



ST FRANCIS XAVIER'S CATHOLIC CHURCH HEREFORD

Served by the monks of Belmont Abbey- Parish Priest Fr. Brendan Thomas OSB,
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Dear All, it is hard to believe that I have to say GOODBYE. My heart is filled with a mixture of gratitude, sorrow, and immense love. The past three months have been a profound journey, one that has left an indelible mark on my soul. I have been deeply blessed to walk alongside you, sharing in your joys, your struggles, your faith, and your love.

From the moment I arrived, you welcomed me with open arms and open hearts. Your warmth, kindness, and generosity have been a true testament to the spirit of this wonderful community. Together, we have prayed, laughed, cried, and grown in our faith. Each moment has been a gift, each interaction a blessing. I have witnessed the strength of your faith, the beauty of our community come alive in the way you care for one another, support each other, and live out the teachings of Christ in your daily lives. Your faithfulness has been an inspiration to me, and I am deeply grateful for the ways you have enriched my own spiritual journey.

As I prepare to leave, my heart is heavy with the thought of saying goodbye. But I find comfort in knowing that the bonds we have formed are not bound by time or distance. The memories we have created together will remain with me always, and I will carry you all in my prayers and in my heart.

I extend my heartfelt gratitude to Fr. Brendan for inviting me to be part of this holy family. His orientation he gave me, his love and kindness, reveal the fatherly love. I am going back to my monastery, Mvimwa Abbey in Tanzania. I will be happy to welcome you all. You may reach me anytime through email: gregory.sambi@ottilien.net.

Fr Gregory



Liturgical Calendar June 2024 Yr B Psalter Wk 1

Sat 1st	10.30am	St Justin, Martyr	Michael O'Sullivan
Sat 1st	11.00am	Confessions and Adoration	
Sat 1st	6.00pm	CORPUS CHRISTI	Valerian Lobo
Sun 2nd	8.00am	CORPUS CHRISTI	Thanksgiving for blessing received
Sun 2nd	10.00am	CORPUS CHRISTI followed by Corpus Christi Procession	The Parish
Mon 3rd	9.30am	St Charles Lwanga and Companions	Jival Jose
Tues 4th	No Mass here. Please check with OL newsletter.		
Wed 5th	1.00pm	St Boniface Bishop and Martyr	Brian Daw
Thurs 6th	*8.00am	Feria	Holy Souls
Fri 7th	1.00pm	THE MOST SACRED HEART OF JESUS	Daniel, Ellen Looney
Sat 8th	10.30am	The Immaculate Heart of Mary	Florence - Thanksgiving
Sat 8th	11.00am	Confessions and Adoration	
Sat 8th	6.00pm	10TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	Holy Souls
Sun 9th	8.00am	10TH SUNDAY	Jean and Cyril Green
Sun 9th	10.00am	10TH SUNDAY	The Parish



Prayers Please. As you may know on Monday 3rd and Tuesday 4th June the monastic community at Belmont Abbey will elect a new abbot. Our current abbot, Paul, has been at the helm for the last twenty four years and will take a well-earned retirement to Leominster and Bromyard where he will become their new parish priest. We will all keep him in our prayers and wish him well. The election of an abbot is a very important milestone in the life of any monastic community and affects everyone, not only the monks but the wider Benedictine family of which this parish of Saint Francis Xavier is part. We pray for the Belmont community as they meet in chapter that they will be guided by the Holy Spirit to choose a wise and holy abbot who will lead us all into a deeper relationship with God.

We remember all those whose anniversaries occur about this time.

Peter Kelly, Paddy Baker, Patricia Clark, Dom Luke Waring OSB
Lately Dead

Brian Daw – Requiem Mass – Wednesday 12th June at 1.00pm.
Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen



Pray for the Sick: Fr Keith, Ania Kuzba, Jan Beavan, Robbie Bell, Brian Symonds, Meg Furber, Ann Currie, Midad Jasari, David Madgen, Lynne Howells, Sarah, Katherine Melia, Christina James, Ana Rudnicki, Nicola Merrick, Teresa Loftus, Martin O'Connor, Patricia Moroney, George Mecina, Margaret Skelding, David Warr, James Spradbery.

Calling all SFX Parishioners! Corpus Christi Procession

This Sunday we will have our annual Corpus Christi procession through Hereford city centre. It is not exclusive to 10am Mass goers but is a privilege for all parishioners to take part in. The procession begins straight after the 10.00am Mass at approximately 11.15am. The procession will go past the cathedral down Church Street and into High Town before coming back along Broad Street. The procession normally takes about 20mins.

It is wonderful when we have a really good turnout of parishioners, which makes the procession so much more powerful. **Hope you can join us.**



Message From Fr Brendan



I would like to take the opportunity to thank Fr Gregory for looking after things while I have been away. Many of you have told me how much you have enjoyed his presence, learned from his homilies and appreciated his kindness. I met a monk recently from a community in the United States where Fr Gregory had studied. He told me that Fr Gregory was known as 'The Archbishop' because of his graceful and serene presence! He has only been ordained a year but is already showing himself to be a fine priest. Thank you, Father Gregory for all you have done for us. May God bless you in the years ahead. I would also like to express our gratitude to Abbot Pambo and the community of Mvimwa for lending you to us.

I am back this Sunday evening. All has gone well. I have missed the parish, but I know that the work I have been doing has been of service to the Benedictine and Cistercian communities around the world.

Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist	Ministers of the Word
6pm Sarah Williams Imogen Cockcroft TBA	6pm Fiona Stokes
8am Vera McHale Cecilia Balestra	8am Stephen Cleeve
10am Mia Brennan Noel Elegado Moses Obanimoh Thomas Kottuppallil	10am Audrey Fussell

Planning our farewell to Fr Gregory

After 3 months at SFX, Fr Gregory will be leaving us on **Wed June 5th**. Everyone is invited to get together to celebrate his time with us and to say goodbye personally after the **weekend Masses on 1st/2nd June**. It would be wonderful if everyone could join one of the following gatherings:

- Drinks (wine/soft drinks) and nibbles after the 6 pm Mass on Saturday 1st June
- Coffee and Croissants after the 8 am Mass on Sunday 2nd June
- Tea/coffee and cake on Sunday 2nd June after the 10 am Mass and Corpus Christi Procession

If you missed the collection at Mass last weekend there is a box at the back of church for your offering. Many Thanks

Film Night 7th June at 7.00pm. SFX Parish Hall.



This is a great classic of a film with a deep and profound moral underpinning and laden with iconic Oscar winning performances. With our big screen and sound system this is a great evening to invite a friend? A lapsed or non Catholic? Gently introduce them to our parish community. Free entry, all welcome.

Belmont Abbey Fete Saturday 15th June 2.00pm On the Abbey Lawns

Save the day! This is a lovely afternoon out for all the family. Free entry with a whole host of stalls and attractions including a mini zoo and a classic car display.



A Cup of Tea/Coffee and Cake

Everyone is invited to come along to the Parish Hall after the 10.00am Mass and procession. A great way to make new friends and meet with Fr Gregory.



Collections 25/26th May
1st £ 392.69 The Parish
2nd £306.67 Renovation



Parish Calendar – June 2024

Sun 2nd	11.15am	Corpus Christi Procession
Mon 3rd	6.30pm	Music group practice
Mon 3rd	7.00pm	SVP
Thurs 6th	1.30pm	Thursday Social Club
Fri 7th	7.00pm	Film Night