



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, This weekend we celebrate the Armistice, the moment when the hostilities of the First World War came to an end and peace was made after four long devastating years of war. It is an opportunity for us to remember and honour those who lost their lives in that Great War and in conflicts since; we hold silence together; and to allow our remembrances to help us, to deepen our commitment to bringing about peace in our troubled world. Silence, remembering, and peace-making. In all of this we seek the thread of God's love. When we look at the dreadful cost of war and the sacrifices made by so many, it is difficult for us to see the presence of God. I know that for myself when I see what is happening across the world, in Ukraine, in Gaza and other war torn parts of the world I do wonder whether we have learned anything at all? Yet in the depths of our questioning God takes all our raging and bitterness and in the resurrection shows us the way to peace, through the sacrifice of his Son, who faced violence, yet didn't respond with retribution and retaliation, but with mercy and forgiveness and love. In the depths of our hearts, he speaks words of healing and forgiveness, showing us that in Christ death is not the end, and love, not violence is the final word. Today as we remember those who died in order to bring about peace we know that God invites us to be part of a peace-making community centred on the love of Christ, living in a world where war will be no more. The sacrifice of others that we remember today mirrors the sacrifice of Christ on the cross. They died for freedom, liberty from oppression and the evil of man's inhumanity to man. He died that we might be forgiven and so live in peace free from our sins and in harmony with one another. Today of all days we give heartfelt thanks for those who made the ultimate sacrifice: At the going down of the sun and in the morning we will remember them. **Fr Andrew**

Liturgical Calendar November 2024 Yr B Psalter Wk 4

Sat 9th	10.30am	DEDICATION OF THE LATERAN BASILICA, FEAST	Holy Souls
Sat 9th	11.00am	Confessions and Adoration	
Sat 9th	6.00pm	32ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	MacGregor, Gleeson & O'Brian dec'd members
Sun 10th	8.00am	32ND SUNDAY	Doreen Giles RIP
Sun 10th	10.00am	32ND SUNDAY REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY	Requiem Mass For the Dead of War
Mon 11th	9.30am Rosary 0900	St Martin of Tours, Bishop	K.J. George RIP (anniv.)
Tue 12th	No Mass here. Mass at Our Lady's 9.30am		
Wed 13th	1.00pm Adoration 12 noon	Feria	Maureen Pearson RIP
Thu 14th	09.30am	St Dyfrig, Bishop	Michal, in God's keeping
Fri 15th	1.00pm	St Albert the Great, Bishop & Doctor	Eva Ward RIP
Sat 16th	10.30am	Votive Memorial of Our Lady	Holy Souls
Sat 16th	11.00am	Confessions and Adoration	
Sat 16th	6.00pm	33RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	Mohan Singh RIP
Sun 17th	8.00am	33RD SUNDAY	Jude James RIP
Sun 17th	10.00am	33RD SUNDAY	David Warr RIP



Evangelisation & Culture Conference

Invitation from the Word on Fire Institute: join Bishop Barron in the London for the Evangelisation & Culture Conference 21-22 February

2025. The Bible is the heart of evangelisation. As St Jerome observed long ago, "Ignorance of the Scriptures is ignorance of Christ." At this conference, we will uncover the spiritual and theological meaning of the Bible from a genuinely Catholic approach, reading it within the context of the great and beautiful chorus of voices from across the centuries of the Church's tradition. Details can be found at: <https://events.wordonfire.org/the-bible-event>



Today is **Remembrance Sunday** when we remember those who have lost their lives in war. Lest we Forget.

We remember all who have died:

Bridget Barton.
And those whose anniversaries occur about this time:
Paula McQuillan, Noah Bolt, Katie Meakin, Ann Lock, John McSherry, James Baskerville, Harold Welch, Thomas McCourt, Mary Daniels.
Eternal rest grant unto them O lord and let perpetual light shine upon them.



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, Roy Pigou, Ann Marie Hughson, Teresa Bord. John Moroney

Building News Update



On Monday this week we had a long site meeting with the architect and builders. Basically good news to report. After extensive examination of all the structure and proposed refurbishment work it has been found that less plaster has to be removed and repainted and the underlying condition of the building is sound. There are only a couple of small areas up at the top to be replaced so we are on budget and weather permitting to be finished on time for December 14th, all finished, so we should be able to get our outdoor crib up as last year. Indoors in the Narthex area at the back of church the work to put in more storage and better display boards is going ahead the last week of November and the first week of December. This should not cause too much disruption and when finished will hopefully be much improved. The citing of our Christmas tree however might need a re-think?

Abbot Brendan sends his heartfelt thanks for the generosity shown to him with his leaving collection. He is very touched and looks forward to seeing parishioners in the future.

Parish 200 Club. Winners September Draw 2024

1st Matt Ling £30; 2nd Kathy Weston £20; 3rd Carola Morton £10.

Winners **October Draw 2024** 1st Jo Noyes £30; 2nd Lorriane Lloyd-Williams £20; 3rd Eddie Loader £10.

Congratulations to the Winners who can collect their letters from the Sacristy. *Paul & Brenda*

RED BOXES Thank you to those who brought in their collection boxes recently. The total banked was £260. With people generally using less cash the annual collection is now only about a third of that before the pandemic. If it is more convenient for you could you please consider making a monthly or annual donation to MISSIO which helps missionaries abroad to bring Jesus' love and compassion to those in desperate need. Go to missio.org.uk or call Mary Roberts on 07443 005158 for more information. The 2025 calendar is available for box holders to collect from the narthex. Thank you.



Poetry for Pleasure The next meeting is on Thursday 21st November 1030-1200 in the Parish Hall. The theme will be "Travel and Journeys". All are welcome.

Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist	Ministers of the Word
6pm Wendy Winterburn Sarah Slankauskas Vigeetha Joseph	6pm Fiona Stokes
8am Frances Hetterley Cecilia Balestra	8am Dorothy Kennedy
10am Lorena de Lima Auer Mary Cook Noel Elegado Gerald Okafor	10am Valerie V Williams



ADVENT FAIR 30TH NOVEMBER 2024

The first Parish Bazaar since Covid needs your support. All hands on deck to make this a great success!

Christmas Hamper Raffle: Many thanks to everyone who has pledged items for the Christmas Hamper Raffle. Your support is much appreciated. Please bring items in to church and put them in the marked box in the Sacristy. All items are needed by Saturday 23rd November.

Parish Raffle: Books of Raffle tickets were put into newsletters last week. Please return any unwanted books so that they are available for someone else to sell. Raffle ticket stubs and money can be returned at any weekend Mass until the bazaar. Do you have any new good quality gift items that would be suitable as additional raffle prizes? If so, please label and leave in the sacristy.

Bottle Stall: A lot of bottles are needed! Any donations of bottles (alcoholic or soft drinks) will be very gratefully received. Bottles can be placed in the labelled boxes in the Sacristy from now onwards.

What else is needed? Any items for the Jewellery and Red and Green stalls. Red and green items include anything in traditional Christmas colours e.g. wrapping paper, Christmas crackers and decorations. Please leave any donations in the Sacristy.

Tea and Coffee in the Parish Hall

In order to simplify and declutter the kitchen in the Parish Hall, members of the CAFOD group have undertaken to keep supplies of Fairtrade tea and coffee topped up for use by all church groups. This is paid for out of donations for refreshments after Sunday Mass. This means that individual groups no longer have to provide their own supplies of tea and coffee.



Open Morning—St Francis Xavier's RC Primary School

If your child was born between 1st September 2020 and 31st August 2021 please come along to our open morning on Tuesday 19th November 9.30 -10.30 am. Come along and meet Headteacher, Mrs Christopherson and Reception Class teacher, Miss Smail. Mrs Christopherson will give an introductory talk at 9.30 am and this will be followed by a tour of the school from Yr 6 pupils. There is no need to book.

Welcome to any new or visiting parishioners.

Do come and introduce yourselves to the welcomers and **come along to the hall after the 10.00am Mass for coffee and cake.**



Collections 2/3rd Nov
1st £427.94 The Parish
2nd £341.35 Renovation
Sick and retired clergy £521.86



Parish Calendar— November 2024

Mon 18th	7.00pm	SVP
Wed 13th	6.30pm	ABC Scripture Group
Sat 23rd	10.00am	Talk on the Synod at Belmont
Sun 24th	12noon	Filipino Mass