



# ST FRANCIS XAVIER'S CATHOLIC CHURCH HEREFORD

Parish Priest Dom James Hood. Assistant Priest Dom John George.  
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 Friends,

Today's feast day of Candlemas, The Presentation of the Lord, The Purification of Our Lady is celebrated 40 days after the Nativity of the Lord. The young Jesus is in the Temple, and he encounters Simeon and Anna. They are the faithful members of God's Chosen People who recognize and declare to the world that Jesus is the long-awaited Messiah. Mary is warned that the surrender of her beloved son to his destiny will not be without pain: 'a sword will pierce through your own soul.'

In the gospel account St Luke gives us Simeon's prayer that the Church prays every night at the end of the day.

*Lord, now you are letting your servant depart in peace,  
according to your word;  
for my eyes have seen your salvation  
that you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,  
a light for revelation to the Gentiles,  
and for the glory to your people Israel.* **Fr James**



## Liturgical Calendar February 2025 Yr C Psalter Wk 4

Sat 1st	10.30am	St Brigid of Ireland	For the Sick
Sat 1st	11.00am	Confessions and Adoration	
Sat 1st	6.00pm	THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD (CANDLEMAS)	For Vocations
Sun 2nd	8.00am	THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD	The Parish
Sun 2nd	10.00am	THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD	For Religious
Mon 3rd	9.30am Rosary 9.00am	St Blaise, Bishop and Martyr With blessing of throats	Michael Baldrey RIP
Tue 4th	Mass at Our Lady's at 9.30am		
Wed 5th	1.00pm	St Agatha Virgin and Martyr	Forgotten Souls
Thu 6th	9.30am	St Paul Miki and Companions	For the persecuted
Fri 7th	1.00pm	Feria	Patrick Hogan RIP
Sat 8th	10.30am	St Josephine Bakhita	Holy Souls
Sat 8th	11.00am	Confessions and Adoration	
Sat 8th	6.00pm	5TH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME	Joe Schofield RIP
Sun 9th	8.00am	5TH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME	Bill and Kathleen Kennedy RIP
Sun 9th	10.00am	5TH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME	The Parish

## Flame takes place on Saturday 15th March 2025

and is the largest Catholic youth event in England and Wales. Filled with inspiring speakers, incredible live music, prayer, adoration and young people from across England and Wales, it's an event like no other! **To find out more see [cymfed.org.uk/flame/](http://cymfed.org.uk/flame/)** SFX parish are looking to organise a few of their 14-25yr age-group parishioners to go up to London for this event. If any parishioners are interested and would like to join in please can you speak to Fr John and register your interest with the office at... hereford2@rcadc.org



We remember all who have died and whose anniversaries occur about this time: , **Lately Dead—Patricia Woodriffe Funeral here on Thursday 13th Feb 1.00pm Anniversaries**

Margarita Doverman, Billy McAleese, Patricia Chamberlain, Eileen Pugh, Neva Jais, Canon Thomas Keane, Antoinette Perrot, Maria Mecina, Donald Wilson, Tom Supple, Ann Meaker, Patrick Hogan, Denise Homfray

**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 Ann Marie Hughson, Paul Kingston, John Moroney, Pauline and David Day, Bunimin, Mark Edmunds.



**Carlo Acutis, "God's Influencer"**  
The Church of Santa Maria Maggiore in Assisi is a meeting point between worlds. Built in the 11th century, its foundations are

pre-Christian, but today, when you enter this Church and turn right and go down the aisle, you will encounter a modern tomb. As you kneel in front of it, you'll see, through the glass, the body of a 15-year-old boy dressed in jeans, a sweatshirt and trainers just like any teenager.

**This is Carlo Acutis, the teenager** with a passion for computers and the Eucharist. This millennial (he was born in 1991), soon-to-be-saint, was born and baptised in London to non-practising Catholic parents. Yet, by the age of 3 he was already asking to visit churches to pray. When he was 9 he learnt computer programming, "To always be close to Jesus, that's my life plan," he once said. Carlo didn't live his life on the screen. He learnt the name of foreign caretakers at his school and would always greet them personally by name every morning. He had a great love for the Eucharist, describing it as his "motorway to heaven."

"Why do people worry so much about their physical beauty but don't worry about the beauty of their souls?" Carlo often asked. He lived out this beauty as a person of great holiness on the inside and with the charity he showed in how he lived. He helped immigrants, beggars, the disabled, and the elderly. Even on his deathbed he didn't think of himself. When doctors asked if he was in great pain, he replied, "there are people who suffer much more than me." Carlo died aged 15 in 2006 of acute leukaemia. Such a short life, yet one that has left a formidable legacy! His life is a wonderful example of how faith takes nothing away from our desire to be free and happy.

## Jubilee Year 2025 Idea?

The relics of Calo Acutis will be visiting Belmont Abbey on Saturday 15th February. Why not take part in the parish walking pilgrimage. For more details See sign-up sheet in the Narthex. **Fr John**



<b>Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist</b>	<b>Ministers of the Word</b>
6pm Sarah Williams Kathy Weston Ancy Shajan	6pm Philip Dixon Stuart Fox
8am Vera McHale Cecilia Balestra	8am Tracey Buckley Lorraine L. Williams
10am Mary Cook Moses Obanimoh Noel Elegado Gerald Okafor	10am Gabriel Gillick Iola Gillick



## Thinking of becoming a catholic? Or know someone who might be interested in finding out more?

We are soon to be starting our instruction classes for anyone who wants to become a catholic or is thinking they would like to find out more. We have a few people already interested and are gathering any more enquirers. Please do make yourself known to Fr James or Fr John and register you details with the parish office.

hereford2@rcadc.org or telephone 273485



## Thursday Social Club

The next Thursday Social Club will be on Thursday 6th February 1.30-3 pm in the Parish Hall. Come and join us for a cup of tea and a chat. All are welcome.



## Coffee and Croissants

You are warmly invited to share coffee and croissants in the Parish Hall after the 8 am Mass on Sunday 9th February



**RED BOXES** : Please bring in your MISSIO red boxes for emptying and leave them in the sacristy by Sunday 16th February. Thank you, Mary Roberts.

**Parish 200 Club. Renewals for 2025 due now.** Thanks to all who have supported the 200 club and we hope you will continue your subscription for 2025. Please send a cheque for £12 per number (cheques payable to St Francis Xavier's 200 Club) to the church in an envelope with your name on it and stating 200 Club. (If you pay by standing order you do not need to do anything).The easiest way to pay is to make a direct transfer. Please use the following: **Sort Code:09-06-66. Acc No: 42516221. Acc Name: St Francis Xavier's Church.** To enable us to keep track of payments, **please let us know if you make a direct transfer** by email to [pejwilliams@gmail.com](mailto:pejwilliams@gmail.com) Paul and Brenda will be available at the end of all Masses on **8th/9th February** for collections and with further details. Profits go to pay for extras in the

**Welcome to new parishioners and visitors.** Do introduce yourselves to the welcomers and **come along after the 10.00am Mass for coffee and cake.**



**Collections 25/26th Jan**  
1st £ 514.57 The Parish  
2nd £ 403.75 Renovation



## Parish Calendar- February 2025

Mon 3rd	7.00pm	SVP in Parish Hall
Wed 5th	6.30pm	ABC Bible Study
Thurs 6th	1.30pm	Thursday Social Club
Sun 9th	8.45.am	Coffee and Croissants