



ST FRANCIS XAVIER'S CATHOLIC CHURCH HEREFORD

Parish Priest Dom James Hood. Assistant Priest Dom John George.
19 Broad St. Hereford, HR4 9AP Tel: 01432 273485: www.sfxhereford.org.uk
Hospital Chaplain: Fr Patrick Lobo 07922323603



Parish Administrator: Mr John Cook
Email: hereford2@rcadc.org
Office hours: 9am –1pm (not Tuesday)

SFX Parish School Headteacher:
Mrs Elizabeth Christopherson
Tel: 01432 273941

SFX Parish Safeguarding Officer:
Mrs Kathy Weston -Email
sfxsafeguarding@gmail.com Tel -273485

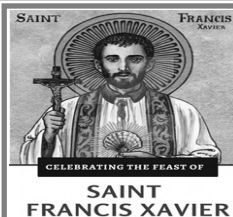
Dear All, Today we come to the final Sunday of the Church's year, the great Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe (Christ the King). It is a moment that gathers up everything we have lived and prayed through these past months and places it before the One who is Lord of all time, all creation, and every human heart. This feast does not celebrate a distant or worldly ruler, but a King who reigns from the Cross, whose throne is mercy, and whose power is love. In Year C we are brought to Calvary, where Jesus reveals the true nature of his kingship: not domination, but self-giving; not fear, but forgiveness; not force, but hope. It is here that the repentant thief recognises the Kingdom breaking through, and Jesus opens for him—and for us—the promise of Paradise. In the words of the preface:

"He gave himself up for us with a wonderful love and poured out blood and water from his pierced side, the wellspring of the Church's sacraments."

Today's liturgy ends Luke's account of the long journey of Jesus to Jerusalem. It ends not in visible triumph but in a cruel death. Yet in that death He earned His right to kingship. While His kingdom is partly in this world, His kingship is of another. Our task is to build up His kingdom here on earth in order to share in the joy of His heavenly kingdom. **Fr John**

Liturgical Calendar November 2025 Yr C Psalter Wk 2

Sat 22nd	10.30am	St Cecilia, Virgin and Martyr	Fr Benjamin Busko RIP Fr Michael Rapa RIP
Sat 22nd	11.00am	Confessions & Adoration	
Sat 22nd	6.00pm	CHRIST THE KING	Patrick O'Leary RIP
Sun 23rd	8.00am	CHRIST THE KING	November Dead List
Sun 23rd	10.00am	CHRIST THE KING	George Joseph RIP Elsy G Mattathil
Mon 24th	9.30am Rosary 9am	St Andrew Dung-Lac, Priest and companions, Martyrs	Anna & Tadeusz Kania RIP
Tue 25th	No public Mass. Mass at Our Lady's 9.30		
Wed 26th	1.00pm	Feria	Forgotten Souls
Thu 27th	9.30am	Feria	November Dead List
Fri 28th	1.00pm	Feria	Souls in Purgatory
Sat 29th	10.30am	Votive Memorial Our Lady	George Bentley RIP
Sat 29th	11.00am	Confessions & Adoration	
Sat 29th	6.00pm	1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT	Michael Flynn RIP
Sun 30th	8.00am	1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT	MacGregor/ Gleeson families
Sun 30th	10.00am	1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT	Michael Ramsey RIP



On Wednesday December 3rd it is our Feast day of Saint Francis Xavier with Mass at 1.00pm

followed by a shared lunch in the hall for anyone who can stay and celebrate our special day.

Two Concerts coming up at SFX



Hereford Chamber Choir

Saturday 29th November 7.30

See poster in Narthex for details

www.herefordchamberchoir.org.uk

Second Concert– 19th December 7.00pm

English Wind Consort-See Narthex Poster or visit www.englishwindconsort.co.uk

We remember all who have died Lately Dead– Michael John Davis

Anniversaries: Amanda Jones, Jack Frayne Katherine Preece, Hilda Wood, Phyllo Powell, Hilda Fuller, Michael Flynn, Peter McCutcheon.



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, Robbie Bell, Meg Furber, Ann Currie, Midad Jasari, Lynne Howells, Katherine Melia, Christina James, Sarah, Ana Rudnicki, Nicola Merrick, Martin O'Connor, Patricia Moroney, Margaret Davis, Carola Morton, Margaret Skelding, James Spradbery, Teresa Bord, Patricia Marongiu, Sarah James, Kath Feely, Pauline and David Day, Mark Edmunds, Didit Buhain, Margaret Davis, Ann Marie Hughson, Vera McHale, Ann Orchard.

LECTIO DIVINA

At the Sunday Mass we have three readings from scripture. The first is from the Old Testament, except during Eastertide, when we listen to a reading from the Acts of the Apostles. This is followed by a psalm and then a reading from the New Testament, often from St Paul's letters. The Gospel follows the Alleluia verse. For the reading of the Gospel, we stand in reverence as we listen to Jesus' own words.

There is no better way of preparing for Sunday's mass than reading prayerfully and meditatively the assigned gospel passage. This is what lectio divina is. Pope Benedict XVI wrote, 'The Church lives on the word of God, and the word of God echoes through the Church, in her teaching and throughout her life. In this context, I would like in particular to recall and recommend the ancient tradition of Lectio Divina: the diligent reading of Sacred Scripture, accompanied by prayer, brings about the intimate dialogue in which the person reading hears God is speaking, and in praying, responds to him with trusting openness of heart. If it is effectively promoted, this practice will bring to the Church- I am convinced of it- a new spiritual springtide. (Pope Benedict XVI, on the 40th Anniversary of Verbum Dei – 2005)

We see that Lectio Divina is reading Sacred Scripture diligently and prayerfully: it is opening one's heart to God's word and entering into a dialogue with him. This encounter with the Word of God is at the heart of the life of any Benedictine monk, as he opens the ear of his heart to God speaking to him in the scriptures, so as to grow in his love and allow himself to be transformed into his likeness.

My question to all parishioners is, What is stopping us from introducing Lectio Divina groups in the parish? Over the coming weeks, I would like you to form small groups that will gather, if possible, on a weekly basis to listen to God's Word – next Sunday's gospel. In time, we will grow in God's love as we learn to listen together to the Word of God.

Take up this invitation. Think who might join up, some parishioners who live nearby or friends.

Let us get a few groups started before Christmas. Pope Benedict told the young at the World Youth Day in 2006, 'By reading the Bible, you will learn to know Christ.' Lectio Divina is about looking for the living Christ, having contact with the living word, and when one has found and made contact with the living word, enjoying and savouring it.

If you're interested, talk to your friends and make contact with me. There will be training sessions for leaders and for those who are interested. **Fr James**

Ministers of the Eucharist		Ministers of the Word	
6pm	Jane Gennard Angela Holmes Kathy Weston	6pm	Fiona Stokes Philip Dixon
8am	Cecilia Balestra Frances Hetterley	8.00	Tracey Buckley
10am	Mary Cook Noel Elegado Mia Brennan	10am	Gabriel Gillick Gwenfair Gillick

The Middle Coming: Fr Michael Casey OCSO. For our next Horizons of

Hope talk, a renowned Cistercian spiritual writer will talk about the interior landscape of spiritual experience: the quiet ways in which grace transforms the human heart. He is on a rare visit to the UK from Australia.

Saturday 13th December, 10.00am- 12.30pm at The Chapterhouse, Belmont Abbey, Hereford. All are welcome.



Confirmations The 2026 confirmation course for pupils in Year 8 and Year 9 (or older if you have not made your Confirmation) will begin in the New Year. To register contact **hereford2@rcadc.org**

SFX CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

Saturday 29th November. 12.30-2.30pm

in the Kemble Parish Hall,

Raffle will be drawn at 1.30pm

Come along to enjoy festive refreshments, have a go on the bottle stall, snap up some bargains on the Red and Green Christmas stall, Jewellery and toy stall and buy a delicious homemade cake. Raffle tickets will be drawn for the Parish raffle and the magnificent Christmas hampers.

This is a great way to bring the Parish together and to raise funds for the upkeep of our beautiful church. Do come along to support the Parish and enjoy meeting fellow parishioners.

Many thanks to everyone who has bought raffle tickets or donated items. Your support is much appreciated. In this last week before the bazaar, we still need more bottles, as well as donations for the red and green, jewellery and toy stalls. Calling all bakers: on the morning of the Bazaar (Saturday 29th November) we will need lovely homemade cakes. Please drop them off in the Parish Hall any time from 9 a.m. onwards in the Kemble Parish Hall. It would be wonderful to see as many parishioners as possible.



Open Invitation to all parishioners

This Sunday 23rd of November (Christ the King) at the 10.00am Mass we will be accompanied by our **Filipino community** leading the singing followed by a Filipino food buffet after Mass, all welcome.

The Hereford Nativity is being performed at Hereford Cathedral on Wednesday 26th and Thursday 27th November, 7:30pm. Book via the Cathedral website. (herefordcathedral.org/Event/hereford-nativity-2025)



Collection 16/11/2025

The Parish £805.91



What's on in November/December 2025

Sat 29th	12.30-2.30pm	Christmas Bazaar Kemble Hall
Sat 29th	7.30am	Hereford Chamber Choir concert. See poster in the Narthex
Wed 3rd December	1.00pm	Feast day Mass for saint Francis Xavier