



ST FRANCIS XAVIER'S CATHOLIC CHURCH HEREFORD

Parish Priest Dom James Hood. Assistant Priest Dom John George.
19 Broad St. Hereford, HR4 9AP Tel: 01432 273485: www.sfxhereford.org.uk
Hospital Chaplain: Fr Patrick Lobo 07922323603



Parish Administrator: Mr John Cook
Email: hereford2@cardiffmenevia.org
Office hours: 9am –1pm (not Tuesday)

SFX Parish School Headteacher:
Mrs Elizabeth Christopherson
Tel: 01432 273941

SFX Parish Safeguarding Officer:
Mrs Kathy Weston -Email
sfxsafeguarding@gmail.com Tel -273485

Dear All,

"Today a Saviour has been born to us,
who is Christ the Lord."

As we arrive at Christmas, we pause at the heart of our faith to welcome once again the mystery of God-with-us. In the midst of busy days and bright lights, Christmas invites us to slow down and listen—to the quiet hope of a child born in a manger, to the promise of peace spoken into a restless world, and to the love that chooses humility over power.

This holy season reminds us that God enters our lives not with noise or force, but with tenderness and trust. As a parish community, we gather to celebrate that gift together: in prayer, in song, in generosity of spirit, and in care for one another.

May this Christmas bring light to your homes, comfort to your hearts, and renewed hope for the days ahead. Wishing you and all whom you love a blessed and joyful Christmas. **Fr John.**



Change of Address !

With the Big amalgamation this year of our Cardiff archdiocese with Menevia we now have a new email address for the parish.

hereford2@cardiffmenevia.org

Liturgical Calendar December 2025 Yr A Psalter Wk 4

Wed 24th	5.00pm	CHRISTMAS MASS	Kathryn & Andy Morison
Wed 24th	9.30pm & 10pm	CAROLS & MASS OF THE NIGHT (MIDNIGHT)	Jim & Sylvia Philips RIP
Thur 25th	8.00am	CHRISTMAS MASS AT DAWN	The Parish
Thur 25th	10.00am	CHRISTMAS DAY MASS	Gerard & Jeanie Livingstone RIP & daughter Joan RIP
Fri 26th	1.00pm	ST STEPHEN (FEAST)	Souls in Purgatory
Sat 27th	10.30am	ST. JOHN, APOSTLE & EVANGELIST (FEAST)	Alena RIP
Sat 27th	11.00am	NB <u>No Confessions & Adoration</u>	
Sat 27th	6.00pm	THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH (FEAST)	Anna & Tadeusz Kania RIP
Sun 28th	8.00am	THE HOLY FAMILY	Souls in Purgatory
Sun 28th	10.00am	THE HOLY FAMILY	The Parish

Pope's Prayer Intention – December 2025

God of peace,
who through the blood of Your Son
has reconciled the world to Yourself,
today we pray for Christians
living amidst wars and violence.
Even surrounded by pain, may they
never cease to feel the gentle kind-
ness of your presence and the prayers of their
brothers and sisters in faith.



Lord Jesus, who called blessed
those who work for peace,
make us Your instruments of peace
even where harmony seems impossible.



Do not let us fall into indifference,
and make us builders of unity, like Jesus.
Amen.

We remember all who have died during this year.

Anniversaries: Rhys Clement, Angela Rosier,
Joseph Lauria, Vera Franklin, Patrick King,
Nora Mills.



**Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord
and let perpetual light shine upon them.
May they rest in peace. Amen.**



**We welcome into the parish Gabriella
Magdalena Singh who will be baptised
on Friday 26th December at 3.00pm.
Congratulations to Gabriella and her family!**

Pray for the Sick: Ania Kuzba, Jan Beavan, Robbie Bell, Meg Furber, Ann Currie, Midad Jasari, Lynne Howells, Katherine Melia, Christina James, Sarah, Ana Rudnicki, Nicola Merrick, Martin O'Connor, Patricia Moroney, Margaret Davis, Carola Morton, Margaret Skelding, James Spradbery, Teresa Bord, Patricia Marongiu, Sarah James, Vera McHale, Pauline and David Day, Mark Edmunds, Kath Feely, Ann Marie Hughson, Ann Orchard.



In his Christmas message Pope Leo emphasizes the importance of the Nativity scene and the Christmas tree as symbols of faith and hope. He has called that we pray for peace and fraternity, urging the faithful to eliminate hatred from their hearts.

The Nativity scene in St Peter's Square features a pregnant Virgin Mary and 28,000 coloured ribbons, representing lives saved from abortion through prayer and support.

The Christmas tree symbolizes life and hope, with its lights pointing to Christ as the light of the world. Pope Leo XIV's message is a call to reflect on the birth of Jesus and to seek moments of silence and prayer to enter into communion with God.

May your hearts and minds be filled with peace and joy.
Fr James

Ministers of the Eucharist	Ministers of the Word
5pm Angela Holmes TBC	5pm Stuart Fox Mary Schiavon Priebe
10pm Jane Gennard Maria Brennan TBC	9.30pm Helen Booth, Fiona Stokes Audrey Fussell 10pm James Morris Isabel Fawcett
8am Vera McHale Frances Hetterley	8am Dorothy Kennedy
10am Maria Brennan Mary Cook TBC	10am The Gillick Family

FR JAMES AND FR JOHN WOULD LIKE TO WISH ALL PARISHIONERS AND VISITORS A HOLY, PEACEFUL AND HAPPY CHRISTMAS!



Parish Pilgrimage to Rome.

**Monday 5th—Friday 9th
October 2026
5 days/4 nights.**

Cost: £1,029 pp. half board;

coach return fare to Heathrow is extra.

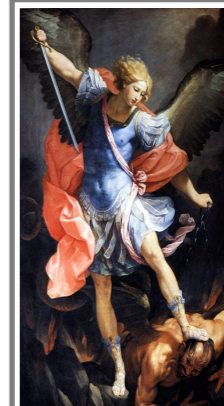
Travel insurance included.

There will a presentation evening in January with a cut-off date of 14th February 2026 for signing up.

Spiritual leader: **Fr. John George**

Fully guided tour to include the following highlights:
Papal Audience; visit to St Peter's Basilica with Mass, tour & visit to the Dome; visit to and Mass in the Catacombs. Visit to the Trevi fountain and the Venerable English College.

Booking forms are now available from the office



**St Michael the Archangel,
defend us in battle, be our
protection against the
wickedness and snares of the
devil.**

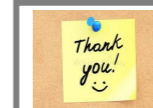
**May God rebuke him we humbly
pray:
and do thou, O Prince of the
Heavenly host, By the power of
God, cast into hell Satan and all
the evil spirits who prowl about
the world seeking the ruin of
souls. Amen**



**The collection at the
Christmas Masses is
your gift to Fr James
and Fr John.
Thank you.**



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



**Collections 21/12/2025
The Parish £891.72**



What's on in January 2026

Mon 5th	7.00pm	SVP in Kemble Hall
Wed 7th	6.30pm	ABC Scripture group. The Acts of the Apostles. Come and join us!

**NB There will be No First Thursday Club in
January.**