



ST. JOHN KEMBLE DEANERY

NEWSLETTER - JULY 2026

NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

DEANERY READING GROUP

A deanery reading group to study together the Church's document on becoming more "synodal" will begin online on September 15th at 7pm, and continue over six sessions. The first session will be led by Austen Ivereigh, and the following sessions by others on the deanery mission team.

Pope Leo has asked the whole Church to study together and implement the conclusions of the Synod on Synodality, the so-called Final Document of October 2024, in parishes. The document spells out the ways the Church needs to become better at building relationships, listen deeply to each other and to the Holy Spirit, in order to become more missionary.

"The Final Document is a beautiful but challenging call to change," Ivereigh said. "We're going to break it down into bite-size chunks and use Conversation in the Spirit to 'receive' that call in our parishes."

He said they would be using a guide to the document called *A Feast for all Peoples*.

The call for a reading group to receive the Final Document on Synodality was made at the conclusion of the *Heart to Heart* conversations held in Eastertide. Recently, at a talk on *Magnifica Humanitas*, people were asked if they were interested in a reading group on synodality or on *Magnifica Humanitas*. There was an overwhelming call for both, so it was decided to begin with the synodality reading group this Autumn and begin the *Magnifica* one next Spring.

All are welcome to take part. A Zoom link will be sent out closer to the date.

OUR LADY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

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.

POPE LEO VISITS HOLY TRINITY SHRINE AND BENEDICTINE MONASTERIES

During a surprise morning excursion in July, Pope Leo XIV travelled by car from Castel Gandolfo to the Shrine of the Holy Trinity in Vallepietra, before visiting the Monasteries of St. Benedict and St. Scholastica in Subiaco on the journey back toward his summer residence.

To read more, visit <https://www.vaticannews.va/en/pope/news/2026-07/pope-leo-xiv-visit-sanctuary-holy-trinity-valle-pietra-st-anne.html>

EVENTS IN AUGUST



World Youth Day

Sunday 2nd August @ 7pm

This is an Information Webinar event. Please see poster above for all relevant details.

Intermediate/Advanced Icon Workshop

Monday 3rd August, 10am – 8th August

Belmont Abbey Chapterhouse

The subject of this workshop is the Christ the Good Shepherd. For more information visit:

www.belmontabbey.org.uk/more-retreats

A Service of Healing Prayer

Friday 7th August @ 6.45pm

Belmont Abbey

Led by Fr. Michael Clothier OSB of St. Gregory's Community. Vespers is at 5.55pm beforehand if you wish to pray evening prayer with the community. Compline (night prayer) afterwards at 8.00pm

Open Air Summer Theatre

Saturday 8th August @ 6pm

Belmont Abbey Gardens

Charles Dickens' – The Pickwick Papers with the Rain and Shine Theatre Company

The Bible: Myth or History?

Saturday 8th August: 2.00pm – 4.00pm

Belmont Abbey Chapterhouse

A free illustrated lecture series in Biblical Archaeology with David Rohl.

More Than Human? Reading *Magnifica Humanitas* from *Laudato Si*

Tuesday 11th August: 10.00am - 12.30pm

Belmont Abbey Chapterhouse

A talk and workshop by Prof. Carmody Grey, who is Chair in Integral Ecology, Radboud University, Netherlands.

Parish Bible Reading Group

Wednesday 12th @ 2.00pm

St. Thomas of Hereford,

Weobley

Held in the parish room. Studying Letter to the Hebrews.

Rotherwas Chapel Mass

Saturday 15th August @ 2.30pm

Rotherwas Chapel, Hereford,

HR2 6LD

Wednesday 19th August @ 11.30am

Abbot Brendan will celebrate the Mass of the Assumption at Rotherwas Chapel. Seating will be provided. Parking available.

Mary through Artists' Eyes

Saturday 15th August: 10.00am - 4.00pm

Belmont Abbey Chapterhouse

A day of Art and an evening of Music to celebrate the Assumption.

Ave Maris Stella: Gregorian Chant and Organ Music for the Blessed Virgin Mary

Saturday 15th August: 7.00pm - 9.30pm

Belmont Abbey

Join the Monks of Belmont Abbey and the Community of St. Gregory's together with distinguished organist, Mr. Stasio Sliwka. For more information, visit: www.belmontabbey.org.uk/more-retreats

Voyage of Our Lady of the Waters and the Wye

Saturday 15th – 19th August

Hay-on-Wye

Come and join this spectacular river pilgrimage to raise awareness and to call for action to stop the ongoing pollution of the River Wye. There will be a voyage of a sculpture of Our Lady of the Waters and the Wye, mounted on two canoes, which will be floated 75 miles downstream from Hay-on-Wye to Monmouth. More information and the full itinerary is available at: <https://moccas.church/event/voyage-of-our-lady-of-the-waters-and-the-wye-to-raise-awareness/>

St. John Kemble Pilgrimage

Sunday 23rd August from 10.15am

Monmouth/Welsh Newton/Monmouth

A pilgrimage to the grave of St. John Kemble from St. Mary's Monmouth, is thought to have begun soon after the martyr's death in 1679 and has continued every year since.

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| 10.15am | Monmouth to Welsh Newton
Pilgrims set off to walk to Welsh Newton from St. Mary's Church, Monmouth after 9.15am Mass. Everybody welcome. Bring a packed lunch. |
| 3.00pm | Meet for rosary, reading and prayers at St. John Kemble's grave in the churchyard at Welsh Newton. |
| 4.15pm | Benediction follows in St. Mary's Church, and afterwards tea will be served in the garden and produce sold. |

For more information on St. John Kemble please see <https://monmouthandrosscatholicchurches.uk/st-john-kemble/>

Parish Bible Reading Group

Wednesday 26th August @ 2.00pm

St. Thomas of Hereford, Weobley

Held in the parish room. Studying Letter to the Hebrews.

Don't Forget: Our Lady Queen of Martyrs, Hereford hold a Coffee Morning on the second Tuesday of every month starting at 10.30am. Everyone is welcome!

FUTURE EVENTS

A Service of Healing Prayer

Friday 4th September @ 6.45pm

Belmont Abbey

Led by Fr. Michael Clothier OSB of St. Gregory's Community. Vespers is at 5.55pm beforehand if you wish to pray evening prayer with the community. Compline (night prayer) afterwards at 8.00pm

Seeking God?

Friday 18th – Monday 21st September

Belmont Abbey



Have you ever wondered whether God might be calling you to a deeper life of prayer, community, and service? Would you like to experience the rhythm of monastic life from the inside? Belmont Abbey invites men who are exploring their vocation to spend a weekend living alongside the monks and sharing in the great Benedictine tradition.

Experience:

- The beauty of the Divine Office and the Eucharist
- The silence and prayer of the monastery
- Community life with the monks
- Personal conversations and pastoral guidance
- The wisdom of the Rule of St. Benedict

Whether you are actively discerning a monastic vocation or just curious about the monastic life and open to God's call, this weekend offers an opportunity to step away from the pressures of daily life and listen more attentively to the voice of Christ.

“Listen carefully, my son, to the master’s instructions, and attend to them with the ear of your heart.”
— Rule of St. Benedict

The weekend is open to men aged 18 to 45. It begins on the Friday with departures after lunch on Sunday or Monday morning.

To find out more please contact: Dom Andrew Berry: brandrew@belmontabbey.org.uk

Deanery Advisory Parish Council

Wednesday 30th September @ 7.00pm

Most Holy Trinity, Ledbury

Please contact your Parish Pastoral Council Chairperson by 19th September if there is anything you wish to see included as topics for discussion. The meeting will be held in the parish room.



"Almighty and eternal God, give us the grace and strength to carry out the work entrusted to us in this diocese. Bless our families and our parishes. Open our hearts to the prompting of the Holy Spirit so that, strengthened in faith, growing in hope, and living in charity, we may be missionary disciples making your name known and loved. Guide our Bishop and Clergy and grant us all things necessary for our common life, that we may be of one heart and mind within your holy Church. We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen"