



# 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, Endings and Beginnings

Just to remind you that my last weekend here at St Francis's will be Saturday 23rd and Sunday 24th November after which I will return to Belmont to continue my new role as Novice Master and Vocations director. Father's James and John will arrive on Monday 25th November. They will celebrate their first weekend Masses on Saturday 30th November and Sunday 1st December. Please do continue to pray for me as I prepare to leave you and for Father's James and John as they prepare to move from their community of St Gregory's.

## Spiritual Reflection

While the world looks upon me as I struggle along. In my heart I'm rejoicing, how I wish they could see. Thank you, Lord, for your blessings on me.

All of us struggle sometimes, and we often pray out of sheer necessity. Whenever we feel low, down-beat or simply worn out, we have to remember that we have a lot to be thankful for. Jesus ensures that there is inevitably some sunshine in our lives, even when storm clouds threaten the sky. He always brings us comfort and He showers us with blessings daily. These may be the love and support of our families or friends, acts of kindness from strangers, or the answer to our prayers. It can be very easy to miss everyday miracles, but when we truly open our eyes we can see Jesus' love, light and power everywhere. So let us pray, that we will not be blind to the Lord's many blessings then let us smile, laugh and praise Him for His great goodness and limitless love. **Fr Andrew**

## Liturgical Calendar November 2024 Yr B Psalter Wk 1

Sat 16th	10.30am	Mass 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
Mon 18th	9.30am Rosary 0900	The dedication of the Basilicas of Sts Peter and Paul, Apostles	Marek, In God's keeping
Tue 19th	No Mass here. Mass at Our Lady's 9.30am		
Wed 20th	1.00pm Adoration 12 noon	Feria	Margaret Arscott RIP (Anniv)
Thu 21st	09.30am	The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary	Anna Rodger
Fri 22nd	1.00pm	St Cecilia,	Brodie/Murphy family
Sat 23rd	10.30am	Requiem Mass for Holy Souls	Peter Millin Tom McCourt
Sat 23rd	11.00	Confessions and Adoration	
Sat 23rd	6.00pm	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



## Fr Andrew is sadly leaving us

We are so blessed at SFX to have Belmont Abbey on our doorstep providing us with a steady supply of good Holy priests, helping us in our transition between permanent appointments. Fr Andrew was asked to step in to provide emergency cover back in August for a couple of weeks! Thankfully he has stayed the course and has been very generous with his time and efforts to keep the parish running smoothly. After the masses next weekend there will be a collection box available for anyone who wanted to donate towards a leaving present for Fr Andrew. We wish him all the very best in his new ministry as Novice master at the Abbey.

## We remember all who have died:

Bridget Barton. Requiem Thursday 21st November 12noon at Belmont Abbey

## And those whose anniversaries occur about this time:

Jude James, Bernard Drinkwater, Mary Fussell, Cecilia Preece, May Baynham Brigid Butcher, Pat Morris, John Faraday  
**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 Kathleen Spradbery

**Pope Francis** this Sunday, 17 November 2024 to be the eighth World Day of the Poor, with the theme: **The prayer of the poor rises up to God**

## Dear brothers and sisters,

The prayer of the poor rises up to God (cf. *Sir* 21:5). In this year dedicated to prayer in anticipation of the Ordinary Jubilee of 2025, this expression of biblical wisdom is most fitting ... for the Eighth World Day of the Poor. Indeed, Christian hope embraces the certainty that our prayer reaches God's presence; not just any prayer but rather the prayer of the poor! One of the themes to which this sacred author devotes significant attention is prayer. He does so with great fervour because he gives voice to his personal experience. Indeed, no writing on prayer can be effective and fruitful if it does not stem from someone who stands daily in God's presence and listens to his Word. Ben Sira declares that he sought wisdom from his youth: "While I was still young, before I went on my travels, I sought wisdom openly in my prayer" (*Sir* 51:13).

On this journey, he discovered one of the fundamental truths of revelation, namely, that *the poor hold a privileged place in God's heart*, to the point that, in the face of their suffering, God is "impatient" until he has rendered justice to them. "The prayer of the humble pierces the clouds, and he will not be consoled until it reaches the Lord; he will not desist until the Most High visits him, and does justice for the righteous, and executes judgment. And the Lord will not delay" (*Sir* 35:17-18). God knows the sufferings of his children because he is an attentive and caring father.



I urge everyone to become *pilgrims of hope*, setting tangible goals for a better future. Let us not forget to keep "the little details of love" (*Gaudete et Exsultate*, 145): stopping, drawing near, giving a little attention, a smile, a caress, a word of comfort. These gestures are not automatic; they require a daily commitment and are often hidden and silent, but strengthened by prayer.

*Extract from the message of His Holiness Pope Francis for the eight World Day of the Poor.*

We can perhaps look forward to the Jubilee Year of 2025 as an opportunity to make a real commitment to the poor of our world through daily prayer and action.

**Pray, and you will notice the poor who are beside you. St. Teresa of Calcutta**

## Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist

**6pm Jane Gennard  
Ancy Shajan  
Vigeetha Joseph**

**8am Frances Hetterley  
Cecilia Balestra**

**10am Lorena de Lima Auer  
Noel Elegado Gerald Okafor  
Moses Obanimoh**

## Ministers of the Word

**6pm Stuart Fox**

**8am Tracey Buckley**

**10am Andy Milne**



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

Your help is needed to make the Advent Bazaar a success! What can you do?  
Ø Parish Raffle: Buy tickets for the Parish Raffle (or sell to others). Ticket stubs and money can be returned at any time before the Bazaar. Extra books can be picked up after any weekend Mass this or next weekend.

Ø **Christmas Hamper Raffle:** Buy tickets for the Christmas Hamper Raffle. Please bring in items you have pledged for the Hampers by Saturday 23rd November

Ø **Bottle Stall:** Very few bottles have been donated and a lot are needed! Any donations of bottles (alcoholic or soft drinks) will be very gratefully received.

Ø **Red and Green and Jewellery Stalls:** Can you donate any wrapping paper, decorations, Christmas crackers etc in traditional Christmas colours and/or any jewellery items?

Ø **Cake stall and refreshments:** Calling all bakers! Traditional cakes, traybakes, cupcakes, mince pies etc. will all be needed on the day of the Bazaar.

Ø **Come to the Bazaar!** Most important of all, come to the Bazaar on 30th November. It would be wonderful to see everyone. All profits will help towards the cost of maintaining our beautiful church. Please leave any donations for stalls and Christmas Hampers in the sacristy.



**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!

## Poetry for Pleasure



## 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.

**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 9/10th Nov**  
**1st £510.42 The Parish**  
**2nd £405.87 Renovation**



## Parish Calendar- November 2024

Mon 18th	7.00pm	SVP
Thurs 21st	10.30am	Poetry for pleasure
Sat 23rd	10.00am	Talk on the Synod at Belmont
Sun 24th	12noon	Filipino Mass
Sat 30th	12.30 -2.30	Advent Fair, parish hall