



ST FRANCIS XAVIER'S CATHOLIC CHURCH HEREFORD

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Dear Friends, this last week we've celebrated the feast days of Bernard, Pius X, and John Kemble, a French man, an Italian, and an Englishman. These three saints lived in the 11th and 12th centuries, the 16th and 17th centuries and the 19th and 20th centuries. Bernard was one of the early Cistercian monks; Pius X was Pope, and John Kemble was one of the 40 English and Welsh martyrs canonized by Pope Paul VI in 1970. Bernard was the founder of the monastery of Clairvaux. He was sent there from the monastery of Citeaux and fathered many reforms. His influence spread across Europe. Popes and bishops asked him to arbitrate disputes: he roused the faithful throughout Europe. Pius X, when elected pope in 1903, worked 'to restore all things in Christ.' He urged frequent reception of Communion and restored the place of Gregorian chant in the liturgy. As a parish, we have a particular link with John Kemble, having a relic of his hand in our church. He is a Hereford man who served as a priest at a time of persecution, when it was not possible to celebrate the mass openly. These three saints were men of prayer who had Christ at the centre of their lives. During their lives, they passed on the beauty of God's love to others. Each one of us is called to do the same, sharing the beauty and love of Christ, the gift we received at our baptism. Not only should we pass on this gift, but we should open our hearts to receive the gift of God's love from our neighbour.

Fr James

Liturgical Calendar August 2025 Yr C Psalter Wk 1

Sat 23rd	10.30pm	MASS OF OUR LADY	<i>Studies</i>
Sat 23rd	11.00am	Confessions & Adoration	
Sat 23rd	6.00pm	21ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	<i>Sheelagh Schofield</i>
Sun 24th	8.00am	21ST SUNDAY	<i>John, James & Thomas</i>
Sun 24th	10.00am	21ST SUNDAY	<i>Doreen Giles RIP</i>
Mon 25th	9.30am Rosary 9am	Feria	<i>C.O.Chacko RIP</i>
Tue 26th	NO PUBLIC MASS. Mass at Our Lady's 9.30		
Wed 27th	1.00pm	St Monica	<i>Holy Souls</i>
Thu 28th	9.30am	St Augustine, Bishop and Doctor of the Church	<i>Bill & Nora Mills RIP</i>
Fri 29th	1.00pm	The Passion of St John the Baptist (Healing Mass)	<i>Brian Symonds RIP</i>
Sat 30th	10.30am	MASS OF OUR LADY	<i>Souls in purgatory</i>
Sat 30th	11.00am	Confessions & Adoration	
Sat 30th	6.00pm	22ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	<i>Louis Williams RIP</i>
Sun 31st	8.00am	22ND SUNDAY	<i>The Parish</i>
Sun 31st	10.00am	22ND SUNDAY	<i>John Moroney RIP</i>

Faith in the News: Julie Etchingham In conversation with Austen Ivereigh Wednesday 27th August.



Julie is journalist and broadcaster, familiar to many from the ITV News. Refreshments 4.00pm, start 4.30pm. At about 5.15pm Abbot Brendan will bless the monastery's new guesthouse accommodation. Belmont Abbey, Hereford, HR2 9RZ.



Organist Required. Following the recent retirement of Eleanor Perks, we are looking for an organist or keyboard player to help with the music at Mass. We are very grateful to have our organist, Bernard Young, play at most of our masses, but we do need to have another organist to join the team. If you need refresher lessons, this can be provided. Please see Father John or James.

We remember all who have died and those whose anniversaries occur about this time
Anniversaries: Declan O'Brien, Velina Milsom, Marion Prosser, Eva Connolly, Jean Goldrick, John Richardson, Fr Anthony Tumelty, Margaret Bartlett, Douglas James, Mary Dyke, Anthony Rosser, Eileen Treanor, Mary Foulkes, Bruna Hennikker-Heaton.



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, David Madgen, Lynne Howells, Katherine Melia, Christina James, Ana Rudnicki, Nicola Merrick, Martin O'Connor, Patricia Moroney, Margaret Davis, Margaret Skelding, James Spradbery, Teresa Bord, Sarah, Ann Marie Hughson, Patricia Marongiu, Pauline and David Day, Mark Edmunds, Rita Rees, Didit Buhain, Margaret Davis, Sarah James, Kath Feely.

Healing and Hope: Mass with the Anointing of the Sick Friday, 29th August 2025 | 1pm | SFX

This coming Friday we look forward to celebrating a special Mass, which will include the sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick. This is one of the seven sacraments of the Church, given to bring God's grace, strength, and healing to those who are seriously ill, preparing for major surgery, weakened by old age, or in danger of death. It is given to baptised Catholics for spiritual healing by which the sick person receives the Holy Spirit's gift of peace and courage to deal with the difficulties that accompany serious illness or the frailty of old age. Through the prayer of the Church and the anointing with holy oil, the sick person is united more closely to Christ in his suffering and is given peace.

This sacrament is not only for those at the point of death but for anyone facing serious illness or frailty, reminding them that they are not alone but held in God's love and supported by the community of faith. It may be received more than once, whenever the person's condition changes or worsens, and it assures the faithful of Christ's nearness in times of suffering and trial.

This celebration us reminds to pray for our brothers and sisters in our parish, particularly those who cannot ordinarily make it to Mass due to bad health or disability. It is an opportunity to accompany them in prayer, especially to welcome them to church and spend time with them. This is our chance to help them celebrate the Holy Year by being tangible signs of hope.

Whether you are receiving the sacrament or coming to pray in support of others, your presence will be a great gift. The Mass will be followed by refreshments in the parish hall.

"Let us pray that the sacrament of the anointing of the sick grant the Lord's strength to those who receive it and to their loved ones, and that it may become an ever more visible sign of compassion and hope." – Pope Francis



Ministers of the Eucharist		Ministers of the Word	
6pm	Wendy Winterburn Kathy Weston Angela Holmes	6pm	Fiona Stokes Helen Booth
8am	Vera McHale Cecilia Balestra	8am	Stephen Cleeve Dorothy Kennedy
10am	Thomas Kottuppatill Noel Elegado Gerald Okafor	10am	Audrey Fussell Liz Symonds

Parish BBQ Sunday 31st August

Make the most of summer and enjoy the company of fellow parishioners at a Parish BBQ in the Presbytery Garden, following the 10 am Mass on Sunday 31st August. Tickets cost £8 Adults, Children £3, Families £20 (2 Adults +2 under 16). All food and first drink included. Squash and water will be available, but otherwise please bring your own extra drinks. Veggie options will be available. Gather for drinks and nibbles in the garden from 11.30 am, with food being served from 1200.

Tickets will be on sale after all Masses this weekend (23rd/24th August). Don't forget to buy your tickets! We can only cater for those who buy tickets in advance.

Everyone Welcome, look forward to seeing you there.



ANNUAL PILGRIMAGE to the GRAVE of SAINT JOHN KEMBLE SUNDAY 24TH AUGUST 2025 10.15am Monmouth to Welsh

Newton Pilgrims set off to walk to Welsh Newton from St Mary's Church, Monmouth after 9.15am Mass. Everyone welcome – bring a packed lunch.

3.00pm Welsh Newton Rosary, readings & prayers at St. John Kemble's grave in the Churchyard at Welsh Newton.

4.15pm Monmouth Benediction in St Mary's Church and afterwards tea will be served in the garden, and produce sold.

The Annual Pilgrimage is a blessing for the Parish and all who come.

Wednesday 17th September 7.00pm is our next parish pastoral council meeting. We are looking for 2/3 new members. If you would like to be considered or to nominate someone please put names in the suggestion box at the back of the church or email the office. **Parish AGM meeting Wednesday 15th of October 7.00pm. Open to Everyone**



Parish 200 Club. We have pleasure in announcing the winners of the **July Draw**. 1st Sylvia Cockroft £30; 2nd Val Vaughan Williams £20; 3rd Vera McHale £10. **The SUMMER STAR DRAW prize of £100 goes to Jo Cole.** Congratulations to the Winners, who can collect their letters from the Sacristy. *Paul & Brenda*

Welcome to new parishioners and visitors. Do introduce yourselves to the welcomers and **come along after the 10.00am Mass for coffee and cake.**



Collections 17/08/2025
1st £444.65 The Parish
2nd £369.64 Renovation



What's on in August 2025

Sun 24th	3.00pm	Annual Pilgrimage to the grave of St John Kemble
Fri 29th	1.00pm	Mass with the Anointing of the Sick
Sun 31st	12.00 Noon	Parish BBQ