




# ST FRANCIS XAVIER'S CATHOLIC CHURCH HEREFORD

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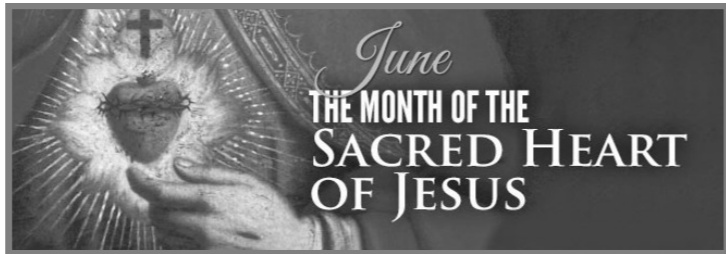
**Happy feast of Pentecost!** Today before the Gospel we will have the Golden Sequence – *Veni Sancte Spiritus* attributed to Cardinal Stephen Langton, Archbishop of Canterbury. It invites the Holy Spirit to send a ray of light upon us from heaven. “*Cleanse what is unclean, water what is parched, heal what is wounded*” we pray “*Bend what is inflexible, warm what is chilled, correct what has gone astray.*” A lovely prayer – you will find different translations. All of us I am sure need that light, guidance and healing of the Holy Spirit. May the Spirit warm our sometimes indifferent and cold hearts.

Let us pray for our youngsters taking their exams at this time, particularly those who will be moving ahead in their life’s journey into further studies or work. May the Holy Spirit fill them with wisdom and understanding. Let us also remember our parish children who have made their First Holy Communion this weekend. Congratulations!

Let us sing lustily today at our May Procession after the 10am Mass, that we stay close to Mary our Mother in these final days of May. Enjoy this lovely weather. **Fr Brendan**


**Liturgical Calendar May/June 2023 Year A Psalter week 4**

Sat 27th	<b>NB</b> 10.00am	St Augustine of Canterbury Parish First Holy Communion	Holy Communion Children
Sat 27th	<b>NB</b> 12 noon Confessions		
Sat 27th	6.00pm	VIGIL OF PENTECOST	Albert Gregg Anniversary
Sun 28th	8.00am	PENTECOST	Family members
Sun 28th	10.00am	PENTECOST May Procession	Parish
Mon 29th	9.30am	MARY, Mother Of The Church	Norman Berry RIP
Tue 30th	No public Mass. Mass at Our Lady’s 9.30am		
Wed 31st	11.00am	Requiem Mass for Stanley Howard	
Wed 31st	1.00pm	THE VISITATION OF OUR LADY	Shirley Smith RIP
Thu 1st June	<b>NB</b> 8.00am	JESUS CHRIST ETERNAL HIGH PRIEST	Kathryn Morison (Sick)
Fri 2nd	1.00pm	Feria	John MacGregor RIP
Sat 3rd	10.30am	St Charles Lwanga and Comp. Martyrs	Daniel and Ellen Looney RIP
Sat 3rd	11.00am Confessions and Adoration		
Sat 3rd	6.00pm	HOLY TRINITY VIGIL MASS	Jival Varghese Jose (Birthday)
Sun 4th	8.00am	HOLY TRINITY	John MacGregor RIP
Sun 4th	10.00am	HOLY TRINITY	Parish



**The Cycle of Prayer:**  
**During Ordinary Time (Summer)**  
We are asked to pray for these intentions: A Deeper Understanding between Christians and Jews; Those who Suffer Persecution, Oppression and Denial of Human Rights; Europe; Human Life; Seafarers.

**Remembrance**  
Brendan Connolly, Frances Thomas, Lucy Criasia, Jayne McGloin, Peter Horne, Barbara Jennings, Stanley Borysiuk.




**Recently Died**  
**John MacGregor and Stephanie West**  
**Stanley Howard** Requiem Wed 31st May 11.00am  
**Catherine Wales** Requiem Monday 5th June 10am

**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, Joan Colley, Fr Keith, Ausura Chukarov, Robbie Bell, Meg Furber, Midad Jasari, Jan Beavan, David Madgen, Lynne Howells, Margaret Skelding, Christina James, Nicola Merrick, Martin O’Connor, Ann Currie, Patricia Moroney, Mary Elizabeth, George Mecina, Ana Rudnicki.

## The Visitation

May, the month of Mary, ends on Wednesday with the Feast of the Visitation.



*And blessed is the fruit of your womb*

This feast commemorates the great Biblical scene of the newly -expectant Mary visiting her cousin Elizabeth. It is the beautiful passage which we read in the Gospel (Luke 1 39:56)


The humble maiden from Nazareth, still amazed at what the Angel Gabriel had announced to her – that is, that she would be the mother of the promised Messiah -, learned that in her old age her elderly kinswoman Elizabeth had also conceived a son. She immediately set out with haste for the house of her cousin, the Evangelist notes (cf. Lk 1: 39), to offer her help at a time of special need. How can we fail to see that the hidden protagonist in the meeting between the young Mary and the by-then elderly Elizabeth is Jesus? Mary bears him in her womb as in a sacred tabernacle and offers him as the greatest gift to Zechariah, to Elizabeth, his wife, and also to the infant developing in her womb. “Behold”, the Mother of John the Baptist says, “when the voice of your greeting came to my ears, the babe in my womb leaped for joy” (Lk 1: 44) Whoever opens his or her heart to the Mother encounters and welcomes the Son and is pervaded by his joy. True Marian devotion never obscures or diminishes faith and love for Jesus Christ Our Saviour, the one Mediator between God and humankind. On the contrary, entrustment to Our Lady is a privileged path, tested by numerous saints, for a more faithful following of the Lord. Consequently, let us entrust ourselves to her with filial abandonment!’, **Pope Benedict XVI**

**Holy land Pilgrimage**  
Two Parishes in Cardiff, Holy Family and St Mary of the Angels Church are planning a 10 day Pilgrimage to the Holy Land in April of 2024 through Pilgrimage People. Price: £2,250 per person sharing a twin/double room on a half-board basis. (contact office for further details)


Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist	Ministers of the Word
<b>6pm</b> Wendy Winterburn Imogen Cockcroft Kathy Weston	<b>6pm</b> Helen Booth
<b>8am</b> Angela Holmes Cecilia Balestra	<b>8am</b> Stephen Cleeve
<b>10am</b> Mia Brennan, Moses Obanimoh Jaimol James	<b>10am</b> Liz Symonds

**A Date for Your Diaries**  
**Friday June 23 7.00pm**

**A special concert here in SFX Church by the Hereford Police Choir**




“The beautiful Saint Francis Xavier’s church are hosting a very special event. An evening with the Hereford Police Choir. Come and join us for a two part concert of singing by Herefords most iconic male voice choir accompanied by refreshments. All charitably in aid of the pilgrims travelling to World Youth Day in Portugal.”




**Come Down O Love Divine!**

**The 7 Gifts of the Holy Spirit are:**  
wisdom, understanding, counsel, fortitude, knowledge, piety, fear of the Lord.




**The 12 Fruits of the Holy Spirit are:**  
charity, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, generosity, gentleness, faithfulness, modesty, self-control, chastity.



**From CAFOD South Wales: Did you know that** Church teaching says that we should not only support those in poverty but also tackle the root causes of poverty? Pope Benedict XVI said that “Love – caritas – is an extraordinary force which leads people to opt for courageous and generous engagement in the field of justice and peace.” For decades CAFOD has spoken out against injustice. To find out more and get involved in tackling the root causes of poverty, please go to [cafod.org.uk/latestcampaigns](http://cafod.org.uk/latestcampaigns) or



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



**Collections for 20th/21st May**  
**1st Collection £507.84**  
**2nd Collection £412.88**  
**Special collection**  
**World Communication day**  
**£208.34**

**Parish Calendar**

27th May	10.00am	First Holy Communions (Parish)
28th May	11.15am	May Procession
1st June	7.00pm	PAC meeting
5th June	7.00pm	SVP in Parish Hall (All Welcome)
7th June	6.30pm	ABC Bible group (All Welcome)
23rd June	7.00pm	Hereford Police choir concert SFX