

# ***St Michael and All Angels Belmont Abbey***



PARISH NEWSLETTER

15<sup>th</sup> January 2012

**2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
(Cycle B)

PARISH PRIEST

Fr. Nicholas Wetz OSB

Tel: 01432 - 277319

Fax: 01432 - 374781

email: [pp@belmontparish.plus.com](mailto:pp@belmontparish.plus.com)

[www.belmontparish.org.uk](http://www.belmontparish.org.uk)

**Parish Deacon**

Rev Deacon Eddie Wyman

Tel: 01432 - 263575

Parish Hall 01432 - 374781

Safeguarding Representative

Kath Parry 01981 - 250304

**Hospital Chaplain**

Fr. James Norris

01432 374745

Items for the Newsletter to  
[editor@belmontparish.plus.com](mailto:editor@belmontparish.plus.com)  
or The Parish Office

## **2010 White Flower Collection**

The second collection today is for the Society for the Protection of Unborn Children (SPUC). In common with the Catholic Church SPUC defends and upholds the sanctity of human life from conception until natural death. The Society opposes laws and policies, which violate or threaten human life such as abortion, euthanasia and research on human embryos. SPUC also provides trained speakers for schools and colleges and a range of pro-life support services.

The theme for the **Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 2012**, which begins on Wednesday, comes to us from the churches in Poland, who have reflected upon their own experience as a nation, and in particular how, as a nation, they have been changed and transformed by the many upheavals of their history, and sustained by their faith. Change is also at the heart of the ecumenical movement. When we pray for the unity of the church we are praying that the churches that we know and which are so familiar to us will change as they conform more closely to Christ. This is an exciting vision, but also a challenging one. Furthermore, when we pray for this transforming unity we are also praying for change in the world. There will be a series of prayer meetings in Ewyas Harold every day, apart from Sunday, between 11.30 and 12.15 pm.

*Fr Nicholas*

Last Sunday's	1st Collection:	<b>£356.46</b>
	Standing Orders:	<b>£480.00</b>
	2nd Collection:	<b>£200.83</b>
<b><i>Local Catholic Schools - Thank You</i></b>		

## ARE YOU FEELING LUCKY

150+ Club members are reminded that renewal subscriptions are now due. If you pay by Standing Order, please check that your bank instruction has been renewed. New Standing Order subscribers (preferred method) may obtain bank forms from the Parish Office.

If you prefer to make payments by cheque please make these payable to 'Belmont Abbey Parish' with '150+ Club' on the rear side. For obvious security reasons cash payments are acceptable but not encouraged.

### First Holy Communion Programme

I would like to hear from parents interested in presenting their children for First Holy Communion this summer. The usual age is about 7 or 8 and our parish programme is aimed at children not attending Catholic primary schools. Please speak to Fr Nicholas for more information.



### 150+ Club

Congratulations to the winners of the January draw who were:-

1<sup>st</sup> Prize - Peter Lee

2<sup>nd</sup> Prize - Stephen Fisher

3<sup>rd</sup> Prize - Liz Norman



### ROTA OF MINISTRIES

It is time for a new Rota of Ministries. This one runs from 12 February to and including 13 May 2012. I would appreciate your non-available dates as soon as possible. I hope to have the new rota out by 29 January. You can contact me on 01432 266307 or e-mail me on [frangrant@aol.com](mailto:frangrant@aol.com). As always your help is much appreciated. Thank you.

*Fran Grant*



Subscriptions are £12.00 per lottery number per year. There is no upper limit on numbers you can hold and membership is not restricted to the Parish. Each number will entitle you to 12 draws each year, held on or about the first Sunday in each month, in the Parish Centre after 11:00 am Mass.

Prizes are:-

1st - £50: 2nd - £25: 3rd - £12.

Why not give a lottery number as a token present to friends or family or simply increase your present holding.

Enquiries please to me via the Parish Office or tel: 01432-274903

John Wallin - Lottery Administrator



## WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY

On Sunday January 22<sup>nd</sup>, a service of Ecumenical Vespers will be held in St. David's Cathedral, Cardiff at 4:00 pm to celebrate the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. Archbishop George Stack will lead the worship, and Christians from all over the Archdiocese are invited to join him. An invitation to the service is being extended to the leaders and their congregations of all the Christian Churches in the Diocese. It is hoped that Catholics from all the parishes will attend, bringing friends from their local churches with them. The address will be given by Lord Griffiths of Bury Port under the title "The religious landscape of Wales at the beginning of the 21<sup>st</sup> century". Dr. Leslie Griffiths is Superintendent Methodist minister in charge of Wesley's Church in central London and is a well known author and broadcaster as well as a keen ecumenist.

This ecumenical service of prayer is being promoted by the Archdiocesan Commission for Christian Unity.



## THE HEREFORDSHIRE CATHOLIC HISTORY SOCIETY

The next meeting of the Herefordshire Catholic History Society will take place in the Kemble Room at Belmont Abbey on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> January 2012 at 7:30 p.m.

There will be a talk on the Belmont Abbey Archives, followed by progress reports on

some of the research being undertaken by members.

All interested persons and new members welcome.

Information: 01432 760601 or  
bmwarde@aol.com



## UNWANTED CHRISTMAS GIFTS

Before you put away any unwanted Christmas gifts, it would be greatly appreciated if you would be kind enough to donate same to the Annual Garden Fete in June. A Box will be placed in the Foyer (right hand corner as you enter) for the next few weeks and checked daily. Thank you. *Kath Parry*



## HOMILY

*"Speak, Lord, your servant is listening."*

## Illustration

The television series was called *The Big Silence*. Take five ordinary people, three women, two men, living their fast and busy day-to-day lives, and put them into a Benedictine monastery in the south of England, for eight days, and invite them to live in silence. Take away their mobile phones, their radios and televisions, and invite them to enter a silent world. Furnish them with a counsellor, for a one-hour daily meeting, but otherwise invite them not to speak with one another, or

anybody else, for the duration of the week. And watch what happens.

What did happen was very surprising and very inspiring. At first there was resentment and resistance to this stupid religious world. Plans were made to escape down to the local pub, and secret rendezvous were made to indulge in the glorious business of talking. But, slowly and surely, the participants sank into the silence of the abbey, and into the silence of their own hearts, and they found that they wanted to stay there.

In the silence they began to explore their own lives, and they felt that they were not alone as they did so. The counsellor helped them to unravel their thoughts and feelings, and encouraged them on the spiritual journey they had embarked on. Back in the silence the participants began to speak to God, and to hear God's voice guiding them in their thoughts and reflections. When the week was over, the five individuals took silence out with them into their worlds, and each one of them felt tremendously changed, and energised for the journey of their life.

### **Gospel Teaching**

Today we hear about a young boy, Samuel, brought up in the house of the priest Eli. He thought he heard his master calling him, but eventually he was instructed how to answer the call. It was God who was calling to him, and Samuel was to reply, "Speak, Lord, your servant is listening." From that day and from that experience of hearing the voice of God within, Samuel grew up to be a great

prophet, and, in a magnificent phrase, we are told that the Lord "let no word of his fall to the ground".

Those who listen carefully to the word of God will also speak their own words with great care. Such speech has power to reach not only to the human ear and mind, but it even penetrates to the human heart. When heart speaks to heart, the world will know the power of peace. Such impressive speaking was the main event down by the waters of the River Jordan, where the Baptist was gathering crowds, come to listen to his powerful words. He was clearly leading up to something, as he prepared people for someone who was to come. And when that someone came, John gave him a piercing look, and told the two of his own disciples who were standing with him, "There he is."

The man they then followed, like two private eyes, was Jesus from Nazareth, who turned round and asked them directly, "What do you want?" What they wanted was to know all about him. On that day, they began their education. It would occupy them for the rest of their lives. Listening to this man, they knew that they had struck gold. As the Jerusalem police would say at a later date, "Nobody has ever spoken like this man."

### **Application**

Finding Jesus of Nazareth is never a one-time event. It is a lifelong engagement. Each day we are invited to say to the Lord, "Where do you live?" And each day the Lord will reply, "Come and see." For there

is much to learn and much to find out. How can we ever say that we know the Lord? Our lives would indicate that we know very little and we understand less. But every new day is a fresh opportunity to seek the Lord and to say, "Speak, Lord, your servant is listening."

All our human relationships can demonstrate this activity of listening and speaking. We can practise a true respect for ourselves, and for one another. Any casual "using" of one another is unworthy of us as children of God. St Paul speaks to the Corinthians about that today. Honest and open involvement with one another is the way to life.

We do not know all the answers to all the challenges of life. But at least we can live the questions in an open and honest way. Speak, Lord, your servant is listening.



### **FAITH IN FOCUS: JUST A QUICK NOTE**

Dear Mother

You're probably wondering where I've got to over the past month or so. A few weeks ago when I was out listening to John the Baptist a rabbi passed by and John pointed him out as something really special. When I heard what he had to say I was amazed. I asked him where he lived and he invited me to come and see. I stayed with him and now I just want to be around him and hear him speak.

He's not like the other religious leaders. You really get the impression he's sent by



God. He's not full of himself and his teaching is so straightforward that you wonder why you never thought of it first. He cuts through all the red tape by saying that we should make sure we love God and look after our neighbours in the same way as we would like to be treated by them.

When you see him in action you soon realise that it's the ordinary people he warms to quickly. Poor people, children, widows, sick people and those whom others look down on. He has time for everyone although he's not slow to condemn hypocrisy.

His fame as a preacher is spreading because he has the knack of making you feel that there's more to life than just getting and having, more important things than what others think of you. It's as if he has the secret to living life to the full and he really makes you think.

Each time he works a miracle he doesn't wait for applause but says it's his Father in heaven that gives him this power, and he says that these miracles will seem like nothing compared with what life will be like for those who follow him. Apparently this new type of life will even last after death.



Simon has joined me along with one or two of the other fishermen, and people from every walk of life are turning up each day to listen to him. Everyone wants to be part of it. They say that if it carries on like this there'll be thousands of supporters before long. Next month he'll be back in Capernaum and I can't wait for you to meet him. What he's got to offer is too good to be missed, so make sure you don't lose out!

Your loving son

*Andrew*



### IMPORTANT NOTICE

It is part of our Christian duty to ensure the well-being of our fellow parishioners. Therefore it is essential that the names of parishioners who are sick, in hospital, need home Communion or just need someone to visit them as they are old or lonely are made known to the Parish Priest.

To that end, and to ease the load on the shoulders of the clergy, Margaret Rose is the point of contact to whom names should be made known as she is coordinating the various ministries.

Margaret is on - Tel:01432 376782 email: [mr@belmontparish.plus.com](mailto:mr@belmontparish.plus.com).

If any parishioner would like to volunteer their services as a 'parish visitor' please let Margaret know.

*Fr. Nicholas*

**Ministers, etc. For next Sunday, 22<sup>nd</sup> January - 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**

<b>Service</b>	<b>Welcomer(s)</b>	<b>Liz Norman</b>	
<b>8.30am</b>	<b>Reader(s)</b>	<b>Extraordinary Ministers</b>	<b>Offertory procession</b>
	<b>Julia Davey, Richard Batho &amp; Liz Norman</b>	<b>Seamus Hayes &amp; Gordon Wilson</b>	<b>Children's Liturgy</b>
<b>9.30am</b>	<b>Frances Wood</b>	<b>Welcomer(s)</b> <b>Desmond Keohane &amp; Georgina McGurk</b>	<b>Margaret Campbell &amp; Maria Large</b>
<b>11.00am</b>	<b>Sacristan</b>	<b>Welcomers</b>	
	<b>Tony Archer</b>	<b>Rita Chamberlain &amp; Marnie Archer</b>	
	<b>Readers</b>	<b>Extraordinary Minister</b>	
<b>Marge Hayes, Paddy Nugent &amp; Liz Morawiecki</b>		<b>Jane Davies</b>	
<b>NEXT SUNDAY: Second Collection - San Lorenzo Parish, Peru</b>			
<b>Next week - Newsletter Folding - GM</b>			

**BELMONT RETREAT**  
***Beyond the Syrian Sea***  
**January 27<sup>th</sup> - 29<sup>th</sup>**  
**(2 days Reg Fee £25)**  
 We journey for inspiration to Syria, the 'Cradle of Christianity:' a church of Jewish roots established by the Apostles, a land of wandering preachers, mystical poets, missionaries, sages and eccentrics.  
**Dom Brendan Thomas**

<b>CHILDREN'S LITURGY</b>	
<b>8.30 am Next Liturgy 22 Jan &amp; 5 Feb</b>	
<b>11.00 am Liturgy</b>	
15 Jan	Julia Davey/Pauline Gill
22 Jan	Anna Nugent/Rob Corrigan
29 Jan	Andrew Morawiecki/Jan Wyman

<b><u>Dates to be noted</u></b>	
<b>Mon 23 Jan</b>	<b>7:30 pm - Praise &amp; Worship Prayer Group in the Oratory</b>
<b>Thu 26 Jan</b>	<b>7:30 pm - Choir Practice in the Parish Centre</b>
<b>Fri 27 Jan</b>	<b>9:00 am - Church Cleaning</b>

**DEATHS and ANNIVERSARIES:** Please pray for all those who have died, *Nora Mills, Jackie Jones and Monica Thomson* and those whose anniversaries occur at this time: *William Donegan, Anthony Stokes, Mary Bower, Christopher Bates, Richard Radclyffe, Helen Bates, Bernard Berto, Sarah Buckridge, Pamela Connell, Gwendolin Massey-Lynch, Dom Laurence Maxwell, Kevin McGinn, Anthony Moruzzi, Dorothy Passmore, William Price, Frances Roebuck, Gerard Wakelam, Fanny West, Cornelius Driscoll, Sr Mary Kinersley, Alice Locans and Caroline Martin.* May they rest in Peace.

**The SICK:** Please pray for *Fr Dyfrig, Fr Jerome, Mary McGowan, Helen Lloyd Jones, Edna Ledford, Peter Davies, David Ellis, Wendy Lyle Cameron, Bill Phillips, Ita Godfrey, Siobhan Hayes, Sadie Bowyer, Vincent Hanna, Hilda Lampard, Doris Corrigan, Kathleen Clayton, Brigid Smith Doreen Sulston, David Wales and Beryl Swain.*

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

## Liturgy for Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> January 2012

Readings: Sunday Cycle B; Weekdays: Cycle 2; Divine Office: Week 1

<p><b>2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time</b></p>	<p><i>Entrance: All the earth shall bow down before you, O God, and shall sing to you, shall sing to your name, O Most High.</i>  <i>Psalm: Here I am Lord! I come to do your will.</i>  <i>Communion: You have prepared a table before me, and how precious is the chalice that quenches my thirst.</i></p>
<p><b>Principal Celebrants, Extraordinary Ministers, Readers, etc.</b></p>	
<p>8.30 am Fr. Nicholas</p>	<p>1<sup>st</sup> Reading &amp; Resp. Psalm: <b>Adrian Eyre</b>                  2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: <b>Frances Grant</b> Welcomer(s): <b>The Hayes Family</b>                  Bidding Prayers: <b>Margaret Rose</b> Offertory: <b>The Ramage-Hill Family</b>                  Ext Minister(s): <b>Jeanette Morris &amp; Julia Davey</b>                  Mass Intention:</p>
<p>9.30 am</p>	<p>Welcomer(s): <b>Basil &amp; Clare Nickerson</b>                  1<sup>st</sup> Reading: <b>Paul Nickhold</b>                  Offertory: <b>Barbara Ferguson &amp; Anthea Morton-Saner</b>                  Mass Intention: <b>Benefactors</b></p>
<p>11.00 am Fr. Nicholas</p>	<p>Sacristan: <b>Chris Moore</b> Welcomer(s): <b>Rita Chamberlain</b>                  1<sup>st</sup> Reading &amp; Resp. Psalm: <b>Bryony Reed</b>                  2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: <b>Monica Tomlin</b> Bidding Prayers: <b>Pat Draper</b>                  Ext Minister(s): <b>Jo Reed</b>                  Mass Intention: <b>Parish Intention</b></p>
<p><b>Second Collection – SPUK</b></p>	
<p><b>Order Tesco Gift Cards this week</b></p>	

<b><u>What's On for the week</u></b>	
Mon	Feria - Mass at 8:00 am
Tue	<b>St Antony of Egypt</b> - Mass at 8:00 am
Wed	Feria - Mass at 8:00 am: Midday Mass in the Oratory
Thu	<b>St Wulstan</b> - Mass at 8:00 am
Fri	Feria - Mass at 8:00 am: Midday Mass in the Oratory
Sat	<b>St Agnes</b> - Mass at 8:00 am: Sacrament of Reconciliation 10 – 10:30 am

<b><u>Events for the week</u></b>	
<b>Wed 18 Jan</b>	<b>7:30 pm - PAC Meeting in the Parish Centre</b>
<b>Thu 19 Jan</b>	<b>7:30 pm - Choir Practice in the Parish Centre</b>