



ST FRANCIS XAVIER'S CATHOLIC CHURCH HEREFORD

Parish Priest Fr. Brendan Thomas OSB, 19 Broad St. Hereford, HR4 9AP
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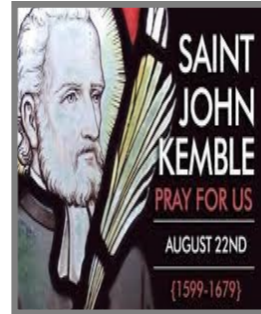


Parish Administrator: John Cook
Email: hereford2@rcadc.org
Office hours: 9am –1pm (not Tuesday)

SFX Parish School
Headteacher: Mrs Diana Pearce
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Mrs Margaret Daron
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Dear All I have been struck down with Covid, so sorry not to be with you this weekend, but I am keeping my distance in the presbytery. I am grateful for the brethren at Belmont coming down at such short notice. If all goes well, I hope to be functioning again next Tuesday. Tuesday is in fact the feast day of our own beloved St John Kemble, so there will be Mass that day at 1pm. I won't be able to go to Welsh Newton on Sunday to the pilgrimage to his grave, but I hope you can – **it is at 3pm**. We can give thanks for his ministry in Herefordshire in difficult times. He was hanged on the 22nd August 1679 at Widemarsh Common at the age of 80 for being no more than a Catholic priest. Shalom TV came here and recorded an excellent programme about St John Kemble, 'Herefordshire's Gentle Martyr.' Why not watch it this weekend and give thanks for the witness of our great saint, whose relics we are privileged to have.



<https://www.shalomworld.org/episode/herefordshires-gentle-martyr-st-john-kemble>
Our parishes in Herefordshire are in the St John Kemble Deanery. We are going to have a special Mass together on the feast of the Holy Cross, at Belmont on 14th September 6.30pm – hopefully outdoors on the lawn if the weather is fine.
Many blessings, and keep away from covid! **Fr Brendan**

Liturgical Calendar August 2023 Year A Psalter week 4

Sat 19th	NB 9.30am—10.00am CONFESSIONS		
Sat 19th	10.30am	Mass of Our Lady	Br Bernard + Br Raphael RIP
Sat 19th	6.00pm	20TH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME	Thanksgiving
Sun 20th	8.00am	20TH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME	Joy Martin RIP
Sun 20th	10.00am	20TH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME	Parish
Mon 21st	9.30am	St Pius X, Pope	D.Chacko
Tue 22nd	1.00pm	St John Kemble, Martyr	Deanery
Wed 23rd	1.00pm	St Rose of Lima	Breda Russell RIP
Thu 24th	9.30am	ST BARTHOLOMEW APOSTLE	Holy Souls
Fri 25th	1.00pm	Feria	Holy Souls
Sat 26th	10.30am	Mass of Our Lady	Holy Souls
Sat 26th	11.00am Confessions and Adoration		
Sat 26th	6.00pm	21ST SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME	Holy Souls
Sun 27th	8.00am	21ST SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME	Jeff Wilson RIP
Sun 27th	10.00am	21ST SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME	Parish

Are you celebrating a significant wedding anniversary? Or at a significant stage in your marriage, e.g. new baby, illness, empty nesters, retirement, bereavement etc... **The Archdiocesan Thanksgiving Mass for Marriage** is being celebrated for **all married** (and engaged) couples in **St David's Cathedral on Saturday 7th October**, and you are all invited.



You might also consider having your anniversary date included in the Mass booklet and share photographs to form part of a reflective presentation. For more details, to share information and to express your wish to attend, please contact Joanne White via flc@rcadc.org; you can still be included even if you are unable to attend in person and the Mass will be livestreamed via the Cathedral website.

Remembrance

Angus Maclean, Maria Clifford, Wanda Glover, Gladys Floyd, Jean Childs, Zacarias Balleza, Jennifer Hughes.

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



Prayer for the Sick:

Ania Kuzba, Joan Colley, Jan Beavan, Malcolm Darke, Robbie Bell, Meg Furber, Ann Currie, Midad Jasari, David Madgen, Lynne Howells, Christina James, Nicola Merrick, Martin O'Connor, Patricia Moroney, Fr Keith, Mary Elizabeth, George Mecina, Ana Rudnicki, Sue Forder, Ausura Chukarov, Margaret Skelding, Dennis Schiavon.

"I Believe in the Communion of The Saints..."

We pray to canonized saints because we know they are already in heaven, and can intercede for us. Just as you would ask a friend or family member to pray for you, it makes sense that we could ask a saint to pray for us. Death does not stop Christians from praying for one another. This is an important part of what it means to be joined in the "Communion of Saints," which is a communion of the souls on earth with the souls in heavenly glory.



Five Reasons to Venerate the Saints

- 1) **They are of our same nature;** they were weak like us, and they know, through their own life experiences, our needs, sufferings, and limitations.
- 2) **God wants to make his saints honoured on earth,** where they served Him and where they lived and died, so He enables them to hear our prayers and pray on our behalf.
- 3) **Their words and example of a holy life** help to point us towards heaven; they deserve our gratitude and reverence.
- 4) **God continuously grants miracles and favours through the intercession of the saints,** for they are still serving as instruments of God to confer graces on men.
- 5) **We aren't praying to the dead. The saints are alive!** Yes, their souls are separated from their bodies temporarily until the final Resurrection, but the Church reminds us that when our earthly lives have ended, our souls are still very much alive.

'St John Kemble and All Saints pray for us'

Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist	Ministers of the Word
6pm TBA Sarah Williams Sarah Slancauskas	6pm Fiona Stokes
8am Frances Hetterley Cecilia Balestra	8am Stephen Cleeve
10am Mia Brennan Jaimol James Moses Obanimoh	10am Karl Dalton

PARISH BBQ 27th August 11.30 am.

See the Notice board for details. Please pay for and collect your tickets at any Mass on 19/20 August Alternatively, place money in envelope marked with your name and BBQ ticket request and hand in to Church/office and we will reserve your tickets. Any vegetarians? Please let us know in advance. Paul and Brenda.



Poetry for Pleasure



There is no meeting in August, but there is some optional home-work! This is a good time to look through your poetry anthologies and select your 8 Desert Island poems.

If possible, write or print out your choice (just the title and poet) with a sentence or two for each poem to explain why you have chosen it. The next meeting will be on Thursday 21st September and the theme will be "Sharing our Desert Island Poems".

Catholics aged 18 to 45? YouCAN are organizing a Monastery Day at Belmont Abbey, on 9th September 2023 for you! Quiet time with God and one another, Mass, Confessions, Prayer, Bible Study and the Divine Office. For bookings and further information contact rina@youngcatholicadultnetwork.uk



YouCAN UK is a religious group for practicing young Catholic adults ages 18 and 35; Living in the UK, it has a simple mission of linking all young Catholic adults to build a strong young Catholic Community of Faith. For young Catholic adults between 30 and 45. See: <https://youngcatholicadultnetwork.uk>

Tea, Coffee and Cake Everyone is invited to come along to the Parish Hall after the 10.00am Mass.



We welcome into God's family **Niamh Pritchard** who was baptised here on Saturday at 4.00pm.



Collections for 12th/13th August

1st Collection **£456.28**
2nd Collection **£363.64**




Parish Calendar - August/September

Sun 20th	3.00pm	St John Kemble Pilgrimage
Sun 27th	11.30am	Parish BBQ
Sun 10th	3.00pm	Vespers at Tintern Abbey
Thur 14th	6.30pm	Deanery Mass at Belmont