

OUR LADY IMMACULATE & ST MICHAEL, BATTLE
with
ST TERESA OF LISIEUX, HORNS CROSS
PARISH PRIEST - FR RICHARD BLYTHEN
14 Mount Street, Battle, East Sussex, TN33 OEG
Tel: 01424 773125
e-mail: battle@abdiocese.org.uk
website: battlewithnorthiam.parishportal.net

Cycle C for Sundays and Solemnities
Year 2 for Weekdays

Arundel and Brighton Trust is a
Registered Charity No. 252878



THE TWENTY THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME Weekend 3rd / 4th September 2022

Weekend Mass Times

6pm Saturday 3rd September - Battle (Pedro & Carlotta Fernandes, RIP)
9am Sunday 4th September - Northiam (People of the Parish)
10.45am Sunday 4th September - Battle (Evelyn Maude Dyer RIP, FM)

Weekday Masses at Battle

No Mass Monday 5th September
6pm Tuesday 6th September - Battle (Celebrant's Intention)
10am Wednesday 7th September - Battle (Followed by Coffee & Cake in
the Parish Room - Everyone welcome)
6am Thursday 8th September - Battle (Celebrant's Intention)
10am Friday 9th September - Battle (Celebrant's Intention)

Sacrament of Reconciliation
available after all Masses and upon Request

Introduction to the Scripture Readings:

- **First Reading: Wisdom 9:13-18**
Human reasoning is unsure, but Wisdom, the light of the Holy Spirit, teaches us what pleases God.
- **Second Reading: Philemon 9-10. 12-17**
St Paul speaks about Onesimus, a runaway slave whom he converted to Christianity; he asks his master to take him back not as a slave any more but as a "dear brother".
- **Gospel: Luke 14:25-33**
Jesus commends a radical life without possessions and human ties, providing we weigh up the costs.

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, Jim & Ruth Ayres, Richard & Brenda Widenka, Helen Powell, Tom Dodd, Dilys Fraser, Anthony Gibbons, Suzanne McAdie.

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

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.

- 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, with a Minister or with Fr Richard, who is happy to make home visits, on 01424 773125 or battle@abdiocese.org.uk.
- Fr Richard is happy to receive Mass Intentions, please either give them directly to Fr Richard 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.
- 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/>
- **Dominic Leahy RIP:** Dominic's Funeral Mass will be held at St Thomas Church at Winchelsea on Wednesday 7th September at 12noon, followed by a small get together in Winchelsea New Hall. Everyone is very welcome to attend.
- **Mass Times:** Please see the new weekday Mass times, these include early mornings and evenings at the moment. The times may vary at the beginning until Fr Richard finds out what times suit most people - please feel free to give him your feedback.
- **Don't forget Coffee & Cake** in the Parish Room after the 10am Mass on Wednesday - everybody is very welcome!
- **Readers still needed please!** A huge thank you to all our regular readers that help out at every Mass. We are always on the look-out for new volunteers, and need holiday cover for the last two Sundays in September please. Please let us know if you are able to do this. Many thanks.
- **'Team Forge' (Ingrid Finch, Vicky Chainey & John Reid)** will again be completing the 'Moonlight & Memories' walk on 10 September, fundraising in aid of St Michael's Hospice. Look out for sponsorship forms at each church, we do hope for everyone's support.

Saints of the Week

Feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary - 7th September

Nothing is known for sure about the details of the Blessed Virgin's birth. Even her parents, traditionally known as St Joachim and St Anne, are not mentioned in Sacred Scripture. Today's feast originated in the East, probably during the sixth century, and was later introduced to the West. A French legend tells of a man hearing angels singing on the night of 8th September and being told that the Virgin Mary had been born on that night. Her earthly birth is celebrated (like that of St John the Baptist) because it announced to the world the coming of Jesus, the beginning of the New Covenant.



Memorial of St Peter Claver, Priest - 9th September

St Peter Claver (1580-1654) was born at Verdú in Catalonia (Spain) and entered the Society of Jesus. In 1610 he was sent to Colombia and began his life's work among the slaves. He cared for them and baptised more than 300,000 during his thirty-three years of tireless ministry.



- The office is open on Mondays and Thursdays from 9.30am - 12.30pm.
- The Parish Pastoral Team send all parishioners their prayers and good wishes.

News from our Diocese

Diocesan run events

➤ **Grandparents Formation Day - Wednesday 14 September**

We are looking forward to welcoming you at the St Philip Howard Centre in Crawley for our annual day for Grandparents to hear from a member of the Sycamore team on the importance of Grandparents in handing on the faith. The day begins with morning prayer at 11am (coffee from 10.30am) and concludes at 3pm. Please bring a packed lunch. Contact E:

katherine.bergin@abdiocese.org.uk for more information.

- #### ➤ **Marriage Anniversaries Mass - Saturday 8 October** If you are celebrating an anniversary of particular importance to you, please join us at Arundel Cathedral for a celebratory Mass with Bishop Richard. This is a wonderful opportunity for us all to recognise the important vocational calling to marriage and to share in your joy. Booking is essential. Contact E:
- katherine.bergin@abdiocese.org.uk for more information.

- #### ➤ **Are you Deaf or Hard of Hearing?** Come and join the Diocesan Deaf Service as we celebrate Mass in Horsham at 1pm on the first Saturday of each month (except in August). Mass is celebrated in sign language and speech so is fully accessible to all. You are also invited to join everyone for refreshments after the Mass for some social time together. For more information, please contact Margaret Fraher, Diocesan Inclusion Adviser - E:
- margaret.fraher@abdiocese.org.uk M: 07508459315.

- **Would you like to come closer together as a Parish in the joy of each other's company?** Would you like to get to know your fellow Parishioners and Disciples of Christ? Do you want to make new Parish friends? Pope Francis has described our Parish as a "community made up of families" , while Pope Benedict called Parish life " a family made up of families". Well, we can certainly help you with this wonderful ambition of creating a Family for all in your Parish. If you would like to find out more about how you can bring this sense of family to your Parish life



email E: simon.south@abdiocese.org.uk from the Formation team to find out about "Parish Family Groups - Our Parish Community".

- **A Call to Holiness - A Series of Talks for Young Adults (18-35)**

Join our Diocesan Young Adults community for a series of online talks from a variety of excellent guest speakers, who will be helping us to explore God's call on our lives. The first of these takes place on 19 September at 7.30pm where we will be joined by Dr Pia Matthews who will be speaking on the topic of Human Flourishing. To receive the joining instructions for the online meeting E: lizzie.wakeling@abdiocese.org.uk

- **We can abolish slavery in our lifetime! Monday 17 October 11am - 12.30pm**

If you learn about modern slavery and how you can make a difference you can engage in the fight against this modern day scourge. Do join the Abolition Initiative's Kick Off Event for Antislavery Week at the Ropetackle Centre, Shoreham. For more details on this and other anti-slavery events please contact Tessa Ricketts, Social Action Adviser E:

tessa.ricketts@abdiocese.org.uk

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

Externally run Diocesan events

- **Beginning Experience Weekend - 14 to 16 October 2022:** If you have suffered a divorce, separation or the death of your partner, a residential weekend to help you to heal will be held at the Sion Community, Brentwood, Essex. If you would like more details, please contact Freda T: 01322 838415 or Maura M: 07795 498445 or E: johnabrotherton@gmail.com
- **'Sharing the Church's Story' Conference - Saturday 17 September 2022 10am - 6pm** Catholic Voices and Word on Fire are hosting a one-day conference at Friends House, Euston Road, London called 'Sharing the Church's Story'. Come and join 1000 Catholics who are passionate about the renewal of the Church in the UK and a host of dynamic speakers including the internationally renowned speaker and author, Bishop Robert Barron. So, whether you are a volunteer, parent, catechist, clergy, religious, or just want a boost for your faith life, then this conference is for you. Register/find out more? W: www.sharingthechurchsstory.com

Externally run Diocesan events at Worth Abbey:

- **Finding Stillness: 20-23 September Cost £330 per person**
'Be still and know that I am God' (Psalm 46). Come to Worth Abbey and encounter this refreshing and empowering stillness. Through the Benedictine tradition, discover how stillness can be part of your everyday life and how transformative it can be. The retreat will

include: teachings in lectio divina and stilling the mind, as well as an opportunity to have a 1:1 meeting with a member of the monastic community.

➤ **TIME OUT: Self-led individual retreat: 7-9 October Cost £180 per person**

Spend a few days at Worth Abbey enjoying the rhythm of the monastic prayer and liturgy, time in reflection and the peace of the Sussex countryside. There is no set programme other than an optional daily Lectio Divina session, the usual monastic timetable of divine office and liturgy and the opportunity for a 1:1 meeting with a member of the monastic community.

➤ **The Wisdom of St Benedict: 14-16 October Cost £220 per person**

Led by Fr Martin McGee - Fr Martin will explore the riches of St Benedict's Rule, a guide to living out the Christian life in all its fullness.

Stability—Becoming rooted in Christ;

Humility—Learning how to become oneself;

Lectio Divina—Finding nourishment in Gods' Word;

Christian leadership—Serving Christ in others.

For more information and to book and pay for your place visit W: www.worth.co.uk or email E: retreats@worth.org.uk or call T: 01342 710318.

➤ **Benedictine individually guided retreat 26-30 October Cost: £110 per person, per night (min 3 nights):** An opportunity to participate in a contemplative retreat, to share in community and to follow the monastic office. The retreat would suit someone seriously journeying in the spiritual life or someone in discernment, at a transition point in life or needing to make an important decision. The experience will include a daily individual meeting with a prayer / spiritual guide. There will be a balance of silence and engagement with an optional daily group Lectio Divina session and one conversational meal a day.

➤ **St Bernadette: 21-24 October Cost: £330 per person, single occupancy**

The Relics of St Bernadette will journey to our Diocese this October visiting: [St Dunstan's in Woking](#) 21st-22nd, [Arundel Cathedral](#) 22nd-23rd, [Worth Abbey](#) 23th-24th. People across our faith family are invited to attend; to find out more about this very special undertaking please visit the tour website W: stbernadette.org.uk. Watch the Tour trailer here <https://youtu.be/PFRMIvD9AiI>

➤ Places are limited for all retreats, so book your place early to avoid disappointment. Concession rate for shared occupancy and bursary assistance available. For more information and to book and pay for your place/s visit W: www.worth.co.uk or email E: retreats@worth.org.uk or call T: 01342 710318.

➤ **CAFOD school volunteers required:** Do you enjoy working with children and young people?

Could you help to inspire and empower children and young people in our Catholic schools and churches to bring alive their sense of global justice? Could you give an assembly or a workshop in a local school? Supported by CAFOD with training and resources, you will discuss issues of global justice, add to parish and school life, whilst complementing the work of teachers, priests and catechists. Contact the CAFOD A&B office at St Pius X Church, Laustan Close, Meroon, Guildford, Surrey GU2 2TS. T: 01483 573273 M: 07710 094448 E: arundelandbrighton@cafod.org.uk W: www.cafod.org.uk.

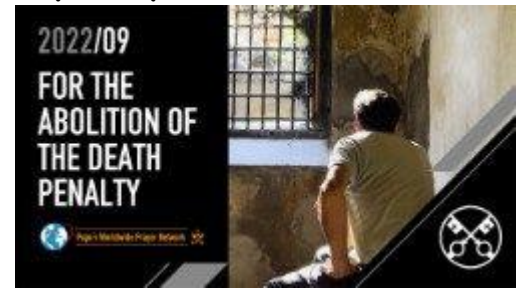
Vatican News

Pope's September prayer intention: For abolition of the death penalty

"Each day, there is a growing 'NO' to the death penalty around the world," says Pope Francis in the video released on Wednesday announcing his prayer intention for September.

"For the Church, this is a sign of hope."

In The Pope Video, produced by the [Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network](#), the Holy Father maintains that the death penalty is not necessary "from a legal point of view."



He argues that "society can effectively repress crime without definitively depriving offenders of the possibility of redeeming themselves." He adds that there must be "a window of hope" in every legal sentence. Capital punishment, he says, "offers no justice to victims, but rather encourages revenge. And it prevents any possibility of undoing a possible miscarriage of justice."

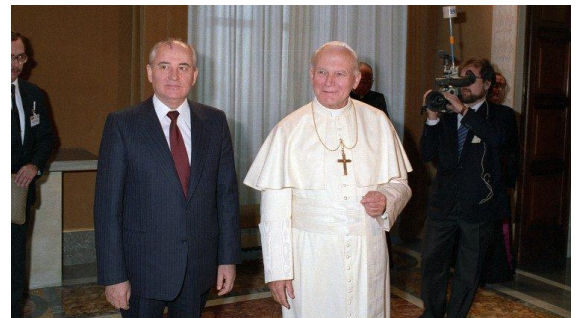
Always possible to repent: Pope Francis goes on to say that the death penalty is "morally inadmissible" because it destroys life, and insists that "up to the very last moment, a person can convert and change." The Pope argues further that "in the light of the Gospel, the death penalty is unacceptable, because the commandment 'Thou shalt not kill' refers to both the innocent and the guilty." Pope Francis concludes his message with an appeal for all people of goodwill to mobilize for the abolition of the death penalty throughout the world.

"Let us pray that the death penalty, which attacks the dignity of the human person, may be legally abolished in every country."

Pope expresses condolences upon death of Mikhail Gorbachev

Mikhail Gorbachev died at hospital in Moscow on Tuesday following a lengthy illness at the age of 91.

Pope Francis sent a telegram of condolences on Wednesday to the former Soviet statesman's daughter, Ms. Irina Gorbachev. The Pope expressed his "spiritual closeness" during this time of grief, and extended his "heartfelt condolences" to his family members and everyone who saw him as a valued statesman.



"As we gratefully remember his far-sighted commitment to concord and fraternity amongst peoples, as well as to the progress of his own country at a time of important changes, I raise prayers of suffrage, invoking eternal peace for his soul from the good and merciful God."

Gorbachev's legacy: The prominent former Soviet statesman and reformer helped lift the Iron Curtain, leading to the dissolution of the Soviet Union, and chartered a new course in the relations with the Holy See, putting an end to decades of religious persecutions against the Catholic Church in the former USSR. Mikhail Gorbachev was also a Nobel Peace Prize Laureate, and the last president of the Soviet Union before its dissolution in 1991. A member of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union since the early fifties, Mr. Gorbachev was its general secretary from 1985 to 1991 and Soviet president from 1990 to 1991. During his seven-year tenure, he introduced key political and economic reforms to the USSR, the so-called "Perestrojka" (Reconstruction), and "Glasnost" (Transparency). He played a crucial role in ending the Cold War, which earned him the Nobel Peace Prize in 1990 and widespread popularity in the West, but not at home, where some Russians have blamed him for the 1991 implosion of the Soviet Union and for the economic downfall that ensued in Russia in the 1990s.