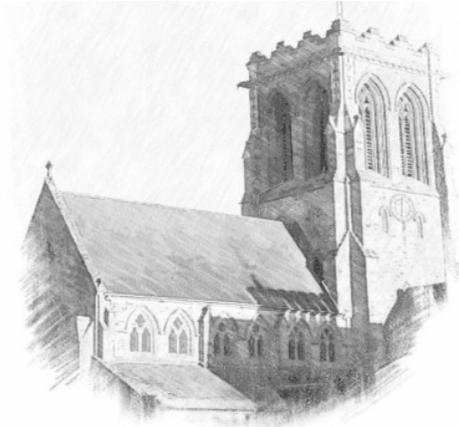


St Michael and All Angels Belmont Abbey



PARISH NEWSLETTER

6th November 2016

32nd Ordinary Time
(Cycle C)

PARISH PRIEST

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Parish Deacon

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Safeguarding Representative
Gabrielle Stanley 07939 472059

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

Welcome to November, these final weeks of the Church's year and a time of prayer for all our deceased. This is a very important part of our Catholic tradition. I would ask each of you to pray for your deceased loved ones with a joyful heart that God will indeed raise them up to share in his glorious life. We remember all those who have died, particularly members of our families and friends and pray that they may enter into God's heavenly kingdom. We ask the help of the saints, we believe that they remember us before God in heaven. Although God can act without these prayers, we believe that He regards them dearly, as a precious sign of the communion of believers.

At the entrance to the church you will find a special envelope in which you may list by name those you would especially like remembered at the altar during this month. Please hand your envelope to Fr Nicholas as soon as possible. These names will be remembered at Mass each day and left on the altar during November.

Apologies for the mistake in last week's newsletter regarding the time of the Holy Day of Obligation vigil Mass of All Saints. However, it does raise the question of whether 7pm is a more suitable time than 7.30pm? Please let me know your thoughts.

Fr Nicholas

The second collection today is for the Diocesan Clergy Welfare Fund.

Last Sunday's	1 st Collection	£317.48
	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	£152.41
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!		

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Second Collections

During September & October, most of the Second Collection funds were sent to mandatory diocesan appeals. This 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

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Collections have already started for our **Christmas draw**. Please put your name down if you would like to donate a prize, or part of a prize, towards the wonderful hampers that are put together for this Christmas draw. This fundraising event produces many wonderful hamper type prizes that the parish can win before Christmas.

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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.

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A Day Retreat

A Day Retreat 'Saints & Martyrs of Herefordshire' on Saturday 19th November with Fr Andrew Berry & Lynne Surtees at Belmont Abbey. 10 am to 4 pm. No need to book. Tea & Coffee provided. Suggested Donation £8. (Bring Sandwiches)

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Proclaiming the Mercy of God

A CAFOD RETREAT - As this Year of Mercy draws to a close, explore how you can continue to live out Pope Francis' call to be "a witness of mercy" in your family, community and in our world by taking time out of your everyday life to reflect on your faith journey alongside other CAFOD supporters. Join us to explore the Scriptures and Church teaching together on Saturday 12 November at the Ty Croeso Centre, Llantarnam Abbey NP44 3YJ from 10-4 pm. All are welcome. Please bring food to share. You can book online (free) at cafod.org.uk/retreat or call 0303 303 3030.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Friday 11 November
Church Cleaning

Tea & Chat
Tuesday 15 November
Parish Hall - 2:30

Red Box
Last hand in date
30 November

Thursday 1 December
Light up a Life 7:00 pm
Abbey Church

Sunday 11 December
Christmas Draw Parish Hall
After 11 am Mass

Wednesday 14 December
Retired Persons
Christmas Lunch 12:30 pm



Diamond Diners Festive Party

Will be held on the next scheduled date, 6th December. The cost is 3 courses £12 or 2 courses £10 and consists of a full traditional Christmas lunch. Christmas menu MUST be pre-booked and menu sheets, for you to make your selections, are available in the Parish Centre and MUST be

completed by 20th November and the full amount paid, by the same date, to Ray Rose. The usual Diamond Diners Menu will still be available for those NOT wishing to have the Christmas Lunch. Everyone, as usual, is welcome, 1:00 pm at The Three Horseshoes, Allensmore.



Emmaus Youth

If you are of secondary school age up to sixth form you are invited to come on a faith journey with us. We will be exploring our faith in interesting and fun ways and looking at how, even with faith the size of a mustard seed, we can move mountains!

Come and join us at Our Lady's Church on Saturday 19th November from 4-7pm.

Rob & Jacqui Corrigan/Annie Ridgway
01432 352241 & 07739 566578
jacqui.corrigan@btopenworld.com



One of our parishioners has kindly invited up to four parishioners for **Christmas Day Lunch**. This festive invitation is extended to anyone who might be one their own or lonely this Christmas. Transport can be arranged. Please contact Fr Nicholas if you would like to take up this

invitation or know somebody who would be on their own.



Vennture

There is a presentation on the work of the local charity Venture at Our Lady's Parish room, on Thursday 17th November from 7-9pm. Come along to find out more. Organised by the Hereford RC Deanery Council. In 1856 John Venn and his sister Emelia founded Hereford City Mission. Their vision was to reach out to local people struggling with the problems of homelessness, hunger and health care. Today, Hereford City Mission is renamed Vennture and remains a Christian cross-church initiative true to their original vision of loving those who are marginalised or vulnerable.



Sick and Housebound Parishioners

If you know of any sick or housebound parishioners please let the Parish Office know. We can then make arrangements for Fr Nicholas or an extraordinary minister to bring them Holy Communion or for a priest to come and hear confession if that is required. This also applies to parishioners who move into a care or nursing home. Please remember that hospitals no longer advise us of Catholics in hospital!



The Angel - If you would like to write a piece for The Angel magazine or have any articles or digital photographs you would like published please submit them to the parish office, preferably by email, by 4th December.



Can There Be Mercy for a Murderer?

A Talk by Marion Partington (Sister of a victim of Fred and Rosmary West) Mostyn Room, St. David's Cathedral At 1.30 on Wednesday 9 November Tickets from JennyJones@rcadc.org



National Flame Conference 2017

On Saturday the 11th of March CYMFed is holding a huge event for young people in the SSE Arena, London. Flame is a massive celebration with music, guest speakers, and activities and over 10,000 other young people! If you are aged 14-21 and would like more information, please fill out the forms at the back of the church and return to your parish priest before the 20th November.





Our Lady's Twentieth Anniversary

Over the weekend of Friday 25th – Sunday 27th November, Our Lady's Parish is celebrating the 20th anniversary of the building of the new parish church. All are welcome to join us for the events taking place. All weekend there is an exhibition and display on the history of the parish and of our local county saints. On Friday 25th at 8.00pm there is a talk from Lynne Surtees on the Saints and Martyrs of Herefordshire in the parish hall. The exhibition is open from 10.00am till 4.00pm on Saturday. Then a Ceilidh in the evening featuring the local band "Sheila's Wheels", with supper, tickets are £5 for adults, £2 for kids. For tickets ring Lindsaye on 08732 694284, or Fr. Matthew on 265177.



HOMILY

"He is God, not of the dead, but of the living."

Illustration

Some years ago, two police officers were driving along a nondescript road in Denmark when they noticed something odd about the motorbike in front. Something was obviously not right with the way the motorbike was being driven. So they pulled the

motorcyclist over and asked the young driver and his pillion passenger to dismount. Imagine their shock when they discovered that the passenger was none other than the young man's dead father. For two days, the young man had been so grief-stricken at his father's passing that he felt unable to do anything at all. He stayed in his house with his father's corpse. Finally, he decided to take his dad for one last ride on his motorbike. So he strapped his father's body onto the back of the bike and off they went for a farewell drive.

That story is full of pathos. The young man was doing what he could in the face of the terrible finality of death, which is the one non-negotiable reality in the life of each of us.

Gospel Teaching

Today's readings confront us with the question of what death is – and what comes after. And that question is important because it helps us to shape how we live in the present. So, in the first reading, those seven brothers were able to endure terrible hardship because of their faith in God's ability to raise them up after death. Their belief in the resurrection enabled them to remain true to their identity, to their values, to their God. In the Gospel, the Sadducees, who believed that there is no afterlife, dragged up a little-used law about

marrying your dead brother's wife in order to ridicule Jesus' belief in the resurrection of the dead. That law was designed to ensure that a man's name lived on after his death. Jesus says that for those who belong to God, there is no need for such devices to try to cheat death. Those who have died and "are judged worthy" are living with God, where there is no need to think of marrying and having children to try to preserve your name or to carry on the human race. Why? Quite simply, because there is no more death. Those who are worthy are living a new kind of life as sons and daughters of God. Death has no more power over them. Jesus is crystal clear: this life is not the end. God wants us to live in God's presence for ever.

Application

Critics may regard this month of prayer for the Holy Souls as a Catholic version of what that young motorcyclist did – they may think that in the face of death, we seem unable to let go of our loved ones. In fact, no matter how deep our grief, this month of prayer is an affirmation of our faith in the power of God's love, which is stronger than death. It is an expression of our hope in the resurrection: that just as God our Father raised Christ from the dead, so he will raise all those who belong to him.

But what difference does faith in the resurrection actually make in our lives? Sometimes religious people are accused of being so heavenly minded that they are of no earthly use – they disengage from this world's problems and just focus on churchy matters. That's not where faith in the resurrection should lead us. A Christian charity engaged in practical help for those who are poor once ran a series of adverts with the slogan: "We believe in life before death." Our belief in the resurrection shows us that to God, life is absolutely important. God created us for life, not death. God is God of the living, Jesus tells us, and what we do with our life determines our future life with God. To believe in the God of Abraham is to believe in the God who wants all to live. And it means that we will strive to defend life and oppose everything that diminishes life or robs people of life in any way – whether such attacks come in the form of physical violence or oppression, illness or lack of education, or economic injustice and inequality. Faith in the resurrection led the seven brothers to resist an evil king. It led Jesus to the cross. For Christians, it leads us to cherish life in the here and now and to defend life for all – especially those whose quality of life is most threatened.



Ministers, etc. For next Sunday 13th November- 33rd in Ordinary Time Year C

	08:30	09:30	11:00
Celebrant	Fr Nicholas		Fr Nicholas
Welcomers	Annette Mansie	Brenda Warde	Hackman Family
Sacristan			Chris Moore
1 st Reading	Adrian Eyre	Clare Wichbold	Jennifer Hackman
2 nd Reading	Fran Grant		Marje Hayes
Bidding Prayers	Richard Batho		Sally Johns
Offertory	Hayes Family	Teresa Harris & Menna McBain	
Extraordinary Ministers	Seamus Hayes & Fran Smallwood		Monica Russell

Next Sunday -

<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	
	06-Nov	Jacqui Moore & Monica Russell
	13-Nov	Jacqui Corrigan & Jan Wyman
	20-Nov	Jacqui King & R Blackburn
	27-Nov	Marje Hayes & Pauline Gill
04-Dec	Pat Wood & Mary Wood	

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

Deaths: Michael Kenneth Rose, Beryl Lonergan, Diana Gosnell and Winifred Lewis.

Anniversaries: Ralph Hughes, Very Rev Fr Hugh Menken OSB, Ada Whiting, Emily Crump, Monica Carney, Harold Davies, Henry Hatless, George Bray, Cecil Evans, Conway Hill, Hilda Sterckx, John M Preston, Peter Rosser, Irena Sikora, Joseph Buckeridge, Leo Oddie, Cecil Wegg-Prosser, Perpetua Ball, Sr Gabriel Barron, Megan Cox, Dom Augustine Kervin OSB, Hilda Kathleen McGurk.

The Sick: Please pray for: Wendy Lyle Cameron, John Pimblett, Sister Trish, Brian Holberry, Mother Regina, Ann Thomas, Mary Smith, Fr Michael Cronin, Philip Herderschee, Sheila Langford, Dominique Wetz, Marie Williams, Sally Hayward, Stephen Fisher, Gordon Wilson, Denise Ellis, Lillian Allsopp, Kenny Hanna, Shirley Brymer, Edward Medicott, Sr Philpa, Elaine White, Sue Rogers, Joanne Savory, Sr Catherine, Vincent Hanna and Sadie Bowyer.

Liturgy for Sunday 6th November Cycle C; Weekdays: Cycle 2 (Wk 32 OT)

<p>32nd Sunday In Ordinary Time</p>	<p>Entrance: Let my prayer come into your presence. Incline your ear to my cry for help, O Lord.</p> <p>Acclamation: We proclaim your Death, O Lord</p> <p>Communion: The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want. Fresh and green are the pastures where he gives me repose, near restful waters he leads me.</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	Kath Parry	Brenda Warde	Hackman Family
Sacristan			Chris Moore
1 st Reading	Adrian Eyre	Clare Wichbold	Jennifer Hackman
2 nd Reading	Fran Grant		Marje Hayes
Bidding Prayer	Richard Batho		Sally Johns
Offertory	Hayes Family	Teresa Harriss & Menna McBain	
Extra-Ordinary Minister(s)	Seamus Hayes & Fran Smallwood		Monica Russell
Mass Intention	Harold Davies RIP	Roger Maund-Powell RIP	Seb Wood RIP
Second Collection - Diocesan Clergy Welfare Fund			
Food Bank Delivery: Ray & Margaret Rose			

What's On for the week	
Mon	Feria: Mass at 8:00 am:
Tue	Feria: Mass at 8:00 am
Wed	Dedication of the Lateran Basilica: Mass at 8:00 am:Midday Mass in Oratory: Tridentine Mass at 7:00 pm
Thu	St Leo the Great: Mass at 8:00 am
Fri	St Martin of Tours: Mass at 8:00 am: Exposition at 11 am & Midday Mass in Oratory
Sat	BVM: Mass at 8:00 am: Reconciliation at 10:00 am