



Societas Presbyterorum
Sacratissimi Cordis Jesu
BETHARRAM

SACRED HEART & ST CATHERINE OF ALEXANDRIA

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**Welcome to this House
of God:**
Talk to God before Mass
**Listen to God during
Mass**
Talk to others after Mass

Today's Mass Readings

Isaiah 7: 10-14;
Psalms 23;
Romans 1: 1-7
Matthew 1: 18 - 24

 This Week 18th December – 25th December (Psalter Week 4)	Holy Mass & Services	Other Events 
Sunday 18th December Fourth Sunday of Advent Year A	8.30 am Vincenza Eaton RIP (MF) 10.30 am Tony Bond RIP (JB) 6.00 pm People of the Parish	After 8.30 & 10.30 Mass: Coffee and Tea in the Hall. Traidcraft & Piety Stall unavailable.
Monday 19th December Advent Feria	9.00 am Morning Prayer 9.15 am Brendan McGunchey (GM)	9.45 am: Church Cleaning 12.30 pm - 2.30 pm: Community Meal 7.30 pm: Advent Penitential Service at St. Peter's, Bromsgrove
Tuesday 20th December Advent Feria	9.00 am Morning Prayer 9.15 am Holy Mass	7.30 pm: Advent Penitential Service at the Sacred Heart Church
Wednesday 21st December Advent Feria	9.00 am Morning Prayer 9.15 am Aidan Gilroy (TG)	
Thursday 22nd December Advent Feria	9.00 am Morning Prayer 9.15 am Francis McCabe (GM)	
Friday 23rd December Advent Feria	9.00 am Morning Prayer 9.15 am Holy Mass	1.30 pm: Flower Arranging
Saturday 24th December Christmas Eve	9.00 am Morning Prayer 9.15 am Holy Mass 5.00 pm First Mass of Christmas 8.00 pm Christmas Mass (Midnight Mass)	
Sunday 25th December Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord Year A	8.30 am Holy Mass 10.30 am Holy Mass No evening Mass	After 8.30 & 10.30 Mass: Coffee and Tea in the Hall. Traidcraft & Piety Stall unavailable. Christmas offering for the Parish Priest



SACRED HEART COMMUNITY

Fr. Vincent Arulandhu SCJ
(Parish Priest)

Email: vincentscj@gmail.com

**In an emergency, please
contact:**

07459 755059

Fr. Brian Boyle SCJ
(Retired Priest)

Fr. Tom Kelly SCJ
(Retired Priest)

Bro. Patrick Leighton SCJ

PARISH SCHOOL

St. Joseph's,
6 St Joseph's Close,
Ombersley Way,
Droitwich, WR9 0RY
Tel: 01905 773572

Email: [office@st-josephs-
droitwich.worcs.sch.uk](mailto:office@st-josephs-droitwich.worcs.sch.uk)

HEAD TEACHER

Mrs. Cath Bryan

PARISH SECRETARY

Kate Dalgleish
The Sacred Heart
Presbytery
Tel: 01905 773258
Email:
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@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:sacredheartdroitwich@hotmail.co.uk)

SAFEGUARDING REPRESENTATIVES

Gerry Ceclich
Cynthia Sharkey

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

8.30 am: Let the Lord enter! He is the king of glory.
10.30 am: Seek the face of the Lord and yearn for him.
6.00 pm: Let the Lord enter in. He is the King of Glory. Let the
Lord enter, let the Lord enter, enter into your heart.

PRAY FOR OUR SICK PARISHIONERS

Ralph & Milly Arnold, Mary Arulandhu, Adam Barnridge, Christopher and Mary Campbell-Johnston, Barbara Conway, Jonathan Cunningham, Tia Cunningham, Bernadette Violet Duffy, Alan Francis, Natasha Hake, Paul Harding, Louise Hill, Marie Hopkins, Julia Howles, Alan Hurst, Michael James, Mike Jennings, Billy Lydon, Eileen Kilminster, Mae McGregor, Jackie McLean, Rob O'Sullivan, Liz Prakash, John Price, Barbara Quigley, James Regan, Bob Shuck, Jacky Smith, Anne & Philip Smith, Pat Smith, Sarah Trueman, Ann Turton, Jim Tustain, Mary Wallace, Mark Wightman, Brigid Yates and Fr. Tom's sisters (Bridgie & Maura).



Fr. Vincent SCJ, Fr. Brian SCJ, Fr. Tom SCJ and Bro. Patrick SCJ wish everyone in our parish community a blessed and peaceful Christmas. May the blessings of Christmas embrace you and your family. Sincere thanks for your prayers, cards, gifts, support and help during 2016.

CRIB OFFERINGS

This year this parish will be donating crib offerings to Friends of the Holy Land. Every penny will help the poorest Christian families, especially in and around Bethlehem, the West Bank, Gaza and Israel, with education, employment, health and housing initiatives. FHL is apolitical and ecumenical. For further information, please see the poster on the noticeboard. Please keep our brothers and sisters in the Holy Land in your prayers at this time.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

The Advent Penitential Service here at the Sacred Heart will take place at 7.30 pm on Tuesday 20th December 2016 and at St. Peter's Church, Bromsgrove on Monday 19th December at 7.30 pm.

MISSION BOXES: MY DAILY GIFT TO THE MISSIONS

Fr. Vincent SCJ would like to thank all those who support the Sacred Heart Fathers Missions in India through small cardboard "My Daily Gift to the Missions" boxes and through other ways. These donation boxes are available at the back of Church for you to take home, fill over time and then return. Such donations are used for the benefit of the Sacred Heart Missions and will be gratefully received. The Sacred Heart Missions support and train young men in India, Thailand and Vietnam for Priesthood. The Sacred Heart Fathers also work among the poor and indigenous people in Assam, the North-East of India. Bro. Michael SCJ, who is the Mission Co-ordinator, has produced a booklet, *Mission Awareness*. This booklet has information about the Missions that the Sacred Heart Fathers do in different countries. These are available at no charge from the back of church. Please take one with you. If anyone would like to visit and teach English for the students and have some experience in the Missions in Thailand and India, you are most welcome. Thank you for your continued support for the Indian Missions.

WEDNESDAY ADORATION

Please note that over the Christmas break there will be no Adoration in the Lady Chapel for three weeks: Wednesday 21st December, Wednesday 28th December and Wednesday 4th January. Adoration will resume on Wednesday 11th January 2017. Many thanks for your support and prayers. Catherine Ingram.

CHRISTMAS LITURGIES

This year we have introduced an early Mass on Christmas Eve at 5.00 pm for the families with young children and our elderly parishioners. Please refer to the Christmas Services cards for the details of services for this Christmas. The times of the Christmas Masses will be reviewed for next year. We will need readers and Eucharistic Ministers to assist Christmas Liturgies, most notably to read and distribute the Holy Communion on Christmas Eve at 5.00 pm, First Mass of Christmas, and 8.00 pm Mass, Midnight Mass. A clipboard for signing up has been placed at the back of Church. Thank you in advance for your generosity of time and spirit.

PARISH SECRETARY

I will be out of the office from Monday 19th December until Tuesday 3rd January inclusive with the exception of Friday 23rd December and Friday 30th December. During this time if you have any urgent Parish Hall queries, please could you contact Caroline Healy on 01905 779437. For any other urgent query, please contact Father Vincent. Many thanks.

NEWSLETTER

Over the Christmas period, please could any items for the newsletter be submitted by Thursday 22nd December for the Christmas Day newsletter and by Thursday 29th December for the New Year's Day newsletter. To celebrate Christmas, the newsletter on Christmas Day will be a variety of colours before returning to the usual single colour on New Year's Day.

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Please could the Eucharistic Ministers who are taking Communion to the sick and housebound, take Christmas Cards made by the children. These are available at the back of church. Many thanks.

PARISH COUNCIL AGM MINUTES

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Wednesday 30th November are now available. Five copies are on the noticeboard at the back of church for parishioners to take away and read at leisure. Please return these when you have finished with them so that others may use them. If anyone would like their own personal copy please leave your email address or SAE for Jenny Leonard at the back of the church and a copy will be sent to you.

CHRISTMAS FAIR - A THANK YOU

Fr. Vincent would like to say a big thank you to Mike & Joan Sherrard for organising the Fairs this year and to all those who helped run the Christmas Fair successfully. A special thanks to all those who donated goods, prizes and cakes and to those who supported the Parish on the day. The Christmas Fair raised £2,468.49 gross, with costs of £250.00 (raffle prize) leaving net proceeds for the Parish of £2,218.49. A breakdown of stall totals is on the noticeboard at the back of church.



TRAIDCRAFT STALL

The stall is now closed until Sunday 8th January 2017.

CHRISTMAS OFFERING

The Christmas Offering is for the Parish Priest. If anyone would like to make an offering, please make cheques payable to Sacred Heart Fathers & Brothers. Thank you for your generosity.

CHRISTMAS CARDS TO PRISONERS

Many thanks for your generous response to this appeal. 110 cards were collected by Chaplain Peter Tibke this week, they will be much appreciated.

THE BIG PICTURE

The first part of the Big Picture has now finished for the year and will re-start at the beginning of Lent.





PARISH FIRST HOLY COMMUNION CLASS

If you have a child/children attending a non-Catholic school in Year 3 or above and would like them to make their First Holy Communion next year, please contact Father Vincent as soon as possible. The classes will begin at the beginning of next year. Children will need to produce their Baptism Certificate at the first meeting. We also need some help to prepare the children. If anyone is able to help, please contact Fr. Vincent SCJ. Many thanks.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY GIVING TREE

We would like to thank all parishioners for their wonderful support of this annual project. We have delivered a number of presents to local families and a large number of presents were collected on Monday by staff from Father Hudson's Society. They will distribute the presents to families in great need. Without your help we would not be able to support these families, so once again a very BIG THANK YOU TO YOU ALL FOR YOUR SUPPORT.

CHURCH CLEANING

Rotas for the New Year are at the back of Church. Please could all Cleaning Groups come along on Monday 19th December at 9.45 am, after Mass, to give the church a good clean for Christmas. Thank you for your continued help. We are always in need of further volunteers to join us. If you are interested, please contact Pat Webb on 01905 455702.

MIDNIGHT MASS, ST. CHAD'S CATHEDRAL

The BBC are broadcasting this year's Christmas Midnight Mass from St. Chad's Cathedral. Some of our sick and housebound parishioners may appreciate being able to record and/or view this broadcast.

REFUGEE KNITTING

THANK YOU ONCE AGAIN FOR YOUR INCREDIBLE RESPONSE TO THE RECENT APPEAL. The knitting as usual was so beautiful and made with such love and care. I so wish we were able to see the children's and adult's responses when they receive the items. For parishioners who may like to help in the future, we send all sizes of hats, gloves, scarves, baby and children's jumpers and cardigans, pram and bed blankets and knitted toys. If anyone wishes to knit adult sizes these would be so gratefully accepted also. Wool, patterns, needles and buttons are available in the porch to help defray costs and donations of the same would be very welcome. Currently the items are being despatched to camps in France, Lebanon and Egypt and the monthly collections will continue into the new year. The January date to be yet arranged. Once again thank you all so much for your continual support.

ARCHDIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM YEAR BOOK & DIRECTORY 2017

The 2017 Year Book and Directory is now available from the Piety Stall priced at £3.00.

CRIB: REQUEST FOR HELP

If anyone has any greenery or straw for the crib, please could these be put in the area outside the Elgar Room/Kitchen of the Parish Hall by the bins before the end of Tuesday 20th December.



Main Collection:

£267.13

Gift Aid: £232.10

Mass Attendance

Last Sunday: 320

**Thank you for
supporting your
Parish.**

**Last week's retiring
collection for
Father Hudson's
Society raised:
£789.86**

**Thank you for your
generosity.**

JOB VACANCY

Christian Music
Ministries require an
Administrator/
Communications
Manager to cover for
Maternity Leave. For full
details please see the
poster on the
noticeboard. The closing
date is Saturday 31st
December.



Next Sunday's Mass Readings

Isaiah 52: 7-10;

Psalms 97;

Hebrews 1: 1-6

John 1: 1-18