



ST FRANCIS XAVIER'S CATHOLIC CHURCH HEREFORD

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Dear Friends,

Today, we celebrate the great feast of Pentecost, the coming of the Holy Spirit on the Apostles and Our Lady. The Acts of the Apostles tells us how those disciples felt empowered to go out and preach the Good News to all. Their hearts were full of the Holy Spirit, and they wanted others to share the gift they had received and experienced.

Pentecost is often referred to as the Church's Birthday, a day of celebration. May the fire of God's love burn in our hearts, and may we share that warmth, peace, joy, love, kindness and understanding with others.

Fr James



We welcome into God's family **Isabel Griffiths** who will be Baptised this Sunday at 12 noon. We warmly welcome Isabel and all her family into our parish.

Sunday 8th June Midday to 3.00 pm. This year's Summer Garden Party will be a great chance to celebrate the Jubilee Year. The Holy Father has proclaimed 2025 as a Jubilee Year, a sacred time of renewal, reflection, and grace celebrated every 25 years. It is definitely something to celebrate together! The party will take place after the 10 am Mass, with tea and coffee available as usual after Mass in the Parish Hall, followed by lunch in the garden beginning at about 1200. Please bring some food (sweet and/or savoury) to share. It would be great if everyone could bring a national dish so that we can celebrate the wonderful cultural diversity in the parish. British party food is always welcome (sandwiches, sausage rolls, crisps, quiche, salads, cake etc) but any curries, noodles etc are always extremely popular with everyone! Food can be left in the conservatory (accessed from the garden) before Mass begins. Do come along!

We remember all who have died and whose anniversaries occur about this time.
Anniversaries: Pat Clark, Fr Luke Waring, Bernadette Johnson, Anthony Byrne.



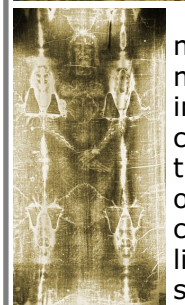
Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen.

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, Margaret Skelding, James Spradbery, Teresa Bord Ann Marie Hughson, Paul Kingston, John Moroney, Pauline and David Day, Mark Edmunds, Didit Buhain.

5 Things to know about the Shroud of Turin



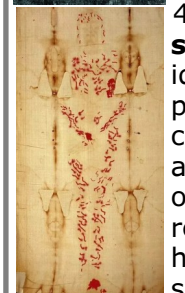
1. **The burial sheet (Shroud)** that Jesus was wrapped in when he was taken down from the cross is mentioned in all **4** Gospels.



2. **The image** on the cloth is not made of anything! Underneath the microscope when examined the image is not made of paint, dye, colours or any substance. The image that you can see is actually made up of millions of dots like pixels on your computer or TV screen. The image is like a sudden burst of light that has somehow created this image.



3. **The image** on the cloth is actually a photo negative image which was only discovered with the invention of photography. The photographic image has come from the body like a selfie!



4. **There is real blood on the shroud** which scientists have identified as human blood and is AB positive. This blood in real life on the cloth still has a strong red appearance because it contains a high level of bilirubin which is a chemical released by the body when a person has undergone extreme/traumatic suffering.

5. You can access high-resolution images and information about the Shroud of Turin through a **phone app called "Shroud 2.0"**. This app, available for both iOS and Android, offers in-depth views, background details, and research findings related to the shroud. It also features images and little-known facts about the shroud's history and significance.

CAN YOU HELP PLEASE?

The Shroud of Turin exhibition begins on Sunday 15th June and runs for 2 weeks until the 29th. A group of parishioners is needed who will be stewards so that we can keep the exhibition open for 4 hours per day from 11am until 3pm. There will be 2 x 2-hour slots each day with 2 stewards present all the time to welcome visitors, make tea and coffee as required, usually when groups visit, and answer general questions. No specialist knowledge is needed and training will be given. Please do sign up on the sheet in the narthex. Even one session would be a big help for this important parish event
Thank you!

| Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist | Ministers of the Word |
|---|---|
| 6pm Jane Gennard Angela Holmes Vigeetha Joseph | 6pm Fiona Stokes Helen Booth |
| 8am Frances Hetterley Cecilia Balestra | 8am Stephen Cleeve Dorothy Kennedy |
| 10am Lorena D L Aeur Thomas Kottuppattil Noel Elegado | 10am Gwenfair Gillick Valarie V Williams |



Thank you to the Filipino choir who sang for us at the 10.00am Mass last Sunday, it was lovely to have you. This Sunday we welcome our Nigerian choir who will be singing at the 10.00am Mass. Thank you to all our singers!

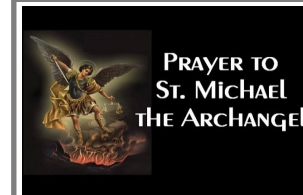
A Special appeal - Please for more people to come forward and help boost the singing at the 6.00pm vigil Mass. Do come forward and join in.

Poetry for Pleasure Next meeting - Thursday 19th June 1030-1200. The theme is "Poems that make you smile." This could include poems that are humorous, uplifting or ones that bring back happy memories. New members are always welcome.

Drinks after Saturday evening Mass at Pentecost (7th June). Please do come and join other parishioners and guests after Mass for a drink in the garden to celebrate the great feast of Pentecost.



Building News- In the first toilet in the parish hall we have now fitted a baby changing station to make things easier for parents with babies at mass. We are also looking at having a refurbishment of both toilets soon.



Prayer to St Michael

Following requests from parishioners Fr James and Fr John have agreed to saying this prayer before mass on the first Sunday of the month.

This prayer has often been used at times of great trial and spiritual battle.

"Saint 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, thrust into hell Satan and all evil spirits who wander through the world for the ruin of souls. Amen."

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



Collections 1/6/2025
1st £478.85 The Parish
2nd £413.61 Renovation



Parish Calendar – June 2025

| | | |
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| Sat 7th | 7.00pm | Drinks after Mass |
| Thu 12th | 5.00pm | Ecumenical service at Hereford Cathedral |
| Sat 14th | 10.00am | School First Communions |
| Thurs 19th | 10.30am | Poetry for pleasure |