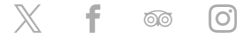




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Obituary of Bishop Mark RIP

Abbot Brendan Thomas · May 17, 2025





Bishop Mark Jabalé OSB

Bishop Mark died peacefully on 9th May.

Requiem Mass & Burial

Thursday 5th June, 12 noon, Belmont Abbey



He was then sent to the University of Fribourg, Switzerland, where he obtained a Licentiate in French Literature, writing his thesis on Joseph de Maistre, the French counter-revolutionary. He later completed a Diploma in Education at St Mary's, Strawberry Hill, where he also played rugby for the University.

From 1964, he taught sport and served as a housemaster at the school. In 1969, he was appointed Headmaster of Alderwasley School in Derbyshire, though he held that post for only half a term before being recalled to Belmont to serve as Headmaster there, a role he held—apart from a sabbatical—until 1983.

From 1964 he was teaching sport and then was a housemaster in the School. In 1969 he was appointed Headmaster of Alderwasley School, Derbyshire, but filled that post for only half a term. He was called back to Belmont to be Headmaster where he served, apart from a sabbatical, until 1983.

Fr Mark was a rowing coach of considerable repute. During his sabbatical in 1979, he assisted Dan Topolski in coaching the Oxford crew for the Boat Race. His greatest coaching triumph came when he led a lightweight coxless four to a gold medal at the World Rowing Championships in Bled, Yugoslavia — the only gold medal won by Great Britain that year. The following year, he was invited to coach for the Olympics, but he declined in order to remain committed to Belmont. He was a steward of Henley Royal Regatta and was responsible for setting up and programming its first computerised systems. He was ahead of may in seeing the potential of new technology.



to be the overseeing of the closure of the school. Together with the bursar, John Hubert, he negotiated with the local NHS for the 4 houses to be leased to them.

In 2000, he was appointed Coadjutor Bishop of Menevia by Pope John Paul II and was ordained bishop in St Joseph's Cathedral, Swansea, on 7 December 2000. He succeeded Bishop Daniel Mullins as the 10th Bishop of Menevia on 12 June 2001.

During his episcopate, he held several important offices: Chairman of the Department for Christian Life and Worship, Trustee and Visitor of the three foreign seminaries — the Venerable English College (Rome), the Beda College (Rome), and the Royal English College (Valladolid). He was also Bishop-in-Charge of on-going formation for diocesan priests.

Upon reaching the age of 75, Bishop Jabale submitted his resignation to the Holy Father on 16 October 2008 and was succeeded by Bishop Tom Burns.

He then moved to Chipping Norton, Oxfordshire, and was inducted as Parish Priest of Holy Trinity Catholic Church in March 2009, a post he held until 2014. At the age of 81, he retired to Hendon in London, where he celebrated daily Mass at a local convent, assisted in various parishes, and continued to help with confirmations in the diocese. In October 2019, he moved to Archbishop's House, Westminster, for nine months.

Finally, he returned to Belmont in 2020 as a much-cherished member of the community. He described himself as "very happy." He remained there until his death in Hereford County Hospital on 9 May 2025, aged 91. He had



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Please pray for the eternal happiness of

Rt. Rev. Dom Mark Jabalé

10th Bishop of Menevia

10th Abbot of Belmont



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