

The Parish of St Michael and All Angels Belmont Abbey

www.belmontparish.org.uk

Parish Priest

Fr Augustine Primavesi OSB

Tel: 01432 374715

parish@belmontabbey.org.uk

**Parish Finance
Committee - Chair**
Jacqui Ramage-Smith

jramagesmith2021@icloud.com

**Parish Pastoral
Council - Chair**
Louise Wright BEM
Tel: 07553 361864

louise@thewoodee.com

Monastic Designated Safeguarding Leads

Paul Nickholds
& Lucy Zammit

Tel: 01568 616150

belmontsafeguarding@gmail.com

Parish Safeguarding Representative

Gabrielle Stanley
Tel: 07939 472059

parishsafeguardingbelmont@gmail.com



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Dear friends in Christ,

This Sunday, we celebrate the feast of the Baptism of the Lord which will bring us to the beginning of the first week of Ordinary Time. Our Lord's Baptism reminds us about the importance of the sacrament of baptism which through his baptism in the river Jordan, Jesus sanctified the waters of the whole world, enabling us to become sons and daughters of God through the power of this great sacrament.

Pope Leo has started a new online video project entitled "Pray with the Pope", where the faithful are invited to share a common moment of prayer with the Holy Father. The initiative was presented on Wednesday, 7 January, shortly before the release of the first video message in which Pope Leo XIV shares his prayer intention for January 2026. The video, recorded in English, Italian, and Spanish, marks the official launch of the project. The message can be watched using this address <https://youtu.be/s1CBCcEIkME> or by scanning the QR code.

In his January prayer intention "For prayer with the Word of God", Pope Leo XIV calls on the faithful to rediscover prayer as a source of hope. The Pope inaugurates the initiative not with a speech, but with a moment of prayer, emphasising a quieter, more contemplative way of communicating in an age marked by noise and distraction.

Each month throughout 2026, Pope Leo XIV will invite the Church to pray for a specific intention, touching on global challenges such as peace and disarmament and issues within the life of the Church, including evangelisation. The initiative continues the legacy of *The Pope's Video*, launched ten years ago by Pope Francis and viewed over 260 million times worldwide.

My prayers and best wishes,

Fr Augustine

BAPTISM OF THE LORD - YEAR A 11TH JANUARY 2026

4.00pm	Vigil Parish Mass with hymns <i>Alina & Pawel Wedding Anniversary</i>
8.30am	Parish Mass <i>People of the Parish</i>
9.30am	Sung Conventual Mass
11.00am	Sung Parish Mass <i>Rosie Powe RIP</i>

1st Week in Ordinary Time - Year II

Monday	FEAST - ST BENET BISCOP, Abbot
Tuesday	Feria
10.15am	Parish Mass with Adoration until 11.30am
Wednesday	Feria
Thursday	Memoria - St Maurus & Placid, Monks
11.30am	Funeral Service - William Rickarby RIP
Friday	Feria
10.15am	Parish Mass
Saturday	Memoria - St Antony, Abbot
10.00am to 10.30am	Confessions
	<i>Conventual Mass</i>
	<i>8.00am - Monday to Saturday</i>

2ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR A 18TH JANUARY 2026

4.00pm	Vigil Parish Mass with hymns <i>Forgotten Souls</i>
Sunday	
8.30am	Parish Mass <i>People of the Parish</i>
9.30am	Sung Conventual Mass
11.00am	Sung Parish Mass <i>Theresa Gavin</i>

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

Parish Collection - Total donated: £416.29

- Cash last weekend: £227.29
- Digital last weekend: £189.00

Sunday Mass Readings are from Year A
Weekday Mass Readings are from Year II

HOSPITAL CHAPLAIN: Fr Patrick is the Catholic Chaplain but is currently helping out on our parish in Whitehaven. If you or a loved one requires a priest to visit you in hospital, please contact Fr Augustine on the Parish telephone number.

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, Gina Thorne, Florence (Flo) Ramage, David Rohl, Liz Norman, Catherine Simons, Fr Richard, Polly Maund-Powell, Abbot Charles, Louise Wright & Jeanette Livermore.

ANNIVERSARIES: Pray for the repose of the souls of James Snead, Cecilia Methven, Shaun Underwood, Catherine Williams, John Teighe, Dom Dominic Blaney, Minnie Mc Loughlin, Dom Alistair Findlay, Caroline Gough, William Donegan, Anthony Stokes, Mary Bower & Christopher Bates.

BORDER VOICES CONCERT: Scottish Renaissance masterpieces, by Robert Carver (c1484–c1568), sung by early music group, Border Voices. Almost nothing is known of Carver, court musician to James III, and few of his compositions survived the Scottish Reformation. Border Voices will sing his beautiful and mysterious Mass, 'L'Homme Arme', along with other works by his contemporaries. Leominster Priory, Sunday 25th January, 7pm.

OUR LADY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL: A caring Catholic education for your child or grandchild. If your child or grandchild was born between 1st September 2021 and 31st August 2022, you will need to apply for a Reception Class place for your child to start school in September 2026.

Our Lady's School – off Belmont Road, next to Our Lady Queen of Martyrs Church – offers a good, caring Catholic education in a happy and supportive environment. There are no fees to pay, and you can choose a Catholic education even if it isn't the school nearest to where you live. We would be delighted to welcome you to this hidden gem of a school. Come and meet our Headteacher, Ms Przybylska, who will be happy to show you around the school and introduce you to our pupils and staff. Further details and application forms are available on our school website: www.our-ladys.hereford.sch.uk. To book an appointment, call the school office on 01432 274814 or email admin@our-ladys.hereford.sch.uk.

SAINT FRANCIS XAVIER CHURCH - PILGRIMAGE TO ROME: Monday, 5th—Friday, 9th October 2026 - 5 days/4 nights. Cost: £1,029 pp. half board; Coach return fare to Heathrow is extra. Travel insurance included. The cut-off date is 14th February 2026 for signing up.

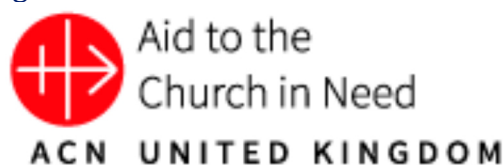
Spiritual leader: Fr John George OSB. Fully guided tour to include the following highlights: Papal Audience; visit to St Peter's Basilica with Mass, tour & visit to the Dome; visit to and Mass in the Catacombs. Visit to the Trevi fountain and the Venerable English College. To sign up, please e-mail the office: hereford2@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

As the circumstances of our lives change we find ourselves needing even reluctantly, more help. Such is the case with those who avail themselves of the support group. **We need more drivers and volunteers who are willing to support fellow parishioners to attend Holy Mass, and parish events.**

We also need volunteers who would be willing to support our parishioners to attend medical and other appointments or provide a much needed break for those providing care.

If this is something you feel you could do please contact the support group on the same channels: 01432 374712 or belmontsupp@gmail.com



Steve Riedlinger, Community Outreach Representative, for Aid to the Church in Need (ACN) will be visiting the Parish on the weekend of 24th and 25th January.

Steve will be talking about ACN's response to recent crises and how we can support suffering and persecuted Christians.