

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

with

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Cycle B for Sundays and Solemnities

Year 1 for Weekdays

Arundel and Brighton Trust is a Registered Charity No. 252878



**The Second Sunday of Lent**  
**Weekend 24<sup>th</sup> / 25<sup>th</sup> February 2024**

<b>Saturday 24/02 6pm</b>	<b>Battle</b>	<b>The Second Sunday of Lent</b>	<b>Idina Mary, Viscountess Brassey, RIP (FM)</b>
<b>Sunday 25/02 9am</b>	<b>Northiam</b>		<b>People of the Parish</b>
<b>Sunday 25/02 11am</b>	<b>Battle</b>		<b>Mark Clemence, RIP</b>
<b>Monday 26/02</b>	<b>NO MASS</b>		
<b>Tuesday 27/02 6.30pm</b>	<b>Battle</b>	<b>Tuesday of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Week of Lent</b>	<b>Intention of Charles, Sarah &amp; Sven for healing from cancer</b>
<b>Wednesday 28/02 10am</b>	<b>Battle</b>	<b>Wednesday of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Week of Lent</b>	<b>Patricia Mary Knight, RIP</b>
<b>Thursday 29/02 6.30am</b>	<b>Battle</b>	<b>Thursday of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Week of Lent</b>	<b>Mr &amp; Mrs Manson, RIP</b>
<b>Friday 01/03 10am</b>	<b>Battle</b>	<b>Saint David</b>	<b>No Intention</b>
<b>Saturday 02/03 6pm</b>	<b>Battle</b>	<b>Third Sunday of Lent</b>	<b>Keith Bourne, RIP</b>
<b>Sunday 03/03 9am</b>	<b>Northiam</b>		<b>People of the Parish</b>
<b>Sunday 03/03 11am</b>	<b>Battle</b>		<b>Intention of Marianne Clemence</b>

**There will be a Retiring Collection this weekend for CAFOD Lent Fast Day**

## Introduction to the Scripture Readings for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Lent

- **First Reading: Exodus 20:1-17**

The Law is given to the people through Moses, teaching them how to live their lives and how to treat one another.

- **Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:22-25**

The Risen Christ reveals the wisdom of God, a wisdom that is beyond anything we can imagine.

- **Gospel: John 2:13-25**

Jesus drives the money-changers out of the Temple and proclaims that he will make all things new.

**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.

- **Battle Foodbank** – Our needs this week are Tins of Cold Meat; Sweet Treats (Not chocolate); Jars of Jam, Honey, Peanut Butter and Marmite; Bottles of Squash or Cartons of Juice; Tins of Dog and Cat Food please. Toiletries, Baby and Household items are always welcome - thank you so much.
- **CAFOD Family Fast Day – Lent appeal:** This Lent, your donations to CAFOD's Family Fast Day appeal will help hardworking people like James the Fisherman in Liberia with resources, tools and training to feed their families for good. Give today using the envelope or online at [cafod.org.uk](http://cafod.org.uk) and please join us in praying with James that our sisters and brothers around the world have what they need to feed their families.
- **CAFOD – Parish Representative required:** If anyone within our Parish is committed to the work CAFOD carries out and would like to be our Parish Representative, please contact Jenny Finlayson by e-mail on: [jfinlayson@cafod.org.uk](mailto:jfinlayson@cafod.org.uk). Our lovely Angela Reid has stepped down after many years of wonderful work, volunteering on behalf of our Parish.
- **Church decoration:** Redecoration of the Church is almost complete and looking fabulous! Weekday Masses will continue to be in the Parish Room this week.
- Now the church is nearly redecorated Anne is wondering if there is anyone who would like to join her to help provide floral decorations in the Church. Throughout Lent we will of course not be having flowers, so the first opportunity to help will be Easter. If you would like to help her set up a new team, please ring her on 07753587996.
- **World Day of Prayer (formerly Women's World Day of Prayer):** This year's service will be held at the Emmanuel Centre, Harrier Lane at 2pm on Friday 1st March. It has been prepared by the women of Palestine. All are very welcome.

- Parish 100 Club – Congratulations to the winners of the first draw for 2024!  
£12 – Anne Auger £24 – Nick Iglinski
- **Keith Bourne RIP:** Keith’s funeral is on 1st March 12 noon at St. Martha's Church, Little Common, followed by private cremation with his family. The wake will be held at St. Mark's Hall, Little Common Road to which everyone is invited to attend after the Requiem Mass. Cars can be parked in St. Martha's for service only. There is a pay and display public car park in the village. Details can be found on Towner's website:  
<https://keithbourne.muchloved.com>
- **Men's Way of the Cross - Over the Cliffs and Through the Night!**  
Eastbourne Catholic Parishes are organising a way of the cross event for men to which we would like to invite you. On Friday 22nd March 2024: Men’s Way of the Cross:  
Join us on this 5-6 hour night walk of the stations of the cross along the hills of beachy head. As we are challenged physically in this silent endeavour so doors to our spiritual life can be opened. Following Christ in the modern world can be hard and here we play out the task of taking up our crosses to follow him. This provides an opportunity to renew our dedication and vocation as men of faith. We gather at Our Lady of ransom Church, 2-4 Grange Rd, Eastbourne BN21 4EU
  - 9PM - 10PM: Registration, Adoration and Confessions
  - 10PM - 11PM: Holy Mass
  - 11PM: We Start Our Way of the Cross!
  - 4-6am (approximately): We are back at the church
  - 15 minutes for silent adoration and testimonials (if someone wishes to share)
  - followed by a hearty breakfast in the church hall!
- 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](mailto: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

- **The Deaf Service supports Deaf and hard of hearing adults and children** providing catechism so that they can access the sacraments of baptism, reconciliation, First Holy Communion, confirmation, and marriage. The service aims to: Create awareness in the Church of the needs of Deaf and hard of hearing people Celebrate Mass in Sign Language once a month Provide support in the Catholic faith Members of the Deaf Service visit the sick at home or in hospital and provide support with the preparation of funerals to help meet communication needs. You can contact the A&B Deaf Service by email; E: [peterandmaria.booker@abdiocese.org.uk](mailto:peterandmaria.booker@abdiocese.org.uk) Or text message only (no telephone calls) M: 07970 428601 and there is a brand new web page <https://www.abdiocese.org.uk/diocese/deaf-community>.

## Vatican News

### **Pope at Angelus: Journey through Lent listening to voice of God**

On the first Sunday of Lent, Pope Francis took his cue from the Gospel of Mark that presents us with Jesus tempted in the desert (Mk 1:12-15). Speaking during the Angelus address, the Pope reflected on the symbolic significance of the wilderness, urging Christians to "enter the wilderness, that is, silence, the inner world, listening to the heart, in contact with the truth."



In the desert, he continued, Christ "was with the wild beasts, and the angels ministered to Him. Wild beasts and angels were His company."

But, in a symbolic sense, he explained, "they are our company too: indeed, when we enter the inner wildness, we can encounter wild beasts and angels there."

**Beasts of the soul:** "In the spiritual life, we can think of them [wild beasts] as the disordered passions that divide our heart, trying to take possession of it."

Warning that they "entice us; they seem seductive," the Pope said. "If we are not careful, we risk being torn apart by them." And giving a name to these "beasts" of the soul, he described them as "the lust for wealth, which imprisons us in connivance and dissatisfaction, the vanity of pleasure, which condemns us to restlessness and solitude, and the craving for fame, which gives rise to insecurity and a continuous need for confirmation and prominence."

They are "wild" beasts, the Holy Father said, and as such, they must be tamed and fought; otherwise, they will devour our freedom. "We need to go into the wilderness to become aware of their presence and to face them," he stated.

**God's messengers:** Then, focusing on the angelic presence in the desert, the Pope said angels are "God's messengers, who help us, who do us good; indeed, their characteristic, according to the Gospel, is service."

Contrasting this image with the possessive nature of disordered passions, he said they are "the exact opposite of possession, typical of the passions."

And highlighting the transformative power of divine inspirations, Pope Francis elaborated on the fact that "While temptations tear us apart, the good divine inspirations unify us in harmony: they quench the heart, infuse the taste of Christ, 'the flavour of Heaven'."

Thus, he upheld the need for silence and prayer to grasp these thoughts and feelings inspired by God, saying: "Lent is the time to do this."

### **Two questions**

Pope Francis concluded with two crucial questions:

"What are the disordered passions, the 'wild beasts' that agitate in my heart?"

And, "To permit the voice of God to speak to my heart and to preserve it in goodness, am I thinking of retreating a little into the 'wilderness', that is, of dedicating space to consider this?"

"May the Holy Virgin," he prayed, "who kept the Word and did not let herself be touched by the temptations of the evil one, help us during this season of Lent."