



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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Dear All In today's Gospel Jesus presents us with a presents a challenge. Jesus has been growing in popularity to the point that people want to crown him King. He has healed the sick, fed the five thousand and brought hope to the downtrodden and the outcast. He was popular not only because he gives the crowd what they want in terms of material wellbeing but he also speaks their language not like their own leaders; he says the things they like to hear. Then suddenly it all changes and Jesus starts to talk about being the Bread of Life, about suffering and death.

This was intolerable language. Some of his followers didn't like what they heard and made a choice not to follow Jesus. You can almost imagine Jesus stood there with tears in his eyes as people abandoned him by simply walking away. Then we come to what must be one the saddest, most heart wrenching passages in the whole of Gospel.

Jesus turns to his closest followers, those who have been with him from the beginning, and with sadness in his voice says simply: "what about you; are you going to leave me as well"? What about us? The same question that Jesus put to his disciples he also puts to us: "are you going to leave me; are you going to walk away and abandon me like all the others, are you going to choose against me because you don't like what you hear or because you think that what I ask of you is too difficult"? Are we going to turn our backs on the living Lord of life because it is easier to worship the god's of wealth and materialism than to commit ourselves to him? This is choice that is put before us today; it is a choice of far reaching consequences but one which each one of us has to make. **Fr Andrew**

Liturgical Calendar Aug/Sept 2024 Yr B Psalter Wk 1

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
Mon 26th	9.30am Rosary 9.00am	Feria	Doreen Giles RIP
Tues 27th	No Mass here. Mass at Our Lady's 9.30am St Monica		
Wed 28th	1.00pm Adoration 12 noon	St Augustine, Bishop and Doctor of the Church	Fr Gabriel Arnold OSB RIP
Thu 29th	09.30am	The Passion of St John the Baptist	Michael Casey RIP
Fri 30th	1.00pm Adoration & Divine Mercy 12 Noon	Feria	The work of the SVP
Sat 31st	10.30am	St Aidan, Bishop, and Saints of Lindisfarne	For Our Lady's Intention
Sat 31st	11.00am	Confessions and Adoration	
Sat 31st	6.00pm	22ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	Ajit Singh RIP
Sun 1st	8.00am	22ND SUNDAY	Parish
Sun 1st	10.00am	22ND SUNDAY	Persecuted Christians

Our Hearts are Restless Lord, until they Rest in You.



"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.

Declan O'Brien, Marion Prosser, Eva Connolly, Jean Goldrick, Mary Foulkes, John Richardson, Fr Anthony Tumulty, Margaret Bartlett, Douglas James, Brung Henniker Heaton, Marie Dyke Anthony Rosser, Eileen Treanor, Velina Milsom



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

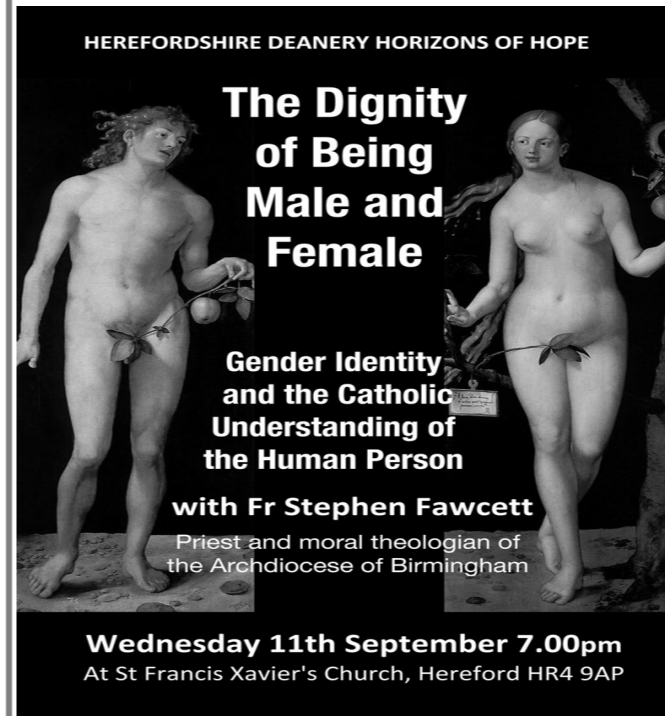
Pray for the Sick: Fr Keith, Ania Kuzba, Jan Beavan, Robbie Bell, Brian Symonds, Meg Furber, Ann Currie, Midad Jasari, David Madgen, Lynne Howells, Sarah, Katherine Melia, Christina James, Ana Rudnicki, Nicola Merrick, Martin O'Connor, Patricia Moroney, George Mecina, Margaret Skelding, James Spradbery, Teresa Bord, Roy Pigou.

'The Dignity of Being Male and Female'

The next talk in the Herefordshire Deanery Horizons of Hope series will be led by Fr Stephen Fawcett on Wednesday 11th September 7.00pm at SFX Church Broad Street Hereford.

What is the truth Christ teaches us about masculinity and femininity, founded on Genesis' revelation that male and female are made in the image of God? How does Christ's compassion allow us to face our own self, with all our beauty and brokenness, our self-knowledge and confusion? In turn, how does that help us to gently do the same for others?

Fr Stephen is a respected moral theologian with a background in human anthropology and will give a presentation on the whole question of the catholic understanding of the human person and our gender identity.



Help needed Please?

We urgently require a volunteer for counting the various collection money after the weekend masses. This takes place on a Monday morning at 9.00am for about an hour. You need no previous experience as you will be working with another experienced team member who will guide you.

This would be a great help to your parish. If you are able to help please contact the office or ring Stephen Cleeve on 01432 851632 for more information. Many Thanks

Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist	Ministers of the Word
6pm Jane Gennard Imogen Cockroft Sarah Williams	6pm Fiona Stokes
8am Frances Hetterley Vera McHale	8am Stephen Cleeve
10am Maria (Mia) Brennan Noel Elegado, Gerald Okafor, Mary Cook	10am Liz Symonds

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. Adults £8, Children £3, Families £20 (2+2 under 16). Food and 1st drink included. Last chance to pay for and collect your tickets at any Mass this weekend.



Alternatively, place money in an envelope marked with your name and number of BBQ tickets required and hand it into Church/Office by Thursday 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.



Parish 200 Club. Winners July Draw 2024 1st Milena Trzebuchowska £30; 2nd Maria Pembridge £20; 3rd Helen Birch £10. **Winners August Draw 2024** 1st James Ling £30; 2nd Chris Moore £20; 3rd Catherine Haverty £10.

Congratulations to the Winners who can collect their letters from the Sacristy. Thanks Paul and Brenda.

Our Bible study (ABC) evenings are back on

Please note the change of day for the next meeting on **Monday 9th at 6.30pm.** Our Bible study group is open to everyone, reading through and breaking open the scriptures, informal chat, tea and coffee. Never been? Why not pop in and see?



Collections 17th/18th August

1st £379.71 The Parish
2nd £311.75 Renovation



Parish Calendar- September 2024

Sun 1st	12.00	Parish BBQ
Mon 2nd	7.00pm	SVP group in hall
Sun 8th	3.00pm	Vespers Tintern Abbey
Mon 9th	6.30pm	ABC Group in hall
Wed 11th	7.00pm	Deanery Talk- 'The Dignity of being Male and Female. Fr Stephen Fawcett
Sun 15th	TBA	Adoremus