

**OUR LADY IMMACULATE & ST MICHAEL,
BATTLE**
with
ST TERESA OF LISIEUX, HORNS CROSS
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Cycle B for Sundays and Solemnities
Year 2 for Weekdays

Arundel and Brighton Trust is a Registered Charity No. 252878



Weekend 2nd / 3rd December 2023

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Saturday 02/12 6pm	Battle	First Sunday of Advent	People of the Parish
Sunday 03/12 9am	Northiam		Brian O’Connell, RIP
Sunday 03/12 10.45am	Battle		Deceased members of the Williams Family
Monday 04/12	NO MASS		
Tuesday 05/12 8am	Battle	Tuesday of the 1 st Week of Advent	Ecumenical Prayer Group
Tuesday 05/12 6.30pm			Deceased members of the Oliver Family
Wednesday 06/12 10am	Battle	Wednesday of the 1 st Week of Advent	Deceased members of the White Family followed by Coffee & Cake in the Parish Room
Thursday 07/12 6.30am	Battle	Saint Ambrose	No Intention
Friday 08/12 8am	Battle	The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Holy Day of Obligation)	Ecumenical Prayer Group
Friday 08/12 10am			No Intention
Friday 08/12 7pm	Northiam		Founders & Benefactors of St Teresa’s (FM)
Saturday 09/12 6pm	Battle	2nd Sunday of Advent	David Reynders, RIP & Joyce Hind, RIP
Sunday 10/12 9am	Northiam		People of the Parish
Sunday 10/12 10.45am	Battle		Fr Martin Jakobus, RIP

Sacrament of Reconciliation available after all Masses and upon Request

Introduction to the Scripture Readings for the 2nd Sunday of Advent 2023

- **First Reading: Isaiah 40:1-5. 9-11**

We hear a call to “prepare a way for the Lord”.

- **Second Reading: 2 Peter 3:8-14**

Peter suggests there will be a new creation “where righteousness will be at home”.

- **Gospel: Mark 1:1-8**

John the Baptist baptises in water, anticipating the coming of the Messiah, who will baptise with the Holy Spirit.

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, Keith Bourne.

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.

- **Christmas Giving Tree Decorating 10am Saturday:** Our Giving Tree is up and will be displaying its ‘Giving Tags’ and lights by Sunday (with your help!). The following Saturday it will be decorated with baubles - there will be mince pies and seasonal drinks too, so please pop along!
- **Ecumenical Early Morning Prayers in Advent:** These prayer sessions will be held at our Church in Battle every Tuesday and Friday at 8am, beginning Tuesday 5th December and ending Friday 22nd December, Fr Richard will be leading the prayers on Tuesday 19th. These sessions will be followed by breakfast in the Baptist Church. Everyone is very welcome.
- **Brian O'Connell's funeral will be on Tuesday, December 12 at noon at St Teresa of Lisieux,** Northiam, followed by his burial in the cemetery. Brian was a big wine enthusiast, dating back to his days as a wine waiter at the Hôtel Plaza Athénée in Paris in the 1950s, so the family thought it only fitting to have his wake, from about 2pm-5pm, in a vineyard, well the restaurant of one: Tillingham in Peasmarch, a 15 minute drive from the church. There will be a buffet lunch, with wine flowing. Would you please be able to let Brian's daughter, Alex know if you will be attending - e-mail: alexclareoconnell@gmail.com
- Please join us for coffee and cake in the Battle Parish Room after the 10am Mass on Wednesday – everyone is very welcome!
- **Crib Collection:** The Crib Collection this year will be in aid of the Catholic Children's Society (CCS) A&B Crisis Fund. The CCS is helping local families in crisis who are struggling to put food on the table, keep warm and provide a safe home for their children. There are many vulnerable families in need of support and our parish will be donating our Crib Offering to support this important work. Every penny donated will be given out via CCS's A&B Fund to support local families in need. You can donate at the crib or via the

- **Battle Foodbank** – We are still fairly well stocked following the Harvest Donations but could do with Tins of Fray Bentos Chicken or Beef Pies; Tins of Chicken in a Sauce or Curry; Sponge Puddings and Packets of Cereal Shreddies or Weetabix also any toiletries, toilet rolls, household products and nappies are always appreciated. We are starting to receive goodies for Christmas so need Mince Pies; Cake; Biscuits; Shortbread, Chocolates please.
- **‘Move It’ Club – every Thursday, 10-11am in the Parish Room.** Sessions are going really well – members are increasing every week. The sessions are enjoyed by all who attend, especially the coffee and chat afterwards! Aimed especially at our more senior, or less mobile parishioners, a friendly session offering gentle exercise to improve mobility, strength and balance - followed by coffee/tea and biscuits. Exercises can be adapted for those who would prefer to remain seated throughout. Qualified teacher. No charge, but donations towards refreshments gratefully received. Contact Lindsey for more information.
Mob: 0772494239 Email: lindseyfwilson@outlook.com. Come and try it for yourself!
- **Christmas Day Lunch at The Emmanuel Centre:** Once again The Emmanuel Centre is having a Christmas Day Lunch at 12.30pm and welcome any individuals or couples who would otherwise be alone on that day. You are most welcome to come and share; come and help; come and enjoy this ‘Family Celebration’. Please contact Christine Freeland as soon as possible by phone 01424 774363 or by email mail@dcfreeland.plus.com.
- 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.
- If you wish to follow a live Mass please follow this link from our Diocesan website <https://abdiocese.org.uk/livestream> or via <https://www.churchservices.tv/>
- 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

Annual Justice & Peace Assembly - Saturday 27 January 2024 10-1.30pm. St Philip Howard Centre, Crawley. Free of charge: Our assembly will address violence and abuse in our homes, families and wider community, with speakers from Restored, Lifecentre and Pax Christi. The doors will open, with refreshments available, from 9.30am. For more information about this event please contact our Caritas Social Action Adviser, Tessa Ricketts E:

Tessa.Ricketts@abdiocese.org.uk. You can register using the link Annual Justice & Peace Assembly - Safe at home, safe in our communities? (27-Jan-2024) · ChurchSuite Events

Pope Francis has no fever, 'clearly improving' from flu

"The Pope is in a good and stable condition; he has no fever, and his respiratory situation is clearly improving."

That's the latest update on the Pope's health given on Monday morning by Matteo Bruni, the Director of the Holy See Press Office.

The Pope has been suffering from

a "pulmonary inflammation," as he himself said on Sunday, appearing via videolink for his Sunday Angelus address.

Mr. Bruni confirmed that the CT scan which Pope Francis underwent early Saturday afternoon at the Gemelli Hospital on Rome's Tiberian Island "ruled out pneumonia but showed pulmonary inflammation that has caused some breathing difficulties."

"To increase the efficacy of the treatment, a cannula needle was inserted for the infusion of intravenous antibiotic therapy," said Mr. Bruni.

Activities rescheduled: Mr. Bruni went on to say that "in order to facilitate the Pope's recovery, some important engagements scheduled for the next few days have been postponed, so that he can devote the necessary time and energy to them."

However, he said, "others, of an institutional nature or easier to endure given his current state of health, have been maintained."

On Sunday morning, the Pope recited the Angelus prayer by video link from the chapel of the his residence at the Casa Santa Marta, so as to avoid exposure to the autumnal cold at the window of the Apostolic Palace.

He told the estimated 12,000 people gathered in St. Peter's Square: "Today, I cannot look out of the window because I have this problem of inflammation in my lungs. The reflection will be read by Monsignor Braida, who knows them well because it is he who writes them, and he always does them so well. Thank you very much for your presence."

Msgr. Paolo Braida, Head of the Coordination Office for Pontifical Speeches at the Secretariat of State of the Holy See, then read the prepared catechesis, with Pope Francis offering the final blessing.

