

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

with

**ST TERESA OF LISIEUX, HORNS CROSS
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**Cycle A for Sundays and Solemnities
Year 1 for Weekdays**

Arundel and Brighton Trust is a Registered Charity No. 252878



Weekend 18th / 19th March

**THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT
(LAETARE SUNDAY)**

Saturday 18/03 6pm	Battle	The Fourth Sunday of Lent (Laetare Sunday)	People of the Parish
Sunday 19/03 9am	Northiam		Mark Clemence, RIP
Sunday 19/03 10.45am	Battle		Fr Raymond Wilcox, RIP
Monday 20/03	NO MASS		
Tuesday 21/03 6pm	Battle	Tuesday of the Fourth Week of Lent	No Intention
Wednesday 22/03 10am	Battle	Wednesday of the Fourth Week of Lent	No Intention
Thursday 23/03 6am	Battle	Thursday of the Fourth Week of Lent	No Intention
Friday 24/03 10am	Battle	Friday of the Fourth Week of Lent	No Intention

Sacrament of Reconciliation available after all Masses and upon Request

Introduction to the Scripture Readings for The Fifth Sunday of Lent:

- **First Reading: Ezekiel 37:12-14**

Through the prophet, the Lord speaks to the community in exile: “I shall put my spirit in you, and you will live.”

- **Second Reading: Romans 8:8-11**

Paul focuses on how God’s Spirit lives in us.

- **Gospel: John 11:1-45**

The extraordinary account of the final sign that Jesus gave – the raising of Lazarus from death itself.

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, Brenda Widenka, Helen Powell, Tom Dodd, Dilys Fraser, Suzanne McAdie, Hazel & Helena Lobo, Keith Bourne.

From St Teresa’s: Keith Bourne, Christine Mooney, June Nottage, Maureen Webster, Brian O’Connell, Eileen O’Shaughnessy, Margot Leahy, Jacquelyn Solly, Lawrence Youlten.

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

Una Wade, Frances Cresswell, Guy Hooper, Judith Bridge, Maureen Ashing, Henry Cheung, Gerard Leahy, Mark Clemence RIP.

- If you used to receive a visit from one of our Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist (Special Ministers), please contact the office on 01424 773125 if you would like these visits to recommence, with a Minister or with Fr Richard direct on 07578 725914 or email battle@abdiocese.org.uk.
- Fr Richard is happy to receive Mass Intentions, please pop them in the new 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/>
- **Grateful thanks from Brenda Widenka** and her daughter for all the cards, condolences and prayers said for them regarding the loss of Richard, it really has meant a lot to them. Richard’s funeral will be held at Our Lady Immaculate & St Michael Church on Tuesday 4th April at 12noon. Everyone is welcome to attend.
- **Parish 100 Club: The winners of the March draw are:**
£12 – Suzanne McAdie, £24 – Richard Bannon
Congratulations to you both!
- **Parishioner Survey:** Thank you for all the ideas that have come in so far, we are still looking for more feedback so your thoughts and ideas on what sort of activities you would like to be held in our Parish Room would be very welcome and helpful – so keep them coming! Send either by e-mail or pop the form in the post-box outside the office. Thank you!

- **CAFOD in Eastbourne and St. Leonards Deanery** invite you to a Workshop on Catholic Social Teaching on Saturday 1st April, 11 am to 1 pm, in Concordia Hall, Church Road, St. Leonards-on-Sea, TN37 6HB. Come and explore with us the history and practice of Catholic Social Teaching which informs and underpins the work of CAFOD. Hot Cross Buns, coffee and tea provided. This is not an "April Fool" but an opportunity not to be missed!
- **CAFOD Syria-Turkey Earthquake Appeal:** CAFOD is responding with support of provision of food, water, shelter, medical assistance and winter kits for survivors. Your donations in recent months have made that quick response possible. Let us join CAFOD in praying for our sisters and brothers affected by the earthquakes and the winter weather. Your support for CAFOD throughout the year allows our Catholic agency to act quickly when disasters strike. For more details visit CAFOD's Syria Turkey Emergency Appeal online at <https://cafod.org.uk/give>.
- **CAFOD Family Fast Day – Lent Appeal:** This Lent, your donations to CAFOD's Family Fast Day Appeal will help families fighting the climate crisis and ensure that our Church network can quickly respond to emergencies, like the recent earthquake in Syria and Turkey. Give today using the envelope or at cafod.org.uk/give and please join us in praying for CAFOD's development and emergency response work all over the world.
- **The Big Lent Walk for CAFOD:** Team Forge (Vicky Chainey, Ingrid Finch & John Reid). Vicky & John are continuing their running/walking 5km per day in the beautiful scenery of West Yorkshire so further support would be very much welcomed via [The Catholic Agency for Overseas Development \(CAFOD\): The Big Lent Walk \(enthuse.com\)](https://www.enthuse.com)). We are most grateful to our supporters who have helped raise about £400 (plus Gift Aid) so far.
Vicky, Ingrid & John
- **Battle Foodbank – Needs and Updates:** Foodbank needs this week please are Tins of Cold Meat, Fruit and Potatoes; Pot Noodles; Long Grain Rice either normal or microwave; Sweet Treats and Sponge Puddings; Toilet Rolls and any other toiletries are always welcome. Thank you so much.
- **Join Keep Britain Tidy this spring, as the Great British Spring Clean returns for its eighth year:** Battle Town Council would like to invite you and your neighbourhood and/or group to come together on Tuesday 21st March to clear and tidy areas of our town which are in need of some attention and take action to make the neighbourhoods and open spaces around us places to be proud of. When we all join forces and take the same action at the same time, the difference we can make is huge. That's a difference to our planet, to the wildlife we share it with, to our communities, and to our own health and wellbeing.
 - We will be meeting at the Pavilion in the Recreation Ground at North Trade Road on **Tuesday 21st March at 11.00 am** where bags, gloves, hi viz vest and litter pickers will be available.
 - Rubbish bags should be returned to the Pavilion at 1.00 pm where the grounds staff will remove them for disposal.
 - Teas and Coffee will be provided!

We are happy to support any volunteers who wish to participate in the litter picking activity which has such a positive impact on our environment and the communities we live in. We have a limited amount of litter picking kits we are happy to loan out and it may be possible

for the grounds staff to collect bags at pre-arranged collection points.

For Further Information visit: <https://www.rother.gov.uk/rubbish-and-recycling/voluntary-litter-picking/>

For Safety Advice visit: <https://www.keepbritaintidy.org/get-involved/support-our-campaigns/great-british-spring-clean/clean-preparation-and-safety-advice>

- 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

- **Evenings of Reflection 7-9pm with a choice of venues across the Diocese**
 - Friday 17 March at The Sacred Heart, Cobham Friday 24 March at St Dunstan, Woking
 - Saturday 11 March at 6.30pm at Arundel cathedral Centre followed by a Cathedral tour.
- **Liturgy of the Word with Children - Saturday 13 May 2023 9.30-1pm The St Philip Howard Centre, 4 Southgate Drive, Crawley:** Training for liturgy leaders. Book your place through the diocesan website. If you wish to discuss your engagement with this training please email E: Katherine.bergin@abdiocese.org.uk
- **Annual Pilgrimage Day to West Grinstead for Grandparents and all those who fulfil this role in so many different ways. Wednesday 14 June 2023 11- 3pm.** This is always a joyous day of celebration with Bishop Richard and friends from across the Diocese. Booking is now available through the diocesan website.
- **Mass for Engaged Couples – Friday 16 June 2023 7pm at Arundel Cathedral**
Join Bishop Richard for a special Mass celebrating the momentous journey of discernment that is engagement towards the lifelong commitment made by couples preparing for marriage. Mass will be followed by refreshments in the Cathedral Centre.
- **World Youth Day:** Are you aged 18-35? If you are, we invite you to join the Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lisbon to meet with the Holy Father. 31 July -7 August 2023. Join millions of other young people from all over the world to celebrate our faith and make life long friendships. The week will include a trip to Fatima as well as all the amazing festival activities, not to mention Mass with Pope Francis. To find out more about this amazing opportunity please contact E: lizzie.wakeling@abdiocese.org.uk

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

We have also created a news page for Formation Team Events

W: www.abdiocese.org.uk/news/formation-team-courses-events which we will aim to keep live and updated.

Externally run

- **Gidea Park Talk on the Holy Eucharist - Wednesday 22 March at 7pm** in the church hall at Christ the Eternal High Priest, Gidea Park. Fr Adrian Graffy, parish priest and member of the Pope's Biblical Commission, will speak about the Eucharist. The talk, entitled 'Do this in memory of me', will examine the New Testament material, and trace the understanding of the Eucharist through the centuries, including the latest teaching of Pope Francis. This talk is in person and can also be followed live stream by going to W: www.whatgoodnews.org Flyer attached.

- **Men's Way of the Cross – 31 March 2023** starting from Christ The King church in Eastbourne and walking through the night over the cliffs to Birling Gap. Join for a prayer over the South Downs Beachy Head trail to rediscover yourself and reflect on your God given purpose on this earth. Poster attached.
- The next **Chilworth Abbey Study Day** is on Saturday 1 April led by Fr John Seddon OSB, of Bishop Barron's 'Catholicism', Episode 8, 'A Vast Company of Witnesses: the Communion of Saints. Mass 9am, Talks 10.15am-3.30pm. Bring a packed lunch and a friend if possible. See W: chilworthbenedictines.com for more details.
- **Worth Abbey** - Young Adults (18-35) Easter Triduum Retreat Thursday 6 –Sunday 9 April. You are invited to Worth Abbey to celebrate the greatest feast in the Christian calendar; the celebration of salvation through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Accommodation at St Mary's, one of the Worth school boarding houses at £180 per person. There is also the opportunity to be part of a Cross Walk pilgrimage setting off from Brighton on Palm Sunday and arriving at Worth Abbey on Maundy Thursday. Cost £60 per person. To book online go to: worth.co.uk/retreats/retreat-programme. For further information contact 01342 710318 or email: retreats@worth.co.uk.

Vatican News

Pope Francis' 10th anniversary: 'Ad multos annos, Holy Father!'

On the evening of 13 March 2013, Jorge Mario Bergoglio appeared, for the first time, at the central loggia of St Peter's Basilica dressed in white.



Along with the affectionate homage to his predecessor emeritus, his initial greeting already contained several salient features of his pontificate: the emphasis on being the Bishop of Rome of the Church "that presides in charity over all the Churches"; the centrality of God's faithful people from whom the new Pastor asked for a blessing before he gave one himself; and the prayer for "a great fraternity" in a world torn apart by injustice, violence and wars.

In the days that followed, the Pope explained the meaning of the name he had chosen, linking it to the dream of "a Church that is poor and for the poor".

Francis of Assisi, he said, is "the man of poverty, the man of peace, the man who loves and protects creation".

A few months later, in November of that same year, the Pope published his Apostolic Exhortation *Evangelii Gaudium*, which offered the true road map of his pontificate. With it, he asked Christians to bear witness to the joy of the Gospel with their lives, as well as to bring everywhere, and in particular to those who suffer most, the closeness and tenderness of our God who forgives, welcomes and embraces.

Ten years later, we at the Vatican's Dicastery for Communication wondered how best we could

celebrate this anniversary across our various media outlets. Gradually, an idea that emerged which was not so much of us talking about Pope Francis, but of giving space to what his testimony and his Magisterium have provoked or are helping to promote.

We therefore chose to give the floor to various testimonies of people from the most diverse situations in the world: to those who every day recognise the face of the Nazarene in those who suffer, are rejected, or are distant; and, to those who tell wonderful stories that document the power of love and the miracle of forgiveness in contexts of hatred or indifference. Each of them describes the reverberation of one of the main themes of Pope Francis' pontificate, composing a mosaic that rekindles hope.

This hope is possible, despite the many gloomy signs we are unfortunately witnessing, the first of which is the ever more concrete risk for humanity to self-destruct.

Giving voice to the testimonies seemed to us the most appropriate way to tune in to the people of God who love Francis and continue to pray for him.

These people follow the Pope, and they turn, along with him, to Jesus with the words of Peter, recognising the source of hope and salvation: "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God".

Ad multos annos, Holy Father!