



ST FRANCIS XAVIER'S CATHOLIC CHURCH HEREFORD

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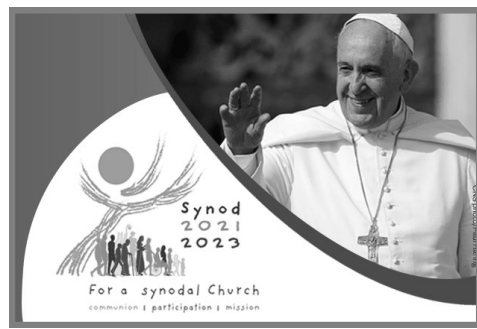
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Dear all, The recent Synod in Rome is perhaps the most important event in Pope Francis' papacy. Why? Not because of any decisions or change of church teaching – that wasn't the intention. Rather it witnessed to a new style of being church in line with the vision of the Second Vatican Council. Bishops, clergy and laity were able to gather and peaceably discuss even controversial issues.

But what happened at in Rome in those weeks, why does it matter? This coming Wednesday we are pleased to welcome to the parish Dr Austen Ivereigh who was 'in the room'. He has not only been involved in the Synod process in the UK and Europe but was one of the 'theologians' tasked with helping the process. He will shed some light on what is happening in the church at this time. Do join us, Wednesday 7pm if you can, it will be very interesting.

Concluding the Synod Pope Francis said: "This is the church we are called to 'dream': a church that is the servant of all, the servant of the least of our brothers and sisters; a church that never demands an attestation of 'good behaviour,' but welcomes, serves, loves, forgives; a church with open doors that is a haven of mercy." Quite a challenge for us all, but one that goes to the heart of the Gospel.

This week it is lovely to have our Filipinos singing again, and they will have their own special Mass next week. Next Sunday is Christ the King and the liturgy will be led by the children from St Francis Xavier's school. **Fr Brendan**



Liturgical Calendar November 2023 Yr A Psalter Wk 1

Sat 18th	10.30am	Mass of Our Lady	Michael and Clare O'Sullivan
Sat 18th	11.00am	Confessions and Adoration	
Sat 18th	6.00pm	33RD SUNDAY (VIGIL)	Jim Baskerville
Sun 19th	8.00am	33RD SUNDAY	Parish
Sun 19th	10.00am	33RD SUNDAY	Eva Ward RIP
Mon 20th	9.30am Rosary at 8.55am	Feria	Adrian Humphries RIP
Tue 21st	No public mass here. Mass at OL at 9.30am		
Wed 22nd	1.00pm	St Cecilia, Virgin and Martyr	Molly Clark RIP
Thu 23rd	9.30am	St Clement I	Prayers for the dead
Fri 24th	1.00pm	St Andrew Dung-Lac & comp.	Mills/Phillips families RIP
Sat 25th	10.30am	St Catherine of Alexandria	Thanksgiving
Sat 25th	11.00am	Confessions and Adoration	
Sat 25th	6.00pm	FEAST OF CHRIST THE KING (VIGIL)	N Kuriakose
Sun 26th	8.00am	CHRIST THE KING	For External Peace
Sun 26th	10.00am	CHRIST THE KING	Parish

Christmas hamper Raffle Reminder -Please keep signing up on the sheets at the back of Church.



We remember all those whose anniversaries occur about this time.
Cyril Hayes, Laurence Abbott, Amanda Jones, Jack Frayne, Katherine Preece, Hilda Wood.

Lately Dead
Euphemia Kelly
Molly Clark
Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them.
May their souls, and the souls of all the faithful departed, Through the mercy of God, Rest in peace. Amen



We welcome into God's family **Nathan Brehar** who will be baptised this Saturday at 4pm. We warmly welcome **Nathan** and all his family to our parish.



Pray for the Sick:
Ania Kuzba, Jan Beavan, Malcolm Darke, Fr Keith, Robbie Bell, Meg Furber, Ann Currie, Midad Jasari, David Madgen, Lynne Howells, Maureen Tye, Sarah, Katherine Melia, Christina James, Ana Rudnicki, Nicola and Finley Merrick, Martin O'Connor, Patricia Moroney, George Mecina, Margaret Skelding, Dennis Schiavon, David John Warr, Stephen Booth, Rory Williams. Anna Foggo.

Christ the King

We celebrate next weekend the great feast of Jesus Christ, King of the Universe. Helping us to celebrate at the **10.00 Mass will be pupils and families of SFX primary School.**



On the last Sunday of the liturgical year, the Church celebrates the Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe.

Pope Pius XI instituted this feast in 1925 with his encyclical *Quas primas* ("In the first") to respond to growing secularism and atheism. He recognized that attempting to "thrust Jesus Christ and his holy law" out of public life would result in continuing discord among people and nations. This solemnity reminds us that while governments come and go, Christ reigns as King forever.

During the early twentieth century, in Mexico, Russia, and some parts of Europe, militantly secularistic regimes threatened not just the Catholic Church and its faithful but civilization itself. Pope Pius XI's encyclical gave Catholics hope and—while governments around them crumbled—the assurance that Christ the King shall reign forever. Jesus Christ "is very truth, and it is from him that truth must be obediently received by all mankind".

Prayer for the Feast of Christ the King

Lord, Jesus Christ, Our Sovereign King, the beginning and end of all things You have made your Church to be a people that bears witness to the goodness and beauty of your kingdom.

By your Holy Spirit, you have united us as one body called to live as one family of God. Fill our hearts with your grace, Give us the patience to share one another's burdens, And give us the courage to always be friends of the truth. May we remain with you always. Amen

What happened at the Synod and why it matters for the future of the Church.

Talk & discussion with Dr Austen Ivereigh, participant in October synod in Rome. **Talk this Wednesday 22nd November 7pm at SFX Church**



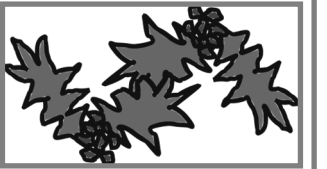
Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist	Ministers of the Word
6pm Jane Gennard Sarah Slancauskas Ancy Shajan	6pm Stuart Fox
8am Frances Hetterley Cecilia Balestra	8am Dorothy Kennedy
10am Mary Cook Jaimol James Moses Obanimoh	10am Deidre Schofield



St Francis Xavier's Church, is hosting a special **Mass for the Filipino Community on Sunday 26th November at 12 noon.** The celebrant will be Fr Francisco Cruz. All Filipinos from local parishes are welcome to attend. It will be followed by a shared lunch in the hall. Please bring food to share. Join us for this celebration if you can.

Christmas in the Parish

During Advent and the Christmas season, our main focus is of course spiritual. However, it will also an opportunity to build community links within the parish and to raise some funds, which are always needed to maintain our beautiful church. We have not had a Christmas Bazaar or raffle since before Covid. This year, we plan to combine a Christmas gathering with some festive fund raising and hope that everybody will be able to enjoy participating.



SFX Christmas Party

Sunday 17th December This will take place in the Parish Hall after the 10 am Mass until 1 pm. This is an unusual time for a party but is necessary in order to fit around other events! It will be a chance to socialise over a festive glass of mulled wine and a mince pie and to try your luck at the bottle stall and children's Lucky Dip. The draw for the Christmas Raffle and Christmas Hamper will take place at 12noon. How can you help?

Tickets will go on sale shortly, for the Parish Christmas Raffle and Christmas Hamper Raffle. Lists of items to be donated for the hampers will go up in the Narthex. Please respond with your customary SFX generosity.

A lot of bottles are needed for a bottle stall! Any bottled drinks are very welcome, but especially **beer, wines and spirits!!** Please bring donations for the bottle stall to any Mass and bring them to Sacristy. Bottles brought to the church at any other time need to be handed in at the Presbytery.

Please note: It is very important not to leave any bottles in the Narthex.

A Cup of Tea / Coffee and Cake

Everyone is invited to come along to the Parish Hall after the 10.00am Mass. Come along and bring a friend.



Collections 4th/5th Nov
1st Collection £403.85
2nd Collection £292.00



Parish Calendar - November/December

Mon 20th	7.00pm	SVP in Parish Hall
Wed 22nd	7.00pm	Austen Ivereigh Talk
Sun 26th	12 Noon	Filipino Mass SFX
Sun 17th Dec	11.00am	SFX Christmas Party