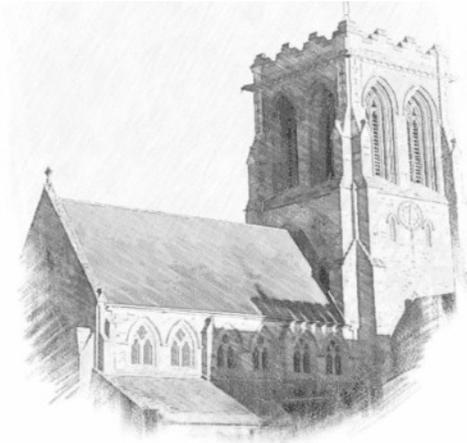


St Michael and All Angels Belmont Abbey



PARISH NEWSLETTER

EASTER SUNDAY

27th March 2016
(Cycle C)

PARISH PRIEST

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A very happy and blessed Easter to you all!

Today we celebrate like no other day because of the victory over death won for us by our saviour, Jesus Christ. During Holy Week we journeyed with Christ through our liturgies that celebrated his passion and death and now we rejoice in His resurrection. Easter is our feast! I pray that the joy of Easter will be with you all, today and every day. *Surrexit Dominus Alleluia!*

Thank you also to all those who exercised ministries of one sort or another during Holy Week and indeed those who helped clean the Abbey Church.

There is only one collection which is the traditional offering to the Parish Priest and Belmont Community.

Devotions for Divine Mercy will be held here at Belmont Abbey on Low Sunday (3rd April) from 2.30 pm

No Coffee after Mass today

Fr Nicholas

Last Sunday's	1st Collection	£610.07
	Standing Orders	£412.48

The 1st Collection goes towards the maintenance of our Abbey church and parish, diocesan levies and other related costs.

	2nd Collection	£175.50
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The 2nd collection is reserved for specific charitable causes or appeals and our own Outreach projects as detailed in the Newsletter. Last week was for ***Easter Flowers***. Thank you.



Food Bank

Thank you all for your continued support for those less fortunate than ourselves, your donations are very much appreciated. The Food Bank have asked us to discourage the donation of Easter Eggs.



As part of the Archdiocese's Centenary Year, there will be a Mass of Celebration at Cardiff Cathedral on Monday 20th June at 12 noon. I have two tickets for this Mass followed by a reception afterwards. If anyone would like to go to represent the parish, please see me asap – first come first served!

Fr Nicholas



Wales Celebrate Weekend 2016

Saturday 30th April 2016, 9 am - 9 pm
to Sunday 1st May 2016, 9 am - 4.00 pm.

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 CELEBRATE conferences welcome thousands of people. Young and old alike join together in a vibrant and faith-filled atmosphere to celebrate the love of God.



150 + Club Winners

1st Laura Broadfoot No. 131

2nd Frances Dees No. 47

3rd Jeanette Livermore No. 34



End of Year Gift Aid Returns

The end of the current financial year is rapidly approaching. If you would like to make any further donations or if you donate annually please do so by 3rd April. If you use envelopes please

use the last envelope in the current set.

If your circumstances have changed and you no longer pay tax, please let me know. Many Thanks. *Margaret C*

Tea & Chat

The next three dates for Tea and Chat are, Tuesday April 19th, Tuesday May 17th and Tuesday June 21st. Anyone who would like to meet others over a drink and slice of cake, and a good chat will be very welcome. These meetings are proving very popular so don't be shy come along, bring your knitting or anything else and enjoy the company of others. All meetings start at 2.30 pm and finish around 4.00 pm.

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.

Church Services TV

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 to listen and to watch Holy Mass and other services from their home. Visit www.churchservices.tv



Serving others, helping them without making a show of it, "that's amore," Pope Francis said.

"Amore," or love, "is the concrete service we render to one another," the pope said during a special general audience for the Year of Mercy.

"Love isn't words, but works and service, a humble service performed in silence" without seeking acclaim, the pope told tens of thousands of people gathered in St. Peter's Square.



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

**Friday 15 April
Church Cleaning**

**Tuesday 19 April
230
Tea & chat**

**Tuesday 17 May
2:30
Tea & Chat**

**Sunday 22 May
Confirmation Mass
11:00 am**

**Queen's Jubilee Picnic
12 June**

**Belmont Grand Fete
18 June**

**Tuesday 21 June
2:30
Tea & Chat**

**Grandparents and
Grandchildren's Day
16 July**



HOMILY

"Till this moment they had failed to understand... that he must rise from the dead."

Illustration

For well over a thousand years people have gone on pilgrimage to Santiago de Compostela in north-west Spain to visit and pray before the tomb of St James, the first of the apostles to suffer death for being a follower of Christ. An ancient tradition that his body was brought to Compostela and enshrined there made the city a major place of Christian pilgrimage, after Jerusalem and Rome. Many routes traverse France and Spain before converging on the approach to Compostela. The centuries have witnessed a multitude of pilgrims, most travelling on foot, some covering a thousand miles across Europe. They still walk the same old interwoven roads and paths today, if not always the whole way.

One man who did walk the whole way was Mark Hoare. His pilgrimage began in September 2000 at Le Puy in the French Massif Central, a starting point for pilgrims since the tenth century. Mark was then in his twenties and the idea had been inspired by a friend who had walked

part of the way in Spain and had described the “ever-changing landscape whose changes somehow reflected the spiritual journey of pilgrimage”. As a painter, Mark was captivated by the novelty of painting a “spiritual journey” even if, at that time, he wasn’t sure what it meant or how it could be done. The result is a remarkable book, *A Painting Pilgrim: A Journey to Santiago de Compostela*. Each day is recorded and each day he paints, sometimes two or three times, even when it rains (quite often torrentially), or snows, or is bitterly cold. One hundred and thirty beautiful paintings accompany the text. He is a pilgrim in search of faith; as he says, “wanting but struggling to open my heart”.

Gospel Teaching

In the dark hours after the crucifixion the disciples would have known exactly the meaning of those words. Jesus had been put to death; he was gone, laid in a tomb. Was this the end? Did anything have meaning any more? They still wanted to believe in him, yet they were struggling to open their hearts.

There is a quiet contrast between those dark hours and the early morning that heralded the dawn of the first Easter Day. It was then that Mary of Magdala and the other women disciples went to the tomb

and found that it was empty. Mary believed that the body of Jesus had been taken away. When she ran to tell Peter and John what she believed had happened she sought the help of men whose individual behaviour had been very different at the time of Jesus’ trial and crucifixion. Peter had denied three times that he even knew Jesus, but John had stayed close to the cross and remained with Jesus to the end, as had Mary, the mother of Jesus, and her sister Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary of Magdala herself. But now, united in grief, Peter and John run to the tomb, see the grave clothes and believe what until then they had failed to understand: “that he must rise from the dead”. For all of these disciples the truth of the resurrection dawns upon them slowly. According to John, it comes to Mary of Magdala in a uniquely personal way when a little later in the Gospel she remains at the tomb, weeping, and sees a man, whom she supposes to be the gardener. Only when he speaks her name does she realise that he is Jesus.

Application

No one witnessed the resurrection itself, but Christ in his love sought out the disciples, opened their hearts and reawakened their faith by appearing to them, risen from the dead. The change that then came about in his followers was a new beginning, inexplicable in human terms, for it

was a glimpse of the world to come when we shall see God “face to face”. In the words of St Bede: “Christ is the morning star who when the night of this world is past reveals to his saints the eternal light of life.”

After reaching Compostela Mark Hoare then journeyed on to the westernmost point of mainland Europe, Finisterre, arriving there on the shortest day of the year. He had walked one thousand miles in all. “From now onwards,” he writes, “every day is longer... so that it really is the beginning and not just the end.” God calls each of us to make a spiritual journey throughout our lives and the end will really be the beginning.



‘Faith in the Resurrection of Jesus and the hope that He brought us is the most beautiful gift that the Christian can and must give to his brothers. To all and to each, therefore, let us not tire of saying: Christ is risen! Let us repeat it all together: Christ is risen! Let us repeat it with words, but above all with the witness of our lives. The happy news of the Resurrection should shine on our faces, in our feelings and attitudes, in the way

we treat others. We proclaim the Resurrection of Christ when his light illuminates the dark moments of our life and we can share that with others: when we know how to smile with those who smile and weep with those who weep; when we walk beside those who are sad and in danger of losing hope; when we recount our experience of faith with those who are searching for meaning and for happiness. With our attitude, with our witness, with our life, we say: Jesus is risen! Let us say it with all our soul.’ (Pope Francis)



Ministers, etc. For next 3rd April		2nd Sunday of Easter Tide Year C	
	08:30	09:30	11:00
Celebrant	Fr Nicholas		Fr Nicholas
Welcomers	Kath Parry	Nickerson Family	Rita Chamberlain & Maureen Stacey
Sacristan			Jeremy Hogan
1 st Reading	Julia Davey	Lucy Zammit	Jennifer Hackman
2 nd Reading	Richard Batho		Marje Hayes
Bidding Prayers	Jacqui Ramage-S		Margaret Rose
Offertory	Ramage-H Family	Frances Wood & Menna McBain	
Extraordinary Ministers	Kath Parry		Rob Corrigan
Mass Intention		Pro Populo	
Next Sunday - Parish Outreach			

<p>PLAINSONG AND PRAYER <i>April 1-3 2 days (Reg fee £26)</i> <i>This weekend offers a chance to learn and sing the joyful melodies that enrich the Church's worship in the Easter Season.</i></p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Abbot Paul Stonham</i></p>	CHILDREN'S LITURGY	
	8.30 am Children's Liturgy - 27 March	
	11.00 am Liturgy	
	27-Mar	Jackie King & Monica Russell

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

Deaths: Sue Ball, Mary Carroll, John Wallin and John Keeler

Anniversaries: Patrick Campbell, Catherine Holtom, Winifred Hayes, Richard Hayes, Ann Theresa, McNally, David Methven, Dom Theodore Morris OSB, Lousia Dupak, Elizabeth Gwillam, Francis Howell, Dom Winfred de Normanville, Eileen Larkin, Thomas Kelly, Dom Francis Metcalf OSB, Maria McVeigh, Zofia Heathcock, Bro Peter Jones OSB and William Payne.

The Sick: Please pray for Margaret O'Connor, 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.

Belmont Abbey Parish is part of Belmont Abbey Mission Trust (Registered Charity - 226277)

Liturgy for Sunday 27th March Readings: Sunday Cycle C; Weekdays: Cycle 2

<h1 style="margin: 0;"><i>EASTER SUNDAY</i></h1>	<p>Entrance: I have risen, and I am with you still, alleluia. You have laid your hand upon me, alleluia. Too wonderful for me, this knowledge, alleluia, alleluia.</p> <p>Acclamation: When we eat this Bread ...</p> <p>Communion: Christ our Passover has been sacrificed, alleluia; therefore let us keep the feast with the unleavened bread of purity and truth, alleluia, alleluia.</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	Fr Abbot
Welcomer	Cooper Family	Ross & Ann Williams	Patrick Walesby
Sacristan		Stephen Fisher	
1st Reading	Mary Hayes	Monica Tomlin	Marion Luscombe
2nd Reading	Fran Grant	Tony Archer	
Bidding Prayer	Adrian Eyre	Pat Draper	
Offertory	Children's Liturgy		Frances Riddell & Teresa Harriss
Extra-Ordinary Minister(s)	Fran Smallwood & Seamus Parry	Jan Wyman	
Mass Intention	Hayes & Parry Family	Private Intention	Pro Populo
No Second Collection - Collect & Pay for Tesco vouchers			
Food Bank Delivery: Jan & Eddie Wyman			

<i>What's On for the week</i>	
Mon	Easter Monday: Mass at 9:00 am
Tue	Easter Tuesday: Mass at 8:00 am
Wed	Easter Wednesday: Mass at 8:00 am: No Midday Mass. Tridentine Mass at 7 pm.
Thu	Easter Thursday: Mass at 8:00 am
Fri	Easter Friday: Mass at 8:00 am
Sat	Easter Saturday: Mass at 8:00 am Reconciliation at 10:00 am