



ST FRANCIS XAVIER'S CATHOLIC CHURCH HEREFORD

Served by the monks of Belmont Abbey- Parish Priest Fr. Brendan Thomas OSB,
19 Broad St. Hereford, HR4 9AP Tel: 01432 273485: www.sfxhereford.org.uk
Hospital Chaplain: Fr Patrick Lobo 07922323603



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

SFX Parish School Headteacher:
Mrs Elizabeth Christopherson
Tel: 01432 273941

Parish Safeguarding Officer:
Mrs Margaret Daron
Email: safeguardingsfx01@gmail.com

Dear All, To be a disciple, a follower of Jesus isn't easy because it requires us to accept Jesus' invitation to take up our cross daily and follow him to become his friends and members of his family with everything that this entails. It means an unconditional 'yes' to whatever he asks of us and to give unconditionally without counting the cost. It's today's Gospel Jesus presents us with a blueprint for discipleship, one which is both challenging and uncompromising. It is one in which there is no room for jealousy or a hankering after status, no room for seeking out favouritism from God; rather discipleship is about placing ourselves completely into the hands of God and to say a radical YES to him. Why radical? Because to say YES to God means to change and we tend not to like change; to truly follow Jesus calls for self-discipline, sacrifice and a total commitment to the goal of bringing the Gospel to the world. To be a disciple is to love passionately, to trust wholeheartedly. Discipleship is not an optional extra but a vital part of being a Catholic and a Christian. It is our job to spread the Good News; to set the world alight with the Gospel of Love so that others may be drawn into relationship with God our loving Father. We have a Gospel to proclaim, a Gospel that bring life, healing and joy. Faith is something beautiful and we should want to celebrate it and invite others to join us. When it comes to witnessing to God we are called to be bold, to be extravagant. We shouldn't be afraid, hiding our light under a bushel for fear or rejection or ridicule but we are to give ourselves totally to God who gave himself totally to us. **Fr Andrew**



Liturgical Calendar October 2024 Yr B Psalter Wk 1

Sat 19th	10.30am	Votive memorial of Our Lady	Gordon Fothergill
Sat 19th	11.00am	Confessions and Adoration	
Sat 19th	6.00pm	29TH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME	The Parish
Sun 20th	8.00am	29TH SUNDAY	The Evangelisation of peoples
Sun 20th	10.00am	29TH SUNDAY	Ian Huband (sick)
Mon 21st	9.30am Rosary	Feria	Recovery of Andrew Morison
Tue 22nd	No Mass here. Mass at Our Lady's 9.30am St John Paul II, Pope		
Wed 23rd	1.00pm Adoration 12 noon	Feria	Izahaak George (Birthday)
Thu 24th	09.30am	Feria	Sheelagh Schofield
Fri 25th	1.00pm	The Six Welsh Martyrs and their Companions	Sarah Stansbury RIP
Sat 26th	10.30am	St Chad and St Cedd	Anjaly Abraham
Sat 26th	11.00am	Confessions and Adoration	
Sat 26th	6.00pm	30TH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME	Theresiamma Mathai RIP
Sun 27th	8.00am	30TH SUNDAY	Sr Lizam George RIP
Sun 27th	10.00am	30TH SUNDAY	Holy Souls

WORLD MISSION SUNDAY 2024

TOGETHER WE CAN IGNITE GOD'S LOVE AROUND THE WORLD



Bishops speak out against Assisted Suicide Bill

The bishops of Britain & Ireland have spoken out against this bill which will be voted on in late November. They have called it **"gravely immoral and a danger to our society"**. In countries where it has been made law, safeguards for the vulnerable have been systematically eroded. Supported by the Church, **palliative care** is seen as an approach that addresses the whole person, not just their disease. Cardinal Nichols said **"a legalised right to die becomes a duty to die"** **We must do all we can to oppose this bill. Please contact your MP URGENTLY: spuc.org.uk/assisted-suicide**

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

Peter Gunter, Sheelagh Schofield, Guiseppina Newnes, Carol Joyce, John Brown, Mary Sanders.

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, Roy Pigou, Ann Marie Hughson, Teresa Bord.

Good news For our Parish!

We have just completed the four week count for the parish and our total average for the last 4 weeks was 405. Last year was 384. 405 is the highest Mass attendance in the last 20yrs so this is good news for the parish! And for our new parish priest! When people ask you about why do you have to go to Mass every Sunday here are 5 reasons to help you reply.

Five good reasons why going to Mass every Sunday is absolutely necessary.

- 1.Sunday Mass fulfils God's law.** The Third Commandment is, "Remember to keep holy the Sabbath day" (Ex 20:8; see also Dt 5:12). The Christian Sabbath is Sunday, and Catholic's keep the Sabbath holy by fulfilling the obligation to attend Mass. The Commandment is not a suggestion or a request; it is a command or an order. The law makes compulsory what we should want to do on our own.
- 2. Weekly Worship Follows Jesus' Example.** Jesus was in the habit of going to the synagogue on the Sabbath day (Lk 4:16b. If Jesus went to the synagogue to observe the Sabbath every week, we should go to Mass every week.
- 3.Sunday is a Day of Thanksgiving.** Eucharist means thanks. It is right and just to give thanks to the Lord our God, and the Mass is the best prayer to offer thanks.
- 4. Community Prayer is Essential.** From the beginning of the Church the community "devoted themselves ... to the breaking of the bread and the prayers" (Acts 2:42). Christians pray together by nature, and the Mass is the premier form of communal prayer.
- 5. Weekly Eucharist is Solid Spiritual Food.** Most people are health-food conscious. It is important to eat properly every day to avoid hunger pains, weakness, malnutrition, and disease. It is the same with our spiritual life. We need to be spiritual-food conscious if we wish to avoid emptiness, spiritual weakness, vulnerability to temptation, and sickness due to sin.

Reminder: Clocks go back an hour next Saturday for the end of BST

Farewell to Fr Brendan The Abbot's last weekend as our Parish Priest will be next weekend 26/27th October. There is a collection box in the sacristy if you wish to contribute. We will have the opportunity to say a fond farewell to him after all the Masses and make a thanks-giving presentation after the 10 o'clock Mass.

Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist	Ministers of the Word
6pm Jane Gennard Ancy Shajan Vigeetha Joseph	6pm Philip Dixon
8am Frances Hetterley Cecilia Balestra	8am Dorothy Kennedy
10am Thomas Kottuppallil Noel Elegado, Mary Cook, Moses Obanimoh	10am Andrew Milne



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!

Fundraising Concert here at SFX

In aid of Neuroendocrine Cancer. **3 Local Choirs-Friday 1st November Tickets £6, on the door, refreshments included.** Hereford Fire choir, The kindle singers and Gracenotes ladies choir.



The Christmas Hamper Raffle.

Look out for those early Christmas Bargains! Parishioners are asked to donate items for Christmas Hampers. Please see notice in Narthex. Please look at the lists, you will see that the hampers contain many items that will help you enjoy a festive Christmas. Please sign your name against an item that you can donate over the coming weeks (before 23rd Nov.) please place your donation in the Christmas Hamper box in the Sacristy. Thank you for your loyal support for this parish fund-raising venture.

November Dead List Envelopes are now available at the back of church. Please write the names of your loved ones and place in envelope together with your offering and hand in to office or put in collection.

Nativity Pageant - All Saints' Church are planning a new Nativity Pageant, just before Christmas, and are looking for volunteer performers and helpers. Rehearsals start soon. Call or text Sean on 07813 303611



Last call—New People needed! October is the month of the Holy Rosary

With all the troubles in the world and in my life supporting and praying the Holy Rosary is a marvellous gift. Do sign up on the noticeboards to host or find one close to you and go and support it. You will be glad you did!

Welcome to any new or visiting parishioners. Do come and introduce yourselves to the newcomers and **come along to the hall after the 10.00am Mass for coffee and cake** to meet the parishioners and parish priest.



Collections 12th/13th Oct 1st £563.13 The Parish 2nd £360.68 Renovation Retiring Collection this weekend for Missio



Parish Calendar- October/November 2024

Mon 21st	7.00pm	SVP
Fri 1st Nov	7.00pm	3 local Choirs Concert
Thur 7th	1.30pm	First Thurs Club