



ST FRANCIS XAVIER'S CATHOLIC CHURCH HEREFORD

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Dear Friends,

On Sunday 7th September Pope Leo canonized two saints – Pier Giorgio Frassati and Carlo Acutis. Most of us will be more familiar with Carlo Acutis, as a few months ago there was a special day of prayer at Belmont Abbey with a relic of his. Both saints died young. Pier Giorgio was 24 and Carlo only 15. Pier Giorgio was an Italian Catholic Activist and member of the Third Order of St Dominic. In his short life he dedicated himself to social justice and joined several catholic organizations. He showed a concern for the poor rather than himself and established a newspaper on the principles of Pope Leo XIII's Rerum Novarum. He's often depicted climbing mountains. He died of poliomyelitis in July 1925.



Carlo died of leukaemia at the younger age of 15. His dying words to his mother were, 'There are people who suffer much more than me.' Carlo was an ordinary teenager who had a great devotion to the Eucharist. He used his considerable talent by creating a Eucharistic Miracles' website. He will also be remembered for the influence he exercised on his parents who were nominal Catholics, attending Mass rarely. For Carlo, the Eucharist was his gateway to heaven. A well-known saying of his is, 'By standing before the Eucharist, we become saints.' Saint Pier Giorgio and Saint Carlo pray for us. **Fr James**

Liturgical Calendar September 2025 Yr C Psalter Wk 4

Sat 13th	10.30am	St John Chrysostom	<i>Forgotten Souls</i>
Sat 13th	11.00am	Confessions & Adoration	
Sat 13th	6.00pm	EXULTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS	<i>David Bodian RIP</i>
Sun 14th	8.00am	EXULTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS	<i>Gilbert Fresle</i>
Sun 14th	10.00am	EXULTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS	<i>The Parish</i>
Mon 15th	9.30am <i>Rosary 9am</i>	Our Lady of Sorrows	<i>Souls in purgatory</i>
Tue 16th	NO PUBLIC MASS. Mass at Our Lady's 9.30		
Wed 17th	1.00pm	St Hildegard of Bingen	<i>Tomek Busko</i>
Thu 18th	9.30am	Feria	<i>EBC</i>
Fri 19th	1.00pm	Feria	<i>Anastasia Kenrick</i>
Sat 20th	10.30am	Sts Andrew Kim Tae-gon, Paul Chong Hasang and Comp. Martyrs	<i>Petal O'Hea RIP</i>
Sat 20th	11.00am	Confessions & Adoration	
Sat 20th	6.00pm	25TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	<i>Virginio Schiavon RIP</i>
Sun 21st	8.00am	25TH SUNDAY	<i>The Parish</i>
Sun 21st	10.00am	25TH SUNDAY	<i>Mary Ellen Prosser</i>

Children's Liturgy is back this weekend at the 10.00am Mass



Harvest Supper Saturday 4th October

There will be a Harvest Supper after the 6 pm Mass on Saturday October 4th. Please bring some food to share with everyone. There is a list to sign in the Narthex. If you would like to come, please add your name under the "Sweet" or "Savoury" headings on the list, so that we have some idea of numbers and manage to achieve a balanced meal to share! There will be no tickets and no cost, apart from a raffle, with any profits going to CAFOD.

Sung Vespers—Tintern Abbey Sunday 14th September 3pm is sadly now cancelled due to a bad weather forecast.

We remember all who have died and those whose anniversaries occur about this time

Anniversaries:

Veronica Foden, Bernadette Carroll, Colin Phillips, Bernhard Grobelny, Jozet Sroda, Petal O'Hea, Mary Ellen Prosser.

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, Robbie Bell, Meg Furber, Ann Currie, Midad Jasari, David Madgen, Lynne Howells, Katherine Melia, Christina James, Ana Rudnicki, Nicola Merrick, Martin O'Connor, Patricia Moroney, Margaret Davis, Margaret Skelding, James Spradbery, Teresa Bord, Sarah, Ann Marie Hughson, Patricia Marongiu, Pauline and David Day, Mark Edmunds, Rita Rees, Didit Buhain, Margaret Davis, Sarah James, Kath Feely.



THE LORD NEEDS YOUR HELP TO SPEAK TO HIS PEOPLE

At the end of Luke's gospel, we read the beautiful story of the

journey on the road to Emmaus. We all remember that the disciples on that journey recognised Jesus 'in the breaking of the bread'. But before that they recalled that 'our hearts burned within us ... while He opened to us the Scriptures'. This is the pattern of the Mass: we first hear Jesus speaking to us through his Word, and then we recognise him in the breaking of the bread. We are fed first at the Table of the Word and then at the Table of the Eucharist.

We don't just read the Scriptures at Mass, they are proclaimed to us. The Word of God isn't simply letters on a page but a living proclamation. That is why the Ministry of Reader is so important in our celebration of Mass.

Let us reflect on Pope Benedict's words in his Post-Synodal Apostolic Exhortation – Verbum Domini.

"The sacramentality of the word can thus be understood by the analogy with the real presence of Christ under the appearances of the consecrated bread and wine. By approaching the altar and partaking in the Eucharistic banquet we truly share in the body and blood of Christ. The proclamation of God's word at the celebration entails an acknowledgement that Christ himself is present, that he speaks to us, and that he wishes to be heard."

We need more readers! Could this be a service you could undertake for our parish? You don't have to be a great orator or have a posh voice. You do need some confidence, clearness, and calm. You will need to read over the texts several times, so you perceive something of their meaning. Above all you will want to share the readings with those at Mass. One of the best readers I ever heard was a woman who found public speaking difficult, but who practised and pondered the reading in the week beforehand. When she read one heard the Word of the Lord very powerfully! We will give training and support to new readers - and old ones. A rota of readers is prepared well in advance so you will know when it is your turn.

Are you prepared to help in this vital task?

Ministers of the Eucharist	Ministers of the Word
6pm Jane Gennard Angela Holmes Vigeetha Joseph	6pm Fiona Stokes Helen Booth
8am Vera McHale Frances Hetterley	8am Stephen Cleeve Dorothy Kennedy
10am Lorena D L Auer Thomas Kottuppallil Noel Elegado	10am Andy Milne Bruno Alves

We warmly welcome Fr Matt Roche to SFX



Fr Matt will be concelebrating at all the Masses this weekend. Fr Matt is from West Wales and has been asked by the Archbishop to lead on special initiatives for our young people and especially for those who might be considering a vocation to the priesthood or religious life.

First Holy Communion Lessons for children NOT attending Catholic Schools

There will be a meeting for parents and children on Saturday 18th October at 4pm in St Francis Xavier's Church. Children must be in Year 3 or above. To register your child before the meeting please email me brendafirstcommunion2025@gmail.com Please include your child's name, school and year group. Also a contact phone number is required. It would be helpful if you can pass this information on to friends and family who may be interested. Brenda Williams



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

If your child was born between 1st September 2021 and 31st August 2022 you will need to apply for a reception class place for your child to start school in September 2026. Please come along and meet our Headteacher, Mrs Christopherson and our Reception Class teacher, Miss

Smail. Mrs Christopherson will give an introductory talk on both mornings at 9.30 am and this will be followed by a tour of the school with our Year 6 pupils. Open mornings are on either Friday 3rd October 9.30 am - 10.30 am or Wednesday 19th 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

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



Collections 7/09/2025
1st £420.33 The Parish
2nd £363.78 Renovation



What's on in September 2025

Wed 17th	7.00pm	Parish council meeting
Thur 18th	10.30am	Poetry for pleasure, in the <u>Parish Hall</u>
Wed 24th	7.00pm	Deanery Mass for all the local parishes at SFX