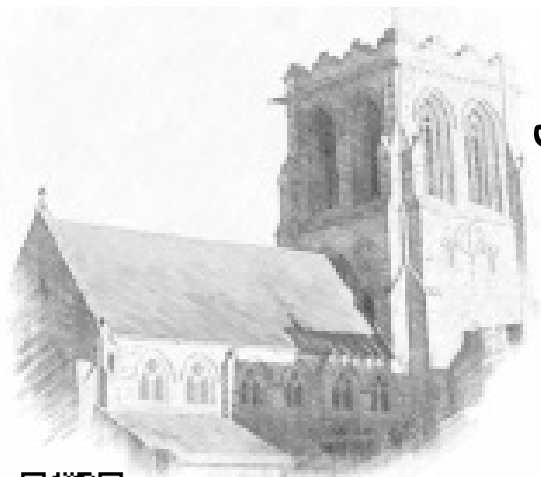




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The Parish of St Michael and All Angels Belmont Abbey

www.belmontparish.org.uk

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Dear friends in Christ,

This weekend we celebrate the Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, whose body was assumed into heaven at the end of her earthly life because she was free from all sin.

To coincide with this great feast, there is a river pilgrimage to raise awareness and to call for action to stop pollution of the River Wye. A 4ft wooden sculpture of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Our Lady of the Waters and the Wye) will be mounted on two canoes made into a canoe-catamaran and floated downstream from Hay to Bredwardine. This year the five-day pilgrimage will continue by car to Hoarwithy and will call at Weobley. The pilgrimage was the brainchild of the Anglican clergyman Richard Williams of St Mary's Church at Hay on Wye and sculptor Philip Chatfield, who has carved beautiful stone sculptures for Tintern Abbey and locally at St Mary's, Monmouth.

On Sunday, 16th August, the pilgrims and sculpture will come to St Thomas's RC Church in Weobley for a service of Vespers at 3.30pm to be followed by tea and cake. To which all are welcome.

Other stops include Gregorian Chant at Moccas Church with some of the monks of Belmont Abbey on Monday at 6.00pm and Evensong at Hereford Cathedral on Tuesday at 5.30pm.

The Rotherwas Chapel Mass which takes place around the feast of the Assumption, will take place this Wednesday, (19th August) at 11.30am. Abbot Brendan will celebrate the Mass of the Assumption at Rotherwas Chapel (HR2 6LD). Seating will be provided and parking is available.

On Saturday (22nd August) we celebrate our local martyr and patron of our deanery St John Kemble. St Francis Xavier's in Broad Street will hold a special Mass at 10.15am, followed by a procession to Widemarsh Common, the place of his martyrdom. The pilgrimage to the grave of St John Kemble takes place next Sunday (23rd August) at Welsh Newton. Full details of the pilgrimage are available on the reverse of the newsletter.

My prayers and best wishes,

Fr Augustine

THE ASSUMPTION OF OUR LADY 16TH AUGUST 2026

- 4.00pm Sung Vigil Parish Mass with schola
Jadwiga Walkowiak RIP
- 8.30am Parish Mass
People of the Parish
- 9.30am Pontifical Sung Conventual Mass
- 11.00am Sung Parish Mass
Holy Souls

WEEK 20 IN ORDINARY TIME

- Monday** **Feria**
- Tuesday** **Feria**
10.15am Parish Mass with Adoration until 11.30am
- Wednesday** **Feria**
- Thursday** **Memoria - St Bernard, Abbot & Doctor**
- Friday** **Memoria - St Pius X, Pope**
10.15am Parish Mass
Franciszek Spolnik RIP
- Saturday** **Memoria - St John Kemble, Martyr & Priest**
10.00am to 10.30am Confessions
Conventual Mass
8.00am - Monday to Saturday

21ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR A 23RD AUGUST 2026

- 4.00pm Vigil Parish Mass with hymns
Natasha Singarayer-Alford RIP
- Sunday**
8.30am Parish Mass
Richard Hayes Jnr RIP
- 9.30am Sung Conventual Mass
- 11.00am Sung Parish Mass (No Children's Liturgy)
People of the Parish

If you need a Mass said for any intention,
please let Fr Augustine know.

Parish Collection - **Total donated: £329.16**
- Cash last weekend: £171.66
- Digital last weekend: £157.50

Weekday Mass Readings are from Year II

HOSPITAL CHAPLAIN: Fr Patrick Lobo is the Catholic Chaplain who makes regular visits. If you or a loved one wants him to visit while in hospital please let him know. Telephone: 07922 323603. In an emergency, or if Fr Patrick is unavailable, please contact Fr Augustine on the parish telephone number. He is always happy to visit.

SICK: Pray for Denise Ellis, Edmund Hayes, Seamus Hayes, Pat Draper, James Rogers, Sally Hayward, Margaret Rose, Anna Rudnicka, John Hackman, Maria Helena, Rosemary Nicholls, Beth Macbain, Florence (Flo) Ramage, Polly Maund-Powell, Joanna Savory, John Stannard, Anne Williams, Karolina Busko, Greg Primavesi, Derek Wood & Mav Kuhn.

ANNIVERSARIES: Pray for the repose of the souls of Margaret O'Connor, Francis Richard Wegg-Prosser, Bernard Carney, Ella McGinn, John Quinn, Alphons Sikora, William J Williams, Archbishop Bede Vaughan, Hilda Lampard, Andrew Massey, John Bennallack-Hart, Vincent Hourahane, Andrew Pracey, Rose Rogers, Franciszek Spolnik, John Jeffrey Taylor, Edwin Townsend, Margaret Ward, Mary Margaret Smith & Agnes Rosser.

ANNUAL PARISH BBQ: Takes place on the lawns of the monastery after 11.00am Mass (12.30pm) on Sunday, 30th August. The event is free to attend, but we need numbers so that we can cater for burgers, sausages and bread rolls. We would be grateful if you could bring a salad, pudding or savoury dish. Tea, coffee and squash will be provided, but please feel free to bring other drinks for yourselves. Please sign up on the sheet in the glass porch.

OUR LADY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL: Currently has **places** available in nearly all year groups. Families seeking a caring, nurturing environment with high expectations, excellent teaching, and a strong Catholic ethos are warmly invited to visit. Our recently published Ofsted report recognises that "A positive and inclusive culture is at the heart of Our Lady's RC Primary," reflecting a school where children are safe, valued, and supported to achieve their very best.

If you are considering a place for your child, or would simply like to find out more about everything Our Lady's has to offer, please contact the school office on 01432 274814 or email: admin@our-ladys.hereford.sch.uk to arrange a personal tour of the school.

THE BIBLE: MYTH OR HISTORY?: A free illustrated lecture series in Biblical Archaeology with David Rohl. Session 7 - In Search of Eden: The geography of Paradise and its fabled garden. Saturday, 12th September 2.00pm to 4.00pm, Belmont Abbey. Free parking, Free entry. Monthly lectures on the second Saturday of each month.

ANNUAL PILGRIMAGE TO THE GRAVE OF ST JOHN KEMBLE - SUNDAY, 23RD AUGUST 2026

9.15am Mass at St Mary's Church, Monmouth.

10.15am Pilgrims set off to walk to Welsh Newton - bring a packed lunch.

3.00pm Rosary, readings and prayers at St John Kemble's Grave, Welsh Newton Churchyard.

4.15pm Benediction at St Mary's Church, Monmouth.

Everyone welcome.

CAFOD - DAY OF CREATION: Takes place on Tuesday, 1st September beginning with a Mass for the Care of Creation at 10.15am in the Abbey Church. At 11.30am to celebrate the beginning of the Season of Creation with a meditative walk around the Abbey gardens. Starting from the Parish Centre, there will be prayers, readings and reflections, pausing at beautiful visual displays designed to explore the theme of living water. This will be followed by a light lunch. Please see the poster on the CAFOD board in the glass porch for complete details about the day and sign the book in front of the board if you are interested in attending.

PARISH OPEN MEETING & AGM – Saturday, 19th September, 10.00am–12.30pm

Join us and discover the many groups, ministries and activities that make up our parish. There will be an opportunity to meet those involved at stations around The Chapterhouse, find out more about what we do, and discover how you can get involved. Elections for members of the Parish Pastoral Council (PPC) will also take place. Nomination papers are available in the glass porch, and we warmly encourage parishioners of all ages and backgrounds to consider this important role in helping to guide the future of our parish.

ASSISTED SUICIDE BILL - MESSAGE FROM ARCHBISHOP MARK: There will be a Second Reading and vote in the House of Commons for the Terminally Ill Adults (End of Life Bill) on 11th September. I encourage all Catholics to write to their MP. The Bishops' Conference has information available on its website at: <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/opposing-assisted-suicide/>. On the page, there are various resources, copies of statements and guidance on writing to your MP, and please, please do so, to protect the most vulnerable in our society.

WORLD YOUTH DAY 2027: To all those aged 18-30, join Archbishop Mark and a group from the diocese heading to next summer's for World Youth Day 2027 in Seoul, South Korea. With Pope Leo and a million other young Catholics, we'll enjoy a full schedule of activities and formation, in a country with a vibrant and growing Catholic community - we'll also have opportunities to meet up before we travel. The dates of the trip are July 28th to August 9th, and the cost is £1500 per person plus the cost of flights (TBC - in the region of £800 to £1200). Places are limited and will be allocated on a first come first served basis. For more information contact Fr Matt Roche-Saunders at wyd@cardiffmenevia.org.

PARISH SUPPORT GROUP: Provides a regular link and support between the wider parish community and parishioners who are unable to attend Holy Mass or parish events due to a change in personal circumstances.

Please get in touch with us on: 01432 374712 or belmontsupp@gmail.com

*Belmont Abbey Parish is part of Belmont Abbey Mission CIO
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