

**OUR LADY IMMACULATE & ST MICHAEL,
BATTLE**

with

**ST TERESA OF LISIEUX, HORNS CROSS
14 Mount Street, Battle, East Sussex, TN33 0EG**

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Cycle B for Sundays and Solemnities

Year 1 for Weekdays

Arundel and Brighton Trust is a Registered Charity No. 252878



Sixth Sunday of Easter
Weekend 4th / 5th May 2024

Saturday 04/05 6pm	Battle	Sixth Sunday of Easter	People of the Parish
Sunday 05/05 9am	Northiam		No Intention followed by coffee & cake
Sunday 05/05 11am	Battle		Mass of Thanksgiving
Monday 06/05	NO MASS		
Tuesday 07/05 6.30pm	Battle	Tuesday of the 6th Week of Eastertide	No Intention
Wednesday 08/05 10am	Battle	Wednesday of the 6th Week of Eastertide	No Intention followed by Coffee & Cake
Wednesday 08/05 7.00pm	Battle	Vigil Mass for the Feast of the Ascension	No Intention
Thursday 09/05 10am	Battle	The Feast of Ascension of the Lord (Holy Day of Obligation)	Peace in the World
Thursday 09/05 7pm	Northiam		No Intention
Friday 10/05 10am	Battle	Friday of the 6th Week of Eastertide	No Intention
Saturday 11/05 6pm	Battle	7th Sunday of Easter	No Intention
Sunday 12/05 9am	Northiam		People of the Parish
Sunday 12/05 11am	Battle		No Intention

There will be a retiring collection next weekend for World Communications Sunday

Introduction to the Scripture Readings for the 7th Sunday of Easter

- **First Reading: Acts 1:15-17. 20-26**

It took a throw of the dice to make Matthias a witness to the resurrection following Judas' betrayal of Jesus.

- **Second Reading: 1 John 4:11-16**

God is love and whoever loves lives in God and God lives in them.

- **Gospel: John 17:11-19**

As the Father sent Jesus into the world, so does he send his disciples out into the world as witnesses to truth.

We pray for the Sick and Housebound Members of our Community:

From Our Lady Immaculate & St Michael: Margaret Thunder, Stephen Bould, Pauline Fraser, Michael Conroy, Sheila Lilley, Madeleine Salter, Gretta Johnson, Ruth Ayres, Helen Powell, Tom Dodd, Suzanne McAdie, Hazel & Helena Lobo, Marianne Clemence.

From St Teresa's: Christine Mooney, June Nottage, Maureen Webster, Eileen O'Shaughnessy, Margot Leahy, Jacquelyn Solly, Felicity Youlten.

Prayer Intentions - please remember the following people in your prayers this week:

Una Wade, Frances Cresswell, Guy Hooper, Maureen Ashing, Gerard Leahy, Jo Watkins, Patrick Armstrong, Andrew Brodrick-Ward, Anthony Gibbons RIP, Katie Spall RIP.

- **Move-It Club:** Every Thursday in the Parish Room at 10am with Lindsey. New members always welcome! Please stay for a relaxed coffee and chat afterwards too. Contact the office for more information: 01424 773125 or battle@abdiocese.org.uk.
- **Battle Foodbank** – needs this week are Treats (not chocolate); Jars of Marmite; 500gm bags of Sugar; Decaf Tea; Cat and Dog Food please - Toiletries, Baby and Household items are always appreciated. Thank you so much.
- **We need more Readers for the Sunday 11am Mass at Battle please.** It doesn't have to be every week, but we are very short of people to cover if our regular readers are away, and it would be lovely to give new people a chance if they wish. Please let Fr Richard, Kate or the office know, if you would like to put your name down. Very many thanks.
- **There will be Coffee & Cake at St Teresa's after the 9am Mass this Sunday 5th May** – everyone is very welcome!
- **Rwanda Action Bring and Buy Plant and Cake Sale Tuesday 7th May 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.**
At The Old Cottage, Mackerel Hill, Peasmarsh, TN31 6TB
David and Sally look forward to welcoming you!
- **Christians in Battle – United Pentecost Service, Sunday 19th May, 4pm at Battle Baptist Church:** If anyone would like to get involved, please let Kate know and she can pass your name on. Here are potential roles:
 - Musicians/singers; Welcomers/stewards; Help with refreshments;
 - Readers (bible reading); To lead Intercessions
- **Advance Notice:** There will be no weekday Masses the week of 20th – 24th May.

- **CAFOD & SVP - A Year of Encounter:** With a UK general election due sometime this year, politicians will be looking for our votes. We have a responsibility as Catholics to make sure that parties commit to tackling issues such as poverty and injustice. Raising our voices and contacting parliamentary candidates as a parish community will send a strong signal to those standing for election in our local constituencies. A Year of Encounter is a joint initiative between CAFOD and St Vincent de Paul Society (SVP), equipping Catholics to ask key questions of local candidates at the key moments. Please see cafod.org.uk/encounter for more information, including online sessions on Thursday 25th April and Saturday 4th May to learn more.
- Fr Richard is happy to receive Mass Intentions, please pop them in the letter box outside the office, or let Maggie know on 773125, e-mail battle@abdiocese.org.uk, thank you.
- The office is open on Mondays and Thursdays from 9.30am – 12.30pm.
- Fr Richard and the Parish Pastoral Team send all parishioners their prayers and good wishes.

News from our Diocese

Diocesan run events/news

- **Children's Liturgy training day - Saturday 18 May 10-1pm at the St Philip Howard Centre in Crawley:** Following on from the success of our previous Children's liturgy training event, we are repeating the day. Please join us for a morning exploring an exciting style of delivering the liturgy of the word for children. Lucy Hall will be demonstrating a hands-on, tactile approach to wondering about the Gospel. Whether you have been working in this ministry for a long time or if you are new, come to be enthused by Lucy and to meet others who share your passion. Please sign up here: [Liturgy of the Word with Children - Leaders' training \(18-May-2024\) · ChurchSuite Events](#) If you wish to discuss your engagement with this event before booking please contact Katherine Bergin, Diocesan Advisor E: katherine.bergin@abdiocese.org.uk Poster attached for display in your parish.
- **Mental Health Awareness Seminar – Saturday 15 June 10-4pm, Burgess Hill. Cost £30** Being aware of the challenges and signs of the struggle many people have with their mental health is becoming more and more important in our modern world. We are pleased to announce that in association with Mental Health England we are running a one day course in mental health awareness. The course has been heavily subsidised by the Diocese. For registration please follow the link via the QR code or through the attached booking link: [Mental Health Awareness Seminar \(15-Jun-2024\) · ChurchSuite Events](#). If you wish to discuss your engagement with this event before booking please contact Simon South, Diocesan Advisor E: simon.south@abdiocese.org.uk

External Events

- **Living Faith Theology Conference - The Trinity: Transforming relationship - Sunday 12 May 12.45 – 4.15pm. Suggested Donation: £10 - £20 (waged), £5 (unwaged):** One of a series of conferences at St Joseph's parish hall, Milton Road, Brighton, to help you explore the Catholic faith in greater depth. The goal is to provide content that stretches mind and heart, leading to greater transformation in Christ, and a fuller living out of his saving mission in the world today. The speaker will be Rev Dr Martin Poulson SDB, Senior lecturer of

Theology at the University of Roehampton. The day will begin with lunch: please bring a dish to share or a packed lunch. No booking necessary. Info: claireosullivan@brighton.ac.uk

- **Young Adults Walking Pilgrimage - Saturday 25 May 9.30-4.30pm:** Starting at St Wilfrid's Church Hailsham. Visiting St Pancras Arlington and Michelham Priory. Please bring a packed lunch. Wear suitable clothes & footwear. Info E: garyobrien4@yahoo.co.uk
Please see the attached poster for sharing in your parish.

Vatican News

Pope in Venice: 'Art is a city of refuge for humanity'

"The world needs artists." This was the message Pope Francis imparted on Sunday morning as he met with a group of artists the Holy See is exhibiting at its pavilion at the Venice Art Biennale. Addressing the group in the Church of La Maddalena in the Giudecca's women's prison facility, the Pope praised artists as true visionaries who can see beyond the boundaries of our world.

No human being is a stranger: "Beside you, I do not feel like a stranger," he said, "I feel at home." The Pope noted that this feeling "applies to every human being," because, "art has the status of a 'city of refuge', a city that "disobeys the rule of violence and discrimination in order to create forms of human belonging capable of recognizing, including, protecting, and embracing everyone", starting from the least of society. Recalling that the Old Testament established the "cities of refuge" to offer offenders asylum and protection from revenge until their case went to trial, Pope Francis invited artists to imagine cities "that do not yet exist on the maps" where "no human being is considered a stranger." "It would be important if the various artistic practices could establish themselves everywhere as a sort of network of cities of refuge, cooperating to rid the world of the senseless and empty contrasts that seek to gain ground in racism, xenophobia, inequality, ecological imbalance and in the 'fear of the poor'." "Behind these contrasts," Pope Francis observed, "there is always the refusal of the other. There is the selfishness that makes us function as solitary islands rather than collaborative archipelagos."

Art educates to contemplation: Pope Francis then delved into the title chosen for the Holy See's Pavilion at the Art Biennale of Venice, "With my eyes". "We all need to be gazed at and to dare to gaze at ourselves," he said, and Jesus teaches us to do so: "He gazes at everyone with the intensity of a love that does not judge, but knows how to be close and to encourage." Art, the Pope observed, educates us to this perspective. "It is not possessive nor objectifying, but neither indifferent nor superficial, it educates us to a contemplative gaze."

Valuing the uniqueness of femininity: Bringing his address to a close, Pope Francis expressed his hope that contemporary art may also help us value the contribution of women to humanity. "There are joys and sufferings that unite in femininity in a unique form, and which we must listen to because they have something important to teach us," he said citing, amongst others, famous female artists such as Frida Khalo, Sister Mary Corita Kent and Louise Bourgeois. Pope Francis concluded his speech by inviting those present to keep in their heart the question Jesus addressed to the crowd, regarding John the Baptist: "What did you go out to the desert to see? A reed swayed by the wind? Then what did you go out to see?" (Mt 11:7-8). That question, he said, "impels us towards the future."

