

**OUR LADY IMMACULATE &
ST MICHAEL, BATTLE**
with
ST TERESA OF LISIEUX, HORNS CROSS
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PARISH PRIEST

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Cycle C for Sundays and Solemnities

Year 1 for Weekdays

Arundel and Brighton Trust is a

Registered Charity No. 252878



26th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Weekend 27th / 28th September 2025

Saturday 27/09	6pm	Battle	26 th Sunday in Ordinary Time	Geoffrey Oliver, RIP
Sunday 28/09	9am	Northiam		Those buried in the cemetery on the anniversary of its consecration (FM)
Sunday 28/09	11am	Battle		People of the Parish
Monday 29/09	NO MASS			
Tuesday 30/09	6.30pm	Battle	Saint Jerome	No Intention
Wednesday 01/10	10am	Battle	Saint Thérèse of the Child Jesus	No Intention followed by coffee & cake
Thursday 02/10	9.45am	Battle	The Holy Guardian Angels	Martha Thompson, RIP (FM)
Friday 03/10	NO MASS			
Saturday 04/10	6pm	Battle	27 th Sunday in Ordinary Time	Mr Epiphany Fernandes, RIP
Sunday 05/10	9am	Northiam		People of the Parish followed by coffee & cake
	11am	Battle		Intention of Mr Ben & Mrs Fabia Powell

Next weekend there will be a Second Collection for CAFOD Harvest Fast Day

Introduction to the Scripture Readings for 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time

- **First Reading: Habakkuk 1:2-3; 2:2-4**

The righteous shall live by his faith.

- **Second reading: 2 Timothy 1:6-8, 13-14**

Do not be ashamed of the testimony about our Lord.

- **Gospel: Luke 17:5-10**

If you had faith.

We pray for the Sick and Housebound Members of our Community:

From Our Lady Immaculate & St Michael: Stephen Bould, Pauline Fraser, Sheila Lilley, Madeleine Salter, Gretta Johnson, Helen Powell, Tom Dodd, Suzanne McAdie, Hazel & Helena Lobo, Marianne Clemence, Marie & Sarah Skilton, Phil & Pauline Bedford, Dilys Fraser, Claire and Peter Bates.

From St Teresa's: Christine Mooney, June Nottage, Maureen Webster, Eileen O'Shaughnessy, Margot Leahy, Jacquelyn Solly, Felicity Youlden.

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

Guy Hooper, Maureen Ashing, Gerard Leahy, Jo Watkins, Patrick Armstrong, Andrew Brodrick-Ward, Anthony Gibbons RIP, Katie Spall RIP, Cilla Wintle RIP, Paul Weller RIP, Michael Conroy RIP, Fr Wilson RIP, Maureen Shaw RIP, Margaret Thunder RIP, Rowena Bennett, RIP, Pauline Fraser, RIP.

- **Move-It Club:** Every Thursday morning, in the Parish Room at 10.15am with Lindsey. Please stay for a relaxed coffee and chat afterwards too. If you would like to join, please contact the office for more information: 01424 773125 or e-mail battle@abdiocese.org.uk.
- **Battle Foodbank:** Our needs this week are Packets of Sweet Biscuits; Jars of Chocolate Spread and Peanut Butter and Bottles of Sunflower Oil please - any toiletries, baby and household items are always welcome - thank you for your donations they are very much appreciated.
- **CAFOD Family Fast Day Appeal this Harvest - next weekend 4th/5th October:** Please donate to our Family Fast Day parish collection to share God's abundant gifts with our global neighbours as they find lasting solutions to poverty and climate challenges. Your generosity offers "signs of hope" in this Jubilee Year, helping build more water tanks in communities like Waré's in Ethiopia where women have to walk for hours to get water. Use the CAFOD envelope in church, donate online at cafod.org.uk/envelope or call 0303 303 3030. You can also text CAFOD to 70560 to donate £10.

NEW PARISH UPDATE

Our New Parish will operate from 2 Hub centres (the Eastbourne end and the St Leonard's/Hastings end). We already have an excellent Leadership Group up and running in each Hub, made up of clergy and lay reps from each church. When we reach Advent, end of November, we will have a Single Newsletter for all churches in each Hub; all our Catechists will be working together across churches to deliver Sacramental programmes; we will have Stewardship Groups in each Hub, expertise drawn from across our churches, to oversee care of our many buildings in a strategically joined-up way; we will be consulting with you all about revised New Mass Schedules in each Hub, taking account of fewer priests and giving good variety of times for everyone. Please keep all this work in your prayer, and for more

detailed info see: <https://eastbourne-stleonards.org.uk>
God bless, Fr Kevin (on behalf of the clergy team)

Focusing on Families & Youth **throughout the Catholic Parish of Eastbourne and St Leonards**

Growing in Faith as a Family

Every Catholic parent made a promise at their child's baptism: to bring them up in the practice of the faith. One of the most powerful ways to do this is through regular Sunday Mass attendance as a family. The Eucharist is the centre of our Catholic life — it feeds us, strengthens us, and unites us. Bringing children, even little ones, to Mass helps them grow naturally into the rhythm of prayer and worship.

Children's Liturgy of the Word

Children's Liturgy is a special part of the Mass where children hear the Sunday readings and Gospel explained in age-appropriate ways through story, creative activities, and prayer (sometimes called Godly Play). These sessions help children grow in their understanding of the faith and are an important step in their Catholic formation. At baptism, Catholic parents promise to bring their children up in the practice of the faith, and regular Mass attendance is a vital part of this. Children's Liturgy helps make that possible by giving children a chance to engage actively in the liturgy, while parents participate in the main celebration of the Mass.

Children's Liturgy and/or Child-led masses on Sundays - Opportunities in the East Hub

- St Martha's Little Common – 9:00am (See the church's own newsletter for details of child-led masses at St Martha's)
- St Thomas of Canterbury – 1st/3rd Sunday 11.00am
- Holy Redeemer – 1st Sunday 9.00am
- St Mary Star of the Sea – TBC see church newsletter
- St Anthony of Padua – TBC

Children's Liturgy is open to all children who are able to go out with the youth leaders, up to and including those preparing for First Holy Communion.

Helping and Volunteering

A Role for Parents Children's Liturgy is made possible entirely through the dedication of volunteer catechists and youth leaders — and there's no one better suited for this than parents! Parents are often the best leaders and role models in this setting, as they already understand the needs, attention spans, and spiritual curiosity of children. Whether you have experience or are simply willing to learn, we would love you to come along, see a session in action, and consider joining the team. New helpers are always welcome, and full support and training will be offered. It's a rewarding way to deepen your own faith while helping children grow in theirs.

First Reconciliation & First Holy Communion 2025/2026 – A beautiful step in faith

First Holy Communion is one of the most special moments in a child's faith journey — when they receive Jesus in the Eucharist for the very first time. Along with the Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession), it marks a joyful and grace-filled stage in growing closer to God and becoming more fully part of the Church. This preparation is for baptised Catholic children in Year 3 and above, and it's not just about learning facts — it's about discovering the love of Jesus, learning how to pray, and becoming more aware of God's presence in everyday life.

Families are encouraged to attend Sunday Mass regularly, as this helps children grow into the rhythm of faith and feel at home in the worshipping community. Parents also play a vital role throughout the programme by supporting their child's prayer and understanding at home. If you have a child who is ready to take this step, we invite you to register for your church's First Communion programme. It's a beautiful opportunity for the whole family to grow in faith

together.

Programmes running in the Parish's East Hub:

- St Mary Magdalene Bexhill and St Martha's Little Common – Deadline: Tuesday 30 September *Bexhill & Little Common application forms available on the church website*
- St Thomas of Canterbury & the English Martyrs and Holy Redeemer St Leonards – Deadline: Friday 19 September
- St Mary Magdalene Hastings— Deadline to be confirmed, but apply as soon as possible
- Our Lady Immaculate & St Michael or St Teresa of Lisieux— contact Fr Richard direct *Application forms are available in church or from the church offices.*

Confirmation 2025/2026 – Say Yes to the Holy Spirit

Confirmation is one of the great Sacraments of the Church — a moment when young people are strengthened by the Holy Spirit to live their faith with confidence, courage, and purpose. For baptised Catholics, Confirmation is not just a “next step” — it’s a personal “Yes” to the gifts received at Baptism. It deepens their relationship with God and prepares them to live as adult Christians in the world. Young people preparing for Confirmation should already be attending Mass regularly and have a willingness to explore their faith more fully. The preparation journey is not just about learning — it’s about growing in relationship with Jesus, discovering what it means to be part of the Church, and being open to the grace and power of the Holy Spirit. If you have a child who is in Year 10 or above, now is the time to consider enrolling them in this year’s preparation programme. It’s a chance to ask big questions, grow in faith, and step more deeply into the life God is calling them to.

Programmes running in the Parish's East Hub:

- St Mary Magdalene Bexhill and St Martha's Little Common – Deadline: Friday 10 October
 - St Thomas of Canterbury & the English Martyrs and Holy Redeemer St Leonards and St Mary Star of the Sea Hastings – Deadline: Friday 19 September
 - Our Lady Immaculate & St Michael and St Teresa of Lisieux: Please speak to Fr Richard who will direct you to join the St Leonards programme
- Application forms for each Hub's programmes are available from your church office.*

RCIA – The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

Interested in becoming Catholic or completing your sacraments?

The RCIA is the process by which adults are welcomed into the Catholic Church. It's for anyone who is:

- Not baptised, but interested in exploring the Catholic faith
- Baptised in another Christian tradition, and wishes to become Catholic
- Baptised Catholic, but never received First Communion or Confirmation

This journey is not a course or class in the usual sense — it's a time of discovery, prayer, and personal reflection. You'll have the chance to learn more about the Catholic faith, ask questions, and grow in relationship with God in a supportive, welcoming environment. Many parents begin this journey because they want to understand their child's faith more deeply, or because they were never Confirmed and feel called to take the next step. If you're curious, interested, or feel a gentle nudge to find out more, we warmly invite you to speak to your parish priest. There's no pressure — just a chance to explore what God might be saying to you at this moment in your life. *“Come and see!” — John 1:46*

- 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
- The office is open Monday and Thursday mornings between 9.30am and 1.30pm.