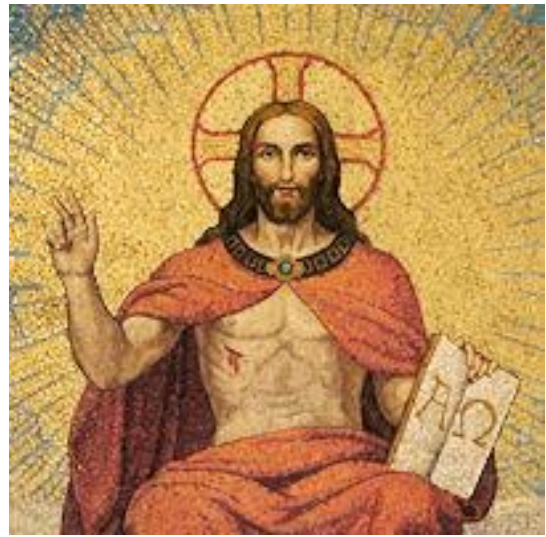


**OUR LADY IMMACULATE & ST MICHAEL,
BATTLE**
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**Cycle A for Sundays and Solemnities
Year 1 for Weekdays**

Arundel and Brighton Trust is a Registered Charity No. 252878



Weekend 25th / 26th November 2023

SOLEMNITY OF CHRIST THE KING

Saturday 25/11 6pm	Battle	Solemnity of Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe	James Barnes, RIP
Sunday 26/11 9am	Northiam		People of the Parish
Sunday 26/11 10.45am	Battle		Intention of Cilla Wintle
Monday 27/11	NO MASS		
Tuesday 28/11 6.30pm	Battle	Tuesday of week 34 in Ordinary Time	Deceased members of the O'Hara Family
Wednesday 29/11 10am	Battle	Wednesday of week 34 in Ordinary Time	George & Millie Humphreys, RIP followed by The Rosary
Thursday 30/11 6.30am	Battle	Saint Andrew	Intention of Frances Griffen
Friday 01/12 10am	Battle	Friday of week 34 in Ordinary Time	For the deceased members of the Finn Family
Saturday 02/12 6pm	Battle	1 st Sunday of Advent	People of the Parish
Sunday 03/12 9am	Northiam		Brian O'Connell, RIP
Sunday 03/12 10.45am	Battle		Deceased members of the Williams Family

Sacrament of Reconciliation available after all Masses and upon Request

Introduction to the Scripture Readings for the 1st Sunday of Advent 2023

- **First Reading: Isaiah 63:16-17; 64:1. 3-8**

The prophet cries out for God to tear the heavens open and come down to save us.

- **Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:3-9**

St Paul constantly thanks God for the graces his converts received in Corinth.

- **Gospel: Mark 13:33-37**

Jesus entrusts the Church, his followers, with our own special tasks as we live out our personal Christian vocations.

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.

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.

- **The Rosary will now be said every Wednesday after the 10am Mass at Battle** as this proved very popular with everyone, you are all welcome to stay and join us.

- **Rwanda Action Christmas cards and Craft Sale- this Sunday 26th November!**

after the 9am Mass at St Teresa's and the 10.45am Mass at Battle. Sally will be selling Rwanda Action Christmas cards, greetings cards and Craft. Please support the widows, orphans and disabled young people in our co-operative in Rwanda, who make these handmade items.



- **Christmas Giving Tree Decorating:** Next weekend, 2nd/3rd December, is the First Sunday of Advent and we will be decorating our Christmas Trees with the 'Giving Tags' on the Saturday at around 10am. There will be mince pies and seasonal drinks too, so please pop along!
- **Ecumenical Early Morning Prayers in Advent:** These prayer sessions will be held at our Church in Battle every Tuesday and Friday at 8am, beginning Tuesday 5th December and ending Friday 22nd December, Fr Richard will be leading the prayers on Tuesday 19th. These sessions will be followed by breakfast in the Baptist Church. Everyone is very welcome.
- **Brian O'Connell's funeral will be on Tuesday, December 12 at noon at St Teresa of Lisieux, Northiam,** followed by his burial in the cemetery. Brian was a big wine enthusiast, dating back to his days as a wine waiter at the Hôtel Plaza Athénée in Paris in the 1950s, so the family thought it only fitting to have his wake, from about 2pm-5pm, in a vineyard, well the restaurant of one: Tillingham in Peasmarsh, a 15 minute drive from the church. There will be a buffet lunch, with wine flowing.

- **Battle Foodbank** – It is coming around to that lovely Christmas time again and we are using the Reverse Advent Calendar Initiative again this year (a copy is attached and at the back of the Church). The donations need to be with us by Friday 8th December. we are still fairly well stocked following the Harvest Donations but could do with Tins of Fray Bentos Chicken or Beef Pies; Tins of Chicken in a Sauce or Curry; Sponge Puddings and Packets of Cereal Shreddies or Weetabix also any toiletries, toilet rolls, household products and nappies are always appreciated. We are starting to receive goodies for Christmas so need Mince Pies; Cake; Biscuits; Shortbread, Chocolates please.
- **New 'Move It' Club – every Thursday, 10-11am in the Parish Room.** Sessions are going really well – members are increasing every week. The sessions are enjoyed by all who attend, especially the coffee and chat afterwards! Aimed especially at our more senior, or less mobile parishioners, a friendly session offering gentle exercise to improve mobility, strength and balance - followed by coffee/tea and biscuits. Exercises can be adapted for those who would prefer to remain seated throughout. Qualified teacher. No charge, but donations towards refreshments gratefully received. Contact Lindsey for more information.
Mob: 0772494239 Email: lindseyfwilson@outlook.com. Come and try it for yourself!
- 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/>
- 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.

Vatican News

World Day of the Poor 2023: A message of Solidarity and Hope

Pope: May we offer wealth of charity, share our bread, multiply love

In his homily during the Mass for the World Day of the Poor taking place in Saint Peter's Basilica, Pope Francis reflected on two aspects of the Sunday Gospel reading recounting the parable of the talents: the journey of Jesus and the journey of our lives.

Talents given according to the ability of each

Describing the journey of Jesus in his incarnation, resurrection and ascension into heaven, Pope Francis said Jesus has left us his "wealth", recalling the Eucharist, his words of life, "his holy Mother to be our Mother", and the gifts of the Holy Spirit. He explained how all of these gifts or "talents" are freely offered so that we can continue His work on earth in our own "personal mission that the Lord entrusts to us in our daily lives, in society and in the Church."



“Let us look once more to Jesus, who received everything from the hands of the Father, yet did not keep this treasure for himself...Jesus lived for us, for our sake. That was the purpose of his journey in the world, before his return to the Father.”

The journey of Jesus will continue at the end of time when He returns in glory, the Pope recalled, "in order to 'settle the accounts' of history and bring us into the joy of eternal life." And it is therefore important that we ask ourselves, "in what state will the Lord find us when he returns."

Making our lives an offering of love: Looking at the journey of our own lives, the Pope said we need to ask what path it will take, that of Jesus "whose very life was gift" or the way of selfishness. The path of Jesus requires using the "talents" we have received, that is, the Lord's gifts that Christ left us when returning to Father.

“Together with those gifts, he has given us his Spirit, in whom we became God’s children and thanks to which we can spend our lives in bearing witness to the Gospel and working for the coming of God’s kingdom. The immense “capital” that was placed in our keeping is the love of the Lord, the foundation of our lives and our source of strength on our journey.”

The Pope explained that we are called to "multiply the wealth we have been given, and make our lives an offering of love for the sake of others" even if we can choose to bury that treasure, looking out only for ourselves, unconcerned and disengaged.

“We have received from the Lord the gift of his love and we are called to become a gift for others. The love with which Jesus cared for us, the balm of his mercy, the compassion with which he tended our wounds, the flame of the Spirit by which he filled our hearts with joy and hope – all these are treasures that we cannot simply keep to ourselves”

Share bread and multiply love: Recalling the great suffering in our world, the scandal of widespread poverty, "the forgotten poor whose cry of pain goes unheard in the generalized indifference of a bustling and distracted society," the Pope explained how today's Gospel speaks loudly and clearly that we must "spread the wealth of charity, share our bread and multiply love." He called on everyone to remember and help the oppressed, weary or marginalized, the victims of war, refugees, the hungry, the unemployed and those who have lost hope.

“When we think of the immense numbers of the poor in our midst, the message of today’s Gospel is clear: let us not bury the wealth of the Lord! Let us spread the wealth of charity, share our bread and multiply love!”

The Pope recalled that when the Lord returns, he will "settle accounts with us" and how we used the gifts given to us in loving and serving others.

“Let us pray that each of us, according to the gift we received and the mission entrusted to us, may strive “to make charity bear fruit” and draw near to some poor person. Let us pray that at the end of our journey, having welcomed Christ in our brothers and sisters with whom he identified himself, we too may hear it said to us: “Well done, good and trustworthy servant... Enter into the joy of your master”.”