



# 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,

I would like to take this opportunity to extend my heartfelt greetings to you all. I am very excited to live among you and to work together as we quest for our salvation. I am now settled in and enjoy the love and kindness of the people of Hereford. I thought I would come to serve you only as a priest but now I realized that I am also a student, learning how to be faithful to God. This is because you have a strong faith, and I wish would learn from you.

I am aware that you have some details about me that I am a Benedictine monk from The Missionary congregation of Sankt Ottilien. I am a monk of Mvimwa Holy Spirit Abbey in Tanzania. I am from the family of three children, my brother and my sister live with my mom in Dar Es Salaam. My Father passed away 26 years past. Being away from my country does not cause the home sick for me because though culture is little bit different, the caring and kindness make me to feel at home. I enjoy the weather, food and lifestyle and indeed sports and I am a big fan of Manchester City in football. It is good for me to here with you.

Just one other thing to mention; we usually don't have Mass on Tuesdays. However, the 19th of March is the Solemnity of Saint Joseph, the Spouse of Mary. Therefore, Mass will be at 9:30 AM. **Fr. Gregory**



### Liturgical Calendar March 2024 Yr B Psalter Wk 1

Sat 16th	10.30am	4th Week of Lent	Dennis Schiavon RIP
Sat 16th	11.00am	Confessions and Adoration	
Sat 16th	6.00pm	5TH SUNDAY OF LENT	The Parish
Sun 17th	8.00am	5TH SUNDAY OF LENT	Stephen Booth RIP
Sun 17th	10.00am	5TH SUNDAY OF LENT	Socrate Bisconti RIP (86th birthday)
Mon 18th	9.30am	St Cyril of Jerusalem	Speedy Recovery
Tue 19th	9.30am	ST JOSEPH, SPOUSE OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY	Steve Baldrey
Wed 20th	1.00pm	5th week of Lent	Steve Baldrey
Thu 21st	9.30am	5th week of Lent	Holy Souls
Fri 22nd	12.30pm	Stations of the Cross	
Fri 22nd	1.00pm	5th week of Lent	Stephen Booth RIP
Sat 23rd	10.30am	5th week of Lent	Holy Souls
Sat 23rd	11.00am	Confessions and Adoration	
Sat 23rd	6.00pm	PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD	Stephen Booth RIP
Sun 24th	8.00am	PALM SUNDAY	Gus Cole
Sun 24th	8.00am	PALM SUNDAY	The Parish



### Reconciliation Services and Individual Confession times for Easter

Going to confession during Lent is an excellent preparation for Easter. As well as the normal Saturday morning confessions here (after the morning Mass from 11.00am to 12noon) there are also some special services of Reconciliation being provided for you where after a short service a number of different priests will be available for individual confessions if so required. Monday 25th March SFX 7pm; Tuesday 26th at Our Lady's 7pm; Wednesday 27th at Belmont 7pm.

### Sign-up sheets

For Holy Week and Easter liturgies are in the Narthex. Please do your best to help out if you can. Thank you.



### We remember all those whose anniversaries occur about this time.

Edith Fury, Edward Brookes, Angela Bassi, Maureen Williams, Jean Simpson, Margaret Hossack, Fritz Mannghen.



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, Sarah, Fr Keith, Robbie Bell, Brian Symonds Meg Furber, Ann Currie, Midad Jasari, David Madgen, Lynne Howells, Maureen Tye, Katherine Melia, Rob Brodie, Christina James, Ana Rudnicki, Nicola Merrick, Teresa Loftus, Martin O'Connor, Patricia Moroney, George Mecina, Margaret Skelding, David John Warr, James Spradbery.

**St Joseph's feast** is on Tuesday. What more can be said about St Joseph that the scriptures, saints and popes, laypeople and theologians have not already said over the last two thousand years? Perhaps we could imagine what a contemporary of St Joseph in Nazareth might be able to tell us about the life of this great saint.



*Yes, .....Joseph the carpenter. I do remember him. He just led an ordinary life out here in the country. A quiet man.*

*There was some mystery circulating in Nazareth about his future wife; some talk about who was the father of her child. He stood by her though. A faithful man.*

*He and his wife went to Bethlehem one winter for the census. The baby was born there. I heard they had a rough time and were homeless for a while; that baby didn't have a good start!*

*Then there was the trouble with King Herod. All that talk about the messiah made him nervous. He massacred some of the little children in Bethlehem and Joseph had to move very quickly to keep the boy safe. The family ended up in Egypt as refugees for a couple of years. It can't have been easy. Joseph found work I suppose. He always was a hard-working man.*

*They came back to Nazareth later and just lived a simple life; he wasn't a rich man. We did all go to Jerusalem for Passover every year and I recall one year on our way home there was a big upset when the boy went missing. Joseph and his wife were so anxious. They searched everywhere for him and ended up going back to Jerusalem. They found him there and then came back to Nazareth. Joseph taught the child his trade, like all the fathers did. He was very patient man. He worked hard to give the child a future. He died quietly with his family close by him.*

*Yes, I remember Joseph the carpenter. He was a quiet man.*

This week we honour glorious St. Joseph. He was the foster-father of the Son of God; loving husband to the Mother of God. He is patron and protector of the Church; patron of the dying and the terror of demons. May we imitate his courageous obedience to Christ in our ordinary lives each day. St. Joseph; a quiet man with not a single word of his recorded.

**Gift Aid Envelopes** The new Gift Aid envelopes will be issued shortly. Please check **NAME** when collecting, some numbers will be different.

Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist	Ministers of the Word
<b>6pm</b> Jane Gennard, Ancy Shajan, Wendy Winterburn	<b>6pm</b> Stuart Fox
<b>8am</b> Frances Hetterley Cecilia Balestra	<b>8am</b> Stephen Cleeve
<b>10am</b> Mary Cook, Noel Elegado Peter Cunningham Thomas Kottuppallil	<b>10am</b> Andy Milne

### THE TRIUMPH OF FAILURE Why did Jesus have to suffer?

As we prepare to enter into Holy Week, Austen Ivereigh will lead a morning of reflection, the next of our 'Horizons of Hope' Deanery series.

Do come if you can!

**Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> March at Hedley Lodge, Belmont**



**Poetry for Pleasure** The next meeting will be on Thursday 21st March 1030-1200 in the Parish Hall. The theme will be **Easter/Spiritual/Uplifting**. If you would like to join this friendly group you are guaranteed a warm welcome! Bring a few poems of your choice to share with the group.



### Easter Polish Food Blessing

Following the guidance of Fr. Artur who serves the Polish community the Easter Blessing of baskets and food will take place on Easter Sunday morning. At SFX it will be after the 8am Mass at 9am, 31st March. There will also be a blessing at Our Lady's at 12noon. Please can you pass this message on to anyone you might know in the Polish community.

Podążając za wskazówkami księdza, który służy polskiej wspólnoty w Hereford, wielkanocne błogosławieństwo koszy i jedzenia odbędzie się teraz w Niedzielę Wielkanocną rano. W SFX będzie to po Mszy św. o 8:00 o 9:00, 31 marca. O godzinie 12.00 odbędzie się także błogosławieństwo w kościele Najświętszej Marii Panny. (Proszę, możesz przekazać tę wiadomość każdemu, kogo znasz w polskiej społeczności).

### EASTER FLOWERS COLLECTION

There will be a collection at all Masses **this weekend** for Easter flowers to help enhance the beauty of our church for the Easter liturgies. Thank you.



### Lent Lunches

Lunches of homemade soup, bread roll, cheese, fruit, tea and coffee will be provided during Lent following the Friday 1.00 pm Mass. Suggested donation £3.



### A Cup of Tea/Coffee and Cake

Everyone is invited to come along to the Parish Hall after the 10.00am Mass.



### Collections 3rd March

**1st Collection £435.69**  
**2nd Collection £379.54**



### Parish Calendar—March 2024

Mon 18th Mar	'Dare to believe' prayer group 10.am	
Mon 18th Mar	7.00pm	SVP in Parish Hall
Wed 20th Mar	6.30pm	ABC Scripture study group
Thu 21st Mar	10.30am	Poetry for Pleasure
Sat 23rd Mar	10.30am	The Triumph of Failure Talk