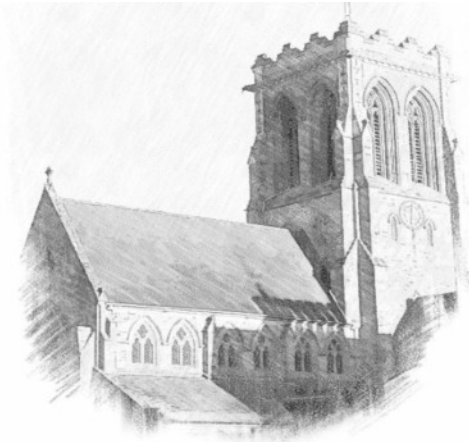


St Michael and All Angels Belmont Abbey



PARISH NEWSLETTER

2nd Sunday of Lent

*21st February 2016
(Cycle C)*

PARISH PRIEST

Fr. Nicholas Wetz OSB

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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

Today's gospel reading is of the Transfiguration. At the end of this extraordinary event, when the voice from heaven commands us to "listen to him", we are challenged to be transfigured by the divine presence in our own lives. This should prompt us to deepen our prayer lives and our lives of love and charity. This is the hall mark of our Lenten Season.

The second collection today is for Cafod. God created a world of abundance with enough food for everyone, but we have turned it into a world of want: each night, one in eight people goes to bed hungry due to lack of food. Let's share the abundance of God's creation with our global family by supporting Cafod's Lent appeal.

This year CAFOD is working to ensure girls living in the world's poorest countries are free to change their lives by getting an education. CAFOD is working with local expert organisations around the world to bring water to family homes, so girls who used to spend hours collecting it every day, now have time for school, study and to play with their friends. Fast Days are our opportunity to support that vital work. Every £1 donated by supporters this Lent, up to the value of £5 million, will be matched by the UK Government.

We welcome the Belmont Oblates to the 9.30 am Mass this morning.

Fr Nicholas

Last Sunday's	1st Collection	£270.69
	Standing Orders	£438.00
	2nd Collection	£179.34
<i>Marriage Care - Thank you.</i>		

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TEA & CHAT

In spite of bad weather conditions we had a very good attendance at our last meeting, thank you everyone, it was good to see you. The next two meetings will be held on Tuesday 15th March, and Tuesday 19th of April, all in the Parish Centre at 2.30 pm, and we finish around 4 pm. It is always good to see new faces, so do drop in have a cup of tea and piece of cake and enjoy a good chat, everyone is welcome. I look forward to seeing you on March 15th.

Margaret Rose

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REFUGEE CRISIS

A huge thank you to all who supported our plea for help for the refugees; we have had a wonderful amount of items and last week we saw a minibus loaded up ready to go to Chepstow and then on to Syria in a container lorry; most of the items were from Belmont parishioners. We now have enough money to send a minibus to Calais/Dunkirk. We will keep collecting items and delivering them to Leominster for as long as donations

are coming in, but please make sure that you label them, as items for the jumble sale are also being collected.

Jacqui & Rob Corrigan

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JUMBLE SALE

The next Jumble Sale will be on March 12 at OLQM Parish Hall. As always we would be grateful for all items you have to bring in. Clothes should be clean and in wearable condition. If you have some that are not suitable to be resold, please put them in a black bag and MARK the bag as rags. We can sell the rag bags so nothing is wasted. Anything else you have, from a needle to an elephant, will also be useful. Please leave all items in our Parish porch and not in the Church porch. Many thanks for your help.

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NEW ROTA OF MINISTRIES

A new rota is due for the period 13 March to and including 19 June. Non-available dates by 26 February please either on 01432-266307 or on frangrant235@btinternet.com.

Many thanks for your help.

Fran Grant

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24 HOURS FOR THE LORD

**Friday 4 March to Saturday 5 March
Begins at Friday 11 am Exposition,
Confessions & Mass at 12 noon.**

Day of Prayer continues with Divine Office at usual times, Rosary/stations of the Cross, Confessions. Esposition of the Blessed Sacrament through the night. Ends at 11 am Saturday Morning. Please sign up on the Poster in the Porch or contact Brother Bernard on 01432 374735.



‘Walk With Me’, the pocket-size booklets of prayers and reflections for Lent 2016, are now available.



HEREFORD CATHOLIC HISTORY SOCIETY

Please note that the next meeting of the HCHS will be on Friday 4th March in the Parish Centre at Belmont Abbey at 2.30 pm when we will have a talk by Margaret Harcourt-Williams on “ Catholic Archives in 2016”, an important topic for anyone interested in researching Catholic history.

Visitors welcome Further information from bmwarde@aol.com.



Lent Study Lunches at Ewyas Harold:

Migration & Movement

On five Thursdays beginning 18th February at 12 noon in the Ewyas Harold Baptist Hall (With soup lunch

from 1 pm - donations)



Hereford LIFE

There will be a meeting of Hereford LIFE on the Monday 29 February at 7 pm at St Martins which has an entry to the car park from Holme Lacey Rd. All are very welcome and if you would like to come but have no transport please ring 371654.



Don't forget on Palm Sunday (20th 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



Please support **Nathan** Morawiecki in his fundraising events so that he can go to World Youth Day in Krakow in July 2016. He has a list of fundraising ideas and you can contact him on morawieckin@icloud.com or on 07496577676 by text only. More details about Nathan's fundraising efforts can be found in 7 February newsletter on the website. Many thanks for your help!



The Wednesday Midday Masses during Lent will be in the Church to accommodate the larger number of people joining us for the Lenten Days of Recollection.



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Wednesday 24 February
Lenten day of Recollection
10 am to 4 pm

Tuesday 1 March
Requiem Mass
For Mary Carroll

Friday 4 March
Church Cleaning
9:00 am

Thursday 10th March 7 pm
Lenten Station Mass
celebrated by Archbishop Stack
at Belmont Abbey

Saturday 12 March 1:30 pm
Jumble Sale
OLQM

Tuesday 15 March
Tea & Chat
2:30 to 4:00

Sunday 22 May
Confirmation Mass
11:00 am



**Wales and the Marches Catholic
History Society**

Forthcoming talk as part of the Archdiocesan celebrations:

Title: The Search for Our Cathedral.
Speaker: Sean Cleary. Where: St. David's Catholic Sixth Form College, Tygwyn Rd., Cardiff. When: SUNDAY 28th FEBRUARY at 3 pm. If you are able to join us, we look forward to welcoming you. Further information contact Tricia Coulthard - phone: 02920595899. Email: tricia.coulthard@outlook.com



**Wednesdays in Lent at
Belmont Abbey**

St Paul and his Communities

Throughout his lifetime Paul, the apostle to the gentiles, travelled widely across the then known world, founding churches and building up relationships with those that already existed. During Lent we examine Paul's relationship with five very different Christian communities.

*Wednesday 24th February: Rome:
Dom Brendan*

*Wednesday 2nd March: Thessalonica:
Abbot Paul*

*Wednesday 9th March: Ephesus: Dom
Andrew*

Wednesday 16th March: **Philippi: Abbot Paul**

Morning Coffee 10.00, Talk 10.30, Mass at 12 noon. 1.00 Simple Bread & Soup Lunch. Talk 2.00. Afternoon Tea 3.30 pm. Suggested Offering £10.00. Includes Lunch.



From Margaret Campbell

I would like to thank the Parish for the kind wishes and retiring gift I have been given. I have enjoyed my years as Parish Treasurer but am looking forward to relaxing and exploring new interests. Thank you also to Father Nicholas for his kind words and all the support he has given me. Thank you all very much!.



PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES

Spaces still available on Our Lady's Parish Pilgrimage to Lourdes, from 12th-19th August, flying from Stanstead. Organised by Tangey Tours, led by Fr. Matthew. Cost £630, all inclusive. More info from Fr. Matthew 265177



HOMILY

"This is my Son, the Chosen One. Listen to him."

Illustration As anyone who has

been on a mountain, especially in the Scottish Highlands, will know, clouds are not unusual at the summit. The mist may descend at any time and the effects on those who are caught by clouds are multiple. There is a feeling of fear, because of the lack of visibility, though usually it is possible to see far enough to keep going. It also becomes colder as the sun is blocked, and the mist may be damp. Yet there is also a strange comfort in the mist. A womb-like security seems to come with the mist. The mist gathers people together in a strange unity and it seems as if time has stopped. At the summit, there is nowhere to go except down. Yet the mist seems to say to us, "Stay here."

Peter might well have seen the coming of the cloud as a response to his suggestion that they should stay on the mountain. It is irrational but in the presence of the great ones of Peter's shared Jewish past, with the revelation of the greatness of Jesus, glowing with light, who knew what might be possible? The cloud was the presence of God, with the transfigured Christ at its heart. Surely the kingdom had come? Yet the real meaning of the transfiguration is that we have to come down from the mountain. The transcendent moments that we may experience on earth always fade. They vanish like snow falling into water. We have to make our way through the drudgery of ordinary life to the heaven

we have yet to see. We can rest from time to time but the journey continues.

Gospel Teaching

Ash Wednesday is the beginning of a journey. The journey does not end with the feast of the Ascension of the Lord. On that day, we gaze up into the heavens but realise that we still have work to do on earth and places to go. Jesus' ascension is not the end of the road but the gateway to a new road through the world. Abraham was not asked to make a shrine to worship the God who had appeared to him in his own land, but was asked to go to another place. It might have seemed to him that this would be his land for ever, but we know we are called to another land. We wander through the desert now, but we carry a greater presence than the ark of the covenant because Christ is with us always.

Peter, James and John come down the mountain with Jesus. They find themselves back in the messiness of life. Jesus himself will show the strain when he finds himself surrounded by a great crowd. The serenity of the mountain will soon pass and the disciples will fail to cure a boy possessed by a demon. Just a few verses further on in Luke's Gospel, Jesus will utter startling words: "Faithless and perverse generation! How much longer must I be among you and put up with you?" Yet this is what he came for and he now begins his

journey to Jerusalem, where the fate of the world will be decided. The mountain was a glimpse of what is to come, but we must walk the road that Jesus walks.

Application

Only in the Gospel of Luke are we told that Jesus climbed the mountain of the transfiguration in order to pray. Luke emphasises the role of prayer in the lives of Jesus and his disciples. Luke had learned how the Church could not make progress without prayer, and if we ask what is wrong with the Church, and our own lives, the answer is often the same: there is not enough prayer. Yet prayer itself in this life always has to come to an end. Even the greatest of contemplatives still had to live their lives, and life is a struggle. The story of the transfiguration is a story of prayer, and our understanding of it can be deepened if we look back in the Bible. When Moses came down from Mount Sinai, he found the people worshipping a golden calf, and he was angry but he stayed with them. Elijah, too, ran from the people, but found faith among the Gentiles. Jesus finds confusion among the people he has left behind but, instead of running away, he sets his face for Jerusalem. Prayer gives us peace, but we have to take that peace into the turbulence of people's lives.



Ministers, etc. For next <u>Sunday 28th February Third Sunday of Lent Year C</u>			
	8:30 am	9:30 am	11:00 am
Welcomer(s)	Annette Mansie	Clare Wichbold	Ross & Anne Williams
Sacristan			Rob Corrigan
1st Reading	Richard Batho	Brenda Warde	Jacqui Corrigan
2nd Reading	Julia Davey		Jane Davies
Bidding Prayer	Jacqui Ramage-Smith		Peter Davies
Offertory	Children's Liturgy	Anthea Morton-Saner & Teresa Harriss	
Extra-Ordinary Minister(s)	Seamus Hayes		Tony Archer
Next Sunday - Hereford Food Bank			

WEDNESDAYS IN LENT 10 am - 4 pm Day of Recollection with Mass Lenten Lunch Confessions 2.30 pm - 3:30 pm Wednesday 24 February	CHILDREN'S LITURGY	
	8.30 am Children's Liturgy - 21 Feb	
	11.00 am Liturgy	
	21-Feb	A Morawiecki & R Blackburn
	28-Feb	Jacqui Moore & Pauline Gill
	06-Mar	Jacqui Corrigan & Mary Wood
13-Mar	Pat Wood & Rachel Cowdrey	

Please pray for all who have died: **May they rest in peace.**

Deaths: *Mary Carroll, John Wallin, Henry Worsley, Sheila Kinsey and John Keeler*

Anniversaries: *Siobhan Hayes, Sarah Hill, Ethel Telford, Marion Arnold, Elizabeth Vose-Davies, Charles Fane, Kotska Oddie, Gertrude Leathwood, Charles Mason, Mother Anne Rosser, James Crump, Gwenda Duffield, Violet Templeman, Jean Jabale and Thomas Powell.*

The Sick: Please pray for *Sue Ball, Kenny Hanna, Peter Lee, Fr Luke, Shirley Brymer, Valerie Blake, Sr Trish, Edward Medlicott, Bridie Gittoes, Sr Philipa, Teresa Chowles, Elaine White, Edna Ledford, Sue Rogers, Fr Michal Cronin, Elaine Campbell, Joanne Savory, Sr Catherine, Vincent Hanna, and Sadie Bowyer.*

Liturgy for Sunday 21st February

Readings: Sunday Cycle C; Weekdays: Cycle 2; Divine Office Week 1

<p>2ND SUNDAY IN LENT</p>	<p>Entrance: Of you my heart has spoken: Seek his face. It is your face, O Lord, that I Seek; hide not your face from me.</p> <p>Acclamation: Save us Saviour of the world ...</p> <p>Communion: This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him.</p>
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Principal Celebrants, Extraordinary Ministers, Readers, etc.			
	8:30 am	9:30 am	11:00 am
Celebrant	Fr Nicholas		Fr Nicholas
Welcomer	Liz Norman	Nickerson Family	Morawiecki Family
Sacristan			Chris Moore
1st Reading	Mary Hayes	Patrick Walesby	Pat Draper
2nd Reading	Adrian Eyre		Sally Johns
Bidding Prayer	Ann Jackson		Liz Morawiecki
Offertory	Hayes Family	Margaret Campbell & Menna McBain	
Extra-Ordinary Minister(s)	Kath Parry & Julia Davey		Stephen Fisher
Mass Intention		Pro Populo	Joseph Higgins RIP
Second Collection : <i>Cafod</i>			
Food Bank Delivery: Jan & Eddie Wyman			

<i>What's On for the week</i>	
Mon	See of Peter: Mass at 8:00 am
Tue	Feria: Mass at 8:00 am
Wed	Feria: Mass at 8:00 am: Midday Mass in the Abbey. Tridentine Mass at 7 pm.
Thu	Feria: Mass at 8:00 am
Fri	Feria: Mass at 8:00 am Exposition at 11-12 and Midday Mass in Oratory
Sat	Feria: Mass at 8:00 am: Sacrament of Reconciliation at 10:00