

OUR LADY IMMACULATE &
ST MICHAEL, BATTLE
with
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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 Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Weekend 8th / 9th February 2025

Saturday 08/02	6pm	Battle	Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time	Intention of Fr Wilson
Sunday 09/02	9am	Northiam		People of the Parish
Sunday 09/02	11am	Battle		Intention of Elizabeth Salter
Monday 10/02	NO MASS			
Tuesday 11/02	6.30pm	Battle	Tuesday of week 5 in Ordinary Time	Katie & John Spall, RIP
Wednesday 12/02	10am	Battle	Wednesday of week 5 in Ordinary Time	In Memory of the Holocaust Victims
Thursday 13/02	6.30am	Battle	Thursday of week 5 in Ordinary Time	No Intention
Friday 14/02	10am	Battle	Feast of Saints Cyril and Methodius	No Intention
Saturday 15/02	6pm	Battle	6th Sunday in Ordinary Time	In Memory of the Holocaust Victims
Sunday 16/02	9am	Northiam		People of the Parish
Sunday 16/02	11am	Battle		Intention of Micheal Conroy

There will be a Retiring Collection for the Lourdes Pilgrimage Fund (Gift Aid) this weekend

Next weekend there will be a Retiring Collection for Racial Justice Sunday

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

- **First Reading: Jeremiah 17:5-8**

Jeremiah emphasises the need to place our trust in the Lord. This will mean that we are rooted, fruitful and courageous in the face of difficulties and dangers.

- **Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 15:12. 16-20**

St Paul tells the people of Corinth that if the dead are not raised, then neither is Christ raised from the dead and our faith is in vain.

- **Gospel: Luke 6:17, 20-26**

Jesus teaches the crowds who are following him that everyone who is now excluded will one day rejoice, and those who are now hungry will have enough.

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, Fr Wilson, Dilys Fraser.

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. 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 battle@abdiocese.org.uk.
- **Battle Foodbank:** Our needs this week are - Tinned Meat Pies; Bottles of Squash; Cartons of Juice; Decaf Tea and Coffee; Sweet Treats and Cat and Dog Food both wet and dry please - any toiletries, baby and household items are always welcome - thank you for your donations they are very much appreciated.
- **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:** Thank you to everyone that has handed in their applications, but we still need a few more members to cover the cost of the prizes please. 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. If you wish to be included in the first draw for 2025, get your application form in quick!
- 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

- **Applications for this summer's Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes (25-31 July by air or own transport, 24 July-1 August by coach/jumbulance) are now open on the diocesan website: <https://www.abdiocese.org.uk/lourdes/home>**

Our pilgrimage to Lourdes is one of the most significant pastoral events in our annual Diocesan calendar. Pope Francis has declared 2025 is a Jubilee year, the Lourdes theme is 'With Mary, Pilgrims of Hope'. We are invited to set out on our pilgrimage journey with our Lady and St Bernadette, in the 'hope born of grace, which enables us to live in Christ.' (Pope Francis, Spes non Confundit 2025). Lourdes is a place of renewal, unlike tourists, visiting a popular attraction, we are pilgrims, making the journey together, we laugh together, break bread together, and we enter a space in which we can be open to the promptings of the Holy Spirit in ways that, perhaps, we would never have thought possible before.

- **Join our CAFOD Volunteer team**

Tackling global poverty; it sounds like a big task. But like most big tasks, once it is broken down into small actions and shared



between a team of passionate people amazing things can happen. Join our CAFOD volunteer team and, alongside others in your parish, share your time to call for prayer, increase awareness and raise funds to help our poorest and most vulnerable sisters and brothers. For more info contact: arundelandbrighton@cafod.org.uk or call: 07710 09444. Together we can make a difference.

- **Young Adult Jubilee Pilgrimage to Rome: 28th July – 4th August, cost £995**

Join our pilgrimage for young adults aged 18-30 to celebrate the special Jubilee year. Celebrate with other like-minded people, as we travel to the beautiful city of Rome for opportunities to hear from, and pray with, Pope Francis on the theme of Hope.

E: lizzie.wakeling@abdiocese.org.uk for information

- **Diocesan Youth Project Worker - Part time:** Join the diocesan Central Office Team as our new P/T Youth Project Worker. The successful applicant will be responsible for two major projects - coordination of the CYMFed Faith in Action Awards across the Diocese, and the newly developing Young Adults programme. They will also be required to assist with engaging young people from across the Diocese in the ASCENT process (a three-year discipleship process for young people) and offer support to the Youth Adviser in enabling diocesan attendance at national and international events such as Flame and World Youth Day. E: lizzie.wakeling@abdiocese.org.uk

- **Diocesan IT Technician – Full Time:** The Diocese is recruiting a full-time IT Technician based at The St Philip Howard Centre in Crawley. The IT Department supports a wide range of stakeholders. As a small team, flexibility around tasks is essential to contribute fully to this busy and often reactive service provision. The successful candidate will have experience of a similar role and a willingness to learn further skills as and when required to expand their IT knowledge. Due to the nature of the role all hours are worked onsite at our Crawley office, with no scope for hybrid or remote working. To find out more and apply: www.abdiocese.org.uk/careers/sphc-it

➤ **Interested in training to teach?** Xavier Teach SouthEast are currently recruiting primary and secondary teachers for Sept 2025 to train across their local partnership of schools. So, if you have a degree and are passionate about working with young people, why not attend an event or speak to them today about a possible career change. www.teachsoutheast.co.uk 01932 578 682 or email Joanna Crome to find out more j.crome@xaviercet.org.uk Next event: Thursday 6th February 2025 9.30-11am Salesian school, Chertsey, Guildford Road, KT16 9LU

Vatican News

Pope: 'Nothing is worth more than the life of a child'

“Nothing is worth more than the life of a child.” Addressing world leaders convened in the Vatican for the first global Summit on Children’s Rights on Monday, Pope Francis reiterated his impassioned plea for the protection of children who are victims of conflict, poverty, migration and of a “throwaway culture”, including abortion and neglect, insisting on the urgent need to listen to them.



“Love Them and Protect Them” is the theme of the event at which panelists hailing from across the world are discussing children’s protection from violence and exploitation, access to resources, access to education and health, and rights to a family.

Children victims of wars: In his address, Pope Francis highlighted the ongoing struggles faced by children worldwide, emphasizing that despite global progress, many children still suffer from poverty, war, lack of education, injustice, and exploitation. The Pope drew attention to the particularly dire conditions of children in war-torn and impoverished regions but also stressed that even in wealthier societies, children face vulnerabilities such as mental health struggles, violence, and social marginalization. He observed that young people, who should symbolize hope, increasingly struggle with despair and a lack of optimism for the future. This, he said, is “sad and troubling.” One of the most alarming issues he addressed was the devastating impact of war on children. “What we have tragically seen almost every day in recent times, namely children dying beneath bombs, sacrificed to the idols of power, ideology, and nationalistic interests, is unacceptable,” he said.

Listening to children to build hope for a better future: Pope Francis therefore urged world leaders to listen to children, not only through their words but also through their silences, expressions, and experiences. “With their looks and their silences, too, they speak to us, so let us listen to them!” he urged. He expressed hope that the Vatican-hosted Summit will contribute to building a better world for children, reaffirming the moral duty to place children, their rights, and their dreams at the centre of global concerns.

Concluding, Pope Francis encouraged participants to make the most of the opportunities afforded by this meeting and expressed his hope that their contributions will help to build a better world for children and, consequently, for everyone.