


ST FRANCIS XAVIER'S CATHOLIC CHURCH HEREFORD

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Dear All, I love it when November comes around. Although we are moving into winter and the nights are drawing in, the month begins with a blaze of glory with All Saints Day, 1st November, one of the great feasts of the year.

November is also a time when we remember the Faithful Departed. While on the 2nd we pray for All Souls, during the month we pray especially for our loved ones who are being purified in love (what we call purgatory) to join the saints with God. November is filled with faith, hope and love as we remember those who gave us so much when they were alive, whom we now entrust to God.

Do you know the lovely Catholic tradition of placing the names of family and friends on the altar during November? There they are held close to Christ, in the Sacrifice of the Mass, where he intercedes for the living and the dead. Just place their names inside the envelope at the back of the church and hand them in at the Sacristy. It is a beautiful thing to do, to bring our departed family and friends close to Christ in the Mass. There is an extra Mass for All Saints (a Holy Day of Obligation) and Mass for All Souls is at 1pm instead of 9.30am. Please make a note of the Mass times. There are also extra Masses at Belmont and Our Lady's.


Following the vandalism in the church we now have a new security alarm installed. It covers the sanctuary area so please be careful not to go beyond the ropes when they are up. If you see anything untoward, let me know in the parish house. **Fr Brendan**




Liturgical Calendar October/November 2023			
Sat 28th	10.30am	STS SIMON AND JUDE	Ann McManus
Sat 28th	11.00am	Confessions and Adoration	
Sat 28th	6.00pm	30TH SUNDAY	Peace
Sun 29th	8.00am	30TH SUNDAY	Parish
Sun 29th	10.00am	30TH SUNDAY	Gismonda Symonds RIP
Mon 30th	9.30am <i>Rosary at 8.55am</i>	Feria	Holy Souls
Tues 31st	6.00pm	ALL SAINTS (Vigil)	Sick & housebound
Wed 1st Nov	1.00pm	ALL SAINTS SOLEMNITY	Fr Benjamin Busko RIP
Thu 2nd	1.00pm NB NOT 9.30am	ALL SOULS Commemoration of all the faithful departed	Holy Souls
Fri 3rd	1.00pm	St Winefride	Holy Souls
Sat 4th	10.30am	St Charles Borromeo	English Benedictine Congregation
Sat 4th	11.00am	Confessions and Adoration	
Sat 4th	6.00pm	31ST SUNDAY	Parish
Sun 5th	8.00am	31ST SUNDAY	Peace for Ukraine
Sun 5th	10.00am	31ST SUNDAY	Parish



What happened at the Synod and why it matters for the future of the Church. Talk & discussion with Dr Austen Ivereigh, participant in the Oct 4-29 synod assembly in Rome. There are two opportunities to hear this talk.
1. **Saturday November 4th** 10.30am-12 Noon at Hedley Lodge, Belmont Abbey, Hereford.
2. **Wednesday 22nd** November 7pm SFX Church.




We welcome into God's family **Oliver Davies** who will be baptised this Saturday at 4.00pm and **Isla Burley** on Sunday at 12noon. We warmly welcome Oliver and Isla and all their family.



Remembrance: Shiela Schofield, Guisekina Newnes, Carol Joyce, John Brown, Mary Sanders, Maria Quinn, Sarah Stansbury, Gismonda Symonds, Anthony Clark. Leonard Mason
Lately Dead
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, Malcolm Darke, Fr Keith, Sarah, Robbie Bell, Meg Furber, Ann Currie, Midad Jasari, David Madgen, Lynne Howells, Maureen Tye, Katherine Melia, Christina James, Nicola Merrick, Martin O'Connor, Patricia Moroney, George Mecina, Margaret Skelding, Ana Rudnicki, Dennis Schiavon, David John Warr, Stephen Booth, Rory Williams.

ALL SAINTS DAY NOVEMBER 1ST




All Saints' Day was formally instituted by Pope Boniface IV, who consecrated the Pantheon at Rome to the Virgin Mary and all the Martyrs on May 13 in the year 609. The Saints are those people who have so surrendered their lives to Christ that he is able to work powerfully through them. Think of some of the great saints in the last couple of centuries. Bernadette of Lourdes, Therese of Lisieux, Fr Maximilian Kolbe, Teresa of Calcutta and Saint John Paul II.



We too are called to be saints. **This is a solemnity (A holy day of obligation) in the Catholic Church.** We should be at Mass (unless we are excused by illness, work or other good reason). We get our word *holiday* from the concept of a "holy" day, and so a "holy day" of obligation is really a "holiday" of obligation. We go to Mass on these days to rejoice. At the heart of Christianity is the belief that we have something to rejoice over: our salvation in Christ. The Church invites us to Mass on these holy days to remind us of this reason to rejoice. If we go about our time distracted from this truth, we are forgetting *the* most important thing, the thing most worth celebrating. The Church isn't telling us, "Go to Mass so you can pay your debt"; it's telling us, "Your debt has been paid! **Go to Mass to celebrate!**"

NOVEMBER dead list envelopes are available at the back of church. They will be placed on the altar throughout the month of November.



Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist	Ministers of the Word
6pm Jane Gennard Imogen Cockcroft Vigeetha Joseph	6pm Stuart Fox
8am Angela Holmes Vera McHale	8am Dorothy Kennedy
10am Thomas Kottappullil Mary Cook Moses Obanimoh	10am Andy Milne

SFX Thursday Social Club

In response to a suggestion made by several parishioners in the Parish Survey, a new afternoon social club will be trialled. **The Thursday Social Club will meet on the first Thursday of the month 1.30 - 3.00 pm in the Parish Hall.** Activities could include prayer, discussion, simple craft activities, games, singing and refreshments, but can be tailored to meet the ideas of those attending. Come along and enjoy the company of your fellow parishioners! Everyone is most welcome. The first meeting will be on Thursday 2nd November.



Second Collection for Sick & Retired Clergy Fund: 4th/5th November


Next weekend there will be a second collection for the Archdiocese's Sick & Retired Clergy Fund. The fund makes a vital contribution to providing our priests with a secure and dignified retirement. Last year this cost the diocese some £165,000. Making a donation is one way in which we can simply say 'thank you' for the service these priests have given to Christ, the Church and our parish communities. Please support them to the best of your abilities.

CATHOLIC YOUTH MINISTRY INTERNSHIPS


Castlerigg Manor (The Lancaster Diocese Retreat Centre) is looking for young Catholics aged 18-25 to join their Youth Ministry Internship Programme. The scheme gives participants wide ranging experience, skills, training, and qualifications as well as the opportunity to work with a fantastic team based in the English Lake District. For more information - director@castleriggmanor.co.uk



Parish 200 Club. Winners for the **September Draw 2023** 1st Dorothy Kennedy £30; 2nd Mary Perris £20; 3rd David Ling £10.
October Draw 2023 1st James Ling £30; 2nd Vera McHale £20; 3rd Sylvia Cockcroft £10. Winners can collect their letters from the Sacristy.



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 30th/1st Oct
1st Collection **£379.11**
2nd Collection **£ 308.73**




Parish Calendar - November

Wed 1st	6.30pm	ABC Bible study group
Thur 2nd	1.30-3pm	Thursday Social club meeting.
Thur 2nd	6.00pm	Choir Practice
Mon 6th	7.00pm	SVP in Parish Hall