

OUR LADY IMMACULATE & ST MICHAEL, BATTLE
with

ST TERESA OF LISIEUX, HORNS CROSS

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Cycle C for Sundays and Solemnities
Year 2 for Weekdays

Arundel and Brighton Trust is a
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SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER Weekend 21st / 22nd May 2022

Introduction to the Scripture Readings:

- **First Reading: Acts 15:1-2. 22-29**
The leaders of the early Church allow themselves to be guided by the Holy Spirit in their decisions.
- **Second Reading: Apocalypse 21:10-14. 22-23**
John's revelation is of the Church as the new Jerusalem, a walled and gated city, but these are not built to exclude sinners of those we consider unworthy or outsiders. The temple is the body of Christ himself.
- **Gospel: John 14:23-29**

At the Last Supper Jesus speaks words of inexpressible comfort. He promises that the Holy Trinity, Father, Son and Spirit, will find a home in us as individuals and as a community when we learn to keep his word.

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 & Cyril Webster, Dominic Leahy, Rodney Atkinson, Brian O'Connell, Eileen O'Shaughnessy, Felicity Youtlen.

Weekend Mass Times

6pm Saturday 21st May - Battle
(People of the Parish)

9am Sunday 22nd May -
Northiam (People of the Parish)

10.45am Sunday 22nd May Battle
(Intention of Mark Clemence)

10am Thursday 26th May -
THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD
- Battle (Joan Jennings, RIP)

**Sacrament of Reconciliation
after 6pm Mass Saturdays**

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

Una Wade, Frances Cresswell, Jack Morgan, Guy Hooper, Judith Bridge, Maureen Ashing, Henry Cheung, Gerard Leahy.

- 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, with a Minister or with Fr Paul, who is happy to make home visits, on 01424 773125 or battle@abdiocese.org.uk.
- 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.
- 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/>
- **Ecumenical Prayer for Christian Unity:** The early morning prayer services will take place at St Mary's next week on Monday 23rd, Tuesday 24th, Thursday 26th and Friday 27th at 8am. We shall be leading the prayers on Thursday. The services last about 30 minutes and are followed by a light breakfast. Please join us if you can.
- **Missio - Mill Hill Missionaries (Red Boxes):** In 2021, Our Lady Immaculate & St Michael raised £853.85 through our Red boxes and donations to Missio and the Mill Hill Missionaries. Thank you! Our missionary community here at Our Lady Immaculate & St Michael is part of a worldwide network of people supporting missionaries through prayer and financial assistance. The founder of this network (APF/Missio), Pauline Jaricot will be beatified on 22 May this year. This remarkable lay woman's life was marked by intense suffering and great trust in God. Pauline's life helps us to see how every prayer however short, and every contribution, however small, is valued by God and can transform the world for the better. Thank you for being part of Pauline's legacy. Visit mission.org.uk to find out more about Pauline, and how your support of Missio changes lives for the better."
- **Polish Memorial Service, Netherfield:** The annual Remembrance Service at the Polish Monument at Netherfield will be held next Sunday 29th May at 3pm, in memory of the young Polish airmen who died on this spot in May 1941, R.I.P. All are welcome to attend.
- **The Dean of Battle writes:** St Mary's Church Battle is celebrating the Queen's Platinum Jubilee Celebration on Sunday 5th June at 9.30 am. The Bishop of Lewes, Will Hazelwood, who is a very charismatic and engaging person, will be joining the service to preach and preside at HC, which also happens to be Pentecost Sunday.
- **Bexhill SVP (St Vincent de Paul Society):** The Bexhill SVP Conference are organising a pilgrimage to Aylesford on June 14th and we would like to offer the opportunity for Battle parishioners to join us.
- Now we are in May, make a note in your diary as a reminder about the monthly SVP Afternoon Tea and Cake event on May 30th at 3pm in St Martha's Church Hall, Little Common. We are looking forward to seeing our guests again who came to our first event and hopefully many new ones joining us for the first time. Please tell your family, friends and neighbours about the tea and bring them with you for an enjoyable afternoon. The event is free and any

donations will go towards the work of the St Vincent de Paul Society. We look forward to seeing you, call 07783 598238 if you have any questions or by email popsy57@outlook.com.

News from our Diocese

Diocesan run events:

- **Refugee Crisis Coffee Morning with Bishop Richard, Saturday 25 June at 11.30am.** Bishop Richard will be hosting an informal coffee morning to discuss our response to the refugee crisis, at St Gabriel's Hall, Billingshurst, RH14 9QH. Everyone is very welcome, to reserve your free place please sign up here:
<https://abdiocese.churchsuite.com/events/an04uoxn>
- **The Diocese would like to find out what our Catholic community is doing to support refugees here and abroad.** The following short questionnaire will enable Bishop Richard and our Central Office teams to build a picture of the wonderful work being undertaken across our community, as well as highlighting possible areas of need: <https://forms.office.com/r/mEwnrp9bgw>
- **Invited Novena: 27 May - 4 June:** We are in the middle of our diocesan Mission, Invited Season II but it's not too late to get involved. You can 'binge-watch' the films so far or simply join in when the next episode is released on Monday. Most importantly we encourage you to join in our diocesan-wide Novena to the Holy Spirit, building from Ascension to Pentecost. To sign up, go to <https://abdiocese.churchsuite.com/events/whgsjpng>. To find out more about Invited please visit our website www.abdiocese.org.uk/invited.
- **Inclusion:** Would you like to attend formation for the Ministry of Welcome? Formation provides an opportunity to consider how our wonderful parish communities can become even more welcoming and inclusive. To find out more please contact the diocesan Inclusion Adviser Margaret Fraher E: margaret.fraher@abdiocese.org.uk or M: 07508459315. Are you Deaf or Hard of Hearing? Would you like to attend the monthly diocesan Mass signed in BSL, with specific Liturgical Mass Signs for the Mass? If you would like further information about our Signed Mass or the diocesan Deaf Group please text or email the diocesan Inclusion Adviser Margaret Fraher; M: 07508459315 or E: margaret.fraher@abdiocese.org.uk

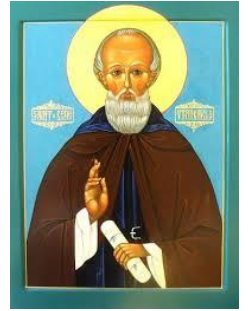
Youth

- **BeCome: Diocesan Young Adults Group (18-35).** We are coming to the end of our online study of the Sycamore series but will be starting a new process of studying and praying with scriptures very soon. If you are interested in joining our community and diving deeper into the bible whilst forming new friendships, contact E: lizzie.wakeling@abdiocese.org.uk
- **theASCENT for teenagers, 24 May 7.30pm - 8.30pm:** This amazing discipleship process is open to anyone in years 10, 11 or 12. With residential retreats and online gatherings with others of the same age, this is a great opportunity to explore your faith in a safe and friendly environment. If you want to find out more, join our online information evening. Contact E: lizzie.wakeling@abdiocese.org.uk for details.

Saints of the Week

Memorial of St Bede the Venerable, Priest, Doctor – 25th May

Bede was born in 673, near the monastery of Wearmouth. He entered the monastery, was ordained, and lived a life of study and contemplation. His holiness was renowned in his lifetime; his pupils and comrades loved him; the works he wrote, particularly the Ecclesiastical History of England, were remarkable in their time and have endured.



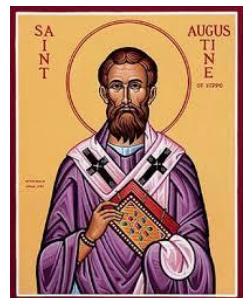
The Ascension of the Lord – 26th May

What does the Feast of the Ascension of the Lord mean for us? It does not mean that the Lord has departed to some place far from people and from the world. Christ's Ascension is not a journey into space toward the most remote stars; for basically, the planets, like the earth, are also made of physical elements. Christ's Ascension means that he no longer belongs to the world of corruption and death that conditions our life. It means that he belongs entirely to God. He, the Eternal Son, led our human existence into God's presence, taking with him flesh and blood in a transfigured form. The human being finds room in God; through Christ, the human being was introduced into the very life of God. And since God embraces and sustains the entire cosmos, the Ascension of the Lord means that Christ has not departed from us, but that he is now, thanks to his being with the Father, close to each one of us for ever. Each one of us can be on intimate terms with him; each can call upon him. The Lord is always within hearing. We can inwardly draw away from him. We can live turning our backs on him. But he always waits for us and is always close to us. (Pope Benedict XVI)



Feast of St Augustine of Canterbury, Bishop – 27th May

He was sent in the year 597 from the monastery of Saint Andrew at Rome to preach the gospel in England by Saint Gregory the Great. He was helped there by the king Ethelbert and he became Archbishop of Canterbury. He converted many to the faith and set up some dioceses especially in the kingdom of Kent. He died on 26th May about the year 605.



Memorial of Blessed Margaret Pole, Martyr – 28th May

Martyr of England. She was born Margaret Plantagenet, the niece of Edward IV and Richard III. She married Sir Reginald Pole about 1491 and bore five sons, including Reginald Cardinal Pole. Margaret was widowed, named countess of Salisbury, and appointed governess to Princess Mary, daughter of Henry VIII and Queen Catherine of Aragon, Spain. She opposed Henry's marriage to Anne Boleyn, and the king exiled her from court, although he called her "the holiest woman in England." When her son, Cardinal Pole, denied Henry's Act of Supremacy, the king imprisoned Margaret in the Tower of London for two years and then beheaded her on May 28. In 1538, her other two sons were executed. She was never given a legal trial. She was seventy when she was martyred. Margaret was beatified in 1886.



- 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.

Vatican News

Pope: 'May the new Saints inspire solutions for peace'

Pope Francis launches another appeal to world leaders that they may be protagonists of peace and not of war. He was speaking during the Regina Coeli address after the Canonisation Mass in St Peter's Square that saw the presence of over 50,000 faithful from all over the world as well as government delegations honouring the ten new saints.

Noting that "it is good to see that, through their evangelical witness, these Saints have fostered the spiritual and social growth of their respective nations and also of the entire human family," the Pope decried the many wars afflicting the world today and called on leaders to take responsibility. "Sadly in the world distances grow and tensions and wars increase," the Pope said, expressing hope that the new saints may inspire solutions "of togetherness and ways of dialogue." "Especially in the hearts and minds of those who hold positions of great responsibility and are called to be protagonists of peace and not of war."



Spiritual and social growth: After having thanked the official delegations present in the Square, the Pope highlighted the precious witness of the six men and four women elevated to sainthood. "It is good to see that, through their evangelical witness, these saints have fostered the spiritual and social growth of their respective nations and also of the entire human family."

A tour in the popemobile: After the recitation of the Marian prayer, the Pope thanked the various prelates who concelebrated Mass, and then, aboard an uncovered white jeep, he made his way through the Square greeting the faithful and blessing the babies before a gust of wind blew his zucchetto off his head!



Pope Francis: Church a 'field hospital for vulnerable'

Jesus Christ alone fills our thirsty hearts. Pope Francis stressed this when receiving inhabitants and participants of the *Village de Francois* in the Vatican on Saturday. Addressing those gathered as 'friends' and saying he was happy to welcome them, the Pope admitted he initially had some doubts about the project.

"When Étienne Villemain [the Executive Director], 'the enfant terrible,' who brought this project together with so many others, first told me about it, I could not help but tell him that I was wary of what the Holy Spirit might inspire in him... And now I am happy to see that the project is going ahead!"



According to its website, the Village de François develops and runs innovative shared living spaces, i.e. the 'villages,' in France, which bring together vulnerable people and those who care for them around three axes: living together; economic activity; and integral ecology.

The team behind the "Village de François" is composed of a team of social entrepreneurs, "green tech" company managers, association leaders, urban and landscape architects, and eco-builders. Church as a 'field hospital'

"The Village de François," the Pope said, "is an ecclesial place that goes out of the usual framework" to propose something else.

"It is the Church as a 'field hospital,' concerned more with those who suffer than with defending its own interests, taking the risk of novelty, in order to be more faithful to the Gospel," he said. The definition of the world as a global "village" has become a commonplace; yet, he lamented that so many people "are left on the margins of this so-called village, reserved for a privileged elite." "I hope that the Village de François," the Pope said, "will contribute to rediscovering what a true village is: a fabric of concrete human relations, in mutual support, in attention to those in need, in the coexistence of generations and in the concern to respect the Creation that surrounds us."

Pope Francis meets members of Village de Francois

The Village de François, the Pope observed, was imagined on the basis of the conviction that 'everything is linked', noting they have this "concrete experience of this by associating the environment and respect for human life from conception to natural death, prayer and fraternity, and also by bringing different generations together."



"I count on your testimony to show that life according to the Gospel is found in the balanced consideration of all these aspects."

The Pope warned against our tendency "to mobilise ourselves with great zeal for very legitimate causes," but then lose sight of the bigger picture.

"Concrete experience however shows us," he underscored, "that it is the human person as a whole that needs to be loved, accompanied and included in a network of enriching and constructive relationships."

Jesus should be our model: The Pope went on to say such relationships have "an absolute model" and "a source" from which they can develop.

"You have settled in an ancient Trappist abbey: I see in this as a call for you to place at the centre of your experience, in addition to a simple and laborious life, the care and development of the inner life, of the relationship with Jesus Christ, Who alone can fill our thirsty hearts."

When Jesus, in the Gospel according to St. John, says: "I am the Way, the Truth and the Life," the Pope observed that Christ himself experienced, in first person, what they realise in the Village de François. Jesus, the Holy Father pointed out, "was frail, in His mother's arms and on the Cross; He worked as a craftsman; He lived in the rhythm of the seasons and of nature; He grew up in a village where generations mingled; He prayed, forgave and loved His neighbour."

"To you, I entrust Him as a model and an inspiration in your project and your daily life."

Pope Francis concluding by thanking them and reassuring them of his prayers on this "challenging, yet joyful and liberating journey."