



ST FRANCIS XAVIER'S CATHOLIC CHURCH HEREFORD

Served by the monks of Belmont Abbey- Parish Priest Fr. Brendan Thomas OSB, 19 Broad St. Hereford, HR4 9AP Tel: 01432 273485: www.sfxhereford.org.uk Hospital Chaplain: Fr Patrick Lobo 07922323603



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Note from Fr Andrew

I want to start off by thanking you all for the wonderful welcome that you have given me since I arrived at St. Francis and for your support as I begin to settle down into life in the parish. I will be 'standing in' as priest-in-charge for the coming month or so until a new parish priest is appointed. A big thank you must also go to Abbot Brendan who has looked after the parish for the last couple of years and for Father Thomas who has filled in for the last few weeks.

Many of you will already know me but for those who don't my name is Father Andrew Berry, I have been a monk of Belmont since 2004 and a priest since 2010. For the last 5 years I have been priest in charge of Our Lady Queen of Martyrs. I am also chaplain to St Mary's Catholic High School. I'm a friendly bloke from Bolton and I don't bite, honest. I am very much looking forward to meeting you all. Please bear with me as I try to find my feet over the next few weeks and keep in mind that priests are only human, we do make mistakes, but hopefully not too many. Let us pray for each other; so that supported by the prayers of Our Blessed Mother Mary, St. Joseph guardian and protector of the Church, and Saint Francis Xavier we can continue to grow closer to God and to each other. May God bless you and all those you know and love.

Fr Andrew OSB

Liturgical Calendar August 2024 Yr B Psalter Wk 4

Sat 17th	10.30am	Mass of Our Lady	Holy Souls
Sat 17th	11.00am	Confessions and Adoration	
Sat 17th	6.00pm	20TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	M A Mathas RIP
Sun 18th	8.00am	20TH SUNDAY	Tom & Kathleen Kinoulty RIP
Sun 18th	10.00am	20TH SUNDAY	The Parish
Mon 19th	9.30am Rosary 9.00am	Feria	Sheelagh Schofield
Tues 20th	No Mass here. Mass at Our Lady's 9.30am St Bernard of Clairvaux, Doctor of the Church		
Wed 21st	1.00pm Adoration 12 noon	St Pius X, Pope	Forgotten Souls
Thu 22nd	09.30am	The Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary	Ints. Blessed Virgin Mary
Fri 23rd	1.00pm Adoration & Divine Mercy	St Rose of Lima	For the Pope's intention
Sat 24th	10.30am	ST BARTHOLOMEW APOSTLE	Holy Souls
Sat 24th	11.00am	Confessions and Adoration	
Sat 24th	6.00pm	21ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	For Our Lady's Intention
Sun 25th	8.00am	21ST SUNDAY	Bill & Kathleen Kennedy RIP
Sun 25th	10.00am	21ST SUNDAY	The Parish



We welcome into God's family Leonardas Liaudaitis and Natan Niedzielski who will be baptised this Saturday at 4.00pm and 4.30pm. We warmly welcome Leonardas and Natan and their families into our parish.

"Adoremus in my parish" On Sunday 15 September, the Bishops of England and Wales invite all parishes to have a period of Exposition to unite the faithful in focusing on the Eucharist, in anticipation of the **Jubilee Year**, with renewed devotion. This can be a Holy Hour or a period of prayer in front of the Blessed Sacrament. It enables us to unite, in our own parishes, with the universal Catholic Church as we come before the Lord in the Blessed Sacrament. More details will follow but don't forget to put the date in your diaries. We ask in frustration, "How can I make the world a better place?" Come before the Blessed Sacrament united in fervent prayer. All of us. The church full.



We remember all who have died and those whose anniversaries occur about this time. Gladys Floyd, Zacarias Balleza, Jennifer Hughes, Cuthbert Rosser, Andrew Thomas, Richeldis Paxton, **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, Martin O'Connor, Patricia Moroney, George Mecina, Margaret Skelding, James Spradbery, Teresa Bord.

St John Kemble was martyred on 22nd August in Hereford. He was hanged on Widemarsh Common and, though spared being drawn and quartered, his left hand was severed. We have this holy relic here at SFX together with his Missal and an icon depicting his martyrdom. Why not pray before his shrine after Mass today or on his feast on Thursday? Why not go on pilgrimage to his grave at Welsh Newton today? St John Kemble is a local saint. Widemarsh Common is just a mile from this church. Why not visit and have a moment of silent prayer there, where he died? Why? To thank him for what he has done for us.

He ministered to ordinary Catholics, like us, around the Welsh Marches and brought them the Mass and the sacraments. When the villainous Titus Oates invented the story of a plot to kill King Charles II, Fr. Kemble had the chance to flee abroad. He was 79 years old but rejected any thought of escape. He said, "According to the course of nature, I have but a few years to live. It will be an advantage to suffer for my religion and, therefore, I will not abscond."

With those few calm words he revealed the depth of his faith and his love for the Lord. Those words did not come out of thin air, but from a life of ministry, sacrifice and loving God, his faith and his flock. Would we have done the same? He did suffer greatly. At the age of 80 he was laid like a pack on horseback, because of infirmity, and taken to London to stand trial and then walked the 130 miles back to Hereford for his execution.

In the reign of King Charles III execution by hanging is not the danger that threatens us. But we can face mockery and perhaps are tempted to be lukewarm in the practice of our faith, forgetful of the debt of thanks we owe to so many courageous martyrs and saints.

Merciful Father, in the moment of temptation, through the intercession of St John Kemble, give me the courage to stand firm in the faith.



St John Kemble. Pray for us.

Special Request for accommodation - One of our parishioners is in urgent need of some rented accommodation. Ideally two bedroom in Hereford or would consider a one bedroom also. If you know of anything please contact the parish office in the first instance. Many Thanks

Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist	Ministers of the Word
6pm Wendy Winterburn Imogen Cockroft Kathy Weston	6pm Philip Dixon
8am Jane Gennard Cecilia Balestra	8am Helen Booth
10am Thomas Kottuppallil Maria (Mia) Brennan- Noel Elegado, Gerald Okafor	10am Andrew Milne

PARISH BBQ 1st September 11.30 am. (Food 12.00 noon onwards) Everyone is welcome to the Parish BBQ in the garden on 1st September. (See the Notice board for full details). Please sign up as soon as possible. Pay for and collect your tickets at any Mass on 17/18 or 24/25 August. Alternatively, place money in an envelope marked with your name and number of BBQ tickets required and hand into Church/Office and we will reserve tickets for you. Any vegetarians? Please let us know in advance. Paul and Brenda



TINTERN SUNG VESPERS: An Ecumenical Service of Prayers for Peace is to take place at 3.00pm on Sunday, 8th September at Tintern Abbey. The speaker is The Most Reverend Mark O'Toole, Archbishop of Cardiff and Menevia, also in attendance are monks of Belmont Abbey. Entry to the Abbey is free for those attending the service and it is advisable to bring a folding chair. Lunches and teas are available in Tintern village.

PILGRIMAGE TO THE GRAVE OF ST JOHN KEMBLE



This year's Pilgrimage takes place on **Sunday, 18th August.**

10.15am Monmouth to Welsh Newton - Pilgrims set off to walk to Welsh Newton

from St Mary's Church, Monmouth after 9.15am Mass. Everybody welcome - bring a packed lunch. 3.00pm Welsh Newton - We meet for Rosary, Readings and Prayers at St John Kemble's Grave in the Churchyard at Welsh Newton. 4.15pm Monmouth - Benediction follows in St Mary's Church, and afterwards tea will be served in the

Collections 10th/11th August
1st £460.05 The Parish
2nd £383.18 Renovation

Parish Calendar- August/Sept 2024		
Sun 18th	3.00pm	John Kemble Pilgrimage
Sun 1st	12.00	Parish BBQ
Mon 2nd	7.00pm	SVP group in hall
Wed 4th	6.30pm	ABC Group in hall
Sun 8th	3.00pm	Vespers Tintern Abbey
Sun 15th	TBA	Adoremus