The Parish of St Michael and All Angels Belmont Abbey

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Scan QR code to donate to one of the Collections

Dear friends in Christ,

The newsletter is bulging with news and different upcoming events this week meaning there is very little space for me to write anything this week! Please do take note of the Lenten talks place in the Abbey on Tuesday, beginning with the Parish Mass at 10.15am and it is CAFOD Family Fast Day this coming Friday.

My prayers and best wishes,

Fr Augustine

Fight the latest attempts to decriminalise abortion

The latest attempt to expand the UK's abortion laws by way of the Crime and Policing Bill is now before the House of Lords. They are attempting to change criminal law so that "no offence is committed by a woman acting in relation to her own pregnancy" at any point in the gestation. This means that a woman who induced her abortion at home using pills (or any other method) at any stage of pregnancy, including just before natural birth, would not commit a crime.

The report Stage of the Bill commences on Wednesday 25th February. The debate on abortion (now Clause 208 of the Bill) will likely take place on either Wednesday, 11th March, or Tuesday, 17th March. Any votes will happen then. Please write to members of the House of Lords and ask them to fight the extreme abortion up to birth amendment. Details of how to do this can be found on the Society for the Protection of Unborn Children's website: https://spuc.org.uk/campaign/abortion-decriminalisation/

This was not in any manifesto. It was passed after just 43 minutes backbench debate, with very little notice. The public did not know this was coming and are outraged that MPs have voted through this barbaric policy. The Lords can and must fight back.

Retreats and Events at Belmont Abbey

Belmont Abbey is now organising retreats and day events again, including a series of Lent Tuesdays: "Witnesses to the Faith" starting with the Parish Mass at 10.15am and then 11.00am to 3.00pm in The Chapterhouse. More information is available on the retreats and events calendar can be found at www.belmontabbey.org.uk/event-listings which will be updated throughout the year.

1st Sunday of Lent - Year A
22nd February 2026

4.00pm	Vigil Parish Mass with hymns *Holy Souls*
8.30am	Parish Mass *Michael Mulford RIP*
9.30am	*Sung Conventual Mass with the Abbey Choir*
11.00am	Sung Parish Mass with Children's Liturgy *Catriona Elizabeth*
Monday	**Feria**
Tuesday	**Feria**
10.15am	Parish Mass
Wednesday	**Feria**
Thursday	**Feria**
Friday	**Feria - CAFOD Family Fast Day**
10.15am	Parish Mass
Saturday	**Feria**
10.00am to 10.30am	Confessions

Conventual Mass
8.00am - Monday to Saturday

2nd Sunday of Lent - Year A
1st March 2026

4.00pm	Vigil Parish Mass with hymns *People of the Parish*
Sunday 8.30am	Parish Mass *Emily Louisa Hayes RIP*
9.30am	*Sung Conventual Mass*
11.00am	Sung Parish Mass *Forgotten Souls*

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

Parish Collection - Total donated: £507.71
- Cash last weekend: £307.71
- Digital last weekend: £200.00

Sunday Mass Readings are from Year A

Deanery Lenten Station Mass

On Friday, 6th March at 7.00 pm at Saint Francis Xavier's Church, Hereford. Archbishop Mark will be coming to celebrate the Deanery Mass. We hope this will be a special occasion for the deanery. Please do put this in your diary and come along and support.

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, Catherine Simons, Fr Richard, Polly Maund-Powell, Abbot Charles, Louise Wright, Monica Tomlin, Mandie Chapman & Joanna Savory.

ANNIVERSARIES: Pray for the repose of the souls of Marion Arnold, Elizabeth Vose-Davies, Laurence Daughton, Dame Catherine Wybourne, Ruth Ann Wooding, Kotska Oddie, Gertrude Leathwood, Charles Mason, Gwenda Duffield, Violet Templeman, Jean Jabalé, Thomas Powell, Margaret Grundy, Emily Lousia Hayes, Cyril Lawden, John Mills & Basil Paterson.

'EMMAUS DISCOVER': For teenagers in Year 8 to Year 13 - The day will be an experience of monastic life, an opportunity to pray together during Lent, and a chance to get to know other young Catholics. The event is £15pp taking place at Belmont Abbey on Saturday, March 14th 2026 11am-6.30pm. To register for the event please scan the QR code.

'EMMAUS ENCOUNTER': For young adults aged 18-30 - a residential retreat at Belmont Abbey taking place from March 27th to 29th. The retreat costs £150pp, plus a £25 single supplement. The retreat is full board, with a full timetable of activities, including a trip into Hereford on the Saturday to learn about local martyr St John Kemble. To register for the event please scan the QR code.

LECTIO DIVINA: Takes place monthly on Wednesdays at 11.00am to 12noon, in the Parish Centre. The next session is on 25th February.

CAFOD: Family Fast Day is this coming Friday, 27th February. Fast Day Envelopes are available in the porch. Last year we raised £1,678 from the Lent and Harvest fast days-plus monies raised from individual sponsorship for the Big Lent Walk puts our parish's contribution to over £3000.
A massive thank you to everyone and also to those who contribute monthly to CAFOD.

WALSINGHAM ROSARY FOR PEACE: Takes place on the first Tuesday of the month in the Abbey Church. Everyone is welcome to 21, Woodfield Gardens, Belmont for tea afterwards.
The next meeting is Tuesday, 3rd March at 3.00pm.

HEALING SERVICE: The monthly Service of prayers for healing next takes place in the Abbey Church at 6.45pm on Friday, 6th March led by Fr Michael Clothier from the Community of Saint Gregory the Great.
There will be Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Confessions will be available. All are most welcome.

THE HEREFORD PASSION: At Hereford Cathedral: Friday, 6th & Saturday 7th March, 7.30 pm.
Following on from the success of The Hereford Passion in 2024, The Revd Canon James Pacey will once again bring the story of Jesus' final days to life this Lent. The production will use words, music, action to tell the events of that fateful week against the stunning architecture of Hereford Cathedral nave. Tickets cost £10 per adult and £6 per child and are available from the Cathedral or online:
https://www.herefordcathedral.org/Event/hereford-passion-2026.

SPRING FAIR: Join us for our first annual Spring Fair of local makers and crafters in The Chapterhouse, Belmont Abbey, on Sunday, 8th March 11.00am to 2.00pm. There will be stalls, crafts, Easter gifts, cakes and refreshments in aid of Belmont Abbey Parish Funds. Both entry and parking are FREE!
We are looking for donations of chocolates or Easter eggs to make some hampers to be raffled during the event. If you are able to donate anything please bring them to Mass next weekend.

THE BIBLE: MYTH OR HISTORY?: A free illustrated lecture series in Biblical Archaeology with David Rohl Saturday, 14th March 2.00 - 4.00pm, Belmont Abbey Parish Centre, Free parking, Free entry. Monthly lectures on the second Saturday of each month.

PENITENCE AND HOPE: Hereford Chamber Choir, Sunday, 22nd March at 4pm, St Mary Magdalen Church Leintwardine SY7 0LB. Choral music and readings for Lent, including Lotti's Crucifixus, works by Arvo Part, Vaughan Williams, Sanders and Lassus.

Tickets £15, £13 Friends of Hereford Chamber Choir, £5 Students, Under 16s free, Early Bird discount to the end of February, available https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/hereford-chamber-choir/t-qmjeaoq or ask Ellen Sarewitz.

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

We have a request for a lift from Morton-on-Lugg to any Sunday Mass please from March.

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