OUR LADY IMMACULATE & ST MICHAEL, BATTLE with ST TERESA OF LISIEUX, HORNS CROSS

14 Mount Street, Battle, East Sussex, TN33 OEG Tel: 01424 773125 e-mail: <u>battle@abdiocese.org.uk</u> website: battlewithnorthiam.parishportal.net

Parish Priest: Fr Anthony White

Cycle C for Sundays and Solemnities Year 2 for Weekdays

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<u>THE FOURTH 'LAETARE'</u> <u>SUNDAY OF LENT</u> <u>Weekend 26th / 27th March 2022</u>

Introduction to the Scripture Readings:

- First Reading: Joshua 5:9-12 The shame of Egypt is taken away but not the memory of Egypt, which will sustain the new life.
- Second Reading: 2 Corinthians 5:17-21 The creation of humanity is not yet complete but it continues as an act of reconciliation in Christ.
- Gospel: Luke 15:1-3. 11-32 The story of the prodigal son is not just his story. It is the story of a whole family; indeed it is the story of the family of humankind.

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, Jim & Ruth Ayres, Richard & Brenda Widenka, Helen Powell, Tom Dodd, Dilys Fraser, Anthony Gibbons, Rosemary Parkes, Suzanne McAdie.

From St Teresa's: Keith Bourne, Christine Mooney, June Nottage, Maureen & Cyril Webster, Dominic Leahy, Rodney Atkinson, Brian O'Connell, Eileen O'Shaughnessy.

Prayer Intentions - please remember the following people in your prayers this week: Una Wade, Frances Cresswell, Jack Morgan, Guy Hooper, Judith Bridge, Maureen Ashing, Henry Cheung, Tony Reid, Fr Peter Cullen.



Weekend Mass Times

6pm Saturday 26th March – Battle (Intention of Anne Bishop and Family) 9am Sunday 27th March – Northiam (People of the Parish) 10.45am Sunday 27th March – Battle (Edmund Lucey, RIP) 10am Wednesday 30th March – Battle (Intention of Mark Clemence)

Sacrament of Reconciliation after 6pm Mass Saturdays

- If you feel you need to contact Fr Paul for any reason, his phone number is: 01323 670156.
- If you used to receive a visit from one of our Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist (Special Ministers), please contact the office if you would like these visits to recommence, 01424 773125 or <u>battle@abdiocese.org.uk</u> with a Minister or with Fr Paul, who is happy to make home visits.
- Fr Paul is happy to receive Mass Intentions, please either give them directly to Fr Paul after Mass or let Maggie know of any future Intentions on 773125, e-mail battle@abdiocese.org.uk, or drop a note through the Presbytery door, 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/

Children's Liturgy: Children's Liturgy has now restarted during the 10.45am Mass at Battle. If you have any children that have missed this during the restrictions and would like to join into these sessions again, please bring them along.

- Jo Cooper RIP: Jo's funeral is on Wednesday 30th March at 12noon at Our Lady Immaculate & St Michael Church, everyone is welcome to attend.
- Lent & Easter:
 - On Sunday 3rd April at 3pm at Our Lady Immaculate & St Michael, Battle, there will be a time of Lent prayer before the Blessed Sacrament, including an opportunity to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation.
 - On Holy Thursday, the Washing of the Feet as part of the Mandatum has now been restored. We need twelve volunteers to have their feet washed, please sign up on the list at the back of the Church, thank you.

• CAFOD

> DEC/CAFOD - Ukraine Humanitarian Appeal

More than half a million people have fled their homes to escape conflict in Ukraine - leaving behind jobs, belongings and loved ones, they need shelter, food and water. Life for the people of Ukraine has completely changed. Homes, schools and hospitals have been destroyed.



With your help, we can be ready to support the families who are in desperate need. Any donation you can give will make a difference to the Ukrainian people and will be matched by the Government, thus doubling your donation.

https://cafod.org.uk/Give/Donate-to-Emergencies/Ukraine-Humanitarian-Appeal

Thank you so much for your support of CAFOD's Lent Family Fast Day, the Walk Against Hunger and the Ukraine Humanitarian Appeal. Your support means we can respond in crises such as Ukraine where our Caritas aid workers and volunteers could quickly help families fleeing conflict. It also means we're there in the long-term and can continue to respond to crises around the world, including in Afghanistan, Syria, Ethiopia, and South Sudan. We work alongside communities as they rebuild their lives once the conflict is over, as in Sierra Leone. For lots more detail on how your donations are being used, please go to the CAFOD website: cafod.org.uk

To find out about events hosted by the Diocese please visit our website events calendar https://www.abdiocese.org.uk/diocese/events

- The Diocese is currently considering how best to support the incoming Ukrainians and will be liaising with central government and local authorities over this. It is thought that once the people start arriving, Parishes will be able to sponsor individuals or families through the Diocese and discover specific ways in which they can help them - very practical things like help with buying school uniform for their children or clothes for themselves, teaching the children some English or accompanying them to Citizens Advice Bureaux and so on.
- Lent 2022 Fundraising Challenge: This year's challenge is to walk 5kilometres per day in Lent - 200km in all - to help eradicate hunger in the world: a daunting task, but sadly a necessary one. TEAM FORGE (Vicky Chainey, Ingrid Finch & John Reid) have once again accepted the challenge, and hope to raise at least £500 for this essential work - so far, the current total is £240 - thank you so much to everyone that has donated so far. Donations may be made in the usual way via:

<u>Team Forge CAFOD Walk Against Hunger | Walk against Hunger | CAFOD</u> (Gift Aid if possible), or by cash to any Team Forge member.

• **Rwanda Action Craft and Cards**: Thank you to everyone who recently bought crafts and cards at Northiam and Battle. Our total sales amounted to £125 and supports a co-operative of widows and orphans from the 1994 Genocide in South West Rwanda. There is still time to buy lovely cards and presents in time for Easter through our online shop. www.rwanda-action.org/shop

News from our Diocese

- Coming Soon for Eastertide: Invited Season Two: Growing in Faith. Details will follow as to how you can register with the Diocese to join the weekly sessions via Diocesan Zoom Conversations on a Thursday and watch the accompanying films at your leisure.
- **Beginning Experience Weekend:** If you are single again following divorce, separation or the death of your partner, a residential weekend to help you to heal will be held from 8th to 10th April 2022 at the Sion Community, Brentwood, Essex. If you would like more details, please ring Freda 01322-838415 or Maura 07795-498445 or email <u>besouthofengland@gmail.com</u>.
- We are very pleased to let you know that we have opened online applications for the 2022
 Diocesan Lourdes Pilgrimage from 29 July 4 August 2022 by Air, or for those who need assistance: 28 July 5 August 2022 by Redshirt Coach / Jumbulance / Helper Coach. Online applications for all those who do not require any assistance in Lourdes or on the journey can be found on our website lourdes.abdiocese.org.uk or you can <u>click here</u>.

Paper applications for those who require assistance will be posted out in the new year. If you or someone you know would like to receive an Assisted Pilgrim Application Form, please email

office@ablourdes.org with the name and postal address. The closing date for online applications is 30th April 2022.

We are receiving several applications from Pilgrims who will require assistance to join this year's Lourdes Pilgrimage, but at this point we are short of Helpers, Nurses and Doctors to assist with their Pilgrimage. The Pilgrimage Office is happy to answer any questions anyone has prior to applying. The application form they should use is available on our website: <u>https://www.abdiocese.org.uk/lourdes/home</u>

• Flame Youth Conference – 4th March 2023

The theme will be 'Rise Up' and will see the return of Guvna B as well as some acclaimed national and international speakers. **We will be attending as a Diocese**, so please e-mail <u>lizzie.wakeling@abdiocese.org.uk</u> to reserve your place.

• Worth Abbey Retreats this Spring

Time Out: individual self-led retreats: 6-8 May, 17 - 19 June and 18 - 22 July, Cost: £90 pp, per night. A chance for some time away to process, to reflect and to pray. There is no set programme other than group Lectio Divina at 9.30am, the usual monastic timetable of divine office and liturgy and the opportunity to meet with one of the community for reconciliation or a chat. These dates are set aside from the normal retreat programme to offer a bit of sanctuary for your own private retreat, with plenty of time to visit the Abbey Church for private prayer and reflection or explore the beautiful Worth Abbey estate. Book your place: www.worth.co.uk/retreats or E: retreats@worth.org.uk T: 01342 710318

- The office is open on Mondays and Thursdays from 9.30am 12.30pm.
- The Parish Pastoral Team send all parishioners their prayers and good wishes.

Vatican News

Pope visits Bambino Gesù hospital to meet Ukrainian children receiving treatment

As the Russian invasion of Ukraine disrupts routine medical care in much of the country, the Bambino Gesù hospital has stepped into the breach to assist children in need of treatment.

Around 50 children have arrived from Ukraine to the Pope's hospital—19 of whom are hospitalised—to receive quality care.

Pope Francis visited the group of Ukrainian children,



along with all other patients in the Vatican's paediatric hospital, on Saturday afternoon, according to the Holy See Press Office.

The children are receiving treatment for various pathologies, including in the oncology and neurology departments.

"The Pope stopped in the rooms, and visited all the little ones present, before returning to the Vatican," said the Press Office statement.

Ukraine: University students turn Catholic values into concrete solidarity

With the Russian invasion disrupting life in Ukraine in unimaginable ways, some young people are finding ways to combine studies and concrete acts of solidarity toward their war-stricken brothers and sisters. The western city of Lviv has so far escaped much of the Russian attack, through air raid sirens sound frequently forcing residents into hiding. In the midst of this difficult situation, the Ukrainian Catholic University of Lviv has thrown out all the stops to help internally displaced Ukrainians, some 300,000 of whom have come to the city for temporary sanctuary.

Catholic values in action: Students are volunteering their time to help their countrymen, while still finding time to follow online classes, which resumed after a two-week hiatus. Professor Volodymyr Turchnynovskyy, the Dean of the University's Faculty of Social Sciences, spoke to Vatican News about how the University has put its Catholic values into practice in response to the Russian invasion. "We have this unique opportunity to live up to the Catholic values which we were seeking to embed into our system of education and share with our students and community."

Creative dedication to service:

Prof. Turchnynovskyy said the Ukrainian Catholic University's students and faculty are living up to that ideal in an excellent way, as they help each other and analyse the situation to find solutions. "They spend long, long hours involved in humanitarian work," he said. "They work 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, and sleep very few hours. And this is what they decided to do themselves." Students, he added, are "immensely creative" in setting

up volunteer projects to provide assistance to internally-displaced people.

Hub of international solidarity: The Ukrainian-born professor said the university's Catholic values have been borne out in its students' expression of solidarity. Uncertainty and daily difficulties, he noted, have united the community in a special way. Faculty are in constant contact with their students, even outside the online classroom. "The important things have become really important, and what is less important is pushed aside," said Prof. Turchnynovskyy. He added that other Catholic universities across the world have also banded together to show their solidarity, with colleagues holding near-daily Zoom conversations

Monumental heroism and sacrifice: Prof. Turchnynovskyy pointed out that around 10 percent of

the University's students and faculty have fled Ukraine, and that of those who remain around 70 percent follow classes online. Yet, when asked what his hopes are, the professor expressed his conviction that Ukraine will be victorious in the face of the Russian invasion. "There is very strong international support and unification around Ukraine. And we witness monumental heroism and sacrifice for our

country." He said Ukrainians increasingly believe that they are defending European values, adding that the fate of Ukraine is of "extreme and crucial importance for the future of Europe and the whole of Western civilisation."



