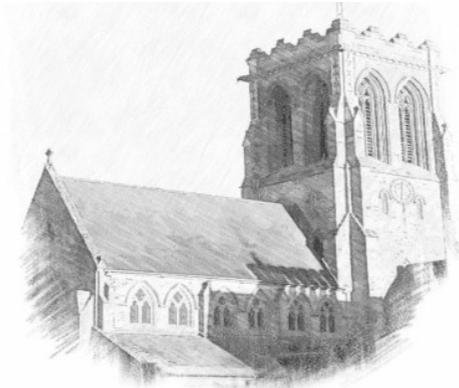


St Michael and All Angels Belmont Abbey



PARISH NEWSLETTER

23rd April 2017

2nd Sunday of Easter

PARISH PRIEST

Fr. Nicholas Wetz OSB

Tel: 01432 - 277319

email: pp@belmontparish.plus.com

www.belmontparish.org.uk

Parish Deacon

Rev Deacon Eddie Wyman

Tel: 01432 - 263575

Safeguarding Representative

Gabrielle Stanley 07939 472059

All week we have been celebrating Easter Day and today is our Octave day. We now continue through the wonderful season of Eastertide celebrating with joy the great gift of life won for us by the Lord's death & resurrection. Today, Low Sunday, is the Octave Day of Easter and is now sometimes known as Divine Mercy Sunday

"Divine Mercy Sunday" concentrates on the mercy poured forth in Christ's death and resurrection, fount of the Holy Spirit who forgives sins and restores joy at having been redeemed. The message of mercy is that God loves us -- all of us, no matter how great our sins. And He wants us to turn to Him so He can bless us. He wants us to recognize His mercy and let it flow through us to others. Thus, all will come to share in His joy

Thank you for your kind and generous offering last Sunday and to all who helped the Easter celebrations go so well this year. Thank you also to all those who exercised ministries of one sort or another during Holy Week and indeed those who helped clean and prepare the flowers for the Abbey Church.

Fr Nicholas is away for a few days this week.

Fr Nicholas

Last Sunday's	1 st Collection	£1,850.00
	Standing Orders	£412.50
The 1 st collection goes towards the maintenance of our Abbey church and parish, diocesan levies and other related costs.		
	Good Friday	£277.83
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: Offering to the Belmont Community. Thank You		

✠ ✠ ✠ ✠ ✠

Rota of Ministries

A new rota is due from 21 May to and including 3 Sept 2017. I would be grateful if you could let me have your non-available dates as soon as possible. Please contact me on frangrant235@btinternet.com or on Hfd 266307. Many thanks for your help.

✠ ✠ ✠ ✠ ✠

Wales Celebrate Weekend 2017

Saturday 29 April 9 am - 9 pm and Sunday 30 April 9 am - 4.00 pm at St David's Catholic College, Cardiff. Celebrate Wales is a non-residential weekend for the whole family, full of teaching, workshops, lively praise and worship, Mass, opportunities for Confession and prayer ministry. The conferences welcome thousands of people. Young and old alike join to-

gether in a vibrant and faith-filled atmosphere to celebrate the love of God. We have a fantastic weekend planned for you, including inspiring talks and worship, workshops, drama from Rise Theatre, and an opportunity to find inspiration and encounter God.

✠ ✠ ✠ ✠ ✠

OUR LADY'S LUNCH CLUB

Our Lady's Parish begins offering hot lunches to those in need locally on Saturday 20th May from noon till 1 pm and then every Saturday following. A number of Belmont parishioners have volunteered to help and have formed one team who will undertake the ministry once a month, the first Saturday being Saturday 3rd June, led by Julia Davey and Monica Russell.

There is a meeting for all volunteers on Monday 8th May at 7.00 pm in Our Lady's parish room to finalise all the practical arrangements. A training session is also being arranged for Monday 15th May from 7-9 pm also at Our Lady's, on the challenges and difficulties of ministering to those in need, how to stay safe, and the issues that many of those in need are facing. This training is being given by a local Consultancy firm run by two retired police officers. All volunteers are asked to attend if possible.

✠ ✠ ✠ ✠ ✠

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

22 April
First Holy Communion Class
10:30

2 May
Diamond Diners
The Three Horseshoes
12:45 for 1:00

17 June
Belmont Abbey Fete



Belmont Fete

The Fete is only 9 weeks away So our annual appeal is now starting. We would be very grateful if you could start bringing in books, bric-a-brac, toys and clothes: these should be washed and ironed and in very good condition. We are in great need of cakes. If you could make and freeze for the fete, that would be wonderful. We would grateful if the gardeners among you would grow some plants for the plant stall and of course we need bottles for the very popular Bottle Stall. We need about 400 + bottles so if you could start bringing them in, it would be much appreciated. Thank you for your help!



Walsingham Way

Is a weekend retreat for those considering their vocation. Young Catholics aged 18-30 are invited to come to the ancient pilgrim site at Walsingham in Norfolk to pray and to discern God's calling into their life. The event takes place on 30 June - 2 July. Further details can be found on the website: www.ukvocations.org.



The Friends of Longworth Chapel will be holding the annual AGM in the Chapel on Thursday, 27th April at 7 pm. Anyone wishing to attend will be most welcome.

The Archbishop of Cardiff will be celebrating Holy Mass at the Chapel on Thursday, 15 June at 12 noon.



Youth Matters – Workshop & Mega Youth Poll –

If you are aged between 13-29 years the Church would like to hear your thoughts on faith and how you connect with the Church; all as part of preparation for a meeting of the Pope and Bishops in Rome later next year. To help young people give their views there is an online youth poll at surveymonkey.co.uk/r/parish-youth-poll. Also a workshop/meeting will be held for all the young people (13-29 years) of the Deanery to give

their views as part of the churches consultation with young people. It will be on Sunday 30th April at 3.00pm, to be led by Sandi Bray, Co-Head of R.E. at St. Marys High School, in the parish meeting room of Our Lady's Church in Hereford on Belmont Road. Including Refreshments.



Diamond Diners

I am away for the next Diamond Diners on 2nd May so will people who are intending to dine please tick their name on the list in the Parish Hall. If this is not possible then please let John Hackman know by lunchtime on Sunday 30th April by telephone. His number is 01432 611932. It is now more important than ever that the numbers are known in advance as more people are attending and so additional places need to be set. Many thanks.

Ray Rose



Please pray for Ella Rose James who will be baptised this afternoon. We wish her and her family every blessing on this wonderful occasion.



Church Services TV was established in 2005 and streams services over the Internet. By making services available on PC's, Laptops, Mobile Devices and

TV sets anywhere in the world, CSTV helps those confined to home or care facilities listen and watch Holy Mass and other services from their home. Visit www.churchservices.tv.



The Paschal Candle

One of the symbols of our Easter joy is the presence of the Paschal (Easter) Candle, which is lit from the Easter fire during the Vigil. The Candle takes a central position in the Church for the next fifty days.

The decorated Paschal candle is marked with a cross, and with Alpha and Omega symbols, the first and last letters of the Greek alphabet which remind us that Christ is the first and the last, He existed before any of us and will be here at the end of the world. The year is also marked, reminding us that this year, as with all others, is the year of the Lord, we live in God's time.

After Pentecost the paschal candle stands near the baptismal font. Here it provides a reminder that baptism is a symbolic death and rebirth with Christ; just like Christ's death and Resurrection.





its appeal extends to people of all ages.

HOMILY

“Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe.”

Illustration

A plane crashes in the Sahara Desert miles from anywhere. It is December 1935, during an attempt to break an air speed record. The only people on board are the pilot and his navigator. They survive the crash but have no means of communication or possibility of obtaining help, and there is only a small amount of food and water left. Dehydration begins to set in. Then on the fourth day a Bedouin appears as if from nowhere and, administering an ancient remedy, he stops the dehydration and saves their lives.

The pilot was Antoine de Saint-Exupéry, a renowned French writer and poet. Born in 1900 in Lyons, he was a pioneer of aviation and this experience in the Sahara was recounted in his 1939 memoir *Wind, Sand and Stars*. It also forms the background to his most celebrated book, *The Little Prince*, published in 1943, the year before he was killed in action in World War II. It has been translated into over 250 languages and still sells over two million copies annually. A novella written for children and illustrated by the author,



The plane crash in the Sahara appears early in the story but this time with a difference. At sunrise on the morning after the crash the pilot is awakened from sleep by an “odd little voice” asking him to draw a sheep. The voice belongs to an “extraordinary small person” who repeatedly makes the same request. After a number of failed attempts the pilot draws a box and tells him that the sheep is inside. This is just what his young visitor wants. From this first meeting with the little prince the pilot learns over the days they are together that he has come from an asteroid “scarcely any larger than a house” with three volcanoes as high as his knees. Two are active and these he cleans regularly as they assist him in heating his breakfast. There is also one very beautiful rose; he loves and misses her. Before he arrived on planet Earth the little prince visited other asteroids and met their single occupants, all captivating but decidedly odd. On

Earth he made a special friend of a fox who confided in him a secret: "It is only with the heart that one can see rightly; what is essential is invisible to the eye."

Gospel Teaching

Thomas is often called "Doubting" Thomas because he refused to believe the other disciples when they told him they had seen the risen Lord. We cannot always accept without question what a group of people tell us about something they say has happened even if they are all in the same place at the same time. Thomas wanted to verify with his own eyes what they said had happened. His doubts were reasonable.

He was not left in uncertainty. Jesus appears again to the disciples when Thomas is with them and immediately dispels that uncertainty. Because he can see the risen Lord, Thomas believes and his response is the fullest expression of faith found anywhere in the Gospels: "My Lord and my God!" Jesus then declares blessed "those who have not seen and yet believe". This gives us assurance that faith does not depend on what we see but on what is in our hearts or, as we read in the letter to the Hebrews, "Only faith can... prove the existence of the realities that at present remain unseen."

Application

The secret entrusted to the little prince comes to mind: "It is only with the heart that one can see rightly; what is essential is invisible to the eye." At one time he visits a garden of five thousand roses but the fox helps him understand that the rose on his asteroid is unique because he loves her. Another time he and the pilot are exhausted by thirst and after searching all night in the desert find an old disused well with clear water. As they drink, the little prince observes that even in a garden of five thousand roses people do not find what they are looking for, yet "it could be found in a single rose, or in a little water". The little prince tells us that all our longings cannot be satisfied by anything but love. "The eyes are blind," he says. "One must look with the heart."



MY LORD and MY GOD



Ministers, etc. For next <u>Sunday 30 April 3 Easter Year A - Cycle 1</u>			
	08:30	9:30	11:00
Celebrant	Fr Nicholas		Fr Nicholas
Welcomers	Cooper Family	Clare Wichbold	Rita Chamberlain & Monica Russell
Sacristan			Chris Moore
1 st Reading	Liz Norman	Clare Nickerson	Monica Tomlin
2 nd Reading	Fran Smallwood		Sally Johns
Bidding Prayers	Jacqui Ramage-S		Pat Draper
Offertory	Parish Children	Frances Wood & Maria Large	
Extraordinary Ministers	Frances Dees & Julia Davey		Jan Wyman & Andre Pavia
Next Sunday - Parish Outreach			

Anniversaries	CHILDREN'S LITURGY	
	8.30 Children's Liturgy - temporarily cancelled	
	23-Apr	A Morawiecki & Rachel Cowdrey
	30-Apr	Jacqui Moore & Mary Wood
	07-May	Pat Wood & Pauline Gill
	14-May	Jackie King & Monica Russell
	21-May	A Morawiecki & Rob Blackburn

These are noted below. Our week starts on Sunday- the anniversaries include all those which occurred on the Sunday date to the following Saturday.

Please pray for all who have died: **May they rest in peace.** (W/C 23 April)

Deaths: *Mary Jo Donnelly, Maureen Toner, Eduards Sardiko and Tom Supple.*

Anniversaries: *Edward Brant, Glyn Matthews, Nedas Damasas, Sidney Donovan, Dom Fabian Lee OSB, Rose McLoughlin, Dorothy Rawkins, Bernadette Tonking, Marie Dolores Sessarego, Phyllis Bond, Reginald Holt, Charles Preedy, Lady Mildred Falkiner, Jane Smith, John Simpson, Margaret Stevens and Doreen Sulston.*

The Sick: Please pray for: *Patrick Walesby, Peter Draper, Fr Simon, Ruby Chandler-Marsh, David Kinsey, Rachel George, Norma Naudain, Ann Thomas, Mary Smith, Dominique Wetz, Marie Williams, Sally Hayward, 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 23rd April 2017 *Cycle A; Weekdays: Cycle 1*

<p>2nd Sunday Of Easter</p>	<p>Entrance: Like newborn infants, you must long for the pure, spiritual milk, that in him you may grow to salvation, alleluia.</p> <p>Acclamation: When we eat this Bread...</p> <p>Communion: Bring your hand and feel the place of the nails and do not be unbelieving but believing, alleluia.</p>
-------------------------------------------------------	-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

Principal Celebrants, Extraordinary Ministers, Readers, etc.			
	08:30 am	9:30 am	11:00 am
Celebrant	Fr Nicholas		Fr Nicholas
Welcomer	Annette Mansie	Brenda Warde	Ross & Anne Williams
Sacristan			Jeremy Hogan
1 st Reading	Richard Batho	Sally Johns	Jennifer Hackman
2 nd Reading	Fran Grant		Gabrielle Stanley
Bidding Prayer	Ann Jackson		Monica Tomlin
Offertory	Hayes Family	Anthea Morton-S & Frances Riddell	
Extra-Ordinary Minister(s)	Jacqui Ramage-S & Fran Smallwood		Rob Corrigan & Gabrielle Stanley
Mass Intention	<i>Muriel Parry RIP</i>	<i>Pro Populo</i>	<i>The Parish</i>
Second Collection - Parish Outreach			
Food Bank Delivery: Chris Moore			

<i>What's On for the week</i>	
Mon	St George: Mass at 8:00 am
Tue	St Mark: Mass at 8:00 am
Wed	Feria: Mass at 8:00 am: NO Midday Mass: Tridentine Mass at 7:00 pm
Thu	Feria: Mass at 8:00 am
Fri	Feria: Mass at 8:00 am: NO exposition or Midday Mass
Sat	St Catherine of Sienna : Mass at 8:00 am: Reconciliation at 10:00 am