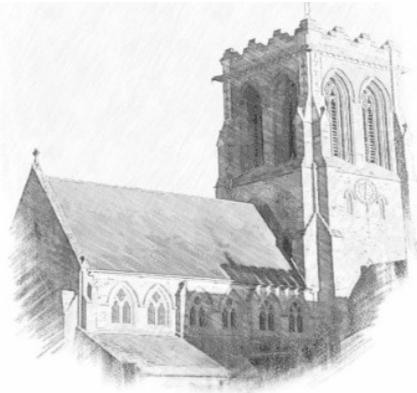


St Michael and All Angels Belmont Abbey



PARISH NEWSLETTER

6 August 2017

***The Transfiguration of the
Lord***

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Today, being 6th August is the Feast of the Transfiguration. It's not often we are able to celebrate this feast on a Sunday which commemorates the transfiguration of Christ on Mount Tabor, when our Lord appeared in His divine glory before the apostles Peter, James, and John. At the end of this extraordinary event, when the voice from heaven commands us to "listen to him", we are challenged to be transfigured by the divine presence in our own lives. This should prompt us to deepen our prayer lives and our lives of love and charity.

Coffee and Tea are available after all Masses today, including after 11am Mass, in the **Hedley Refectory**.

The summer edition of the Angel is now available in the porch and parish centre. Thank you to all our contributors, editors and collators.

The second collection today is for St Joseph's School for hearing impaired children, Makeni

Fr Nicholas

Last Sunday's	1 st Collection	£308.96
	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	£197.24
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: Hereford Close House . Thank You!		



During the month of August the **Parish Outreach 2nd Collection** will be devoted to St Joseph's School, Makeni and Marriage Care. St Joseph's is a very special school, started in Makeni, Sierra Leone in 1979, destroyed in the civil war of the 90s, & lovingly re-established in 2003. Care & education is provided for over 250 hearing impaired students aged 3 to 18 from very poor backgrounds, who are often marginalized or rejected. For more information do chat with Monica Tomlin who devotes much of her time to this school or read the article in the Angel magazine.

Marriage Care helps couples and individuals to build and sustain strong, fulfilling healthy relationships, as well as providing counselling support in times of relationship

difficulty. The parish also uses the local branch of Marriage Care in the preparation of our wedding couples. Unfortunately, the government is removing the grants to Marriage Care and similar charities so they rely on donations to continue much of their work.



Summer Holiday Request

If you are away on holiday this summer and visit the parish church, please bring back a newsletter to help us with different ideas and formats. Thank you!



NOAH'S CAMP

A new Catholic family camp set in rural Gloucestershire from 7th – 11th August 2017. Inspiring talks, fun times for families, live worship band, Quiet prayer times, Taize evening, age related kids 7 youth groups. All denominations welcome. You can camp or commute daily, only about 40 minutes from Hereford. For more information visit our website: www.noahscamp.co.uk, Tel 07961 346343 or contact Jacqui/Rob Corrigan on 01432 352241 for more information





DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

11 August
Church Cleaning
9:00 am

Monday
14 August 3 pm
Rotherwas Chapel
Vigil Mass
of The Assumption

15 August
Tea & Chat
Parish Hall
2:30 pm

17 November
Quiz Night
Hedley Lodge
7:00 pm

23 November
Rise Theatre
Hedley Lodge
7:30 pm



No children's liturgy of the Word during the school holidays. Don't forget we are always looking for new volunteers to lead or merely help with these sessions. Please see Fr Nicholas for more details.



Hereford Food Bank

The Food Bank is in urgent need of more supplies and is short of **everything. Please contribute what you can do help them build up supplies again.** Thank you for your continued support. Chris



Forthcoming Marriages at Belmont Abbey

Sat 19th August
Kitty Massarella &
Jonathon Nicholls

Sat 26th August
Natalie Dewhurst &
Robert Dewen

Sat 16th September
Chelsie Jones &
David Shutt

Sat 30th September
Arabella Anderson &
Chris Haughian



Jonathon (our organist) and Kitty are getting married here in the Abbey on Saturday 19th August at 12 noon. They would be delighted if you would join them for the ceremony and afterwards for the reception in the Parish Centre.





Herefordshire's Hidden Saint

A day conference on Saturday 26 August, 10 am to 4 pm at Belmont Abbey. In the hope of reaching understanding and reconciliation this year the Lutheran Church has asked that all Churches reflect on the 500 Anniversary of the Reformation in the light of Pope Francis' encyclical *Evangelii Gaudium*. Professor Michael Questier, a leading scholar of the Reformation has accepted an invitation to Belmont to talk to us and answer our questions and discuss the process of beatification and canonisation. Lynne Surtees will speak about this brave and inspirational young man who was loyal to both King and Country but who put his devotion to the Catholic Faith first. Abbot Paul Stonham will preside at a Mass in honour of the Herefordshire Martyrs.

On Sunday 27 August at 3 pm we are invited to gather on the lawn at the east end of the Catholic Church in Leominster to dedicate the memorial stone which marks the burial place of Roger Cadwallador's relic. This will be followed by Vespers and Benediction.



We have made a few changes to the **Parish Graveyard Policy**. Copies of the new guidelines are available in the porch. 



Rotherwas Chapel Mass

The Friends of Rotherwas Chapel invite you to join them at a Vigil Mass of the Assumption to be celebrated at the Chapel by the Abbot of Belmont on Monday 14th August at 3 pm. As seating is very limited please bring a chair. Parking in the field adjacent to the Chapel.



Mini Pilgrimages

Sunday

20 August 10:15

Annual trip to St John Kemble

Meet in Monmouth

See poster

Sunday

27 August 3 pm

Annual Saint David Lewis trip

Usk

See poster for details

Sunday

3 September 3 pm

Sung Vespers

Tintern

Father Abbot presiding





Youth 2000 Annual Prayer festival

Hosted by the national Shrine of Our Lady, Walsingham between 24th - 28th Aug. 2017's biggest young Catholic Summer Festival!

Inheritance, a 5-day camping festival run by young people for young people. It is about us discovering who we are as we come face-to-face with the God who made us, knows us and loves us. See Poster for more details.



Homily

“Lord, it is wonderful for us to be here.”

Illustration

In July 2016, about 1.5 million young people came from all over the world to celebrate World Youth Day in Poland. In fact, it was World Youth Week: they gathered in various parts of Poland for a week of catechesis, prayer, discussion and celebration before the main gathering in a field outside Kraków, which was designated the “Field of Mercy”. They came to this place, mainly on foot, the night before and waited in vigil for the celebration of the Eucharist by Pope Francis on the following day.

Why on earth would so many young people spend so much of their holidays in uncomfortable

circumstances, having catechism lessons, singing and praying together before the Blessed Sacrament? Pope Francis put it very simply and clearly: “We are all here because of one person, Jesus Christ, the Son of God.” All the sessions of teaching, prayer and celebration; all their meetings in friendship and fun were a lived experience of how Jesus Christ continues to live among us and invites us to share in his mission. Such a huge demonstration of shared faith helped them to believe and to say with Peter on the mountain of transfiguration: “Lord, it is wonderful for us to be here.”

Gospel Teaching

At the time when Jesus took Peter, James and John up the mountain, he had reached a moment of crisis. Official opposition to Jesus was growing. When asked, “Who do you say I am?” Simon had answered, “You are the Christ, the Son of the living God,” and this profession of faith had earned him the nickname Peter, “Rock” – “on this rock I will build my Church”. However, within a very short time, when faced with the prospect of Jesus’ betrayal, arrest and crucifixion, Peter was quick to dissuade Jesus from this course of action – “Lord, this must not happen to you” – which earned him the name “Satan”: “Get behind me, Satan... the way you think is not God’s way but man’s.”

So now, six days later, Jesus took Peter, James and John up a high mountain where he was transfigured in their sight. He was teaching them to think in God's way. They saw Jesus with Moses and Elijah, representing the teaching of the law and the prophets. They heard the voice of the Father: "This is my Son, the Beloved; he enjoys my favour. Listen to him." It was such an overwhelming experience that they wanted it to last. They wanted to stay there. Their minds had been opened to the reality of what it means to say, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." But very quickly the vision was over and they were left alone with Jesus to go back down the mountain and continue on their way to Jerusalem and the cross.

Application

Similarly, in Poland, the young people had been up the mountain. They had an extraordinary experience of faith. They heard the teaching of the Gospel explaining its relevance to their lives in the modern world. They prayed together. They worshipped God. They sang God's praise and they heard the voice of Pope Francis explain, "We are here because of one person, Jesus Christ, the Son of God." Surely the young people wanted the experience to go on and on, but in reality they had to come down from the mountain

and return to everyday life, their personal way of the cross.

For the disciples, the wonder of the transfiguration soon wore off. When the crisis of Jesus' passion and death came, they were overcome with fear. They ran away and hid. And this, surely, is the reaction of many of us after an intense experience of faith? Whether it is an event like World Youth Day, or big occasions in our life like baptisms, First Communions, confirmation, or marriage, we are encouraged and enthusiastic as we prepare for and celebrate them. We promise ourselves that we will keep faithfully all that we have promised. Yet, so often, the enthusiasm soon wears thin and we become disillusioned. We forget what it is like to think in God's way. The attractions of daily life seem more appealing than fidelity to our faith. In the dark times, we are called to allow the memory of our "mountain top" experience to rekindle our fire, to enable us to renew our decision to love and to follow Jesus, no matter how hard it might be for us.



Ministers, etc. for next <u>Sunday 13 August 19 Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A - Cycle 1</u>			
	08:30	9:30	11:00
Celebrant	Fr Nicholas		Fr Nicholas
Welcomers	Cooper Family	Ann Stapleton	Brenda Sherwood & Maureen Stacey
Sacristan			Chris Moore
1 st Reading	Adrian Eyre	Basil Nickerson	Margaret Rose
2 nd Reading	Ann Jackson		Sally Johns
Bidding Prayers	Richard Batho		Pat Draper
Offertory	Parish Children	Nickerson Family	
Extraordinary Ministers	Frances Dees & Jacqui R-Smith		Rob Corrigan & Monica Tomlin
Next Sunday - Parish Outreach (St Joseph, Makeni)			

Anniversaries	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.	
		None until beginning September

Please pray for all who have died: **May they rest in peace.** (W/C 6 August)

Deaths: Jo Berry, Kevin Hanna, Sr Phillipa, Bernadette Higgins and Teazel Chowles

Anniversaries: Adrian Cox, James Morgan, Winifred Reynolds, Mike Ball, Nigel Dees, Charles Forrester, John Michael Bell, Charles Edward Meredith, Charles Williams, Benjamin Carmody, Philomena Hickman, Cedric Ramos, Mona Williams, Lillian Bradley, Margaret O'Connor, Piotr Hutnik, Maude Jones, Len George Langford, Bridget Williams and Mother Catherine CP.

The Sick: Please pray for: Seamus Hayes, Carol Baines, Michael Kennedy, Chris & Sue Rogers, Peter Draper, Ruby Chandler-Marsh, Rachel George, Norma Naudain, Ann Thomas, Dominique Wetz, Marie Williams, Sally Hayward, Lillian Allsopp, Kenny Hanna, Shirley Brymer, Edward Medicott, Elaine White, Joanne Savory, Sr Catherine, Vincent Hanna and Sadie Bowyer.

Liturgy for Sunday 6 August 2017 *Cycle A; Weekdays: Cycle 1 (Wk 18)*

<p><i>The Transfiguration of the Lord</i></p>	<p>Entrance: In a resplendent cloud the Holy Spirit appeared. The Father's voice was heard: This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased. Listen to him.</p> <p>Acclamation: When we eat this Bread</p> <p>Communion: When Christ appears, we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is.</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	Liz Norman	Nickerson Family	Hackman Family
Sacristan			Jeremy Hogan
1 st Reading	Fran Smallwood	Patrick Walesby	Rob Corrigan
2 nd Reading	Fran Grant		Tony Archer
Bidding Prayer	Jacqui Ramage-S		Monica Tomlin
Offertory	Hayes Family	Frances Wood & Maria Large	
Extra-Ordinary Minister(s)	Seamus Hayes & Julia Davey		Margaret Evans & David Wood
Mass Intention		<i>The Parish</i>	
Second Collection - Parish Outreach - St Joseph Makeni			
Food Bank Collection: Kath Parry			

<i>What's On for the week</i>	
Mon	Feria: Mass at 8:00 am
Tue	St Dominic: Mass at 8:00 am
Wed	St Teresa Benedicta of the Cross: Mass at 8:00 am: Midday Mass in Oratory: Tridentine Mass at 7:00 pm
Thu	St Laurence: Mass at 8:00 am
Fri	St Clare of Assisi: Mass at 8:00 am: Exposition at 11 am & Midday Mass at 12 noon
Sat	BVM: Mass at 8:00 am: Reconciliation at 10:00 am: