

**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 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
**Weekend 27<sup>th</sup> / 28<sup>th</sup> January 2024**

<b>Saturday 27/01 6pm</b>	<b>Battle</b>	<b>The 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>	<b>Deceased Members of the Ashing &amp; Barnes Family</b>
<b>Sunday 28/01 9am</b>	<b>Northiam</b>		<b>People of the Parish</b>
<b>Sunday 28/01 11am</b>	<b>Battle</b>		<b>John Salter, RIP</b>
<b>Monday 29/01/2024</b>	<b>NO MASS</b>		
<b>Tuesday 30/01 6.30pm</b>	<b>Battle</b>	<b>Tuesday of Week 4 in Ordinary Time</b>	<b>No Intention</b>
<b>Wednesday 31/01 10am</b>	<b>Battle</b>	<b>Saint John Bosco</b>	<b>No Intention followed by The Rosary</b>
<b>Thursday 01/02 6.30am</b>	<b>Battle</b>	<b>Thursday of Week 4 in Ordinary Time</b>	<b>No Intention</b>
<b>Friday 02/02 10am</b>	<b>Battle</b>	<b>The Presentation of the Lord</b>	<b>No Intention</b>
<b>Saturday 03/02 6pm</b>	<b>Battle</b>	<b>5<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>	<b>Mr Epiphany Fernandes, RIP</b>
<b>Sunday 04/02 9am</b>	<b>Northiam</b>		<b>People of the Parish followed by Coffee &amp; Cake</b>
<b>Sunday 04/02 11am</b>	<b>Battle</b>		<b>Intention of Helena Powell</b>

**There will be a Retiring Collection for Racial Justice Sunday this weekend**

## **Introduction to the Scripture Readings for the 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**

- **First Reading: Job 7:1-4. 6-7**

Life is a burden for the melancholy who have no hope.

- **Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 9: 16-19. 22-23**

To preach the Gospel is a duty, even if it's one that is not chosen.

- **Gospel: Mark 1:29-39**

He cured many who were suffering.

**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, 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.

- **Battle Foodbank** – Our needs this week are Jars of Pasta Sauce, Honey, Peanut Butter and Marmite; Cartons of Oat or Soya long life Milk; Non chocolate treats; Cat and Dog Food please - Toiletries, household and baby items are always welcome - thank you so much.
- **Parish 100 Club:** Congratulations to the winners of our last draw for the present 100 Club!  
£12 – Helen Ashing      £24 – Claire Bates  
If you want to be included in the first draw for the new year, please get your application in quickly. Forms are available at the back of the Church, please either hand it in to the Parish Office or pop it in the mailbox outside the office and mark it for the attention of Maggie. Thank you.
- **Church decoration:** Redecoration of the Church is going well and is looking good, Masses will be held in the Church as usual over the weekend, but weekday Masses will be back in the Parish Room next week.
- **Coffee and Cake at St Teresa's** after the 9am Mass at Northiam this Sunday, 4<sup>th</sup> February, everyone is very welcome to stay for a cuppa!
- **Parish Website up and running again:** Our website is up and running again, but changes will be coming in the near future to update it and make it more user friendly – watch this space!
- 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/>
- **Knock Pilgrimages:** Escorted Tour to Westport, Knock & Co Mayo, 3rd March 2024.

£899.00 pps. Price includes flight, 10kg hold luggage, 5 nights' in 4\* Castlecourt Hotel, Westport with Dinner, Bed & Breakfast. Lunch on three days. All entertainment, excursions and transport included. Visit Knock, Galway City, Kylemore Abbey, Croagh Patrick & Ashford Castle. Single supplement on Enquiry. Contact Patricia or Natali on 01268 762 278 or 07740 175557 or email [knockpilgrimages@gmail.com](mailto:knockpilgrimages@gmail.com).

- 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

- **Day of Reflection for Ministers of the Eucharist – Saturday 10 February. Free of charge**  
Bishop Richard will lead a day of reflection and formation for Ministers of the Eucharist at St Michael's, High Salvington, Worthing 11-4pm. The day will include theological and practical talks, Eucharistic Adoration and mass. Please register using the link Day of Reflection for Ministers of the Eucharist (10-Feb-2024) · ChurchSuite Events
- **Baptism Catechists' Day – Saturday 2 March. Free of charge**  
A Formation day for those who are already or who wish to, deliver baptism catechesis in their local area. Input from Bishop Richard on the theology of infant baptism and Katherine Bergin, Marriage & Family Life Advisor on the practicalities of building this into the parish community. The day is open to all clergy and laity involved in this area of catechesis. This event will take place at The St Philip Howard Centre in Crawley, 9.30am-1.30pm. Please register using the link Baptism Catechists Day (02-Mar-2024) · ChurchSuite Events
- To find out about and book events hosted by the Diocese please visit the Diocesan website events calendar W: <https://www.abdiocese.org.uk/diocese/events>

### Vatican News

#### **Pope upholds legacy of Don Milani, a “restless and disturbing” priest**

Don Milani's testimony and message invites us “not to remain indifferent, to identify the new poor” and to reach out “to all the excluded”, Pope Francis said on Monday, as he addressed members of Committee for the Centenary of the birth of this pioneer Italian priest.

Born in Florence in 1923 to a well-off non-believing middle-class family, Don Lorenzo

Milani was an educator of the poor who developed innovative methods of critical pedagogy, centred around social justice in the school he founded in the rural hamlet of Barbiana, in Tuscany.



Though less known internationally, he holds an important position in the history of open education.

In his address Pope Francis thanked the Committee for its commitment to keep Don Milani's testimony and message alive, and make it known all, "especially the new generations."

Don Milani's battle for social justice through education

He then shared some reflections on his life, from his conversion to Catholicism and ordination to priesthood, to his staunch battle for social justice through education of the poor.

Recalling that his decision to become a priest was contextual with his conversion, Pope Francis remarked that conversion is at the heart of Don Milani's entire human and spiritual experience, which, he said, "makes him a believer, a priest in love with the Church, a faithful servant of the Gospel in the poor."

Indeed, "Don Lorenzo lived the evangelical Beatitudes of poverty and humility to the full, leaving his bourgeois privileges, his wealth, his comforts, his elitist culture to become poor among the poor."

He "also experienced this bliss with his people and his students," at Barbiana, continued the Pope. "The school was the context in which he worked for a great a great purpose: that of restoring the dignity to the least ones, respect, rights and citizenship but, above all, the recognition of the sonship of God's children, which includes us all."

A witness of Italy's social and economic transformation

Pope Francis further noted that Don Milani was a "witness and interpreter" of the social and economic transformation taking place in then rural Italy with its industrialization.

"With his enlightened mind and an open heart", the Pope said, he understood "that even public school in that context was discriminatory for his children," because "it was not a place of social promotion, but of selection, and it was not functional to evangelization, because injustice distanced the poor from the Gospel, distanced peasants and workers from the faith and the Church."

This prompted Don Lorenzo to dedicate his entire life to the education of the poor in his school in Barbiana.

*"His school model was putting knowledge at the service of the least for others but the first for the Gospel and for him."*

"I care"

His motto, noted Pope Francis, was not a generic 'I care', but a heartfelt 'I care about you', an "explicit declaration of love for his small community."

"That message invites us not to remain indifferent, to interpret reality, to identify the new poor and the new poverty, to get closer to all the excluded and take them to heart. Every Christian should do his part in this", the Pope insisted.

A "restless and disturbing priest"

Concluding, Pope Francis reiterated his gratitude to this "restless and disturbing priest", faithful to the Lord and his Church, "for the testimony he left us as a challenging legacy." He also thanked the committee for organizing the centenary celebrations "to make Don Milani known and listened to."