



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 is my last weekend at St Francis before I return to Belmont to take up my new role as Novice Master and Vocations director. It is with a heavy heart that I leave you, these last few months have been a time of great joy. St Francis Xavier is a wonderful parish full of wonderful people whom I have grown to love very much. I cannot thank you enough for all the help, support, friendship, and prayers that you have shown me. There will always be a place in my heart that is forever St Francis. I know you will show Fathers James and John the same care you have shown me. Never forget to praise God daily and to give Him thanks. Love Him with all your heart, and soul. Give yourself totally to Him as He gives himself totally to you and then go out into His beautiful world spreading the good news of His love. May God bless you and be assured of my prayers for you all.



Spiritual Reflection-Most of us are inclined to forget God and His providence when things are going well. We feel we don't need Him and, that God will only get in the way of our success. Yet without God we are nothing and we have nothing. God gives us every good gift and pours himself out upon us in an act of complete self-giving. How often do we give thanks when life is good, when we are in good health, when our home lives and our relationships are going well. How often do we give thanks for all the many good gifts we receive daily at his hand. God loves us passionately, let us always give him thanks and praise, in good times and in bad, for everything he gives to us. Let us return love for love and never forget all his blessings. **Fr Andrew**

Liturgical Calendar November/December 2024 Yr B Psalter Wk 2

Sat 23rd	10.30am	Requiem Mass for Holy Souls	Peter Millin Tom McCourt
Sat 23rd	11.00	Confessions and Adoration	
Sat 23rd	6.00pm	OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE	Jim Baskerville (Anniversary)
Sun 24th	8.00am	CHRIST THE KING	C.O. Chacko Leelamma Chacko
Sun 24th	10.00am	CHRIST THE KING	Stephen Booth
Mon 25th	9.30am Rosary 9am	St Catherine of Alexandria	In Thanksgiving
Tue 26th	No Mass here. Mass at Our Lady's 9.30am		
Wed 27th	1.00pm Adoration 12 noon	Feria	John James Thomas
Thu 28th	09.30am	Feria	Mark, Vincent & Marie McDonnell
Fri 29th	1.00pm	Feria	Gerard & Jeanie Livingstone RIP
Sat 30th	10.30am	ST ANDREW, APOSTLE (FEAST)	Holy Souls
Sat 30th	11.00	Confessions and Adoration	
Sat 30th	6.00pm	1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT (VIGIL)	Michael Flynn RIP
Sun 1st	8.00am	1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT	The parish
Sun 1st	10.00am	1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT	Dave & Kathy Weston 40th Wedding Anniv.

Fr Andrew is leaving this Weekend

There will be a collection box out at all Masses if anyone would like to donate towards a leaving gift.

We thank Fr Andrew for his dedication in serving our parish over the past few months. We wish him every blessing as novice master at Belmont Abbey. **Thank you Fr. Andrew from us all at SFX!**

Belmont Abbey Gift Shop

The new Sunday missals, which will come into use on the first Sunday of Advent, are now available to purchase in the shop at Belmont Abbey. The CTS have three editions as follows: Standard Edition £19.95, Burgundy Presentation £29.95 and the New Sunday Missal for 2025 £9.95. Hodder and Stoughton have published blue and red editions at £18.99.

We remember all who have died and those whose anniversaries occur about this time:

Jack Frayne, Amanda Jones, Katherine Preece, Hilda Wood, Phyllis Powell, Hilda Fuller, Michael Flynn, Peter McCutcheon.

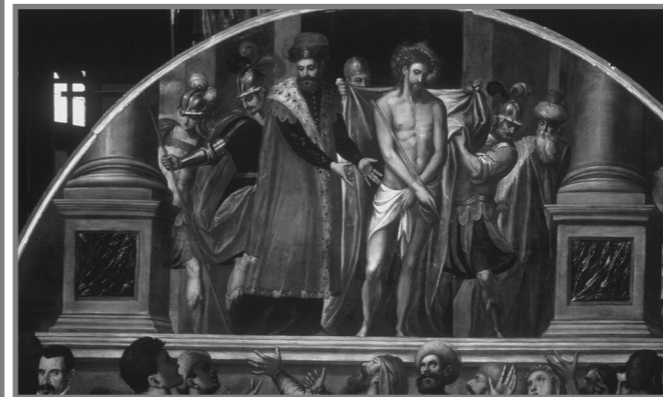


Eternal rest grant unto them O lord and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen

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 Kathleen Spradbery, Ann Marie Hughson, John Moroney

The Feast of Christ the King

On this last Sunday of the liturgical year, we are celebrating the Solemnity of Christ the King, a Feast established relatively recently but which has deep biblical and theological roots. The title "King", designating Jesus, is very important in the Gospels and makes possible a complete interpretation of the figure of Jesus and of his mission of salvation. In this regard a progression can be noted: it starts with the expression "King of Israel" and extends to that of universal King, Lord of the cosmos and of history, thus exceeding by far the expectations of the Jewish people.



It is yet again the mystery of Jesus Christ's death and Resurrection that lies at the heart of this process of the revelation of his kingship. When Jesus is hung on the Cross, the priests, scribes and elders mock him saying: "He is the King of Israel; let him come down now from the cross, and we will believe in him" (Mt 27: 42). In fact, it is precisely as the Son of God that Jesus freely gives himself up to his Passion. The Cross is the paradoxical sign of his kingship, which consists in the loving will of God the Father in response to the disobedience of sin. It is in the very offering of himself in the sacrifice of expiation that Jesus becomes King of the universe, as he himself was to declare when he appeared to the Apostles after the Resurrection: "All authority in Heaven and on earth has been given to me" (Mt 28: 18). But in what does this "power" of Jesus Christ the King consist? It is not the power of the kings or the great people of this world; it is the divine power to give eternal life, to liberate from evil, to defeat the dominion of death. It is the power of Love that can draw good from evil, that can melt a hardened heart, bring peace amid the harshest conflict and kindle hope in the thickest darkness.
Pope Benedict XVI

Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist	Ministers of the Word
6pm Kathy Weston Wendy Winterburn Sarah Slankauskas	6pm Philip Dixon
8am Frances Hetterley Cecilia Balestra	8am Lorraine Lloyd Williams
10am Mary Cook Gerald Okafor Lorena de Lima Auer Moses Obanimoh	10am Bruno Alves



ADVENT FAIR 30TH NOVEMBER 2024 12:30 – 14:30 in the Parish Hall

There is only one week to go until the Advent Bazaar and your help is needed to make it a success! Many thanks to everyone who has already brought in donations for stalls and bought raffle tickets. Your generosity is much appreciated. It would be wonderful to see everyone at the Bazaar next Saturday.

We still need:

- Ø More bottles for the bottle stall (alcoholic or soft drinks)
 - Ø Any donations for the Red and Green Stall (e.g. wrapping paper, decorations, Christmas crackers etc in traditional Christmas colours) and the Jewellery Stall
 - Ø Cakes for the cake stall and refreshments: Calling all bakers! Traditional cakes, traybakes, cupcakes, mince pies etc. will all be needed on the day of the Bazaar.
- Parish Raffle: Ticket stubs and money can be handed in at any weekend Mass or at the bazaar next Saturday. More books of Raffle tickets are available
Christmas Hamper Raffle: Tickets are for sale after all Masses this weekend. Don't miss the chance to win one of the fabulous hampers full of Christmas treats!



Filipino Mass @ St. Francis Xavier's Roman Catholic Church on **24/11/2024** 12 noon with a shared lunch afterwards in the hall. Bring food and drink to share. Our celebrant is Fr. Francisco Cruz, CM. Do pass this invitation on. Spread the word!

The Assisted Suicide Bill Ask your MP to stop ASSISTED SUICIDE being rushed into law. On 29th November MP's will vote on whether to introduce an extreme assisted suicide law. You can make a difference right now by contacting your MP before Friday of this week. There is plenty of evidence from other countries that when assisted suicide is made law, safeguards do not work and palliative care is downgraded. **We must do our duty as Catholics and oppose this dreadful bill.**

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 16/17th Nov
1st £435.61 The Parish
2nd £309.31 Renovation



Parish Calendar– November/December 2024

Sun 24th	12noon	Filipino Mass
Sat 30th	12.30 -2.30	Advent Fair, Parish Hall
Wed 27th	6.30pm	ABC Scripture Group
Mon 2nd	7pm	SVP in Parish Hall