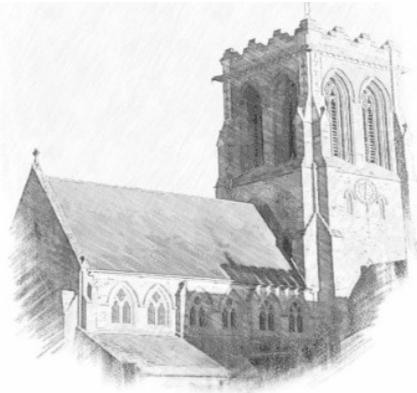


# ***St Michael and All Angels Belmont Abbey***



**PARISH NEWSLETTER**

**21 January 2018  
3rd Sunday in OT**

**PARISH PRIEST**

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Please pray during this Octave of prayer that true Christian unity may become a reality in our lifetimes and do support and attend the many different events that are going on, in and around our Parish and the City of Hereford over this period. *“Do all you can to preserve the unity of the Spirit by the peace that binds you together. There is one Body, one Spirit, just as you were called into one and the same hope when you were called. There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism, and one God who is Father of all, over all, through all and within all.”* Ephesians 4:3-6

There is Christian Unity Service this afternoon at 3 pm in the Methodist Chapel, Ewyas Harold.

The Outreach second collection today is for the charity, Acorns, who provide holistic, specialist and palliative care services to life limited or life threatened children, young people and their families in our region.

The Belmont monastic Community will be holding their annual Chapter this week, so there will be no Midday Mass on Wednesday. Apologies to any home bound parishioners due a visit this week – I hope to catch up next week.

*Fr Nicholas*

Last Sunday's	1 <sup>st</sup> Collection	<b>£307.36</b>
	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>£262.74</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>Makeni. Thank You!</b>		



### Parish Outreach

In January, our Parish Outreach collections will go towards supporting the St Joseph's School, Makeni project (7th & 14th Jan); and the local Acorns Children's Hospice (21st Jan) and the St Barnabas Society appeal (28th Jan).



### Hereford Hospital Chaplaincy

If you have a relative or fellow parishioner in hospital and they would like to be visited by Fr. Matthew, please contact him with the details on 01432 265177 or fr.matthew@live.co.uk.



**Ecumenical Service this Sunday at 3 pm in the Methodist Chapel, Ewyas Harold.** Organised by Churches Together in Ewyas Harold this is a service to mark the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, to which all are welcome.



The **Week of Prayer for Christian Unity** is a worldwide movement of Christians of many denominations, languages, and great diversity of race and culture, who are engaged in praying and working for the unity of Christians. Traditionally the week of prayer for Christian Unity is celebrated between 18-25 January.



### EMMAUS YOUTH

The dates for the next few meetings of Emmaus Youth are 17 February and 17 March at Our Lady's Parish Hall, 2.30-5.30 pm. 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.  
emmausyouth@hotmail.com





### Tea & Chat

Has now resumed. We are a very friendly group which meets on the third Tuesday of each month for a cup of tea/coffee and a piece of cake and a pleasant chat amongst each other. New members, from the wider Belmont community, are always welcome, including gentlemen. So if you feel like coming along and making new friends and having a cheerful afternoon then the Parish Centre at 2:30 pm is the place for you.



### Prayer for Christian Unity

Almighty God, give courage and strength to your church to continually proclaim justice and righteousness in situations of domination and oppression.

As we celebrate our unity in Christ, may your Holy Spirit help us to look to the needs of others. Amen

*The right hand of God  
is striking in our land,  
striking out at envy, hate and greed;  
our selfishness and lust,  
our pride and deeds unjust,  
are destroyed by the right hand of  
God.*



### Dates for your Diary

#### 21 January

Last Date for articles

#### The Angel

#### 26 January

Church Cleaning

9:00 am

#### 6 February

Diamond Diners

Three Horseshoes

12:45

#### 17 February

Emmaus Youth

OLQM Parish Hall

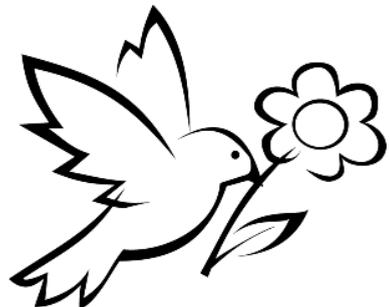
2:30

#### 20 February

Tea & Chat

Parish Hall

2:30 pm





Excerpt from

JOANNES PAULUS PP. II

### On commitment to Ecumenism

Together with all Christ's disciples, the Catholic Church bases upon God's plan her ecumenical commitment to gather all Christians into unity. Indeed, "the Church is not a reality closed in on herself. Rather, she is permanently open to missionary and ecumenical endeavour, for she is sent to the world to announce and witness, to make present and spread the mystery of communion which is essential to her, and to gather all people and all things into Christ, so as to be for all an "inseparable sacrament of unity' ".<sup>4</sup>

Already in the Old Testament, the Prophet Ezekiel, referring to the situation of God's People at that time, and using the simple sign of two broken sticks which are first divided and then joined together, expressed the divine will to "gather from all sides" the members of his scattered people. "I will be their God, and they shall be my people. Then the nations will know that I the Lord sanctify Israel" (cf. 37:16-28). The Gospel of John, for its part, considering the situation of the People of God at the time it was written, sees in Jesus' death the reason for the unity of God's children: "Jesus

would die for the nation, and not for the nation only, but to gather into one the children of God who are scattered abroad" (11:51-52). Indeed, as the Letter to the Ephesians explains, Jesus "broke down the dividing wall of hostility ... through the Cross, thereby bringing the hostility to an end"; in place of what was divided he brought about unity (cf. 2:14-16).

6. The unity of all divided humanity is the will of God. For this reason he sent his Son, so that by dying and rising for us he might bestow on us the Spirit of love. On the eve of his sacrifice on the Cross, Jesus himself prayed to the Father for his disciples and for all those who believe in him, that they *might be one*, a living communion. This is the basis not only of the duty, but also of the responsibility before God and his plan, which falls to those who through Baptism become members of the Body of Christ, a Body in which the fullness of reconciliation and communion must be made present. How is it possible to remain divided, if we have been "buried" through Baptism in the Lord's death, in the very act by which God, through the death of his Son, has broken down the walls of division? Division "openly contradicts the will of Christ, provides a stumbling block to the world, and inflicts damage on the most holy cause of proclaiming the Good News to every creature".<sup>5</sup>





## Homily

*“Follow me”*

## Illustration

*Hacksaw Ridge* is an Oscar-winning film released in 2016. It tells the extraordinary true story of Desmond Doss, a war hero who refused to kill. He was the first conscientious objector to win the Medal of Honor, the USA’s most prestigious military award, for his heroism as a medic in the Second World War. During battles in the Pacific the twenty-six-year-old risked his life again and again, exposing himself to gunfire to carry his injured companions to safety – and doing it all while refusing to carry any form of weapon. He said this would go against his Christian faith.

Doss was born in Virginia, the son of a carpenter. He was devoutly Christian, a member of the Seventh-Day Adventist Church, taking his faith intensely seriously. He took the commandment “Thou shalt not kill” to mean that although he would serve his country he could not take the life of another human being. He joined the army as a medic and was classed as a conscientious objector. In Guam in 1944 he repeatedly braved enemy

gunfire and torrential rain and mud to rescue companions. Then in Okinawa, Japan, on 29 April 1945 he placed himself in the heat of fighting, carrying seventy-five casualties one by one to the edge of an escarpment and lowering them on a rope-supported litter to safety and treatment. He was wounded himself in the battlefield the following month but constantly put others ahead of himself for treatment. Doss was a man of peace, even in times of war. He did not shirk the theatre of war but he saved people rather than killed them. His belief that he was called by Jesus to a life of nonviolence amidst the killing going on around him led him on a new and inspirational path in life.

## Gospel Teaching

Lots of motives and events influence people who switch their path in life for a new one. In today’s Gospel we hear of four fishermen – Simon, Andrew, James and John – who dropped their fishing nets when Jesus called them to follow him. They left behind their daily routine at the Sea of Galilee as soon as they heard the call to a new life.

God has a way of showing up in the ordinary places of life and interrupting the daily routines. This was also the experience of Jonah in today’s first reading, who was sent on a mis-

sion by God to the city of Nineveh. When these men accepted the invitation, their lives were different for ever. God's call led them into an uncertain but inspirational future.

## Application

Whatever your life is, however you spend your time, whatever circumstances affect normal living, there is in that life Jesus' call to "Follow me". It is the call to participate in God's saving work and the building up of the kingdom of God. That work is always about moving to a larger vision, orienting life in a new direction and experiencing that our own story of life is connected to a much larger story of life, God's life. It happens in the casting and mending of nets. It happens in the context of our everyday activities: work, school, families, paying the bills, running errands, fixing dinner, relationships and trying to do the right thing. These are the times and places Jesus shows up and calls us into a new way of being, and our world changes.

The call to follow Jesus is the call to discipleship. If we take Christian discipleship seriously it is a challenging path. It was not easy then and it will not be easy now. To follow Jesus, in other words, is to follow the one who turns the world upside down. Chris-

tian discipleship is the commitment to live a Gospel life, a marginal life in this place, at this time, whatever the cost. True discipleship takes the side of those who are poor, minorities, outcasts, people who are reviled and rejected. True discipleship means being a witness for justice and peace even in situations of injustice or war. When we enter into our callings we have no idea how it will all end up. We choose our careers and jobs hoping that we can use the gifts and talents God has given us.

What might God be asking you to leave behind? What is standing in the way of you following Jesus today? The call to follow Jesus is the call to discipleship. Christ is calling you. How will you respond?



**Ministers, etc. for next Sunday 28 January 2018 - 4 Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B Cycle 2**

	<b>08:30</b>	<b>9:30</b>	<b>11:00</b>
Celebrant	Fr Nicholas		Fr Nicholas
Welcomers	Liz Norman	Desmond Keohane	Hackman Family
Sacristan			Chris Moore
1 <sup>st</sup> Reading	Jacqui Ramage-S	Basil Nickerson	Jacqui Corrigan
2 <sup>nd</sup> Reading	Adrian Eyre		Jane Davies
Bidding Prayers	Mary Hayes		Niamh Coyle
Offertory	Hayes Family	Gillick Family	
Extraordinary Ministers	Seamus Hayes & Fran Smallwood		Jan Wyman & Andre Pavia
<b>Next Sunday - Parish Outreach - St Barnabas Society Appeal</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.	CHILDREN'S LITURGY	
	<b>21-Jan</b>	<b>Andrew M &amp; Pauline Gill</b>
	<b>28-Jan</b>	<b>Jackie King &amp; Mary Wood</b>

Please pray for all who have died: **May they rest in peace.** (W/C 21 Jan)

**Deaths:** Phillip Cook, Rebecca Dykes, Philomena Nicholas and Sister Mary Clare

**Anniversaries:** Alice Locans, Caroline Martin, John Bray, Dom Dyfrig Harris osb, Lisle Massey-Lynch, Dorothy Thorn, Jane Davies, John Keeler, Jennifer Snell, Gordon Wilson, Frank Keating, Mary Buckeridge, Horace Hiles and Dom Christopher Jenkins osb.

**The Sick:** Please pray for: Fr Aidan, Rachel Thompson, Phillip Archer, Sonja Hayes, Sheila Langford, Robin Hayward, Gil Savory, Denise Ellis, Chris & Sue Rogers, Peter Draper, Dominique Wetz, Sally Hayward, Lillian Allsop, 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)*

<b>3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>	<p><b>Entrance:</b> O sing a new song to the Lord; sing to the Lord, all the earth. In his presence are majesty and splendour, strength and honour in his holy place.</p> <p><b>Acclamation:</b> Save us, Saviour of the world ...</p> <p><b>Communion:</b> Look toward the Lord and be radiant; let your faces not be abashed.</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	Liz Norman	Nickerson Family	Ross & Anne Williams
Sacristan			Jeremy Hogan
1 <sup>st</sup> Reading	Richard Batho	Clare Wichbold	Jennifer Hackman
2 <sup>nd</sup> Reading	Liz Norman		Pat Draper
Bidding Prayer	Bill Jackson		Sergio Pavia
Offertory	Parish Children	Maria Large & Menna McBain	
Extra-Ordinary Minister(s)	Kath Parry & Jacqui Ramage-S		Gabrielle Stanley & Joao Pavia
Mass Intention		<i>Pro Populo</i>	<i>John Keeler RIP</i>
<b>Second Collection - <i>Acorns Children's Charity</i></b>			
<b>Food Bank Collection: Chris Moore</b>			

<b><i>What's On for the week</i></b>	
Mon	<b>Feria:</b> Mass at 8:00 am
Tue	<b>St Cadoc:</b> Mass at 8:00 am
Wed	<b>St Francis de Sales:</b> Mass at 8:00 am: <b>NO</b> Midday Mass in the Oratory
Thu	<b>Conversion of St Paul:</b> Mass at 8:00 am
Fri	<b>Feria:</b> Mass at 8:00 am: Exposition at 11 and Midday Mass
Sat	<b>BVM:</b> Mass at 8:00 am: Sacrament of Reconciliation at 10:00