

**OUR LADY IMMACULATE & ST MICHAEL,  
BATTLE**  
with  
**ST TERESA OF LISIEUX, HORNS CROSS**  
14 Mount Street, Battle, East Sussex, TN33 0EG  
Contact Office on  
01424 773125  
e-mail: [battle@abdiocese.org.uk](mailto:battle@abdiocese.org.uk)  
**PARISH PRIEST – FR RICHARD BLYTHEN**  
e-mail: [richard.blythen@abdiocese.org.uk](mailto:richard.blythen@abdiocese.org.uk)  
07721 397895  
website: [battlewithnorthiam.parishportal.net](http://battlewithnorthiam.parishportal.net)

Cycle B for Sundays and Solemnities  
Year 1 for Weekdays

Arundel and Brighton Trust is a Registered Charity No. 252878



**The 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
**Weekend 20<sup>th</sup> / 21<sup>st</sup> January 2024**

Saturday 20/01 6pm	Battle	The 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time	Pat Guiver, RIP
Sunday 21/01 9am	Northiam		No Intention
Sunday 21/01 11am	Battle		People of the Parish
Monday 22/01/2024	NO MASS		
Tuesday 23/01 6.30pm	Battle	Tuesday of Week 3 in Ordinary Time	No Intention
Wednesday 24/01 10am	Battle	Saint Francis de Sales	No Intention followed by The Rosary
Thursday 25/01 6.30am	Battle	The Conversion of Saint Paul	No Intention
Friday 26/01 10am	Battle	Saints Timothy and Titus	No Intention
Saturday 27/01 6pm	Battle	4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time	Deceased Members of the Ashing & Barnes Family
Sunday 28/01 9am	Northiam		People of the Parish
Sunday 28/01 11am	Battle		John Salter RIP

**Sacrament of Reconciliation available after all Masses and upon Request**

## **Introduction to the Scripture Readings for the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**

- **First Reading: Deuteronomy 18:15-20**

God will raise a prophet among you who will speak with the Lord's word.

- **Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 7:32-35**

Paul invites people to fulfil their role for which the Lord has called them, free from worry.

- **Gospel: Mark 1:21-28**

The crowd recognises Jesus as a prophet who offers a teaching that is new, which he speaks with authority.

### **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, Keith Bourne, Marianne Clemence.

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

### **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 Packets of Cereal; Sponge Puddings; 500gm packs of Pasta; Sweet Treats (not chocolate); Jars of Honey, Peanut Butter and Marmite and 500gm bags of sugar please - any toiletries, baby items or household items are always welcome - thank you so much.
- **Parish 100 Club:** January is the last draw of the year for the present 100 Club. The forms for 2024 are now available – thank you to all those that have already completed their forms – we have 48 members so far - if you haven't done so yet, please think of joining or re-joining for this year. The £12 is divided, half for prizes and half for Church maintenance. Please fill in an application form which are now attached and available at the back of the Church, and either hand it in to the Parish Office or pop it in the mailbox outside the office, please mark it for the attention of Maggie. Thank you.
- **Church decoration:** The redecoration of the inside of the Church will begin on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> January. This will mean that all the Masses during the week will be held in the Parish Room instead. If all goes to plan we should be back in the Church for the weekend Masses.
- **Coffee and Cake at St Teresa's:** This is planned to be a regular event on the first Sunday of every month after the 9am Mass at Northiam. The first one will be on 4<sup>th</sup> February – everyone is very welcome to stay for a cuppa!
- **Parish Website Down:** Please note our website is currently down at present but is being sorted out by those who know how to do it, so please bear with us.
- **Knights of St Columba:** The Hastings and Rother Council 630 wish to report that, with all the generous donations you gave, in conjunction with the successful Charity Quiz in

November, has enabled the Council to donate £1,200 to local Charities, the best ever result! The following received £200 each, Hastings Food Bank; Bexhill Food Bank; and Battle Food Bank and the remaining £600 allowed us to donate £200 for specific projects in our local parishes The Good Shepherd in St Leonards-on-Sea, St Mary Star of the Sea in Hastings and Our Lady of The Rosary in Bexhill. Thank you for your ongoing support.

- 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](mailto: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/>
- **Knock Pilgrimages:** Escorted Tour to Westport, Knock & Co Mayo, 3rd March 2024. £899.00 pps. Price includes flight, 10kg hold luggage, 5 nights' in 4\* Castlecourt Hotel, Westport with Dinner, Bed & Breakfast. Lunch on three days. All entertainment, excursions and transport included. Visit Knock, Galway City, Kylemore Abbey, Croagh Patrick & Ashford Castle. Single supplement on Enquiry. Contact Patricia or Natali on 01268 762 278 or 07740 175557 or email [knockpilgrimages@gmail.com](mailto:knockpilgrimages@gmail.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

- **Annual Justice & Peace Assembly - Saturday 27 January. Free of charge**  
Our assembly will address violence and abuse in our homes, families and wider community, with speakers from Restored, Lifecentre and Pax Christi. This event will take place at The St Philip Howard Centre in Crawley 10-1.30pm. The doors will open, with refreshments available, from 9.30am. For more information about this event please contact our Caritas Social Action Adviser, Tessa Ricketts E: [Tessa.Ricketts@abdiocese.org.uk](mailto:Tessa.Ricketts@abdiocese.org.uk) You can register using the link Annual Justice & Peace Assembly - Safe at home, safe in our communities? (27-Jan-2024) · ChurchSuite 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 to Studium Biblicum: your work is more precious than ever**

Pope Francis on Monday addressed members of the Studium Biblicum Franciscanum, recalling some of its aspects at one hundred years since its foundation.

Sacred scripture and archeological research

The first, the Pope began, is the fact that the

Studium, "with its Library and Museum, has given

and continues to give impetus to important

archaeological excavations, in various sites, making

valuable finds", determining "your peculiarity of combining the study of Sacred Scripture with a stay in the Holy Places and archaeological research."

The Holy Father noted that the members' love for the biblical texts is "founded in the same will of Saint Francis."

For St. Francis, he explained, "knowledge of the Word of God, and even its study, are not matters of mere erudition, but experiences of a sapiential nature, whose purpose, in faith, is to help people live the Gospel better and to make them good."

This approach to scripture

Pope Francis emphasized this point by recalling St. Bonaventure of Bagnoreggio's *Breviloquium*, in which he wrote that to receive the gift of the Word of God, it is necessary "to approach the Father of light with simple faith and to pray with a humble heart, so that He, through the Son and in the Holy Spirit, may grant us true knowledge of Jesus Christ and, with knowledge, also love."

On the occasion of the Studium's centenary, the Pope continued, "I urge you not to lose sight of this kind of approach to Scripture."

Bringing his discourse to a close, Pope Francis invited all those present to listen to and know better His word, "to make it resound in the world in an ever more comprehensible manner," as "your discreet and passionate work is more precious than ever."

Prayers for the Holy Land

Finally, Pope Francis prayed for the Holy Land, where the Studium is located.

He acknowledged how "the current situation of the Holy Land and the peoples who inhabit it involves us and pains us," before asking that we "pray and act tirelessly for this tragedy to cease."

