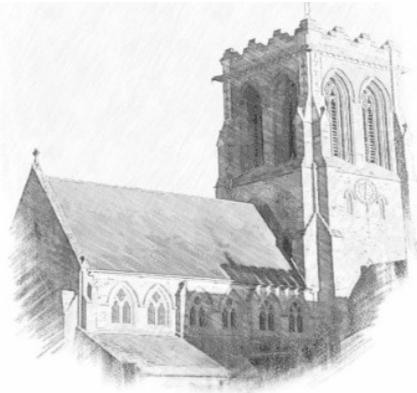


St Michael and All Angels Belmont Abbey



PARISH NEWSLETTER

29th October 2017

30th Week Ordinary Time

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Wednesday is the Solemnity of All Saints and a holy day of obligation. This universal Christian Feast honours and remembers all Christian saints, known and unknown. It is a feast that reminds us all that, we too, are called to sanctification by our lives of faith.

This week we also begin November. During this month of the Holy Souls, we remember particularly in our prayers all our relatives and friends who have died. Each day during November Holy Mass will be offered for the repose of their souls. At the entrance to the church you will find a special envelope for the Holy Souls. If you wish, you may list by name those you would especially like remembered at the altar during this month. Please hand your envelope to Fr Nicholas with your offering as soon as possible. These intentions will be remembered and left on the altar during November

Next month, the parish is hosting the Christian Rise Theatre Company who are touring the country with their new play. Please put the date in your diary and have an enjoyable and thought provoking evening by coming along to their performance of '**Romero – Heartbeat of El Salvador**'. On March 24th 1980, during Mass, Archbishop Oscar Romero was killed by a single bullet from an assassin. A modern day martyr created. The play will be held in Hedley Lodge on **Thursday 23rd November at 7.30 pm.** *Fr Nicholas*

Last Sunday's	1 st Collection	£417.81
	Standing Orders	£412.50

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

	2 nd Collection	£277.50
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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: **World Mission Sunday. Thank You!**



Parish Outreach - Next week's collection will be for the Diocesan Clergy Welfare Appeal but the rest of November's Second Collections marked as Parish Outreach will be for local Hereford charities caring for the Homeless and the Hereford Food Bank



QUIZ SUPPER

Friday, **17th November 2017**

at Hedley Lodge

6.45 for 7.00 pm

Fish/Vegetarian Options Available

Application slips can be had from

Folder in Foyer

Entry by ticket only - Your support for the Parish would be much appreciated



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

3 November

Church Cleaning

9:00 am

7 November

Diamond Diners

Three Horseshoes 12:45

23 November

Rise Theatre

Hedley Lodge 7:30 pm

26 Nov

Pay & Collect Tesco Vouchers

13 December

Retired Persons Lunch



RED MISSIO BOXES

Please give your red boxes to your promoter or give them to me at church. I go to the 8.30 mass but can wait to meet you at the start of the 9.30 if that helps. Please hand them in by **5 November**. Any problems give me a ring on 01885 488388.

If you would like a Red Box and you haven't already got one again contact me and I can issue you with one.

Every bit helps for this charity so please do not be embarrassed if you only have a small amount in your box.

Mandy Cooper



Hereford Hospital Chaplaincy

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



Please respect other church users and parishioners and park safely and tidily on a Sunday morning. Please only park in the disabled parking bays if you have the appropriate badge. Thank you.



Parish finances

If you would like Standing Order or Gift Aid forms, or would like more information about our other revenue projects (Tesco Vouchers, 150 Club etc.) please speak to Fr Nicholas or put your name on the information request sheet in the porch.



Christmas Shoebox Appeal

This year's Shoebox Appeal is now under way, leaflets are available in the porch. Please help spread the

message of Christmas and change a child's life this year. A few small items and a lot of love are all that is required, surely we can each do that? If you need any help, advice, an empty shoebox or if you feel unable to fill a whole box but would like to contribute something, please speak to Kitty Nicholls. The deadline for completed boxes will be in the middle of November.



Don't forget, the nave of the Church has a loop system. If you use a hearing aid, simply adjust your aid to the 'T' setting. We also have a wheel chair, kept near the porch, which is available for helping less mobile people to and from the church.



The Herefordshire Catholic History Society

The next meeting of The Herefordshire Catholic History Society will take place on Thursday 2 November in the Kemble Room, Belmont Abbey at 2.30 pm when we will have a talk entitled: **How did they cope? "Ordinary Catholics" in Herefordshire c1580- the Civil War.** All welcome. Further information bmwarde@aol.com.



Hereford Food Bank is always in need of the following: rice, fish, soup, baked beans, tinned cold meat, Smash, UHT milk, baby formula milk, baby shampoo, soap, wipes, shampoo and shower gel. Many thanks.



EMMAUS YOUTH

Emmaus Youth are next meeting at Our Lady's Parish Hall, 2.00-5.00 pm on Saturday 18 November; please note the slightly earlier start time. We are also meeting on Saturday 16 December 2.30-5.30 pm when we will also include our Christmas party. 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 and 07739 566578 jacqui.corrigan@btopenworld.com



SFX Film Night

"Romero" on Friday 10 November at 7:15 in SFX Hall. Free admission. All welcome, refreshment interval.



All Saints Day, which we keep on Wednesday, remembers all Christian saints known and unknown. The vigil of the Feast (the eve) has grown up in the English speaking countries as a festival in itself, All Hallows Eve, or Halloween. While many consider Halloween pagan (and in many instances the celebrations are for many), as far as the Church is concerned the date is simply the eve of the feast of All Saints. Many customs of Halloween reflect the Christian belief that on the feast's vigil we mock evil, because as Christians, it has no real power over us. However, for some Halloween is used for evil purposes, in which many Christians dabble unknowingly.

Various customs have developed related to Halloween. In the Middle Ages, poor people in the community begged for "soul cakes," and upon receiving these doughnuts, they would agree to pray for departed souls. This is the root of our modern day "trick-or-treat." The custom of masks and costumes developed to mock evil and perhaps confuse the evil spirits by dressing as one of their own. Some Christians visit cemeteries on Halloween, not to practice evil, but to commemorate departed relatives and friends, with picnics and the last flowers of the year. The day after All Saints day is called All Soul's Day, a day to remember and offer prayers up on behalf of all of the faithful

departed. If you are ‘celebrating’ Halloween this week – enjoy it but do keep a Christian perspective and remind the children of the true meaning of the feast!



Homily

“Which is the greatest commandment of the Law?”

Illustration

Images of children have the power to change history. The image of a naked little girl fleeing her village after a napalm attack during the Vietnam War is seared into our memories. A policeman carrying the dead body of a little boy drowned as he and his family tried to escape the fighting in Syria by crossing the sea to Greece in a rubber dinghy; a little boy sitting in the back of an ambulance having just been dug out of the rubble of a bombed house in Aleppo. These are images that can never be forgotten. They accuse the world of crimes against humanity.

How can anyone justify such horrors perpetrated against innocent children? Public opinion turned against American involvement in Vietnam after the publication of that one picture. People’s perception of the issue of refugees and of the war in Syria were profoundly affected by the publication of the other images and

yet the horror continues. There are other stories, however, of heroic charity: of communities preparing day after day, night after night, to rescue refugees who have been abandoned at sea by people traffickers; of governments expending scarce resources to save lives. Many of us wonder just what we can do besides responding to the never-ending appeals for help from the various aid agencies.

Gospel Teaching

Moses recognised the tendency of some people to forget their own origins and to protect their newly gained prosperity. He reminds the people that they were a refugee people themselves and slaves in Egypt. This memory should help them deal kindly and honestly with people in need, widows, orphans, poor people. As God had responded to their cries of distress, so God will continue to hear the cry of those who are poor and punish those who oppress them. Throughout the history of God’s dealings with Israel, this is a constant theme. The prophets remind the people again and again of the demands of the Law: that the love of God and neighbour are at the heart of all their religious observances, and that God has chosen Israel to be a light to the nations, so that the witness of their lives would help the

whole of humanity to come to the knowledge of God's saving love. Today St Paul commends the Thessalonian community for the way in which they have faithfully followed the Gospel life he had taught them. They have done this so well that they have become an example for everyone, not only the neighbouring communities. This, surely, is the way that evangelisation is meant to work, by the witness of transformed lives. The Christian community at Thessalonica did what God's chosen people had failed to achieve in all the centuries before. The secret lies in the greatest commandment of the Law as spelt out by Jesus: "You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind"; and "You must love your neighbour as yourself." The Law and the Prophets hang on these two rules.

Application

Images of dead and traumatised children have a profound effect on the way we see our world. Like the people of Israel and all the generations before us, when we settle into a comfortable and secure way of life, we want to protect it. We can conveniently forget all the struggles our ancestors endured: the wars that dislocated their lives; the poverty that drove them from their homelands in search of a better world; the hardships they suffered to

bring up their children with a more secure future. But the images of children shock us into mindfulness. The Lord hears the cry of those who are poor and, if we are attuned to the word of God, that cry resonates in our hearts.

If we are to love God with all our heart and soul and mind, then we are bound to be touched by the horrors that are perpetrated all around us. We will be moved with compassion as God is moved with compassion and we will see that to respond to our neighbour's need is, in fact, to love ourselves, as human beings united with the whole of humanity in God. When the Christian community responds with prayer and practical help to the crises of our times, then it will truly be a light for all the nations to see. We will be teaching the Gospel by the example of our lives and building the new creation.



All Saints

There is one sure way of becoming a saint and that is by looking into the face of the Lord each day. If we look into the face of Christ Jesus we will begin to resemble him. There's truth in the saying that we begin to look like the people we live with. So, as St John tells us, "we shall be like him because we shall see him as he really is".

Ministers, etc. for next Sunday 5 November - 31 Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A - Cycle 1

	08:30	9:30	11:00
Celebrant	Fr Nicholas		Fr Nicholas
Welcomers	Annette Mansie	Patrick Walesby	Ross & Anne Williams
Sacristan			Chris Moore
1 st Reading	Richard Batho	Clare Nickerson	Jennifer Hackman
2 nd Reading	Fran Smallwood		Sergio Pavia
Bidding Prayers	Mary Hayes		Lucy Reed
Offertory	Ramage-H Family	Anthea Morton-S & Menna McBain	
Extraordinary Ministers	Jacqui Ramage-S & Julia Dave		Rob Corrigan & Joao Pavia

Next Sunday - Diocesan Clergy Welfare Appeal

<p>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.</p>	CHILDREN'S LITURGY	
	29-Oct	No Children's Liturgy
	05-Nov	Pat Wood & Rob Blackburn
	12-Nov	Jacqui Corrigan & Jan Wyman
	19-Nov	A Morawiecki & Pauline Gill
	26-Nov	Jackie King & Mary Wood

Please pray for all who have died: **May they rest in peace.** (W/C 29 Oct)

Deaths: Rachel George and R D Anthony osb

Anniversaries: Dom Bernard Chambers OSB, Thomas Treanor, Patricia Wybourne, Catherine Lane, Mabel Cope, Rowland Hanson and Dom Lawrence Beer osb.

The Sick: Please pray for: David Wood, Gil Savory Jennifer Hackman, Liz Norman, Basil Nickerson, Sam Evans, Denise Ellis, Michael Kennedy, Chris & Sue Rogers, Peter Draper, Norma Naudain, Dominique Wetz, Marie Williams, Sally Hayward, Lillian Allsop, Kenny Hanna, Shirley Brymer, Edward Medlicott, Elaine White, Joanne Savory, Dame Catherine, Vincent Hanna and Sadie Bowyer.

Liturgy for Sunday 29 October 2017 *Cycle A; Weekdays: Cycle 1 (Wk 30)*

<p>30th Week In Ordinary Time</p>	<p>Entrance: Let the hearts that seek the Lord rejoice; turn to the Lord and his strength; constantly seek his face.</p> <p>Acclamation: When we eat this Bread</p> <p>Communion: We will ring out our joy at your saving help and exult in the name of our God.</p>
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Principal Celebrants, Extraordinary Ministers, Readers, etc.			
	08:30 am	9:30 am	11:00 am
Celebrant	Fr Nicholas		Fr Nicholas
Welcomer	Cooper Family	Desmond Keohane	Marnie Archer & Maureen Stacey
Sacristan			Rob Corrigan
1 st Reading	Adrian Eyre	Anthea Morton-S	Pat Draper
2 nd Reading	Jacqui Ramage-S		Tony Archer
Bidding Prayer	Fran Grant		Pat Wood
Offertory	Hayes Family	Nickerson Family	
Extra-Ordinary Minister(s)	Fran Smallwood & Seamus Hayes		Monica Tomlin & Margaret Evans
Mass Intention		Pro Populo	
Second Collection - Catholic Education			
Food Bank Collection: John Goodall-Copstake			

What's On for the week	
Mon	Feria: Mass at 8:00 am
Tue	Feria: Mass at 8:00 am; Vigil Mass of All Saints 7.30 pm
Wed	All Saints - Holy day of Obligation Masses at 8 am and 12 Noon (sung) in the Abbey
Thu	All Souls - Masses at 8 am (Abbey) and 12 noon in the Oratory
Fri	St Martin de Pores: Mass at 8:00 am: Exposition at 11 followed by Midday Mass
Sat	St Charles Borromeo: Mass at 8:00 am: Reconciliation at 10:00 am