

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

14 Mount Street, Battle, East Sussex, TN33 0EG
Tel: 01424 773125

e-mail: battle@abdiocese.org.uk

website: battlewithnorthiam.parishportal.net

Parish Priest: Fr Anthony White

Cycle C for Sundays and Solemnities
Year 1 for Weekdays

Arundel and Brighton Trust is a
Registered Charity No. 252878



Weekend Mass Times

6pm Saturday 1st January -
Battle (Douglas Ashing, RIP)

9am Sunday 2nd January -
Northiam (Deceased Members
of the Murphy Family, RIP)

10.45am Sunday 2nd January -
Battle (John Salter, RIP)

Wednesday 5th January -
NO MASS

10am Thursday 6th January -
Battle - Mass of the Epiphany
(Celebrant's Intention)

Sacrament of Reconciliation after
6pm Mass Saturdays

THE SECOND SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS

Weekend 1st / 2nd January 2022

Introduction to the Scripture Readings:

- **First Reading: Ecclesiasticus 24:1-2. 8-12**
Wisdom has taken root in God's people.
- **Second Reading: Ephesians 1:3-6. 15-18**
We have been chosen to live through love in
God's presence as God's adopted children.
- **Gospel: John 1:1-18**
The Word was made flesh and lived among us.

We pray for the Sick and Housebound Members of our Community:

From Our Lady Immaculate & St Michael: Margaret Thunder, Jo Cooper, 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.

Prayer Intentions - please remember the following people in your prayers this week:

Una Wade, Frances Cresswell, Jack Morgan, Guy Hooper, Di Bean RIP, Judith Bridge, Maureen Ashing, Henry Cheung, Sam Baker, Trish Archutowski RIP, Gillian Mitchell RIP. David Amies and family, Rob Boswell RIP.

- 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 battle@abdiocese.org.uk 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.

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.

- **Sunday Obligation:** The obligation to attend Mass on Sundays and holy days will not be restored in time for Christmas because of the continuing threat from COVID-19. The bishops of England and Wales wanted to bring back the obligation by the First Sunday of Advent but have conceded that the pandemic meant it was still too dangerous to expect vulnerable people to go to church. In the meantime, all Catholics are asked to do their best to participate in the celebration of the weekly Sunday Mass and to reflect deeply on the centrality of Sunday worship in the life of the Church.
- 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/>
- **Crib Collection 2021:** This Christmas our Crib Offering will be donated to the Catholic Children's Society's A&B Crisis Fund. This fund provides emergency grants for children and families in our Diocese who are facing a crisis in their lives. Every single penny donated to the Crib is used exclusively within the diocese and will be given out through emergency grants to help local children and families.
- **Advance Notice - White Flower Day:** There will be a White Flower appeal for SPUC on the weekend 15th/16th January 2022. Without the support of the Catholic Community, SPUC's political and educational work, as well as its pro-life support services, would be seriously affected.
- **Parish 100 Club:** The last draw for this present 100 Club is this month. The forms for 2022 are now available - please think of joining or re-joining for this year. The £12 is divided, half for prizes and half for Church maintenance. Please fill in an application form and hand it in to the Parish Office for the attention of Maggie. Thank you.
- **FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PREPARATION.** The children and parents preparing for First Holy Communion have a meeting in the presbytery on Wednesday 5th at 5.15pm.

THANKS

It was a wonderful celebration of Christmas, a gentle end to a hectic, and for many of us a difficult year. Our thanks go to those who helped to prepare the church and the liturgy and to the readers, musicians and stewards. A big 'thank you' to those who joined us for our celebration - your presence made it very special. On a personal note, Fr Paul thanks you for your Christmas wishes, the cards and generous gifts. Now, in face of what will be an unsettled start to the new year we must, as individuals and as a parish family, look forward and move forward with faith and hope in the Lord's promise that he 'God-with-us' - there is much to do if we are to play our part in the bringing to fulfilment of that promise, and with Him we can do it.

When the song of the angels is stilled,
when the star in the sky is gone,
when the kings have gone home,
when the shepherds are back with their flocks,
the work of Christmas begins.

To find the lost,
to heal the broken.
to feed the hungry,
to rebuild nations.
to bring peace among people,
to make music in the heart.

A very happy and peaceful new year to you all.

SAINTS OF THE WEEK

Memorial of The Most Holy Name of Jesus - 3rd January

On the day of his Circumcision the Lord received the name Jesus, meaning 'God saves'. Devotion to the Holy Name was popularised in the fifteenth century by St Bernardine of Siena and St John Capistrano, who both carried the monogram of Jesus (IHS) with them on their preaching tours. We honour the Holy Name not only because it is the name of our Saviour but because it is, in itself, a powerful prayer.



Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord 6th January



Memorial of St Raymond of Penafort, Priest - 7th January

St Raymond (c.1175-1275) belonged to a noble Catalonian family and joined the Dominican Order. He worked for many years in Rome, codifying Canon Law in five books of Decretals, and in 1238 became the Order's third Master-General. He is particularly remembered for promoting the fruitful celebration of the Sacrament of Penance and for his compassion towards Christian slaves.



News from our Diocese

- **CAFOD is combining efforts with the DEC to launch the Afghanistan Crisis Appeal.** In Afghanistan, 8 million people are on the brink of famine because of drought, collapsing economy, food shortages, conflict, and COVID. CAFOD is supporting sister Caritas agencies to reach communities most in need with food, clean water, and fuel. During Advent, when we open ourselves to the needs of others, let's do all that we can to save lives. You can donate on the CAFOD website: cafod.org.uk/AfghanistanAppeal and please pray for the people of Afghanistan.
- **Justice & Peace Assembly Webinar: 'To a Safer Shore?'**
15th January, from 9.45 am for 10 am to 1 pm, will now take place online.
More details and to book at [To a Safer Shore?](https://www.toasafershore.org.uk) Spotlights refugees, highlighting what we can do to help. | Arundel & Brighton Catholic Diocese (abdiocese.org.uk) or contact Tessa Ricketts at Tessa.Ricketts@abdiocese.org.uk
- The office remains open on Mondays and Thursdays from 9.30am - 12.30pm.
- The Parish Pastoral Team send all parishioners their prayers and good wishes.

Vatican News

Caritas Senegal at the forefront of emergencies.

From ecological issues, migration, health and ecumenism -Caritas Senegal is the face of the Catholic Church in its social ministry. In an interview with *Vatican News*, Father Alphonse Seck, Secretary-General of Caritas Senegal and Vice President of Caritas Africa, spoke about the work of Caritas in his country.

Drought, access to water and agriculture:

Senegal is a Sahelian country, often confronted with drought. A significant area of Caritas Senegal's intervention is responding to food insecurity. Another problem in the Sahel zone is access to water. Since the 1970s, a year of great drought, Caritas Senegal has been very active in the area of access to drinking water and access to water for agriculture. "We are in the process of setting up a water service public observatory, which is due to start in January 2022. Through this, we hope to advocate for access to drinking water for all, especially rural populations. This will also allow these populations to improve their harvests. Caritas Senegal, as you know, also works in the agricultural sector, in the supervision of groups and associations of



farmers, to enable them exploit the land responsibly. At the same time, we try to ensure adequate living conditions for those whose lives depend on farming," said Father Alphonse Seck. **Migration, climate change and health:** Migration is also another area of action for Caritas Senegal. The country is an intersection and a central hub of departures, transit and reception of migrants. "This explains why the Senegalese Bishops recently published a Pastoral Letter on this issue," said Father Seck. In addition, to all these interventions, there is the organisation's engagement with climate change. Caritas Senegal encourages populations to return to old and tried methods that respect nature, especially in the field of agriculture.

Like other countries in Africa, Senegal has had challenges with rapid urbanisation. This has led to an increase in levels and types of waste. "Caritas works with the population and communities in the management of waste, particularly household waste," said the Caritas Senegal Director. Strategies to prevent Covid-19, Ebola Another area of operation is disease prevention and protection against infectious diseases. Since the deadly 2014 - 2016 Ebola outbreak in West Africa, particularly in Guinea, Sierra Leone, and Liberia, Caritas Senegal has run a successful prevention programme. The prevention programme now has more than 107 schools on its cards. Suffice it to say that the Covid-19 pandemic has been added to the Caritas Senegal's portfolio as a new area concern requiring action.

Mostly non-Christian beneficiaries: Senegal is a country that is 95% Muslim. For Father Alphonse Seck, "the interventions of Caritas in the country are essential because they are a way for the Church to provide strong and credible witness. The majority of the beneficiaries of the Church's (social) interventions are non-Christians. What is essential is to respond *not* to the religion to which one belongs, but to the human person in a vulnerable situation. The areas where Caritas' water programmes have been carried out, for example, are almost entirely Muslim. It is gratifying that Caritas Senegal's work is well received, and that the beneficiaries appreciate the services rendered, said Father Seck.