

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

Year 1 for Weekdays



2ND SUNDAY OF *Advent*

The Second Sunday of Advent
Weekend 7th / 8th December 2024

Saturday 07/12 6pm	Battle	Second Sunday of Advent	David Reynders, RIP
Sunday 08/12 9am	Northiam		Founders & Benefactors of St Teresa's
Sunday 08/12 11am	Battle		People of the Parish
Monday 09/12	NO MASS		
Tuesday 10/12 8am	Battle	Tuesday of the 2 nd Week of Advent	Christians in Battle Advent Devotions
Tuesday 10/12 6.30pm	Battle		Intention of Mark Walford
Wednesday 11/12 10am	Battle	Wednesday of the 2 nd Week of Advent	Deceased Members of the Williams Family
Thursday 12/12 6.30am	Battle	Thursday of the 2 nd Week of Advent	No Intention
Friday 13/12 8am	Battle	Saint Lucy	Christians in Battle Advent Devotions
Friday 13/12 10am	Battle		Deceased Members of the Ferlaino Family
Saturday 14/12 6pm	Battle	Third Sunday of Advent	No Intention
Sunday 15/12 9am	Northiam		Deceased Members of the Powell Family
Sunday 15/12 11am	Battle		No Intention

During the Christmas Season there will be a Crib Collection for
the Catholic Children's Society A&B Crisis Fund

Introduction to the Scripture Readings for The Third Sunday of Advent

- **First Reading: Zephaniah 3:14-18a**

The day of the Lord's coming is a day of great rejoicing that will see evil expelled and the world renewed in the presence of the Lord.

- **Second Reading: Philippians 4:4-7**

The early Christian Church is encouraged to live model lives as they immanently await with hope the Lord's return.

- **Gospel: Luke 3:10-18**

With hopeful expectation, John guides the people to prepare themselves by putting aside the passing world.

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, Marie & Sarah Skilton, Phil & Pauline Bedford.

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:

Guy Hooper, Maureen Ashing, Gerard Leahy, Jo Watkins, Patrick Armstrong, Andrew Brodrick-Ward, Anthony Gibbons RIP, Katie Spall RIP, Cilla Wintle 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:** Our needs this week are Packets of Breakfast Cereal and Porridge; Bottles of Squash; Tins of Ham and Tins of Spaghetti please - we need to receive any Christmas items by the 10th when we will be packing the bags ready to start giving out on the 11th - any toiletries, baby and household items are always welcome - thank you so much.
- **Christians in Battle, Advent Devotions:** Please join us for our Advent prayer sessions, an Advent Journey of Hope, every Tuesday and Friday morning at 8am ending 20th December. The sessions will be held at Battle Catholic Church on Mount Street, followed by breakfast upstairs at the Baptist Church. Everyone is very welcome.
- **Christmas message from Madeleine:** Due to my extended period of ill health, I am not sending Christmas cards this year; instead, I am sending a large donation to CAFOD for the intentions of the whole parish. I wish you all every blessing for Christmas.
- 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.
- 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.

Diocesan run news/events

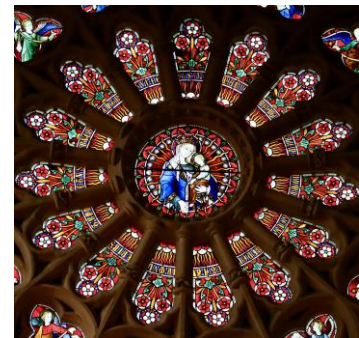
- An ecumenical conference on Modern Slavery took place in Reigate on 19 October. With eminent speakers from both Catholic and Anglican Churches, along with Surrey Police, the event aimed to get the message across to all that Slavery is happening here across Surrey “right here, right now”. A link to the recording is available to view on YouTube - <https://www.youtube.com/live/VtvuWkNxaZg>. For interest, Bishop Richard’s speech starts around the 1 hour, 15 minutes mark.
- **SAVE THE DATE – Saturday 20 September 2025 Festival of Hope**
Join us for a Diocesan Celebration of the Jubilee year and the 60th Anniversary of Arundel & Brighton. Tickets will be available for 1,200 parishioners from across the Diocese for a day of family friendly activities and events. With speakers from the Church Mission Society and the Sion Community, as well as music from One Hope Project and our amazing schools’ choirs, this festival will uplift and inspire and be a great day out for all. Taking place at the South of England Showground, tickets will be allocated proportionally to Parishes according to Mass attendance. We’d love to see you there so pop the date in your diary now!
- **Day of Reflection for Ministers of the Word – Saturday 25 January 11 - 4pm at St Wilfrid's Parish Centre, Burgess Hill**
Led by Bishop Richard. The day will include talks on the Scriptures, the Lectionary and its use in the Liturgy, the Liturgy of the Word, and preparing to minister as a reader. There will be a time of Lectio Divina, and the day will conclude with the celebration of Mass. The booking link can be found here [Day of Reflection for Ministers of the Word \(25-Jan-2025\) · ChurchSuite Events](#)
- The Diocesan website events calendar, through which places for events can be booked, can be found at W: <https://www.abdiocese.org.uk/diocese/events>
- The Diocese sends out a weekly E-Bulletin newsletter which includes Bishop Richard’s Weekly Reflection, and details of formation and events taking place across the Diocese and our wider Catholic community. Please do encourage parishioners to sign up it’s a great way to stay in touch! You can click on the link to sign up mailchi.mp/7529e811ae63/joinourlist

Arundel Cathedral

One of the Cathedral’s most striking features are its beautiful stained-glass windows, many of which were designed by the Victorian Catholic artist and art historian Nathaniel Westlake, a leading designer of the Gothic Revival movement with commissions in several diocesan churches. Arundel’s famous Rose Window, which can be viewed above the organ gallery, was created in 1873 by Hardman’s of Birmingham. Mary and the Holy Child, Jesus can be seen in the very centre of the

window, surrounded by angels bearing incense. The outer circles (clockwise from the top) illustrate the Mysteries of the Rosary; the five Joyful Mysteries - the Annunciation to the Finding in the Temple; the five Sorrowful Mysteries - the Agony in the Garden to the Crucifixion, and the five Glorious Mysteries - the Resurrection to the Coronation of the Virgin.

Stained Glass and Rose Window



Pope: ‘Pursuit of peace is responsibility of all’

“I hope that the glimmer of peace that has emerged can lead to a ceasefire on all other fronts,” Pope Francis stated after praying the Angelus on December 1.

He was referring to the ceasefire agreement reached between Hezbollah in Lebanon and Israel to end 13 months of fighting.

Building upon this, the Pope also challenged the Lebanese people to elect a president. “As soon as possible,” he encouraged, “so that institutions can return to normal functioning, proceed with the necessary reforms, and ensure the country remains an example of peaceful coexistence among different religions.”

However, both Israel and Hezbollah accuse the other of breaching the ceasefire agreement, as there have been reports the Israeli air force struck a Hezbollah facility one day after the ceasefire was signed.

‘War offends God’

Pope Francis continued to express his concern for other areas of the world in conflict, including Gaza, Syria, and Ukraine. He shared his deep concern for the release of Israeli hostages and petitioned once again that “humanitarian aid to the exhausted Palestinian population” be available.

Speaking of the approaching winter season, the Pope remembered “martyred Ukraine” in the midst of a conflict that has been raging for almost three years. He called the combination of war and cold temperatures “tragic” and underscored that for the millions of displaced people, winter will be difficult. Pope Francis renewed his challenge to the international community “and to every man and woman of good will, to do everything possible to stop this war and to promote dialogue, fraternity, and reconciliation.”

Peace is not the responsibility of a few

With the start of Advent and the countdown to Christmas beginning, the Pope called to renew efforts to provide aid and hope to those living in war-torn countries. “The pursuit of peace is not the responsibility of a few but of all,” he stated, because if “desensitization and indifference to the horrors of war prevail, all of humanity is defeated.”

A milestone in South America

The Pope also commemorated the 40th anniversary of the Treaty of Peace and Friendship between Argentina and Chile, which was signed on November 29, 1984. With Pope John Paul II, the Holy See's mediation led to a deescalation of a territorial dispute between the two countries. Pope Francis used this as an example that when “we renounce the use of arms and engage in dialogue, we are on the right path.”

