

# ST FRANCIS XAVIER'S CATHOLIC CHURCH HEREFORD

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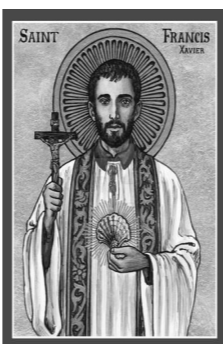
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**Dear All, We welcome Fr John Convery to the parish this weekend, who will make an appeal on behalf of St Francis Xavier Mission Society.** This is the annual appeal we have for the foreign missions so please show your usual generosity. Living under the patronage of St Francis Xavier we are encouraged to look beyond our own shores both to share our faith and help those in need.

How many Herefordshire saints do you know? St John Kemble, of course. But on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> October we will be celebrating the feast of St Thomas of Hereford (a.k.a. Thomas Cantilupe). It is good for us Catholics to honour our own local saints. He was one of the great men of his age, twice Chancellor of Oxford University, and Chancellor of England. He became a reformist Bishop of Hereford much loved locally celebrating Mass, preaching and hearing confessions, making sure his flock was well cared for, and seeking justice for the poor. During the Middle Ages thousands came in pilgrimage to his shrine in the Cathedral and many miracles were said to have been worked at his intercession. The shine was sadly destroyed in the Reformation but recently beautifully restored.  
**Fr Brendan**



## Liturgical Calendar Sept/Oct 2023 Year A Psalter Wk 1

Sat 23rd	10.30am	St Pius of Pietrelcina (Padre Pio)	Varghese/Liji (Wedding Anniversary)
Sat 23rd	11.00am	Confessions and Adoration	
Sat 23rd	6.00pm	25TH SUNDAY	Jogender Singh
Sun 24th	8.00am	25TH SUNDAY	Parish
Sun 24th	10.00am	25TH SUNDAY	Mary Ellen Prosser
Mon 25th	9.30am	Feria	Holy Souls
Tue 26th	No public Mass here. Mass at OL 9.30am		
Wed 27th	1.00pm	St Vincent De Paul	Holy Souls
Thu 28th	9.30am	Our Lady Star of The Sea (Stella Maris)	C.D. Joseph RIP
Fri 29th	1.00pm	STS MICHAEL, GABRIEL & RAPHAEL (FEAST)	Nino & Maria Meschi RIP
Sat 30th	10.30am	St Jerome	Paul D Williams RIP (Anniv.)
Sat 30th	11.00am	Confessions and Adoration	
Sat 30th	6.00pm	26TH SUNDAY	Parish
Sun 1st OCT	8.00am	26TH SUNDAY	Holy Souls
Sun 1st	10.00am	26TH SUNDAY	Tom Hanley

**The monks of Belmont have been invited to sing Vespers (Evening Prayer)** at Hereford Cathedral at 5.30pm on Sunday 1st October in St Thomas's honour. Join us, if you can. Or call into the Cathedral to say a prayer at his shrine, and that through the prayers of St Thomas the sad divisions of the Reformation may be healed.



### Parish AGM Thurs 5th Oct 7.00pm (Mass 6.30)

Everyone is invited to come along and listen and talk about all that is going on in our Parish here at SFX. It is a great opportunity to feel more involved and connected with our church life. **Please would leaders of all parish groups/ministries send in a brief report/look ahead by October 1st. Thank you.**

### Remembrance

Sarah Fawcett, Muriel Reilly, Joan Haswell, Anthony Lloyd, Paul D Williams, Margaret Supple, Reginald Philips, **Lately dead Carmilina Langford 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, Margaret Skelding, Ana Rudnicki, Dennis Schiavon, David John Warr.



### Why do we believe in Angels?

This Friday we have a feast day to celebrate The Archangels Michael, Gabriel, and Raphael but who are these Angels and why do we believe in Angels?

Angels are mentioned in the bible over 200 times and in the New Testament, angels are often seen accompanying Jesus. They are present during his birth (Luke 1:26-38), his temptation in the wilderness (Matthew 4:11), his Resurrection from the dead (John 20:11-13), and they will appear with him again at the final judgment (Matthew 16:27).

**Archangel Michael**- Saint Michael is viewed as the commander of the Army of God. From the time of the apostles, he has been invoked and honoured as the protector of the Church. Scripture describes him as "one of the chief princes" and the leader of heaven's forces in their triumph over the powers of hell.

**Archangel Gabriel**- St. Gabriel is an angel who serves as a messenger for God to certain people. He is one of the three known archangels. Gabriel is mentioned in both the Old and the New Testaments of the Bible. In the New Testament Gabriel appears to Zacharias, the father of John the Baptist. He also appears to Mary "Hail, thou that art highly favoured, the Lord is with thee: blessed art thou among women." Luke 1:28. It is believed he is the Angel who appeared to Joseph in his dream.

**Archangel Raphael**- Raphael is an archangel first mentioned in the Book of Tobit and in 1 Enoch. In later Jewish tradition, he was identified as one of the three heavenly visitors entertained by Abraham at the Oak of Mamre.

### Prayer to St. Michael the Archangel

Saint Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle. Be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the devil; May God rebuke him, we humbly pray; And do thou, O Prince of the Heavenly Host, by the power of God, thrust into hell Satan and all evil spirits who wander through the world for the ruin of souls.



Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist	Ministers of the Word
<b>6pm</b> Wendy Winterburn Ancy Shajan Vigeetha Joseph	<b>6pm</b> Helen Booth
<b>8am</b> Angela Holmes Cecilia Balestra	<b>8am</b> Stephen Booth
<b>10am</b> Mia Brennan Jaimol James Noel Elegado	<b>10am</b> Audrey Fussell

### First Holy Communion Lessons for children at non-Catholic schools



There will be a meeting for parents and children on Saturday 14th October at 4pm in the church. If you would like your child to receive the Sacrament next June please come to this meeting. Children should be in Year 3 or above. Lessons will start on 28th October. If you are unable to attend the meeting please write a letter to me, Brenda Williams via the church giving details of child's name, date of birth and parents email address.



**Fire, Fire.** What would you do if there was a fire during Mass and we all had to get out of the church in a hurry? A small group of parishioners have volunteered to assist with any evacuation during Mass, but we need more named people to help the less mobile to escape safely. If you are interested in becoming a Parish Fire Warden please come to the Hall on Thursday 19th October at 7.00pm and find out how you could help. Thanks. Paul Williams.

### Applying for a place for your child for St Francis Xavier's RC Primary School



If your child was born between 1st September 2019 and 31st August 2020 you will need to apply for a reception class place for your child to start school in September 2024. Please come along and meet our Headteacher, Mrs Pearce and our Reception Class teacher, Miss Smail. Mrs Pearce will give an introductory talk on both mornings at 9.30 am and this will be followed by a tour of the school with Year 6 pupils. Open mornings are on Wednesday 4th October 9.30 am - 10.30 am and Thursday 16th November 9.30 - 10.30 am. There is no need to book. Further details and application forms are available on our school website. Thank you.  
[www.st-francisxaviers.hereford.sch.uk](http://www.st-francisxaviers.hereford.sch.uk)

**Rosary Sign-up Sheet** is now ready at the back of Church. Do consider hosting the Rosary at home. Praying the Rosary brings great blessings on the parish and on families. Our Lady has asked all the faithful to pray with her and the month of October is dedicated to the Holy Rosary.



### Altar Servers - Mass & Outing - Last Chance!

The Altar Server's Mass and Outing is on **Saturday 14th October**. If you would like to go e-mail [servers@sfxhereford.org.uk](mailto:servers@sfxhereford.org.uk). For servers under 16, please ask your parent/guardian to email. This needs to be done **this week!**

### Collections 16th/17th Sept



**1st Collection £379.25**  
**2nd Collection £325.65**  
**Home Mission £396.71**



### Parish Calendar - October

Mon 2nd	7.00pm	SVP Meeting
Wed 4th	6.30pm	ABC Bible Study Group
Thurs 5th	7.00pm	Parish AGM