



ST FRANCIS XAVIER'S CATHOLIC CHURCH HEREFORD

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Dear All, There was a good turnout for the parish AGM on Thursday. Thank you for those who came along. It was good chance to reflect on matters both spiritual and practical. I hope you feel, as I do, that the parish is in good heart. Thank you to all who contribute so much to the life of SFX.

After a review of the last year, there were lots of interesting ideas put forward and questions raised. For example: How can we offer a better welcome for newcomers to the parish? How can we improve our catechesis? How can we provide better pastoral care for those in the parish? How can we help the homeless? How can we offer the church's healing to those in need? We discussed evangelisation, the social calendar, and parish finances. More practical matters were also considered including: solar panels, redecorating the façade of the church, enhancing the narthex (entrance) of the church. The full minutes will be available in due course for all to read.

I was recently told that the loop system – for those hard of hearing - has not been working for a while. We have not yet been able to identify the problem, but we hope to get it fixed soon.

As well as parish duties, on Friday I attended a clergy safeguarding day entitled *From Grief to Grace* about how we bring spiritual and psychological healing to anyone who has suffered from abuse. Next week I will attend an Archbishop's Council Meeting and we will have a Deanery Clergy Meeting to take forward some of our plans. Have a blessed week, **Fr Brendan**



Liturgical Calendar Oct 2023 Year A Psalter Wk 3

Sat 7th	10.30am	Our Lady of the Rosary	English Benedictines
Sat 7th	11.00am	Confessions and Adoration	
Sat 7th	6.00pm	27TH SUNDAY	Thressiamma Mathai
Sun 8th	8.00am	27TH SUNDAY	Holy Souls
Sun 8th	10.00am	27TH SUNDAY	Parish
Mon 9th	9.30am <u>Rosary at 8.55am</u>	St John Henry Newman, Priest.	Daiva's family
Tue 10th	No public Mass here. Mass at OL 9.30am		
Wed 11th	1.00pm	St John XXIII Pope	Soul of Lizam George
Thu 12th	NB Mass 8.00am	St Wilfred	John, James, Thomas McSherry
Fri 13th	1.00pm	St Bruno, Priest	David Wright RIP
Sat 14th	10.30am	Mass of Our Lady	Peter Millin, Thomas McCourt
Sat 14th	11.00am	Confessions and Adoration	
Sat 14th	6.00pm	28TH SUNDAY	Peace in Ukraine
Sun 15th	8.00am	28TH SUNDAY	Parish
Sun 15th	10.00am	28TH SUNDAY	Izahaak George & Anjaly Abraham (Birthday)

Next week we have the annual Missio retiring Collection.

Proud to be the Pope's charity for world mission, Missio ignites God's love by helping local missionaries to work alongside global communities that are poor or in need, regardless of their background or belief. Sometimes this need might be very specific: a motorbike for a Priest to celebrate Mass in remote villages; a simple community hall so people can gather together; vaccinations to protect vulnerable children. Whatever our missionaries need to help them share the joy of the Gospel, Missio strives to provide it.



We have the joy of four baptisms this weekend. We welcome

Nathan Southall, Klara Iusan, Nathan Muszynski on Saturday and **Percy Powell** on Sunday. We warmly welcome them and their families into our parish.



Remembrance

Anthony Dawes, Kevin Morris, Betty Shergold, Elizabeth Francis, Catherine Bailey, Michael Dyke, Sonia Jones.

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen.



Pray for the Sick:

Ania Kuzba, Jan Beavan, Malcolm Darke, Sarah, Ian Power, Robbie Bell, Meg Furber, Ann Currie, Midad Jasari, David Madgen, Lynne Howells, Christina James, Nicola Merrick, Martin O'Connor, Patricia Moroney, Fr Keith, George Mecina, Margaret Skelding, Ana Rudnicki, Dennis Schiavon, David John Warr, Stephen Booth, Katherine Melia



On Monday we celebrate the feast day of Saint John Henry Newman. The picture above is from his beatification ceremony in Cofton Park, Birmingham, when Pope Benedict XV came over to England in October 2010.

Born in London in 1801, John Henry Newman was for over 20 yrs an Anglican clergyman and fellow of oriel college in Oxford. His studies of the early Church however led him progressively towards Catholicism, and in 1945 he embraced "the one true fold of the redeemer".

In 1847 he was ordained priest and went on to found the Oratory of Saint Philip Neri in England. Later he was made a cardinal and is remembered for his prolific writings on a variety of subjects. Very pertinent to our own times and the current Synod in Rome he wrote about how Church doctrine (Key teachings) do not change but over time they grow, mature and develop. He died in Birmingham in 1890 and was canonised in Rome on 13th October 2019. The first English Saint to be canonised since 1970.

Prayer of St John Henry Newman

O Lord, support us all the day long of this troublous life, until the shadows lengthen, and the evening comes, and the busy world is hushed, and the fever of life is over, and our work is done. Then, Lord, in thy mercy, grant us a safe lodging, a holy rest, and peace at the last. Amen

Today is Prisoners' Sunday – the national Day of Prayer and Action for prisoners and their families. **PACT** is the national Catholic charity working to support prisoners and families who struggle with the stigma involved.

In this their 125th Anniversary year PACT continues to restore hope and dignity to those by imprisonment. Staff and volunteers work in 60 prisons in England and Wales. For did not Jesus say to the convicted criminal by his side, "Today you will be with me in Paradise." If you wish to help you can donate online, scan QR code Narthex or put donation in envelopes available. Thank you.

Poetry for Pleasure

The next meeting is Thursday 19th October 1030-1200 in the Parish Hall. The theme is Poets Laureate (John Dryden to Simon Armitage and any in between!) Bring a few poems from any Poet Laureate to share with the group. All are welcome.

Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist	Ministers of the Word
6pm Wendy Winterburn Imogen Cockcroft Vigeetha Joseph	6pm Helen Booth
8am Vera McHale Cecilia Balestra	8am Stephen Cleeve
10am Thomas Kottappullil Noel Elegado Dominic Smedley	10am Liz Symonds

First Holy Communion Lessons for children at non-Catholic schools



There will be a meeting for parents and children on Saturday 14th October at 4pm in the church. If you would like your child to receive the Sacrament next June please come to this meeting. Children should be in Year 3 or above. Lessons will start on 28th October. If you are unable to attend the meeting please write a letter to me, Brenda Williams via the church giving details of child's name, date of birth and parents email address.

CAFOD Family Fast Day was on Friday 6th October. Please put your CAFOD envelopes from your fast day offering in the parish collection this weekend. Or place in basket at the end of Mass.



CAFOD have some really informative short film clips which really show clearly the scope of their work in different parts of the world and showing how the donations given are put into use on the ground. Below is a link to one such short clip. There is also a QR Code if you wish to donate this way. Thank you



Fire, Fire. What would you do if there was a fire during Mass and we all had to get out of the Church in a hurry? A small group of parishioners have

volunteered to assist with any evacuation during Mass, but we need more named people to help the less mobile to escape safely. If you are interested in becoming a Parish Fire Warden please come to the Hall on Thursday 19th October at 7.00pm and find out how you could help. Thanks Paul Williams.

Parish walk Sunday 22nd October

The final parish walk of the year is planned for Sunday 22nd October. It is a 4 mile walk around Breinton covering a variety of terrain including farmland, woodland and quiet country roads. The walk involves some ascents and descents, but all the slopes are gentle. There are a number of stiles. Meet at the National Trust car park at Breinton ready to start walking at 2.30 pm.



Tea, Coffee and Cake Everyone is invited to come along to the Parish Hall after the 10.00am Mass.



Collections 30th/1st Oct

1st Collection £511.09
2nd Collection £396.72



Parish Calendar - October

Wed 11th	6.30pm	ABC Bible Study Group
Sat 14th	4.00pm	First Holy Communion meeting
Mon 16th	9.30am	SFX School admissions talk
Mon 16th	7.00pm	SVP Meeting
Thur 19th	7.00pm	Fire Warden Meeting
Sun 22nd	2.30pm	Parish Walk, Breinton