



ST FRANCIS XAVIER'S CATHOLIC CHURCH HEREFORD

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Dear All, I hope many of you will be able to come to Belmont on Thursday 14th for our Deanery Celebration, the first such gathering for many years. Weather-permitting, Mass will be on the Abbey Lawns, with refreshments afterwards. Our Filipino choir will be contributing to the singing.

We chose the day because Thursday marks the feast of the Exultation of the Holy Cross when we celebrate the Cross as a sign of love and victory: "We should glory in the Cross of our Lord Jesus Christ." Belmont is privileged to have a relic of the Holy Cross, a small fragment not much bigger than a splinter, normally displayed twice a year on Good Friday and this feast. Mass will conclude with a Blessing of the Relic.

We were up on the church roof this week to look at the placement of the proposed solar panels. The south-facing section of the roof is perfect for the job, and out of sight from below. What a view from the roof! It was my first visit up there. I am really excited about the project, and it will have a real impact in reducing our electricity bills, however it will take time because we have to await approval of both Historic Churches and Herefordshire Council first.

It was good to have our Youth Group meet yesterday for 'faith and fellowship'. Some of our servers spent the day cleaning the church railings, I hope you noticed! Thank you to them. Enjoy the sunshine. **Fr Brendan**

Liturgical Calendar September 2023 Year A Psalter Wk 3

Sat 9th	10.30am	Blessed Frederic Ozanam (SVP)	Peace in Ukraine
Sat 9th	11.00am	Confessions and Adoration	
Sat 9th	6.00pm	23RD SUNDAY	Vincent Hanna RIP
Sun 10th	8.00am	23RD SUNDAY	John Paul Towson RIP
Sun 10th	10.00am	23RD SUNDAY	Parish
Mon 11th	9.30am	Feria	Gilbert Fresle
Tue 12th	No public Mass here. Mass at OL 9.30am		
Wed 13th	1.00pm	St John Chrysostom, Bishop and Doctor of the Church.	Ian Power (Return to good health)
Thur 14th	6.30pm Belmont Abbey	EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS NB No Morning Mass	St John Kemble Deanery
Fri 15th	1.00pm	Our Lady of Sorrows	Clare Young RIP
Sat 16th	10.30am	Sts Cornelius, Pope, and Cyprian, Bishop.	English Benedictines
Sat 16th	11.00am	Confessions and Adoration	
Sat 16th	6.00pm	24TH SUNDAY	Parish
Sun 17th	8.00am	24TH SUNDAY	Thanksgiving
Sun 17th	10.00am	24TH SUNDAY	Virginio Schiavon RIP

Today is Education Sunday

Education Sunday falls on the 2nd Sunday of September, just as the new academic year begins, and is one of the oldest Days of Special Prayer in England and Wales, established 175 years ago in 1848. It provides an opportunity to celebrate and give thanks to all involved in making catholic schools places of enlightenment, as well as to look forward in anticipation of the year ahead. We pray for all who work in catholic education.



Remembrance

Mary Pockett, Anthony Coyne, Gilbert Fresle, Henriette Crane, Vincent Hanna, Valentine Bird, Kevin Pockett, Andrea Balleza Bernhard Grobelny, Louisa Weed, Veronica Foden, Bernadette Carroll, Colin Phillips.
Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen.



Prayer for the Sick:

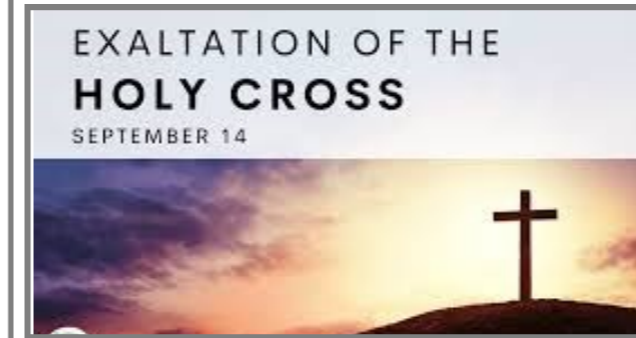
Ania Kuzba, Jan Beavan, Malcolm Darke, Ian Power, Robbie Bell, Meg Furber, Ann Currie, Midad Jasari, David Madgen, Lynne Howells, Christina James, Nicola Merrick, Martin O'Connor, Patricia Moroney, Fr Keith, George Mecina, Sarah, Margaret Skelding, Ana Rudnicki, Dennis Schiavon, David John Warr.

Our special Deanery Mass At Belmont this Thursday at 6.30pm



Invite a friend, encourage another parishioner and perhaps do a car share. Do your best to come along to share in the liturgy and a deanery social afterwards.
At the back of Church there is a sign up sheet if you would like a lift. If you can please bring a cake or something sweet for the shared table.

The Mass is on Thursday 14th September which was chosen especially to celebrate an important feast day of the Church, "The Exaltation of the Holy Cross" The feast, more than anything else, is a celebration and commemoration of God's greatest work: his salvific death on the Cross and His Resurrection, through which death was defeated and the doors to Heaven opened. The entrance antiphon for the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross is: "We should glory in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, for he is our salvation, our life and our resurrection: through him we are saved and made free."



Congratulations, Fr. Brendan on your 30th Anniversary of ordination to the priesthood which you **celebrated** this week.



Ad Multos Annos!

Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist	Ministers of the Word
6pm Jane Gennard Imogen Cockcroft Vigeetha Joseph	6pm Fiona Stokes
8am Vera McHale Cecilia Balestra	8am Stephen Cleeve
10am Mary Cook Peter Cunningham Dominic Smedley	10am Deidre Schofield



This Weekend at 3.00pm Sunday 10th

In the beautiful grounds of the Catholic Tintern Abbey in the Forest of Dean an ecumenical sung vespers for peace in the world. Bring your own folding chair. **NP16 6SE**

Altar Servers - Mass & Outing



Each year, the Guild of St Stephen celebrates a Mass for all the altar servers in England and Wales. This year, for the first time, this is being held at our cathedral in Cardiff. We thought it would make a great outing for our servers to go to

this Mass and combine it with a fun activity (probably bowling) and some food. To see if this is feasible we need to know how many servers would want to go. The Mass is at noon on **Saturday 14th October**. If you would like to go, please email servers@sfxhereford.org.uk to let us know - ideally during this week. For servers under 16, please ask your parent/guardian to email.

Next Sunday there is a Mandatory Collection

for Evangelii Gaudium Day, (formerly Home Mission Sunday); this is when the Church in England and Wales renews her commitment to evangelisation and witness. Please pray for the success of this work, and support the retiring collection for the work of the Mission Department of the Catholic Bishops' Conference. More information next week and at <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/what-is-evangelii-gaudium-sunday/>

Parish Count Mass collectors please note:

For the next 4 weekends starting 16/17th Sept we will be having our annual mass count. Please would you count at the end of the collection and fill in the forms in sacristy. Thank you.

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



Thank you!

Collections for 2nd/3rd Sept

1st Collection **£560.90**
2nd Collection **£492.02**

Parish Calendar - September

Sun 10th	3.00pm	Vespers at Tintern Abbey
Thur 14th	6.30pm	Deanery Mass at Belmont
Mon 18th	7.00pm	SVP in Parish Hall
Wed 20th	6.30pm	ABC Bible study group