

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

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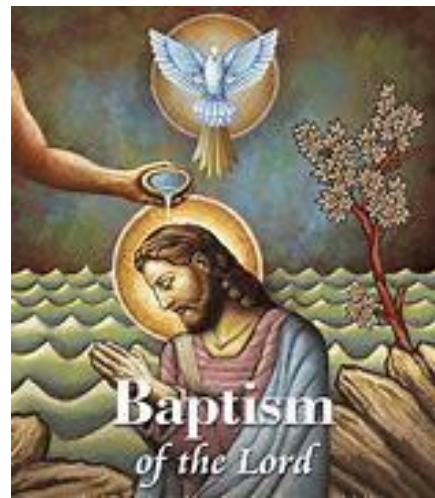
website: battlewithnorthiam.parishportal.net

Cycle B for Sundays and Solemnities

Year 1 for Weekdays

Arundel and Brighton Trust is a

Registered Charity No. 252878



The Feast of the Baptism of the Lord
Weekend 11th / 12th January 2025

Saturday 11/01	6pm	Battle	The Feast of the Baptism of the Lord	Mr Epiphany Fernandes, RIP
Sunday 12/01	9am	Northiam		People of the Parish
Sunday 12/01	11am	Battle		Dorothy & Bernard Chasty, RIP (FM)
Monday 13/01	NO MASS			
Tuesday 14/01	6.30pm	Battle	Tuesday of week 1 in Ordinary Time	No Intention
Wednesday 15/01	10am	Battle	Wednesday of week 1 in Ordinary Time	Bertram 5th Earl of Ashburnham, Founder & Benefactor, RIP (FM)
Thursday 16/01	6.30am	Battle	Thursday of week 1 in Ordinary Time	The Fielding Family, RIP (FM)
Friday 17/01	10am	Battle	Saint Antony	No Intention
Saturday 18/01	6pm	Battle	Second Sunday in Ordinary Time	Douglas Ashing, RIP (FM)
Sunday 19/01	9am	Northiam		Emily Sheila Fry, RIP (FM)
Sunday 19/01	11am	Battle		People of the Parish

Next weekend there will be a retiring collection for Pax Christi – Peace Day

Introduction to the Scripture Readings for The Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

- **First Reading: Isaiah 62:1-5**

God is filled with joy at us, just as a bridegroom is filled with joy at his bride.

- **Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 12:4-11**

The Spirit's gifts are allotted to everyone just as the Spirit chooses.

- **Gospel: John 2:1-11**

A wedding feast runs out of wine. A huge problem, you may think, but Jesus has the last 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, Ruth Ayres, Helen Powell, Tom Dodd, Suzanne McAdie, Hazel & Helena Lobo, Marianne Clemence, Marie & Sarah Skilton, Phil & Pauline Bedford.

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:

Guy Hooper, Maureen Ashing, Gerard Leahy, Jo Watkins, Patrick Armstrong, Andrew Brodrick-Ward, Anthony Gibbons RIP, Katie Spall RIP, Cilla Wintle RIP.

- **Move-It Club:** Every Thursday morning, in the Parish Room at 10am with Lindsey. New members always welcome! Please stay for a relaxed coffee and chat afterwards too. Contact the office for more information: 01424 773125 or battle@abdiocese.org.uk.
- **Battle Foodbank:** Our needs this week are Tinned Meat Pies; Tins of Spaghetti Hoops; Bottles of Squash; Sponge Puddings and Cat and Dog food dry and wet please - any toiletries, baby and household items are always welcome - thank you for your donations they are very much appreciated.
- **Advance Notice:** The next coffee and cake at St Teresa's will be on Sunday 2nd February after the 9am Mass, it is Candle Mass and the Presentation of Our Lord and will be lovely to celebrate.
- **First Aid Course:** We are looking to run an Emergency First Aid Course at Battle during March. This is a 3 hour certified course, and will be held during the evening. If anyone is interested in gaining this very useful training, please let Fr Richard or Maggie know and we will add your name to our list. Everyone that completed this training three years ago is encouraged to sign up again - we need first aid trained people at both Battle and Northiam.
- **Parish 100 Club:** Now is the time to renew your membership of the 100 Club, renewal forms are attached to this newsletter. It is the only regular form of fundraising we do as a Parish – and you could win your subscription back or even make a few pounds! The cost stays at £12 per ticket and prizes are £12 and £24 monthly with two extra prizes of £50 each at Easter and Christmas. January will be the last draw for 2024 memberships.
- **CAFOD is organising an Introduction to the Jubilee Year on Saturday 18 January 10.30 am to midday online:** A Year of Hope: An Introduction to the Jubilee Year with the

Catholic Agency for Overseas Development: 2025 is a Jubilee year, but what does that mean? How will the Church be celebrating it? What can I do? Join us for an introduction to the Jubilee with our special guests including Fr Jan Nowotnik, Director of Mission for the Catholic Bishop's Conference, Christine Allen, CAFOD Director, and Kayode Akintola, CAFOD's Head of Africa. Hear highlights of how we're celebrating as a church and see how we can be tangible signs of hope and build a better world together throughout this holy year. And a special appearance by Catholic Band Ooberfuse.

Saturday 18 Jan, 10:30am-midday, online. [Register here for free.](#)

- 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 12.30pm.

Diocesan run news/events

- **CCRS – South – beginning Tuesday 14 January 2025 – Fee payable**

The CCRS (Catholic Certificate in Religious Studies) will be run at Cardinal Newman School in Hove on Tuesdays from 3.45-5.45pm. Each module (5 sessions) will be delivered over a term and the course will complete in 2 academic years. There is a £20 registration fee which enables us to register you with the national administrator of this course.

Additionally, £30 is charged for each of the 8 modules. This may be paid by the student, or they may be sponsored by their school/parish. Teachers, TAs, Catechists and anyone wishing to develop their understanding of the Faith are welcome. Register your place

here <https://www.abdiocese.org.uk/diocese/events>

- **Day of Reflection for Ministers of the Word – Saturday 25 January 11am-4pm at St Wilfrid's Parish Centre, Burgess Hill (no cost)** Led by Bishop Richard. The day will include talks on the Scriptures, the Lectionary and its use in the Liturgy, the Liturgy of the Word, and preparing to minister as a reader. There will be a time of Lectio Divina, and the day will conclude with the celebration of Mass. Register your place

here <https://www.abdiocese.org.uk/diocese/events>

- **Rethinking Abortion – Saturday 8 February 10am-5pm at The St Philip Howard Centre, Crawley (no cost)** The Diocese is hosting an event organised by Rethinking Abortion, a national pro-life organisation. Rethinking Abortion will provide educational sessions looking at the lived experience and reality of women that lead them to choose abortion. The aim is to help build understanding and explore how to tactfully and empathetically talk about abortion with those around you in a meaningful way. Attendees will increase their understanding of the full reality of the pro-life agenda, becoming more articulate and effective in holding conversations with those considering this pathway. The day begins with Mass at 10am, followed by a programme of discussion and talks. Please bring a packed lunch. Register your place

here: <https://www.abdiocese.org.uk/diocese/events> If you have questions about the event please contact Formation Advisers, Tessa; E: tessa.ricketts@abdiocese.org.uk or Simon E: simon.south@abdiocese.org.uk. You can find out more about the day

here: www.marchforlife.co.uk/rethink-abortion/

- **SAVE THE DATE – Saturday 20 September 2025 Festival of Hope:** Celebrate the 60th Anniversary of the Diocese and the Universal Jubilee Year with your family and friends this September. We pray that this inspirational and uplifting event will ignite a spiritual renewal in our own lives and across our communities. Put the date in your diary now, because tickets will be allocated to Parishes in the new year! The event is taking place at Ardingly South of England Event Centre, tickets will be free of charge, with talks and activities suitable for all ages.
- **Are you involved in Children’s Liturgy?** We are looking to build a network across the Diocese of those involved in this wonderful ministry to share learnings, ideas and support each other. To find out more details please contact our Marriage and Family Life Adviser – Deacon Simon South E: simon.south@abdiocese.org.uk

Vatican News

Pope dedicates catechesis to 'scourge' of child labour

Christmas is an appropriate time to reflect on the status of children, Pope Francis said at the General Audience, explaining that he was dedicating two weekly catechesis in particular to the “scourge” of child labour.

He lamented that “the century that generates artificial intelligence and plans multiplanetary existences has not yet reckoned with the scourge of humiliated, exploited, mortally wounded childhood.”

Looking first to the Scriptures, the Holy Father noted that the word “son” appears in the Old Testament almost 5,000 times. “Children are a gift from God,” he said, quoting the psalms, but “unfortunately, that gift is not always respected.” Throughout history, the Old Testament shows not only “songs of joy” but also “the cries of victims”: “Think of how many children, today, are dying of thirst or hunger, or are torn apart by bombs.”

Turning to the New Testament, Pope Francis recalled the slaughter of the innocents by Herod at the birth of Christ: “a dismal tragedy that repeats in other forms throughout history.” Jesus, with Mary his mother and Saint Joseph are forced to experience “the nightmare of becoming refugees in a foreign land, as still happens today to many people.” When, during His public ministry, children are brought to Jesus, He breaks with the tradition that considered children “simply objects” and tells His disciples to let the children come to Him. Even more, the Pope said, Jesus proposes children as a model for adults to emulate.” Highlighting the plight of the “too many” children forced to work and exploited by an economy “that does not respect life,” Pope Francis said, “those who recognize themselves as children of God cannot remain indifferent, they cannot accept that our little sisters and brothers, instead of being loved and protected, are robbed of their childhood, of their dreams, victims of exploitation and marginalization.” Pope Francis ended his catechesis with the prayer that God might “open our minds and hearts to care and tenderness,” and that “every boy and every girl might be able to grow in age, wisdom and grace, receiving and giving love.”

