of a loved one, whilst supporting the work of Saint Michael's Hospice. It represents a time to be comforted and to share hope with others. The events are open to all, not just those who have experienced hospice care or who have lost a loved one in the past year. Donations from the Light Up A Life 2016 appeal will help Saint Michael's ensure local people get the end of life care they need, allowing more people to live their last days with choice, respect and dignity.



#### **Diamond Diners Festive Party**

Will be held on the next scheduled date, 6th December. The cost is 3 courses £12 or 2 courses £10 and consists of a full traditional Christmas lunch. Christmas menu **MUST** be pre-booked and menu sheets, for you to make your selections, are available in the Parish Centre and **MUST** be completed by **TODAY** and the full amount paid, by the same date, to Ray Rose. The usual Diamond Diners Menu will still be available for those NOT wishing to have the Christmas Lunch. Everyone, as usual, is welcome, 1:00pm at The Three Horseshoes, Allensmore.



One of our parishioners has kindly invited up to four parishioners for

**Christmas Day Lunch.** This festive invitation is extended to anyone who might be on their own or lonely this Christmas. Transport can be arranged. Please contact Fr Nicholas if you would like to take up this invitation or know somebody who would be on their own.



#### **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!



#### ***During November we commemorate the Holy Souls.***

Death is the one certainty in life that we all have to face, and yet we live in a society that wants to avoid that certainty. The Catholic Church has a rich treasury of resources and reflections that offer help and support to those grappling with issues around the meaning of life and death. These resources are now being made

available through a new website entitled *Ars Moriendi* – The Art of Dying Well. The site has been compiled by the Catholic Bishops’ Conference of England and Wales working in co-operation with professionals in palliative care, ethics, chaplaincy, history and media. The site is designed for those who are dying, their friends and family, for carers and is a contribution to the national debate on such matters. Website at [www.artofdyingwell.org](http://www.artofdyingwell.org)



In the porch are some leaflets with a summary of the new Vatican document **Ad resurgendum cum Christo** regarding the burial of the deceased and the conservation of the ashes in the case of cremation



**Parish Retired Person’s Christmas Lunch**

12.30 pm Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> December at Hedley Lodge. Tickets £10.00 – please return completed leaflet to Parish Office.



**Our Lady’s Twentieth Anniversary**

Over the weekend of Friday 25<sup>th</sup> – Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> November, Our Lady’s Parish is celebrating the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the building of the new

parish church. All are welcome to join us for the events taking place. All weekend there is an exhibition and display on the history of the parish and of our local county saints. On Friday 25<sup>th</sup> at 8.00pm there is a talk from Lynne Surtees on the Saints and Martyrs of Herefordshire in the parish hall. The exhibition is open from 10.00am till 4.00pm on Saturday. Then a Ceilidh in the evening featuring the local band “Sheila’s Wheels”, with supper, tickets are £5 for adults, £2 for kids. For tickets ring Lindsaye on 08732 694284, or Fr. Matthew on 265177.



**Wales and the Marches Catholic History Society**

**November talk**

Title: Windows into Heaven: Margaret Rope's Stained Glass  
 Speaker: Dr. Claire FitzGerald, University of Warwick  
 Where: St. David's Sixth Form College, Cardiff  
 When: 3 pm on Sunday November 27<sup>th</sup>

All are welcome





## HOMILY

*“Above him there was an inscription:  
‘This is the King of the Jews.’”*

## Illustration

Near the beginning of the Via Dolorosa in Jerusalem, beneath the convent of the Daughters of Sion, there is an area of limestone pavement that has been smoothed by the passage of feet over two thousand or more years. In the Gospel of John, this area is called “the Pavement”. It is where Pontius Pilate sat in judgement on Jesus and sentenced him to death. Very near the Pavement is a section of the limestone where the markings of a board game played by Roman soldiers are still visible. The game is known as “the Game of the King”. John’s Gospel gives us background: “the soldiers twisted some thorns into a crown and put it on his head, and dressed him in a purple robe”. They are playing the game of the king. The irony deepens as Pilate questions Jesus, “Are you the king of the Jews?” In some Bible translations Jesus eventually answers in the affirmative, but this is not what the original Greek text says.

## Gospel Teaching

In none of the four Gospels does Jesus

claim to be a king. *The Jerusalem Bible* translation has Jesus reply to Pontius Pilate’s question, “So you are a king then?” with the words, “Yes, I am a king.” A better translation would be, “you say I am a king”. In each Gospel, Jesus does not affirm that he is a king, but he does not deny it either. In John, Jesus focuses rather on his purpose: “I came into the world for this: to bear witness to the truth; and all who are on the side of truth listen to my voice.” Jesus, although he has agreed that he is a king, is at pains to show that his kingship is not to be understood in terms of this world.

The Sunday Gospels for this year have been predominantly from Luke, and this feast is no exception. Like the other three evangelists, Luke avoids any suggestion that Jesus explicitly claimed to be king. He does not explicitly reject the title, however, and in each of the Gospels the evangelist gives some insight from the story of Jesus’ passion and death to illustrate just what kind of king Jesus may be. Not surprisingly, in Luke’s account, which we have just been listening to, there is a particular emphasis that we can identify, and which appears throughout the whole of the Gospel. There is a constant emphasis on the mercy of God throughout Luke – from the reference in Mary’s Magnificat, before the birth of Jesus, where Mary proclaims that

God “has come to the help of Israel his servant, mindful of his mercy”, through Jesus’ initial proclamation in the Nazareth synagogue that he has come to bring “good news to the poor”, on to the parables of the good Samaritan and the prodigal son, and continuing to his prayer while he is being nailed to the cross: “Father, forgive them; they do not know what they are doing.” Finally, this mercy is extended to the criminal crucified beside him: the one who has just acknowledged that he and his co-accused were paying for what they had done, whereas Jesus had “done nothing wrong”. This one asks, “Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.” Jesus replies, “I promise you, today you will be with me in paradise.” In word and action throughout his life, and now in the final stages of his suffering and as his death approaches, Jesus shows that his kingship lies in his expression of the mercy of God – a mercy he makes a reality and not just an aspiration.

### Application

In John, Jesus defines his kingship in terms of witnessing to the truth, saying that all who are on the side of truth listen to his voice. In the Gospel of Luke, Jesus’ words and actions require – demand – a response from those who claim to be his followers. He requires of his followers that they be merciful as his Father is merciful. If

we need evidence as to what the mercy of God is like, all we need do is look at the action of Jesus, the king who embodies the mercy of God. As he told the lawyer who identified the Samaritan in the parable as a true neighbour, we can imagine Jesus saying to us that if we would know what the mercy of God is like, we need only consider Jesus’ words and actions – and then “do the same yourself”!



**Ministers, etc. For next Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> November- 1 Advent - Year A - Cycle 1**

	<b>08:30</b>	<b>09:30</b>	<b>11:00</b>
Celebrant	Fr Nicholas		Fr Nicholas
Welcomers	Annette Mansie	Patrick Walesby	Rita Chamberlain & Monica Russell
Sacristan			Rob Corrigan
1 <sup>st</sup> Reading	Fran Grant	Anthea Morton-S	Jennifer Hackman
2 <sup>nd</sup> Reading	Liz Norman		Jacqui Corrigan
Bidding Prayers	Adrian Eyre		Marje Hayes
Offertory	Hayes Family	Frances Wood & Maria Large	
Extraordinary Ministers	Fran Smallwood		Jan Wyman

***Next Sunday - Parish Outreach***

<p><b>Anniversaries</b></p> <p>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>	<b>CHILDREN'S LITURGY</b>	
	<b>8.30 Children's Liturgy - temporarily cancelled</b>	
	<b>20-Nov</b>	Jacqui King & R Blackburn
	<b>27-Nov</b>	Marje Hayes & Pauline Gill
	<b>04-Dec</b>	Pat Wood & Mary Wood
	<b>11-Dec</b>	Jacqui Corrigan & Rachel Cowdrey
<b>18-Dec</b>	A Morawiecki & Monica Russell	

Please pray for all who have died: **May they rest in peace.** (W/C 20 Nov)

**Deaths:** Michael Kenneth Rose, Beryl Lonergan, Diana Gosnell and Winifred Lewis.

**Anniversaries:** Anastasia Maureen Clemens, John Lewis, Arthur Shaw, Elizabeth Jones, Barry Lofthouse, Henry Lyons. Amy Symonds, Lilian Tyler. Beatrix Kelly, Fr Christopher McNulty, David Middleton, Larry Abel, Annie Beavan, Mary Bray, Emily Phillips, Ted Allsopp and Chloe Brymer.

**The Sick:** Please pray for: Marnie Archer, John McComish, Wendy Lyle Cameron, John Pimblett, Sister Trish, Brian Holberry, Mother Regina, Ann Thomas, Mary Smith, Fr Michael Cronin, Philip Herderschee, Sheila Langford, Dominique Wetz, Marie Williams, Sally Hayward, Stephen Fisher, Gordon Wilson, 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 20<sup>th</sup> November** Cycle C; Weekdays: Cycle 2 (Wk 34)

<p><b>Feast Of Christ the King</b></p>	<p><b>Entrance:</b> How worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and divinity and wisdom and strength and honour. To him belong glory and power for ever and ever.</p> <p><b>Acclamation:</b> Save us, Saviour of the world ....</p> <p><b>Communion:</b> The Lord sits as King for ever. The Lord will bless his people with peace.</p>
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<b>Principal Celebrants, Extraordinary Ministers, Readers, etc.</b>			
	08:30 am	09:30 am	11:00 am
Celebrant	Fr Nicholas		Fr Nicholas
Welcomer	Hayes Family	Desmond Keohane	Ross & Anne Williams
Sacristan			Jeremy Hogan
1 <sup>st</sup> Reading	Jacqui Ramage-S	Basil Nickerson	Jane Davies
2 <sup>nd</sup> Reading	Julia Davey		Lucy Reed
Bidding Prayer	Fran Smallwood		Marje Hayes
Offertory	Ramage-H Family	Anthea Morton-S & Teresa Harriss	
Extra-Ordinary Minister(s)	Seamus Hayes & Kath Parry		Chris Moore
Mass Intention	<b>Muriel Parry RIP</b>	<b>Belmont Association</b>	<b>Holy Souls on November Lists</b>
<b>Second Collection - Parish Outreach</b>			
<b>Food Bank Delivery: Ray &amp; Margaret Rose</b>			

<b>What's On for the week</b>	
Mon	<b>Presentation of Our Lady:</b> Mass at 8:00 am
Tue	<b>St Cecilia:</b> Mass at 8:00 am
Wed	<b>St Andrew Dung-Lac &amp; Companions:</b> Mass at 8:00 am: Midday Mass in Oratory: Tridentine Mass at 7:00 pm
Thu	<b>Feria:</b> Mass at 8:00 am
Fri	<b>Feria:</b> Mass at 8:00 am: Exposition at 11 am & Midday Mass in Oratory
Sat	<b>BVM:</b> Mass at 8:00 am: Reconciliation at 10:00 am