

St Michael and All Angels Belmont Abbey



PARISH NEWSLETTER

30th April 2017

3rd Sunday of Easter

PARISH PRIEST

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Today's gospel retells the wonderful account of how the disciples recognised the Lord in the 'breaking of bread'. We too, hopefully, experience a similar event each time we celebrate the Eucharist. We are drawn into the mystery, explained to us through our listening to the scriptures, through our prayer and the words of the Mass. Our whole liturgy leads to that moment of communion with our Lord. Yes, it is easier to recognise Jesus in this manner than any other. But we must remember that it is from this that we must build our Christian lives. We must leave church, having recognised and met Jesus in this holy sacrament - and act upon it.

During this wonderful season of Easter we listen to the many accounts of the Lord's resurrection appearances in the gospels, and the beginnings of the new church in the Acts of the Apostles. We are revitalised in our faith and our practice by these wonderful readings. We live with grateful hearts in this season and we share in the peace and joy of the Risen Christ, experiencing his presence among us. May we be missionaries of joy and hope to all that we encounter. We pray in this season especially for all those who have been received into the Church at this time.

Fr Nicholas

Last Sunday's	1 st Collection	£279.64
	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	£146.68
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. Thank You!		



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 1:00 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.



Torchlight Procession

The annual Devotion in honour of Our Lady at Belmont Abbey, takes place this year on Wednesday 10th May at 9 pm. This year, the centenary year of Our Lady's apparitions in Fatima, we



Rota of Ministries

A new rota is due from 21 May up to and including 3 Sept 2017. I would be grateful if you could let me have your non-available dates by 11 May at the very latest. Please contact me on frangrant235@btinternet.com or on Hfd 266307. Many thanks for your help.



Fr. Simon thanks parishioners for their prayers and best wishes. He is back at Belmont being looked after in the monastery infirmary. Hopefully his leg will heal quickly so he can resume his normal duties at Weobley as soon as possible.



will be welcoming the Statue of Our Lady of Fatima which is on a journey around the cathedrals of England and Wales in these coming months.



Forthcoming Marriages at Belmont Abbey

Sat 13th May Louise Spencer & Aaron White
Sat 20th May Hayley Gethins & Piotr Gass
Sat 10th June Matthew Corrigan & Esther Rich



Belmont Fete

The Fete is only 8 weeks away. 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 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!



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

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

5 May
Church Cleaning
9:00 am

10 May
Torchlight Procession
9:00 pm

16 May
Tea & Chat
Parish Hall
2:30 pm

17 June
Belmont Abbey Fete
2:00 pm



Walsingham Way

This 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 in their life. The event takes place on 30 June - 2 July. Further details can be found on the website: www.ukvocations.org.



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



Church Services TV was established in 2005 and streams services over the internet. By making services available on PCs, 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.



HOMILY

"So he went in to stay with them."

Illustration

Perhaps the most well-known poem of the Greek poet C.P. Cavafy is simply entitled "Ithaca". Ithaca is an island off the west coast of Greece, famous for being the home of the legendary Greek hero Odysseus. Homer's *Odyssey* describes the adventures of Odysseus as he makes his very winding way home to Ithaca after the

Trojan War. Cavafy's aim is to advise his readers about their journey through life, and he uses Ithaca as the symbolic end to the journey. We should hope, he says, that the journey is a long one, filled with adventures, filled with discoveries. We will not encounter monsters on our journey if we do not carry them within us. Rather we should hope for many summer mornings when we can put into harbours, new to our eyes, and acquire the finest wares. We should visit Egyptian cities and learn, and go on learning, from their sages. We keep Ithaca always in mind. To arrive there is our destiny, but we should not hurry our trip in any way. It is better that we are old when we finally drop anchor there, rich with all we have got on the way. If we then find Ithaca itself poor, she has not deceived us. She has given us the

beautiful journey, and we will "have understood, by then, what these Ithacas mean".

Gospel Teaching

Jesus always has to reveal himself to his disciples in his risen appearances. They never identify him through their own powers. On most occasions he appears in their midst and offers them peace. Mary Magdalene mistakes him for the gardener, but he only has to say her name for her to recognise him. In today's story of his encounter with two disciples on the road to Emmaus, there is a much slower process. The story is like a programme of catechesis. The disciples are first asked to give their account of what is preoccupying them, and with their telling of the story there is a sense of disappointment and frustration. Their hopes had been dashed, both in the events of the crucifixion and the puzzling aftermath of the empty tomb.



Jesus picks up their story and reframes it. Where they could only see failure, he now shows them that this is the preordained way that the Christ should suffer and so enter his glory. By this time their hearts are beginning to burn with the experience of the truths he is unfolding to them. But the act of full recognition only

comes after they have persuaded him to stay with them. He accepts their invitation and it is in his blessing and breaking of bread that the disciples' eyes are finally opened and they recognise him. The crucial stages in the journey to recognition are, first of all, the travelling with Jesus along the road, then the true explanation of the scriptures in relation to the Christ. This is followed by further staying with him, which results in full recognition through the breaking of the bread.

Application

We can see our own journey of recognising the risen Lord following a similar pattern. It is interesting that no historical village has been identified as Emmaus. Like Ithaca, its importance lies in offering us the journey, the journey through which we will be both enlightened and enriched. Our most regular journey of this nature is our celebration of the Eucharist. We come to Mass with all our preoccupations and concerns, and we begin by handing them over to God with our appeal for God's mercy and forgiveness. We then listen to God's words handed on to us in the scriptures. Hopefully the homily may then help us apply these words to our own lives. In this way the word of God does not remain distant from us but touches us at the deepest level.

In the Eucharist that follows we are confirmed in the presence of Christ in our lives. If the word has been broken for us, now the bread too is broken for us, deepening our recognition of the risen Lord and allowing him to transform our lives. Each stage of the celebration, the offering of the bread and wine, the consecration of the elements and our receiving them in communion, helps our understanding of the mystery of God's presence among us. But it also brings about that same mystery within ourselves. We become the body of Christ whose sacrifice we have both witnessed and made our own.



Ministers, etc. For next <u>Sunday 7 May 4 Easter Year A - Cycle 1</u>			
	08:30	9:30	11:00
Celebrant	Fr Nicholas		Fr Nicholas
Welcomers	Liz Norman	Nickerson Family	Brenda Sherwood & Maureen Stacey
Sacristan			Rob Corrigan
1 st Reading	Ann Jackson	Clare Nickerson	Niamh Coyle
2 nd Reading	Mary Hayes		Pat Wood
Bidding Prayers	Bill Jackson		Margaret Rose
Offertory	Parish Children	Paul Nickhold & Lucy Zammit	
Extraordinary Ministers	Seamus Hayes & Kath Parry		Chris Moore & Gabrielle Stanley
Next Sunday - Parish Outreach			

Anniversaries	CHILDREN'S LITURGY	
	8.30 Children's Liturgy - temporarily cancelled	
	30-Apr	Jacqui Moore & Mary Wood
	07-May	Pat Wood & Pauline Gill
	14-May	Jackie King & Monica Russell
	21-May	A Morawiecki & Rob Blackburn
	28-May	No Children's Liturgy

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 30 April)

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

Anniversaries: *Elizabeth McLoughlin, John Davidson, Ronald Fisher, Lilian Forrester, Dom Peter Fell, Dom Denis Mercer OSB, Thomas Smallman, Eileen Clark, Alice Frances Derrick, Irene Handley, Paddy Ledford and Anthony Meredith.*

The Sick: Please pray for: *Patrick Walesby, Peter Draper, Fr Simon, Ruby Chandler-Marsh, Rachel George, Norma Naudain, Ann Thomas, Mary Smith, Dominique Wetz, Marie Williams, Sally Hayward, Lillian Allsopp, Kenny Hanna, Shirley Brymer, Edward Medicott, Sr Philipa, Elaine White, Sue Rogers, Joanne Savory, Sr Catherine, Vincent Hanna and Sadie Bowyer.*

Liturgy for Sunday 30th April 2017 *Cycle A; Weekdays: Cycle 1*

<p>3rd Sunday Of Easter</p>	<p>Entrance: Cry out with joy to God, all the earth; O sing to the glory of his name. O render him glorious praise, alleluia.</p> <p>Acclamation: Save us, Saviour of the world ...</p> <p>Communion: The disciples recognised the Lord Jesus in the breaking of bread, alleluia.</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	Clare Wichbold	Rita Chamberlain & Monica Russell
Sacristan			Chris Moore
1 st Reading	Liz Norman	Marion Luscombe	Monica Tomlin
2 nd Reading	Fran Smallwood		Sally Johns
Bidding Prayer	Jacqui Ramage-S		Pat Draper
Offertory	Parish Children	Frances Wood & Maria Large	
Extra-Ordinary Minister(s)	Frances Dees & Julia Davey		Jan Wyman & Andre Pavia
Mass Intention	<i>The Parish</i>	<i>Pro Populo</i>	<i>Seb Wood RIP</i>
Second Collection - Parish Outreach			
Food Bank Delivery: Eddie & Jan Wyman			

<i>What's On for the week</i>	
Mon	St Joseph the Worker: Mass at 8:00 am
Tue	St Athanasius: Mass at 8:00 am
Wed	SS Philip & James: Mass at 8:00 am: Midday Mass in Oratory : Tridentine Mass at 7:00 pm
Thu	All Martyrs of England & Wales: Mass at 8:00 am
Fri	Easter Feria: Mass at 8:00 am: Exposition at 11 and Midday Mass in Oratory
Sat	Easter Feria : Mass at 8:00 am: Reconciliation at 10:00 am