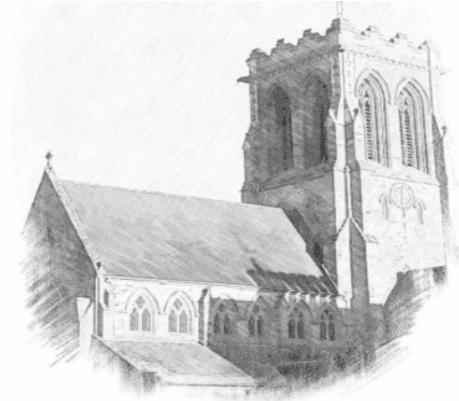


St Michael and All Angels Belmont Abbey



PARISH NEWSLETTER

22nd January 2017

3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

PARISH PRIEST

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Safeguarding Representative
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Items for the Newsletter to
admin@belmontparish.org.uk
or The Parish Office

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 3pm in the Baptist 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.

Over the next few weeks I will be seeking the parish's help to fill some gaps in our rota of ministries. In particular we are in need of more Readers and Extra-Ordinary Ministers at both the 8.30 and 11 am Masses. Can you help?

The Belmont monastic Community will be holding their annual Chapter this week, so there will be no Midday Mass on Wednesday

Fr Nicholas

Last Sunday's	1 st Collection	£538.92
	Standing Orders	£412.50
The 1 st collection goes towards the maintenance of our Abbey church and parish, diocesan levies and other related costs.		
	2 nd Collection	£205.36
The 2 nd collection is reserved for specific charitable causes or appeals and our own Outreach projects as detailed in the Newsletter. Last week was for White Flower Appeal. Thank you!		



Emmaus Youth are next meeting at Our Lady's Parish Hall, 2-5 pm on Saturday 28th January. You are invited to share in some Praise and Worship, Liturgy and then some 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



Second Collections

Last month our Parish Outreach collections went towards helping the refugees and children made homeless in Syria and we were able to send over £750 for their relief. Thank you. In January, our Parish Outreach collections will go towards supporting the St Joseph's School, Makeni project (1st & 8th Jan); the annual White Flower collection (15th Jan) and the local Acorns Children's Hospice (22nd Jan).



Our parish First Holy Communion programme will begin on Saturday 28th January. Please see Fr Nicholas or Rob & Jacqui Corrigan for more details.



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

27 January
Church cleaning
9:00am

29 January
Pay & Collect
Tesco Vouchers

21 February
Tea & Chat
2:30 Parish Hall

1 April
Jumble Sale
12:00
At OLQM





Rota of Ministries

This has not yet been completed. Please check newsletter for your ministry. Thank you.



Tea and Chat

has resumed, and continues on 21st Feb, 21st March, and 18th of April. It is always on the 3rd Tuesday in the month. For any newcomers to the Parish this is a very friendly group that meets for a cup of tea and a piece of cake or a biscuit and a good chat. We meet in the Parish Center at 2.30pm until 4.00pm. There is no charge, but a donation is very welcome for us to buy coffee, tea and milk and help to pay for heating the hall. Everyone is welcome, so don't be shy just come along and join us.



DO YOU LOVE ME?

Friday 3rd February 7pm
Kathryn Turner will be leading an evening event giving a very practical guide to Catholic prayer and formation, based on the booklet published by the bishops of England and Wales. The evening will present a wonderful opportunity to refresh our lives of prayer and to reflect

productively on this central aspect of our relationship with Jesus. The evening will start at 7pm and will be held in the Kemble Room. There will be light refreshments provided afterwards.

For further information, please contact Dom David Yates 01432 374 750.



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!



This 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. The theme for 2017 was proposed by

the churches in Germany based around 2 Corinthians 5:14-20. This announces that God has, in Christ, reconciled the world to himself. The love of Christ compels us to be ambassadors of this reconciliation, which is enacted by dismantling the walls. With the fall of the Berlin Wall, Germany experienced how a seemingly insurmountable wall could be brought down. The fall of this wall is a symbol of hope that, with the love of God, nothing is impossible.



Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

The theme is about Crossing Barriers and is prepared by the churches in Germany. There will be daytime prayers and discussion from Wednesday 18 January to Wednesday 25 January (except for Sunday) at the Acres, Pontrilas Road HR2 0EN (Pam Wright's house) from 11.30 am to 12.15 pm. On Sunday 22 January at 3.00pm there will be a special service (followed by refreshments) at the Baptist Chapel.



UNWANTED CHRISTMAS PRESENTS

With the need to start collecting Raffle Prizes with ticket printing to be done before Easter, I am appealing for any suitable unwanted Christmas

Presents or appropriate donations to be handed in to me as soon as possible please. Your kind help and generosity would be so greatly appreciated, also bearing in mind (if unsuitable for a Raffle Prize) the Tombola Prize Stall and Bottle Stall for the forthcoming Fete in June. A large box will be placed in the Church Porch for a few weeks and items will be collected daily. Many thanks in anticipation. Fr. Nicholas



HOMILY

“Follow me and I will make you fishers of men.”

Illustration

Fish and fishing, in one way or another, have played a large part in the cultural life of Christianity. From Jesus calling his first apostles, to the early Christian symbol of the fish representing Christ, to eating fish on a Friday, fish have been involved. In the time of the apostles, cured fish was a great delicacy and there was a curing factory at Magdala, home of Mary Magdalene, on the Sea of Galilee. This raises the ironic possibility that cured fish from the Sea of Galilee may have ended up on the dining tables of the Roman elite. Some of the Romans were converted to the apostolic preaching, others persecuted the apostles. Imagine

Pontius Pilate or Herod eating fish caught by Peter, James and John! The fish sauce so loved by the Romans, *garum*, was consumed in great quantity.

Fish has also always been considered as good for the brain. This certainly seems true of St Thomas Aquinas, who, while he was teaching in Paris, was given a barrel of fish a week by King Louis IX. On his deathbed, far from the sea, Thomas asked for some fresh herring, his favourite fish, and lo and behold, a fishmonger, who normally had nothing but sardines, turned up at the monastery door with precisely that item.

Gospel Teaching

It is no accident, then, that Jesus chooses his first apostles from among fishermen. Everything that the Lord does has relevance for our salvation. The very act of casting nets and gathering in speaks of the role of the apostle. Our Lord is also sanctifying the work of the disciples, and, on a practical level, he is choosing men who were physically tough, used to dealing with sudden storms on the Sea of Galilee. Soon after, he chooses Matthew, who would be able to read and write fluently, just the sort of man who would be able to record things accurately. In his teaching Jesus also uses the image of the shepherd a great deal. Indeed, when he confirms Peter

as the head of the apostles, he does so with the threefold command of “feed my sheep”. So the world of work in general is sanctified by the teaching of the Lord, and the work of fishing, shepherding and drawing up accounts is especially favoured in his imagery.

However, today’s Gospel also alludes to the times when our work is not going so well, and when remedial work is necessary. When Jesus sees James and John, they are in their boat, mending their nets. On one level, they are simply carrying out a routine task. On another level, the scene might represent all those times when our work grinds to a halt, the nets are broken, the wheels come off. This happens in our wider lives as well. In a fallen world, a lot that we do can seem futile, or can end in failure.

Application

However, whatever our line of work, whatever skills we have, whatever talents we have, we can recognise them, first of all, as gifts of God. These are, at the same time, our own works and our own gifts and talents. The two are not in competition. God can take what we have naturally, and raise it up to a supernatural level by God’s power. This is a very important and basic element in all authentic Christian reflection. God’s grace builds up and perfects all that is natural; it does not override or short-

circuit it. Because everything created is already loved and kept in being by God, it is already good. God can raise up any natural thing to become even better by God's power. This is especially true of human beings. Even though we are fallen and damaged, we are still basically good. God can heal us of our weaknesses and raise us up to be great instruments of God's grace. We can see this especially in the sacraments. Here we see the ordinary elements of our world, water, bread, oil, wine, human words and human gestures, all being raised up to become channels of supernatural life.

So when we see Jesus choosing the humble Galilean fishermen, and the despised tax collector Matthew, we can be encouraged that all of us have a part to play in building up the kingdom of God. God loves everything God has created, and holds it lovingly in being. God also gives it the great privilege of sharing in God's own redeeming power.



Saint Cadoc

or Cadog (Medieval Latin: Cadocus; also Welsh: Cattwg; born c. 497 or before) was a 5th-6th century Abbot of Llancarfan, near Cowbridge in Glamorganshire, South Wales, a monastery famous from the era of the British church as a centre of learning, where Illtud spent the first period of his religious life under Cadoc's tutelage. Cadoc is credited with the establishment of many churches in Cornwall, Brittany Dyfed and Scotland. He is known as Cattwg Ddoeth, "the Wise", and a large collection of his maxims and moral sayings were included in Volume III of the Myvyrian Archaiology. He is listed in the 2004 edition of the Roman Martyrology under 21 September. His Norman-era "Life" is a hagiography of importance to the case for the historicity of Arthur as one of seven saints' lives that mention Arthur independently of Geoffrey of Monmouth's *Historia Regum Britanniae*.



Ministers, etc. For next Sunday 29th January- 4th Sunday in OT Year A - Cycle 1

	08:30	09:30	11:00
Celebrant	Fr Nicholas		Fr Nicholas
Welcomers	Hayes Family	Brenda Warde	Hackman Family
Sacristan			Tony Archer
1 st Reading	Adrian Eyre	Phyll Buckley	Margaret Rose
2 nd Reading	Richard Batho		Pat Draper
Bidding Prayers	Jacqui Ramage-S		Jacqui Corrigan
Offertory	Parish Children	Paul Nickhold & Lucy Zammit	
Extraordinary Ministers	Seamus Hayes & Kath Parry		Rob Corrigan & Monica Russell

Next Sunday - Parish Outreach

<p>Anniversaries</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>	CHILDREN'S LITURGY	
	8.30 Children's Liturgy - temporarily cancelled	
	22-Jan	Jacqui Corrigan & Monica Russell
	29-Jan	Pat Wood & Jan Wyman
	5 Feb	Jackie King & Mary Wood
	12-Feb	No Children's Liturgy
19-Feb	No Children's Liturgy	

Please pray for all who have died: **May they rest in peace.** (W/C 22 Jan)

Deaths: Bridgid Smith, Cornelius Linehan, Brian Hayes, Wendy Lyle Cameron and Brian Holbery.

Anniversaries: John Bray, Dom Dyfrig Harris, Lisle Massey-Lynch, Dorothy Thorn, Jane Davies, John Keeler, Jennifer Snell, Frank Keating, Mary Buckeridge, Horace Hiles, Dom Christopher Jenkins, Gerard Rosser and Emrys Thomas.

The Sick: Please pray for: Maureen Toner, Rachel George, Norma Naudain, Marnie Archer, Ann Thomas, Mary Smith, Fr Michael Cronin, Sheila Langford, Dominique Wetz, Marie Williams, Sally Hayward, Stephen Fisher, Gordon Wilson, Denise Ellis, Lillian Allsopp, Kenny Hanna, Shirley Brymer, Edward Medicott, Sr Philpa, Elaine White, Sue Rogers, Joanne Savory, Sr Catherine, Vincent Hanna and Sadie Bowyer.

Liturgy for Sunday 22nd January 2017 *Cycle A; Weekdays: Cycle 1 (Wk 3)*

<p>3rd Sunday In Ordinary Time</p>	<p>Entrance: 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>Acclamation: We proclaim your Death, O Lord</p> <p>Communion: Look toward the Lord and be radiant; let your face not be abashed.</p>
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Principal Celebrants, Extraordinary Ministers, Readers, etc.			
	08:30 am	09:30 am	11:00 am
Celebrant	Fr Nicholas		Fr Nicholas
Welcomer	Kath Parry	Clare Wichbold	Hackman Family
Sacristan			Jeremy Hogan
1 st Reading	Mary Hayes	Clare Nickerson	Monica Tomlin
2 nd Reading	William Jackson		Sally Johns
Bidding Prayer	Ann Jackson		Marje Hayes
Offertory	Ramage-H Family	Anthea Morton-S & Menna McBain	
Extra-Ordinary Minister(s)	Fran Smallwood & Julia Davey		Jan Wyman & Gabrielle Stanley
Mass Intention		<i>Benefactors & Parishioners</i>	
Second Collection - Parish Outreach (Acorns Children's Hospice)			
Food Bank Delivery: Eddie & Jan Wyman			

What's On for the week	
Mon	St Cadoc: Mass at 8:00 am
Tue	St Frances de Sales: Mass at 8:00 am
Wed	Feria: Mass at 8:00 am: NO Midday Mass in Oratory: Requiem Mass for Brigid Smith 2.30 pm: Tridentine Mass at 7:00 pm
Thu	Feria: Mass at 8:00 am
Fri	Feria: Mass at 8:00 am: Exposition at 11 and Midday Mass in Oratory: Funeral Service for Conelius Linehan 2 pm:
Sat	St Thomas Aquinas: Mass at 8:00 am: Reconciliation at 10:00 am