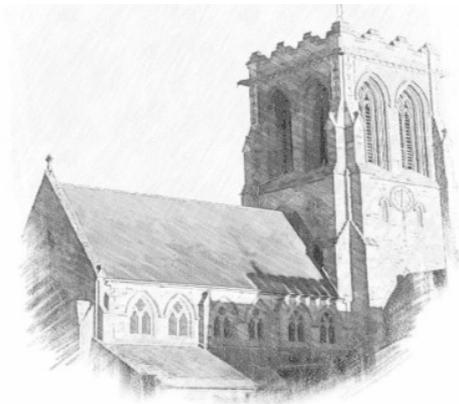


St Michael and All Angels Belmont Abbey



PARISH NEWSLETTER

26th February

8th Sunday in Ordinary Time

PARISH PRIEST

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

Ash Wednesday is upon us this week and begins our Holy Season of preparation for the great feast of Easter. Ash Wednesday is not a Holy Day of Obligation but is a day of **fasting and abstinence**. Blessing and distribution of Ashes will be at both Masses on Wednesday at 8 am and 12 noon (sung) in the abbey. There is also an evening Mass at Our Lady's at 7 pm.

The second collection outreach project today is for the Mbedza Projects in **Malawi**. Mbedza Projects Support was registered as a UK charity in 2015 but began its work nearly 20 years ago. During this time they have brought relief and help to this ravaged country. Communities struggle to grow enough food and hunger is common. Malaria and HIV/Aids in particular have a devastating impact on life with over a million children left as orphans. The charity supports villages with medical aid and provides new water holes, cooking stoves and encourages new businesses and employment through various craft projects.

Fr Nicholas

Last Sunday's	1 st Collection	£440.90
	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	£222.05
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 Parish Outreach: Vennture - Thank You!		



Beloved Disciples

We will be offering a series of talks and discussions aimed at the over 60's and looking at faith and spirituality in "The Autumn of Life". These informal programmes will run over four weekly sessions during Lent and each will last approximately one and a half hours, with time for questions, discussion and conversation over tea and biscuits. The first session will be on Wednesday, 8th March at 2:30pm in Belmont Abbey Parish Centre. Do come and join us for an enjoyable afternoon. For more information please contact Jan Wyman on 01432 263575.



As an experiment coffee and tea will be available in Hedley Lodge after both the 8.30 and 9.30 Masses. Coffee after the 11am Mass will continue to be in the Parish Centre.



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. See page 4.



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

4 March
Emmaus Youth
Our Lady's
2:00 - 5:00 pm

26 February
Collect & Pay
For Tesco vouchers

30 March
Station Mass
OLQM at 7:00 pm

1 April
Jumble Sale At OLQM
12:00



Our Lady's Parish - Hot Meals for the Needy

Our Lady's parish is planning to join other local churches in providing hot meals to those in need. We plan to do this starting after Easter, every Saturday lunchtime from noon till 1.00pm,

beginning with soup, sandwiches and hot drinks. We will need lots of volunteers to do this, each one committed to one Saturday session per month. If interested please contact Fr. Matthew on 265177, or come to the next meeting about this on Monday 6th March at 7.00pm in the parish room at Our Lady's.



Fatima - This year is the 100th anniversary of the apparitions in Fatima, Fr. Matthew from Our Lady's is proposing to run a pilgrimage for the Herefordshire Deanery, if there is sufficient interest. The dates would be Monday 25th - Friday 29th September, flying from Manchester. 4 nights in a good standard hotel very close to the shrine, half board. Price £599/person, £120 extra for single rooms (only a few available) and insurance. Includes courier with us and excursions. Organised by Leisure Time Travel in Liverpool. Booking forms at back of Church, deposit £200. Any questions please contact Fr. Matthew on 01432 265177 – fr.matthew@live.co.uk.



Youth 2000 - Surrender

When? 17th - 19th March 2017, starting at 5pm on the Friday night.

What? A 2 day retreat, including engaging talks, lively music,

workshops, discussions, powerful prayer times, evening entertainment and loads more.

Where? St David's Catholic Sixth Form College, Ty Gwyn Road, Penylan, Cardiff, CF23 5QD

Who's it for? Youth 2000 events are primarily for 16-35 year olds. More info in Porch or go to website: info@youth2000.org.



Herefordshire & Belmont Abbey Walsingham Group

Pilgrimage to Walsingham - 5th to 8th May 2017. From £195 per person to include all travel and half-board accommodation. There are still a few places available. For further information contact Menna MacBain on 01568 797077.



Wales and the Marches Catholic History Society

Our next talk will be: at - St. David's Catholic Sixth Form College. on Sunday March 5th 2017 at 3 pm. Title "Historic Churches in Gwent". Speaker - Dr Edith Evans, the Heritage and Outreach Manager for the Glamorgan-Gwent Archaeological Trust. This is a free event. All are welcome. Further information please contact Tricia Coulthard at: 02920595899- triciacoulthard@outlook.com





Walk with Me

This pocket-size booklet of prayers and reflections for Lent 2017 is now available. Archbishop George Stack, Bishop Tom Burns and Bishop Peter Brignall have written a forward to the booklet and recommend it as an aid to prayer. They pray that this may be a time of renewal and refreshment as we discover anew the gifts of Lent that will lead to a glorious and joy-filled Easter.

The **Walk with Me** prayer encourages us in prayer, fasting and almsgiving.

‘Lord God, Help us to meet you in prayer to walk in your ways, and to speak to others of our joy and consolation in your presence.’



The Fires of Mount Carmel

Since the time of Elijah, Jews and Christians on Mount Carmel have lived praiseworthy lives in holy penitence, a spirit which has been spread throughout the world. During Lent we deepen our devotions through exploring the rich spirituality of the Carmelite tradition.

Morning Coffee 10.00, Talk 10.30, Mass 12.00, 1.00 Simple Bread and Soup lunch; Talk 2.00; Finishes with Tea 3.30pm. Suggested Offering £10, including soup lunch.

8 March

The Springs of Mount Carmel
Dom David

15 March

The Passion of St Thérèse
Dom Brendan

22 March

John of the Cross:
Living Flame of Love
Abbot Paul

29 March

Teresa of Avila,
Daughter of the Church
Dom Bernard

5 April

Edith Stein:
The Science of the Cross
Dom Andrew



Homily

“Will he not much more look after you, you men of little faith?”

Illustration

It was the 1950s and childhood holidays in Ireland. Every summer as a boy the man went back to his mother’s family farm in the west. He left behind the advanced, technical world of industrial England, the world of factories and mills and mines, buses and trains and cars, and he came to a silent world of green hills and brown bog and trout-filled river and gentle lake. He came to a simpler world of land and sea and sky and

wind, and he saw how people lived there.

Every morning he came down to the room where a turf fire was blazing and the smell of breakfast awaited him. The eggs he ate were from the hens outside; the bacon bought from the shop four miles away. The bread was homemade, lovely brown soda bread, and there was boxty, an Irish potato cake. Milk came from the cow, and later on when dinnertime came there would be a pile of potatoes in the middle of the table, all dug from the field outside. Onions, too, and cabbages and all kinds of vegetable grew in the garden behind the little house.

In the far corner of the room stood two stout pails of water, water that had been brought up to the house from the river flowing faithfully through the land just a hundred yards from the homestead. The earth gave everything for life to the people who faithfully tilled the land. It was easy to see and to accept the old adage that God will provide. For a child on holiday it was bliss.

Gospel Teaching

Our modern world seems a million miles away from this tranquil scene and memory. Many people live very stressful lives, busy rushing from

place to place, trying to make ends meet and worrying about the future. And even that boy's holiday experience does not tell the whole story, for in his mother's day poverty was very real and prospects for the future could seem dim. Even the most idyllic spot can have its worries and concerns. There are many things to worry us if we let them, genuine concerns over health, housing, hope for the future – all these things are real enough and can bear heavily upon us.

The Lord is aware of these issues of anxiety and he does not take them lightly. He addresses them directly. Yes, we worry about food for the table and clothes for our children and a roof over our head and security for our future. Life is about these things, but as the Lord reminds us today life is also about much more than these things. Life is about where you set your heart. If your heart is centred in the right place, if you focus your energies on right living and on God's honest truth, then worry will fade away. Worry will no longer dominate your life or dictate life to you.

The flowers of the field and the birds of the air know their place in the world instinctively and thrive accordingly. Our place in the world is to be the children of God and to live according to the spirit of God's

kingdom. When that happens the power of worry fades and faith grows strong. The issues of life are always there for us but now they no longer loom over us as a threat or dark cloud. We will negotiate life on God's terms, and God's ways are peace.

Application

The words of Isaiah echo through the ages for us today when God says, "I will never forget you." To know that you are alive in the heart of God and not forgotten is to know that you are safe and will not be abandoned for ever. That reassurance is multiplied for us who have come to know Christ Jesus. As servants of the Lord, Paul reminds us of what our faith makes certain, that we are beloved of God.

As servants of the Lord, it is in our power to remove worry from the hearts of others. We do not pass judgement on other people. That would be premature and not our task anyway. It is the Lord who will reveal the secret intentions of people's hearts. Let today find us at peace, our trust firmly in the one who does not forget us, and let our role in life be to bring calmness and reassurance to all those whose lives we touch each day.



The time has now come in the Church year for the solemn observance of the great central act of history, the redemption of the human race by our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. In the Roman Rite, the beginning of the forty days of penance is marked with the austere symbol of ashes which is used in today's liturgy. The use of ashes is a survival from an ancient rite according to which converted sinners submitted themselves to canonical penance. The Alleluia and the Gloria are suppressed until Easter.

Abstinence from eating meat is to be observed on all Fridays during Lent. This applies to all persons 14 and older. The law of fasting on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday applies to all Catholics from age 18 through age 59.



Ministers, etc. For next Sunday 5 March- 1st Sunday of Lent Year A - Cycle 1

	08:30	09:30	11:00
Celebrant	Fr Nicholas		Fr Nicholas
Welcomers	Liz Norman	Desmond Keohane	Hackman Family
Sacristan			Jeremy Hogan
1 st Reading	Richard Batho	Clare Wichbold	Gabrielle Stanley
2 nd Reading	Liz Norman		Niamh Coyle
Bidding Prayers	Jacqui R-Smith		Sally Johns
Offertory	Parish Children	Paul Nickhold & Lucy Zammit	
Extraordinary Ministers	Kath Parry & Julia Davey		Chris Moore & Jan Wyman

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	
	26-Feb	Jacqui Corrigan & Pauline Gill
	05-Mar	Jacqui Moore & Mary Wood
	12-Mar	Pat Wood & Rachel Cowdrey
	19-Mar	Andrew M & Rob Blackburn
26-Mar	Jackie King & Monica Russell	

Please pray for all who have died: **May they rest in peace.** (W/C 26Feb)

Deaths: Tom Supple, Gordon Wilson, Bridgid Smith, and Cornelius Linehan.

Anniversaries: Gwenda Duffield, Violet Templeman, Jena Jabale, Thomas Powell, Margaret Grundy, Emily Louise Hayes, Cyril Lawden, John Mills, Frances Schomberg. Peter Skuse, Dom Wilfrid Chadwick, Bessie Lee, Joseph McGurk, Ada Dobson and William Eburn.

The Sick: Please pray for: Jennifer Hackman, Sally Johns, Betty Murray, Maureen Toner, Rachel George, Norma Naudain, Ann Thomas, Mary Smith, Fr Michael Cronin, Sheila Langford, Dominique Wetz, Marie Williams, Sally Hayward, Stephen Fisher, Denise Ellis, Lillian Allsopp, Kenny Hanna, Shirley Brymer, Edward Medicott, 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 26th February 2017 *Cycle A; Weekdays: Cycle 1 (Wk 8)*

<p>8th Sunday In Ordinary Time</p>	<p>Entrance: The Lord became my protector. He brought me out to a place of freedom; he saved me because he delighted in me.</p> <p>Acclamation: Save us Saviour of the world.....</p> <p>Communion: I will sing to the Lord who has been bountiful with me, sing psalms to the name of the Lord Most High.</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	Cooper Family	Patrick Walesby	Brenda Sherwood & Maureen Stacey
Sacristan			Chris Moore
1 st Reading	Fran Smallwood	Anthea Morton-S	Rob Corrigan
2 nd Reading	Adrian Eyre		Margaret Rose
Bidding Prayer	Josie Gwizdala		Pat Draper
Offertory	Ramage-H Family	Nickerson Family	
Extra-Ordinary Minister(s)	Seamus Hayes & Jacqui Ramage-S		Monica Russell & Gabrielle Stanley
Mass Intention	<i>Emily Louise Hayes</i>	<i>Deceased Relatives of the Arnold Family</i>	<i>Joseph Higgins RIP</i>
Second Collection - Parish Outreach (Malawi Project)			
Food Bank Delivery: Ray & Margaret Rose			

<i>What's On for the week</i>	
Mon	Feria: Mass at 8:00 am
Tue	Feria: Mass at 8:00 am
Wed	Ash Wednesday: Day of fasting and abstinence; Mass at 8 am & Midday (sung) in the Abbey; Tridentine Mass at 7:00 pm
Thu	Feria: Mass at 8:00 am
Fri	Feria: Mass at 8:00 am: Exposition 11:00 Midday Mass in the Oratory
Sat	Feria: Mass at 8:00 am: Reconciliation at 10:00 am