



# ST FRANCIS XAVIER'S CATHOLIC CHURCH HEREFORD

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### Dear All,

On this Second Sunday of Lent, the Church invites us once more to journey a little further with the Lord, moving from the wilderness of temptation of last Sunday toward the mountain of glory in the account of the Transfiguration. The Liturgy, in the words of Pope Leo XIV at his Angelus address last Sunday, "invites us to view Lent as a luminous path." Through prayer, fasting, and almsgiving, the Holy Father pointed out that "we can renew our cooperation with the Lord in the crafting of our lives as a unique masterpiece." Lent, then, is not only about what we give up, but about who we are becoming as we listen more attentively to God's voice. As the disciples glimpse Christ transfigured, we are reminded that faith calls us to trust, to be changed, and to walk forward in hope, even when the path ahead is uncertain. May this holy season continue to open our hearts to the transforming light of Christ. **Fr John**

### Liturgical Calendar February/March 2026 Yr A Psalter Wk 2

Sat 28th	10.30am	1st week of Lent	<i>Souls in Purgatory</i>
Sat 28th	11.00am	Confessions & Adoration	
Sat 28th	6.00pm	2ND SUNDAY OF LENT	<i>Marie Alcock RIP</i>
Sun 1st	8.00am	2ND SUNDAY	<i>The Parish</i>
Sun 1st	10.00am	2ND SUNDAY	<i>Vocations</i>
Mon 2nd	9.30am <i>Rosary 9am</i>	ST DAVID BISHOP PATRON OF WALES (FEAST)	<i>Anna &amp; Tadeusz Kania RIP</i>
Tue 3rd	No public Mass. Mass at Our Lady's 9.30am		
Wed 4th	1.00pm	2nd week of Lent	<i>Holy Souls</i>
Thu 5th	9.30am	2nd week of Lent	<i>Nora Mills RIP</i>
Fri 6th	12.30pm	Stations of the Cross	
Fri 6th	1.00pm	2nd week of Lent	<i>Brian Daw RIP</i>
Fri 6th	<b>Deanery Station Mass 7.00pm with Archbishop Mark</b>		
Sat 7th	10.30am	2nd week of Lent	<i>Souls in purgatory</i>
Sat 7th	11.00am	Confessions & Adoration	
Sat 7th	6.00pm	3RD SUNDAY OF LENT	<i>The Parish</i>
Sun 8th	8.00am	3RD SUNDAY OF LENT	<i>Peter Millin &amp; Tom McCourt RIP</i>
Sun 8th	10.00am	3RD SUNDAY OF LENT	<i>K.V. Jose RIP</i>



The season of Lent is known as a journey and at this time, there are a variety of books in the Parish Library to help us on the way. Two among many, are 'Pray Love Remember' by Michael Mayne and 'Learning to Pray', a set of prayers by saints and notable writers. If the library in the Presbytery, which is open to all, is not convenient, there is also a bookcase in the Hall.



### A Special Boost for Lent

From Wednesday 4th March to 12th March there is a special 9 day prayer Novena to commemorate the canonisation of Saint Francis Xavier. In the narthex as you leave please do pick up a copy of the Novena to pray by yourself or as a family prayer. We will also pray it before the start of Mass.

### We remember all who have died:

Ann Orchard– funeral 17th March at Crematorium 11.15am followed by Mass at Our Lady's at 12.30pm.

**Anniversaries:** Jeremy Wetherell, Pam Portman, Peggy Hall, Sheila Williams, Mary Bray, Ronald Morgan, Cyril Lawrence.

**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, Lynne Howells, Katherine Melia, Christina James, Sarah, Ana Rudnicki, Nicola Merrick, Martin O'Connor, Patricia Moroney, Thomas Leahy, Margaret Davis, Carola Morton, Margaret Skelding, James Spradbery, Teresa Bord, Patricia Marongiu, Sarah James, Pauline and David Day, Mark Edmunds, Kath Feely, Martin Feely, Valerie Vaughan-Williams, Senan Stokes.

### BELMONT ARCHDIOCESAN YOUTH RETREAT SATURDAY 14 MARCH

This is the first 'SFX Teens' event; all SFX teens (13-18) are warmly invited and encouraged to come to spend Sat 14 March with other young pilgrims from the Archdiocese at Belmont Abbey, for a retreat day for Lent, learning about and from monastic life. To book you need to go online and complete the Archdiocese's form... <https://forms.cloud.microsoft/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=g1pKcnwUc0-mHd9wtbGVBUNEzZMLmBEg0LiAbzpxnRUQ1MxQzhLWDVERTBXUIVLTkswS1JYOUtXNy4u>

If you would rather have this link sent to your phone, **please can parents** send a Text or WhatsApp to Steve Morris (one of our parish SFX Teens leaders) on 07590 457478, who will send you the link electronically.

**Date for Your diary**  
**Saturday 4 April, Holy Saturday, SFX, 1330 – 1500 hrs.**



Come and enjoy pizza and preparation for the Easter Vigil at SFX, understanding what the Vigil is all about and why it is the most important service of the Church year. There will be the opportunity for go to Confession in readiness to celebrate the Resurrection of Jesus. [Everyone is then encouraged to come back to church in the evening for the Easter Vigil, which we celebrate in part with Anglican Christians, the service beginning in SFX and concluding in Hereford Cathedral). **No cost.**



**Confirmation** The preparation for the 22 candidates from SFX who will be receiving the sacrament of Confirmation on 17th June begins this weekend. Please keep all the candidates and the 6 catechists in your prayers. Do say hello and make them feel welcome.

**We wish Fr John safe travelling** as he is away from this Wednesday for 3 weeks to Australia on congregational business for the Benedictine Order.

Ministers of the Eucharist	Ministers of the Word
6pm Vigeetha Joseph Jane Gennard Kathy Weston	6pm Philip Dixon Stuart Fox
8am Vera McHale Frances Hetterley	8am Tracey Buckley
10am Lorena D L Auer Thomas Kottuppallil Mary Cook	10am Andy Milne Charley Smith



### Please Come and support Next Friday at 7.00pm

We are very privileged to have our Archbishop Mark coming to Saint Francis Xavier parish for the Lenten Deanery Mass. The archbishop and other priests are coming from Cardiff and from around the deanery. It would be lovely to have the church full. Please come and support this great celebration if you can.

**\*A special Request-** For the visit of the Archbishop we want the Church to look smart as we can. On Wednesday morning at 9.00am cleaning volunteers would be most welcome\*



**There is a 200 Club letter** in the sacristy for Jaroslav Liska, Francis Britto and Jane Greenaway.

### CAFOD Lent Appeal Family Fast Day—Friday 27th February

If you have any CAFOD envelopes from your fast **please put them in the collection this weekend.** Thank you.



### An Evening Concert with The Hereford Fire Choir

in memory of Joyce Ingram Friday 13th March 2026 7:00pm St Francis Xavier's Church, HR4 9AP Tickets £8 on the door to include Refreshments Bar NB cash only—no card facilities. Raising funds for *Conquer The Great Wall of China Trek for St Michael's Hospice* by Caroline, in memory of her husband Kevin. All proceeds will go directly to the Hospice.



**St 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, cast into hell Satan and all the evil spirits who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.**

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



**Collections 22/2/2026**

**The Parish £922.28**



### What's on in March 2026

Day	Time	Event
Mon 2nd	7.00pm	SVP meeting all welcome
Wed 4th	6.30pm	ABC Bible study
Fri 6th	1.30pm	Cafod soup lunch
Fri 6th	7.00pm	Deanery Station Mass