



ST FRANCIS XAVIER'S CATHOLIC CHURCH HEREFORD

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Dear friends, Within us all is a tension of the heart. We desire greatness, yet so often doubt that we have the capacity to achieve such greatness. In the words of Simon Peter, "Depart from me, for I am a sinful man." Jesus looks beyond Simon Peter's own self-description and transforms his life in an instance. This fisherman, attentive to the words of Christ, will leave the life he knows and become a disciple of Jesus and will be entrusted with great power.

In a culture where success is often measured by relational status, financial security, and academic or career accomplishments, the possibility of leaving those behind in response to God's call seems increasingly absurd. But as a Church, we are called to receive, encourage, and cultivate the invitation of Jesus to say 'yes' to loving in a radical way, even if it makes no sense to the world.

One of the hardest things about discerning a vocation to the priesthood or religious life is that those closest to us can fail to comprehend it. The people who have known us since we were a babe in arms, suddenly don't understand us so well anymore. Paradoxically, vocational discernment has everything to do about discovering who you really are. It's about discovering true happiness in your life and the ways in which God continues to call men and women to serve him through service to others.

Be warned, though. Exploring your vocation is an adventure and challenge. Jesus is not content to have us stand by the shore. He wants us – he wants you – to head out to deep waters. To ride the storm with all its power and might and to come through it transformed and ready to help bring the nets in.

Visit ukvocation.org to explore the different ways God continues to call us today. **Fr John**

Liturgical Calendar February 2025 Yr C Psalter Wk 1

Sat 8th	10.30am	St Josephine Bakhita	<i>Holy Souls</i>
Sat 8th	11.00am	Confessions and Adoration	
Sat 8th	6.00pm	5TH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME	<i>Joe Schofield RIP</i>
Sun 9th	8.00am	5TH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME	<i>Bill and Kathleen Kennedy RIP</i>
Sun 9th	10.00am	5TH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME	<i>The Parish</i>
Mon 10th	9.30am Rosary 9.00am	St Scholastica, Virgin	<i>Meagher Family Thanksgiving</i>
Tue 11th	Mass at Our Lady's at 9.30am		
Wed 12th	1.00pm	Feria	<i>Robert Brodie</i>
Thu 13th	9.30am	Feria	<i>Holy Souls</i>
Thu 13th	1.00pm	Patricia Woodruffe Funeral	
Fri 14th	1.00pm	St Cyril, Monk, and St Methodius, Bishop, Patrons of Europe	<i>Stephen Booth RIP</i>
Sat 15th	10.30am	Our Lady	<i>The Parish</i>
Sat 15th	11.00am	Confessions and Adoration	
Sat 15th	6.00pm	6TH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME	<i>Mohan Singh RIP</i>
Sun 16th	8.00am	6TH SUNDAY	<i>Vocations</i>
Sun 16th	10.00am	6TH SUNDAY	<i>The Parish</i>

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/ 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 Woodruffe
Funeral here on Thursday 13th Feb 1.00pm

Anniversaries

Maisie Anderson, Edward Cavanagh, Ena Keyt, Pauline Lane, Isabel Mundell, Winifred Thatcher, Teresa Dzioba,



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.

CANONIZATION

Shortly after Easter Pope Francis will canonize Carlo Acutis. Carlo will join the long list of men and women across the centuries whom the Church declares a saint. From its earliest days, the Catholic Church has celebrated the memory of some of her members known for heroic examples of faith, hope and charity, and has acknowledged the outstanding holiness that existed in them.

The first Christians heralded as saints were those who suffered martyrdom and were killed in hatred of the faith. In subsequent generations, the church held up as saints those who modelled heroic Christian living. For centuries before there was a process for canonization, saints were declared by popular acclaim. But through the centuries, a process for naming saints developed and was codified. In 1983 Pope St. John Paul II overhauled the process, and the result is what guides the church today.

A specific procedure is followed to prove that the person in question is in heaven. The canonization process depends first upon the popular appeal of the holy person. Is the individual one to whom others turn for inspiration? Is he or she sought as an intercessor by the faithful for helping to secure divine intervention amid life's problems? If so, a "cause" must be established for the process of an individual's canonization to advance.

The person's holy life must be a source of inspiration to the faithful, and the person should be petitioned through prayer for intercession in various needs and occasions. As the person's fame spreads and devotion to him or her increases, a thorough examination of the holy person's life is conducted. The investigation happens first at a local level – usually overseen by a diocese or religious community.

The cause proceeds according to one of three paths: the person is proven to be a martyr, the person is proven to have lived a life of heroic virtue, or the person is proven to have prematurely offered up his or her life in an act of supreme charity. Two proven miracles attributed to the person's intercession are needed for non-martyrs to be canonized, while only one miracle is needed for a martyr's canonization. It is the miracles that occur after the person's death that give evidence to his or her intercessory closeness to God as a heavenly denizen. Authenticating alleged miracles are subjected to thorough investigations by medical and theological experts.

Canonization is a declaration that the individual is in heaven and enjoys the beatific vision. The canonization takes place in a liturgy celebrated by the pope. It is an infallible act of the magisterium that is to be definitively held by the faithful that an individual is now a "saint." **Fr James**

Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist

Ministers of the Word

**6pm Kathy Weston
Jane Gennard
Vigeetha Joseph**

**6pm Fiona Stokes
Helen Booth**

**8am Frances Hetterley
Cecilia Balestra**

**8am Stephen Cleeve
Dorothy Kennedy**

**10am Lorena de Lima Auer
Gerald Okafor Mary Cook**

**10am Andy Milne
Liz Symonds**



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.

Please can the following collect their mail

from the wicker basket in the sacristy: Tracey Buckley, Veronica Pryce, Arlene Ferrer, Dorothy Kennedy, Lyn Grainger, Jane Greenaway, Regina Delaney, Joe & Ethel Meagher, Paul Puthen, Monica Zakowicz

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.

Volunteers needed For all the weekend masses we are in need of people to act as welcomers, giving out the newsletters/hymn books. **For the 10.00am help with the teas and coffee.** Contact office.



Relic Visit of Blessed Carlo Acutis

The Relics of Blessed Carlo

Acutis, who will be canonised by Pope Francis on the 27 of April, will be at

Belmont Abbey on Saturday 15 of February. The shop will be open on that day from 10am until 5.45 pm. Various items of Blessed Carlo will be available to purchase. All are welcome.

***Walking Pilgrimage-** To start our Jubilee year why not join us on the pilgrimage walk up to Belmont? Please see the notices at the back of church for more details and sign up sheets.*

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 1st/2nd Feb
1st £ 551.76 The Parish
2nd £ 336.18 Renovation



Parish Calendar– February 2025

Sun 9th	8.45.am	Coffee and Croissants
Sat 15th	8.30am 2.00pm	Pilgrimage walk to Belmont / Carlo Acutis
Mon 17th	7.00pm	SVP