

**OUR LADY IMMACULATE & ST MICHAEL,
BATTLE**
with
ST TERESA OF LISIEUX, HORNS CROSS
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Cycle B for Sundays and Solemnities
Year 1 for Weekdays

Arundel and Brighton Trust is a Registered Charity No. 252878



The 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Weekend 3rd / 4th February 2024

Saturday 03/02 6pm	Battle	The 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time	Mr Epiphany Fernandes, RIP
Sunday 04/02 9am	Northiam		People of the Parish followed by Coffee & Cake
Sunday 04/02 11am	Battle		Intention of Helen Powell
Monday 05/02	NO MASS		
Tuesday 06/02 6.30pm	Battle	Saints Paul Miki & Companions	Mildred Sutcliffe, RIP
Wednesday 07/02 10am	Battle	Wednesday of Week 5 in Ordinary Time	Stanislaw & Mary Iglinski, RIP followed by Coffee & Cake
Thursday 08/02 6.30am	Battle	Thursday of Week 5 in Ordinary Time	No Intention
Friday 09/02 10am	Battle	Friday of Week 5 in Ordinary Time	No Intention
Saturday 10/02 6pm	Battle	6th Sunday in Ordinary Time	People of the Parish
Sunday 11/02 9am	Northiam		No Intention
Sunday 11/02 11am	Battle		No Intention

There will be a Retiring Collection next weekend for Lourdes Pilgrimage (Gift Aid)

Introduction to the Scripture Readings for the 6th Sunday in Ordinary Time

- **First Reading: Leviticus 13:1-2. 44-46**

There are always people who are excluded, but Christ is the great uniter.

- **Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 10:31 – 11:1**

There is no action too trivial to offer to the glory of God.

- **Gospel: Mark 1:40-45**

The harshness of the law excluding lepers prepares the way for the mercy of Christ.

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, Marianne Clemence.

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 RIP.

- **Battle Foodbank** – Our needs this week are Jars of Coffee, Peanut Butter, Honey and Marmite; Dog and Cat Food please - Toiletries, Baby and Household items are always welcome thank you so much.
- **Keith Bourne RIP:** Please pray for the repose of the soul of Keith Bourne who sadly died recently at his home. Please also remember his wife Pam and all his family and friends who are mourning his loss. Details of his Requiem Mass will be announced once arrangements have been made.
- **Parish 100 Club:** If you want to be included in the first draw for the new year, please get your application in quickly. Forms are available at the back of the Church, please either hand it in to the Parish Office or pop it in the mailbox outside the office and mark it for the attention of Maggie. Thank you.
- **Church decoration:** Redecoration of the Church is going well and is looking good, Masses will be held in the Church as usual over the weekend, but weekday Masses will be back in the Parish Room during the week.
- **Coffee and Cake at St Teresa's** after the 9am Mass at Northiam this Sunday, 4th February, everyone is very welcome to stay for a cuppa!
- **Coffee and Cake in the Parish Room after the 10am Mass at Battle** this Wednesday 7th February – everyone is very welcome!
- **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, Merrow, Guildford, Surrey GU2 2TS Tel: 01483 573273 07710 094448

Email: arundelandbrighton@cafod.org.uk Website: www.cafod.org.uk

- 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/>
- **On Saturday 10th February, the Vigil of the Feast Our Lady of Lourdes**, please pray and fast for the end of abortion in this Country. Through God's grace we have seen thousands of Mothers in our counselling centre continue their pregnancies in very difficult circumstances. Please help us to help save lives with your prayers, fasting and support.
www.GoodCounselNetwork.com.
- 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

- **Day of Reflection for Ministers of the Eucharist – Saturday 10 February. Free of charge**
Bishop Richard will lead a day of reflection and formation for Ministers of the Eucharist at St Michael's, High Salvington, Worthing 11-4pm. The day will include theological and practical talks, Eucharistic Adoration and mass. Please register using the link [Day of Reflection for Ministers of the Eucharist \(10-Feb-2024\) · ChurchSuite Events](#)
- **Baptism Catechists' Day – Saturday 2 March. Free of charge**
A Formation day for those who are already or who wish to, deliver baptism catechesis in their local area. Input from Bishop Richard on the theology of infant baptism and Katherine Bergin, Marriage & Family Life Advisor on the practicalities of building this into the parish community. The day is open to all clergy and laity involved in this area of catechesis. This event will take place at The St Philip Howard Centre in Crawley, 9.30am-1.30pm. Please register using the link [Baptism Catechists Day \(02-Mar-2024\) · ChurchSuite Events](#)
- To find out about and book events hosted by the Diocese please visit the Diocesan website events calendar W: <https://www.abdiocese.org.uk/diocese/events>

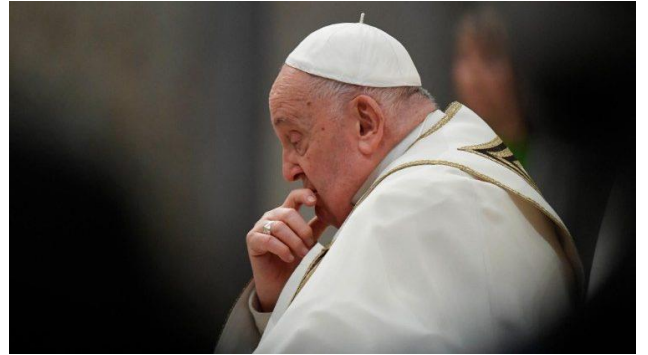
Vatican News

Pope on Holy Land war: Without two states, true peace remains distant

"There was the Oslo agreement—so clear—with the solution of the two states. Until that agreement is applied, true peace remains distant."

This is Pope Francis' judgment on events in the Holy Land, following the attacks by Hamas and the war that is destroying the cities of the Gaza Strip.

The Pope shared his thoughts with Domenico Agasso, a Vatican-focused journalist for the Italian newspaper, *La Stampa*, published on Monday. Speaking of the many ongoing conflicts, Pope Francis invites everyone to pray for peace, expressing his belief that dialogue is the only path toward a peaceful future. He called for all parties to "immediately stop the bombs and missiles and end hostile attitudes. Everywhere." The Pope called for a "global ceasefire," because "we are on the brink of the abyss."



Hopes for the Holy Land and Ukraine: The Pope explained his opposition to defining any war as "just," preferring to say it is legitimate to defend oneself but said it is necessary to avoid "justifying wars, which are always wrong." He expressed his fear of a military escalation across the Middle East, but said he entertains some hope "because confidential meetings are taking place to try to reach an agreement. A truce would already be a good result."

Pope Francis defined Cardinal Pierbattista Pizzaballa, the Latin Patriarch of Jerusalem, as "a crucial figure" who "moves well" and tries to mediate. He said he speaks by video call with the Holy Family Catholic Parish in Gaza every day, adding that the "liberation of Israeli hostages" is a priority. Regarding Ukraine, the Pope recalled the task entrusted to Cardinal Matteo Zuppi, the president of the Italian Bishops' Conference.

"The Holy See is trying to mediate an exchange of prisoners and the return of Ukrainian civilians," said Pope Francis. "In particular, we are working with Mrs. Maria Lvova-Belova, the Russian commissioner for children's rights, for the repatriation of Ukrainian children forcibly taken to Russia. Some have already returned to their families."

'Fiducia supplicans' seeks to include: In the interview, Pope Francis recalled that "Christ calls everyone from within," referring to the Declaration *Fiducia supplicans* that allows for blessings of persons in irregular or same-sex couples.

"The Gospel is to sanctify everyone," he said. "Of course, there must be goodwill. And it is necessary to give precise instructions on the Christian life (I emphasize that it is not the union that is blessed, but the persons). But we are all sinners: why should we make a list of sinners who can enter the Church and a list of sinners who cannot be in the Church? This is not the Gospel." Regarding criticisms of the document, the Pope noted that "those who vehemently protest belong to small ideological groups."

He described the Church in Africa as "a special case," since "for them, homosexuality is something 'ugly' from a cultural point of view; they do not tolerate it."

However, he added, "I trust that gradually everyone will be reassured about the spirit of the declaration," which "aims to include, not divide. It invites us to welcome and then entrust people, and to trust in God." Pope Francis admitted to sometimes feeling alone, "but I still always strive ahead, day after day," adding that he does not fear schisms.

"In the Church, there have always been small groups that manifest reflections of a schismatic nature. One must let them carry on and pass away... and look ahead."