



# 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,** In today's Gospel Jesus shows us that how we live out our faith should be a reflection of our relationship with God, that it isn't enough to look righteous we have to be righteous. All the things that Jesus talks about, pride, theft, murder, deceit, envy, slander etc. are, if the truth be known, within each one of us; they clutter up our minds and hearts and leave no room for God. Jesus' words challenge us to examine our lives, to be open and honest before him so that he can bring about healing, wholeness and peace.

For Jesus there are no half measures he doesn't want anything, he wants everything and it is only through our total self-giving that can bring about change in our lives. This means acknowledging that there are areas of darkness, places that we are too ashamed of or too embarrassed to admit to and to open them up to the healing light of Christ. He calls us back a renewed faithfulness, a single heartedness to the one who still loves us even though we are sinners and who still pours out his graces upon us despite our unworthiness but this means letting go and that can be a frightening prospect. To let go is to take a risk and all too often we are more willing to settle for second best. We are invited into a loving encounter with the one who calls us away from sin and into the brightness of a new dawn and we can only accept that invitation when we truly put God at the centre; when we have the courage to push aside all the false idols in our lives and come into the presence of the living Lord. The question is are we willing to do this? **Fr Andrew**

## Liturgical Calendar Aug/Sept 2024 Yr B Psalter Wk 2

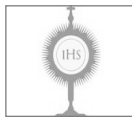
Sat 31st	10.30am	St Aidan, Bishop, and Saints of Lindisfarne	For Our Lady's Intention
Sat 31st	11.00am	Confessions and Adoration	
Sat 31st	6.00pm	22ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	Ajit Singh RIP
Sun 1st	8.00am	22ND SUNDAY	Parish
Sun 1st	10.00am	22ND SUNDAY	Persecuted Christians
Mon 2nd	9.30am Rosary 9.00am	Feria	Pat Charles RIP
Tues 3rd	No Mass here. Mass at Our Lady's 9.30am ST GREGORY THE GREAT, FEAST		
Wed 4th	1.00pm Adoration 12 noon	St Cuthbert, Bishop	Holy Souls
Thu 5th	09.30am	Feria	The Pope's Intention
Fri 6th	1.00pm Adoration & Divine Mercy	Feria	Bridget Gregg RIP (Anniv)
Sat 7th	10.30am	Mass of Our Lady	For Our Lady's Intention
Sat 7th	11.00am	Confessions and Adoration	
Sat 7th	6.00pm	23RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	The Parish
Sun 8th	8.00am	23RD SUNDAY	Forgotten Souls
Sun 8th	10.00am	23RD SUNDAY	Socrate & Maria Bisconti (57th Wedding Anniv)

**St Gregory the Great** (c.540–604 AD)  
Famous for sending missionaries to England including St. Augustine of Canterbury and St. Paulinus of York.



**"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.**

Bette Bodenham, Vincent Edwards, Kit Gundy, Winifred Turvey, Patricia Lauria, Winifred Garrett, Bridget Gregg.

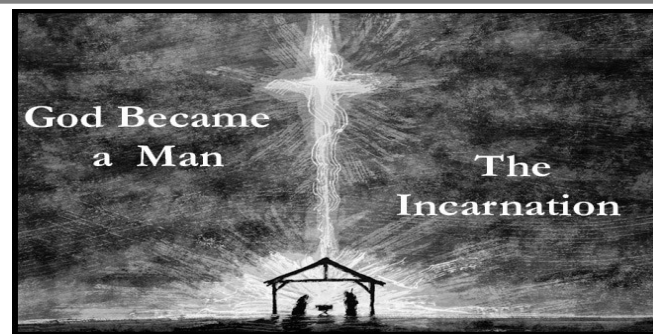


**Lately Dead**

George Mercia, Paul Barron

**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.



## Sharing The Church's Story

**What is the Catholic thing?** What makes Catholicism, among all the competing philosophies, ideologies, and religions of the world, distinctive?

I stand with John Henry Newman who said *that the great principle of Catholicism is the Incarnation, the enfleshment of God.* What do I mean by this? I mean *the word of God*-the mind by which the whole universe came to be-did not remain resting in heaven but rather entered into this ordinary world of bodies, this grubby arena of history, this compromised and tear stained human condition of ours."The word became flesh and lived among us" (John1:14)

**That is the Catholic thing** *Bishop Barron*

HEREFORDSHIRE DEANERY HORIZONS OF HOPE

## The Dignity of Being Male and Female

**Gender Identity and the Catholic Understanding of the Human Person**

with **Fr Stephen Fawcett**  
Priest and moral theologian of the Archdiocese of Birmingham

**Wednesday 11th September 7.00pm**  
At St Francis Xavier's Church, Hereford HR4 9AP

Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist	Ministers of the Word
6pm Sarah Williams Ancy Shajan Kathy Weston	6pm Philip Dixon
8am Cecilia Balestra Vera McHale	8am Helen Booth
10am Maria Brennan Noel Elegado, Moses Obanmoh Thomas Kottuppallil	10am Val Vaughan Williams

## Poetry for Pleasure

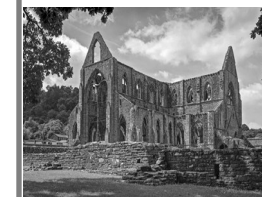
We will be starting the 2024/25 season on Thursday 26th September 1030-1200 in the Parish Hall. The theme will be "Some of our favourite poems". Bring a few poems to share with the group. Don't forget the summer challenge of learning a poem by heart! It's not too late to start now.

## Thursday Social Group

Following the summer break, we will be meeting on Thursday 5th September 1.30-3.00 pm in the Parish Hall. Everyone is warmly invited to join this friendly group to enjoy a cup of tea and a chat with old and new friends.

## Parish Walk

The next Parish walk will be on Sunday 29th September. Details to follow



## 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.



## Organist?

A good organist is worth their weight in Gold. We currently need in the parish another organist to join our Music team. If not you, do you know anyone? Please contact the office.



## Collections 17th/18th August

1st £379.71 The Parish  
2nd £311.75 Renovation



**\*Upcoming-Second Collection 15th September. Home Mission Sunday.\***

## Parish Calendar- September 2024

Sun 1st	12.00	Parish BBQ
Mon 2nd	7.00pm	SVP group in hall
Thurs 5th	1.30pm	Thurs Social Group
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