

OUR LADY IMMACULATE & ST MICHAEL, BATTLE

with

ST TERESA OF LISIEUX, HORNS CROSS

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Parish Priest: Fr Anthony White

Cycle C for Sundays and Solemnities

Year 2 for Weekdays

Arundel and Brighton Trust is a

Registered Charity No. 252878



### Weekend Mass Times

6pm Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> February -  
Battle (Carlotta Fernades, RIP)

9am Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> February -  
Northiam (People of the Parish)

10.45am Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> February -  
Battle

(Intention of Mark Clemence)

9am Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> February -  
Battle (Celebrant's Intention)

**PLEASE NOTE EARLIER TIME**

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

## THE SEVENTH SUNDAY

## IN ORDINARY TIME

## RACIAL JUSTICE DAY

Weekend 19<sup>th</sup> / 20<sup>th</sup> February 2022

### Introduction to the Scripture Readings:

- **First Reading:** 1 Samuel 26:2. 7-9. 12-13. 22-23

Though the king set out with an army to kill him, David refrained from harming Saul, even when the opportunity presented itself.

- **Second Reading:** 1 Corinthians 15:45-49

Human beings have bodies. Yet a physical being may become spiritually minded and bear the image of Christ.

- **Gospel:** Luke 6:27-38

Those who are truly God's children resemble their heavenly Father in showing indiscriminate kindness, even towards their worst enemies.

### **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, Trish Archutowski RIP, Gillian Mitchell 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](mailto: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](mailto: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/>

**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.

- **A note from Father Paul:** The 6.30pm liturgy at Battle on 5<sup>th</sup> March will be Liturgy of the Word and Holy Communion led by an Extraordinary Minister of the Eucharist. Sunday Mass times are as usual. Our parish family often relies on neighbouring parishes for help with the celebration of Mass, and as both priests at Our Lady of Ransom in Eastbourne are otherwise engaged Fr Paul will be returning the compliment by saying the Saturday evening Mass for them. The number of priests at Eastbourne has been reduced from three to two, which makes it important that all the parishes in the deanery appreciate the situation and are prepared to share the responsibility to provide Mass as best we can for as many of the Faithful as possible each weekend. I am sure you will understand.
- **Changes to the Diocesan Covid Regulations:** The following changes will take place in our Church:
  - It is advised that masks are still worn, if you are able.
  - Sanitising hands on entry should still take place.
  - Apart for several benches, restrictions on access (ribbons and notices) will be removed.
  - The remaining benches to the rear of the church can be used by those preferring to continue social distancing.
  - It is helpful if you could still sign-in to Mass, as it helps with the Diocesan Mass count returns.

Thank you all for your help with this.

- **World Day of Prayer (formerly Women's World Day of Prayer):** This year's ecumenical service will be on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> March at 2pm in the Baptist Church. The service this year has been prepared by the women of England, Wales and Northern Ireland. All are very welcome.

- **Music Group in Battle:** Now that we are getting back to (almost) normal, we are seeking to involve more parishioners in our liturgy and would like to invite more to join our group. We meet every Tuesday evening at 7pm for one hour. We recommend & practice hymns and psalms for Sunday's Mass in Battle, learn new hymns, and organise ecumenical Taizé-type services each Lent & Advent - we are currently working on the one for early Lent 2022. There are no auditions for singers or instrumentalists, all you need is to bring your smile and you will be made very welcome, so why not try it out! *John Reid, for Battle Music Group*

### News from our Diocese

- **Lenten Reflection for Young Adults (18-35)**

Facilitated by the House of Prayer team, this day will provide a time of quiet reflection during this season of renewal. Based on Ignation spirituality, we will explore prayer and scripture in a new and profound way.

Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> March 10am-4pm House of Prayer East Molesey Cost £25 email

[lizzie.wakeling@abdiocese.org.uk](mailto:lizzie.wakeling@abdiocese.org.uk) for details.

- **Confirmation Catechist Reflection & Formation Day**

Join us for a day of Lenten reflection led by The Catholic Bible School. You will have the opportunity to stop, pray, and spend time with the Lord during this season of renewal. You will also discover new and exciting ways to help young people connect to their faith.

Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> March 10am-3.30pm St John the Evangelist Horsham Cost £5 email

[lizzie.wakeling@abdiocese.org.uk](mailto:lizzie.wakeling@abdiocese.org.uk) for details.

- **Beginning Experience Weekend:** If you are single again following divorce, separation or the death of your partner, a residential weekend to help you to heal will be held from 8<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> April 2022 at the Sion Community, Brentwood, Essex. If you would like more details, please ring Freda 01322-838415 or Maura 07795-498445 or email [besouthofengland@gmail.com](mailto:besouthofengland@gmail.com).

- We are very pleased to let you know that we have opened online applications for the 2022 **Diocesan Lourdes Pilgrimage from 29 July - 4 August 2022** by Air, or for those who need assistance: 28 July - 5 August 2022 by Redshirt Coach / Jumbulance / Helper Coach. Online applications for all those who do not require any assistance in Lourdes or on the journey can be found on our website [lourdes.abdiocese.org.uk](http://lourdes.abdiocese.org.uk) or you can [click here](#).

Paper applications for those who require assistance will be posted out in the new year. If you or someone you know would like to receive an Assisted Pilgrim Application Form, please email [office@ablourdes.org](mailto:office@ablourdes.org) with the name and postal address. The closing date for online applications is 30<sup>th</sup> April 2022.

We are receiving several applications from Pilgrims who will require assistance to join this year's Lourdes Pilgrimage, but at this point we are short of Helpers, Nurses and Doctors to assist with their Pilgrimage. The Pilgrimage Office is happy to answer any questions anyone has prior to applying. The application form they should use is available on our website:

<https://www.abdiocese.org.uk/lourdes/home>

- **Flame Youth Conference - 4<sup>th</sup> March 2023**

The theme will be 'Rise Up' and will see the return of Guvna B as well as some acclaimed national and international speakers. **We will be attending as a Diocese**, so please e-mail

[lizzie.wakeling@abdiocese.org.uk](mailto:lizzie.wakeling@abdiocese.org.uk) to reserve your place.

## SAINTS OF THE WEEK

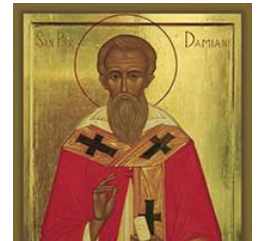
### **Memorial of St Robert Southwell, Priest, Martyr – 21<sup>st</sup> February**

All powerful, ever-living God, you gave St Robert Southwell the courage to witness to the gospel of Christ even to the point of giving his life for it. By his prayers help us to endure all suffering for love of you and to seek you with all our hearts. Grant this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.



### **Memorial of St Peter Damian, Bishop, Doctor – 21<sup>st</sup> February**

St Peter Damian (1007-1072) was born at Ravenna and joined the monastic community at Fonte Avellana, founded by St Romuald. Having served as Abbot, St Peter was created Cardinal Bishop of Ostia in 1057 and took a leading part in Church reform. An important theologian and poet, he was declared a Doctor of the Church in 1828.



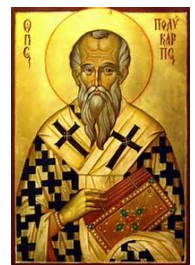
### **Feast of The Chair of St Peter the Apostle – 22<sup>nd</sup> February**

The celebration of the Cathedra Petri, the Chair of St Peter, recalls the ministry conferred by Christ on the Prince of the Apostles and continued in an unbroken line down to the present pope. It is an opportunity for the faithful to renew their communion with the Roman Pontiff and to follow closely his teachings.



### **Memorial of St Polycarp, Bishop, Martyr – 23<sup>rd</sup> February**

St Polycarp (+c.155) was converted to Christianity by St John the Evangelist. He was later ordained bishop Smyrna (now Izmir, Turkey). As an old man he was urged by the Roman proconsul to renounce Christ in order to save his life. The saint replied, 'For eighty-six years I have served him and he has never wronged me. How can I renounce the King who has saved me?' He was executed and his body burnt; his followers collected his relics and wrote an account of his life and martyrdom.



- 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 renews prayers for tense Ukraine situation**

As a host of Western nations urge their citizens to leave Ukraine, Pope Francis has renewed his prayers for the eastern European country. Speaking Sunday at the Angelus in St. Peter's Square, the Pope said the news coming out of Ukraine is "very worrying". He entrusted the situation to the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary, and



*Russian troops carry out military drills in Belarus (AFP or licensors)*

appealed to political leaders to spare no effort to seek out peace. And he invited everyone to pray in silence for a moment so that peace might prevail. *"The news coming out of Ukraine is very worrying. I entrust to the intercession of the Virgin Mary, and to the conscience of political leaders, every effort on behalf of peace. Let us pray in silence."*

**Potential for widespread suffering:** Pope Francis' call to pray for peace came a day after US President Joe Biden warned his Russian counterpart that invading Ukraine would cause "widespread human suffering." The White House said Biden also told Russian President Putin that the West was still committed to diplomacy to end the crisis. But President Biden stressed that Western allies were, in his words, "equally prepared for other scenarios." US Secretary of State Antony Blinken explained that those scenarios could include sanctions and military action in Eastern Europe. "We and our allies have made this crystal clear to Moscow: If President Putin decides to take military action, we will swiftly impose severe economic sanctions in coordination with allies and partners around the world. We'll bolster Ukraine's ability to defend itself; we will reinforce our allies on the eastern flank of NATO," Blinken told reporters. He added that he would "underscore this unity and resolve" when speaking with Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov.

**Military build-up:** As the Russian military build-up continues, Blinken also said the "imminent" threat of a Russian invasion justified evacuating the US embassy in Kyiv, Ukraine. Vice-Admiral Nils Andreas Stensønes, the head of the Norwegian intelligence service, said Russia now had 150,000 troops massed around Ukraine. That's more than previous Ukrainian and US estimates. The White House did not suggest that Sunday's hourlong call between Presidents Biden and Putin diminished the threat of an imminent war in Europe. However, Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky went out of his way to urge calm. He said his nation is now better prepared after Russia annexed Ukraine's Crimea Peninsula in 2014 and supported pro-Russian separatists in the east. "We have to be ready each day. And it [the tensions with Russia] began not yesterday. It began in 2014. So we are ready," he said. Zelensky stressed that he realised "it can be each day" [that a Russian invasion begins]. That is why I have to analyse all the information which we have. We have a lot of information because we are on these borders. They are our borders; it is our territory," he said.

**Armageddon fears:** "And now the best friend for enemies that is panic in our country. And all this information only helps to create panic. It doesn't help us," the Ukrainian leader added. His call for calm also follows remarks from a leading Russian military expert. Colonel Konstantin Sivkov, deputy president of the Kremlin-backed Russian Academy of Missile and Artillery Sciences, fears a conflict between Russia and the United States over Ukraine could escalate into nuclear warfare. That, he said, would be "the path to Armageddon," referring to the Biblical battle of the end times. He said such a nuclear war would destroy the US and Russia known today, and change the world forever. With so much at stake, diplomacy continues to overcome what has been called Europe's biggest security crisis in decades.

## Christians in Britain and Ireland mark Racial Justice Sunday

Racial Justice Sunday is an ecumenical observance which began in Britain and Ireland in 1995 following the brutal murder two years earlier of Stephen Lawrence, a black teenager in South London. The Catholic Bishops Conference of England and Wales said the chosen theme for 2022 builds on that of last year's Racial Justice Sunday, "A Time to Act", which reflected on the importance of everyone recognizing themselves, their race, their culture and their history in the life of the Church. It said their aim in 2022 was to continue these conversations about how we see others in the "Image and Likeness of God."



**Images to reflect God:** The Bishops Conference produced [PDF posters for individuals or parishes to download](#), featuring Our Lady and the Child Jesus from a diverse cross-section of countries and cultures. Although by no means exhaustive, the Bishops said they hoped this series highlights the rich diversity of our Catholic community and encourages reflection on how we are all made in the image of God. The posters also carry a prayer taken from Pope Francis' encyclical *Fratelli tutti*, in which he writes that we are all important and necessary different faces of the one humanity that God so loves. The main message of that encyclical was a reflection on how fraternity and social friendship are the keys to building a better, more just and peaceful world with the contribution of all.

**Constant battle against racial injustice:** A special Mass celebrating Racial Justice Sunday was held in Southwark's Catholic Cathedral in south-east London to reflect on the importance of racial justice and recognize the ethnic and cultural diversity of the local Catholic community. Surveys in Britain have shown that, while great strides have been made in the battle against racial injustice in recent decades, there is still much work to do. A recent report said too many people's lives in the UK are blighted by discrimination and inequality with black and Asian children more than twice as likely to grow up in persistent poverty as white children.

We're encouraging Catholics to mark the day by praying the words of Pope Francis taken from his encyclical letter *Fratelli Tutti - on fraternity and social friendship*:

Come, Holy Spirit, show us your beauty,  
reflected in all the peoples of the earth,  
so that we may discover anew  
that all are important and all are necessary,  
different faces of the one humanity  
that God so loves.  
*Amen.*