



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 52: 7-10;

Psalm 97;

Hebrews 1: 1-6

John 1: 1-18

|  This Week 25th December – 1st January (Psalter Week 1) | Holy Mass & Services |  Other Events |
|--|---|---|
| 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. |
| Monday 26th December Feast of St. Stephen, the first Martyr | 10.00 am Holy Mass | |
| Tuesday 27th December Feast of St. John, Apostle, Evangelist | 9.00 am Morning Prayer 9.15 am Ints. of Paul & Catherine Ingram (CS) | |
| Wednesday 28th December Feast of the Holy Innocents, Martyrs | 9.00 am Morning Prayer 9.15 am Ints. of Iain & Marie Martin (CS) | |
| Thursday 29th December Feast of St. Thomas Becket, Bishop, Martyr | 9.00 am Morning Prayer 9.15 am Holy Mass | 6.00 pm: Wedding Rehearsal |
| Friday 30th December Feast of the Holy Family | 9.00 am Morning Prayer 9.15 am Private Intention (NF) | |
| Saturday 31st December Christmas Octave | 10.30 am Holy Rosary 11.00 am Private Intention (I & MM) | 10.15 - 10.45 am: Confessions |
| Sunday 1st January Solemnity of Mary the Mother of God Year A | 8.30 am Harold & Bridie Mason RIP & Tom & Pearl Rawlings RIP (S & SR) 10.30 am Holy Mass 6.00 pm People of the Parish | After 8.30 & 10.30 Mass: Coffee and Tea in the Hall. Traidcraft & Piety Stall unavailable. |



SACRED HEART COMMUNITY

Fr. Vincent Arulandhu SCJ
(Parish Priest)

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**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

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HEAD TEACHER

Mrs. Cath Bryan

PARISH SECRETARY

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SAFEGUARDING REPRESENTATIVES

Gerry Ceclich
Cynthia Sharkey

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

8.30 am This day new light will shine upon the earth: the Lord
is born for us.

10.30 am: Sing a new song unto the Lord.

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.

VOBIS GRATIAS AGO

As we approach the end of the year, I would like to express my gratitude to all parishioners for showing us (Sacred Heart Community) your love, hospitality, kindness, generosity and support during 2016. I would like say a big thank you to all those members of different committees and groups of the parish who have helped me in so many different ways during this year. Most importantly, my sincere thanks to all those who helped preparing the Church and Liturgy, especially for this Christmas. Finally, may I wish everyone a very, very happy and prosperous New Year. Fr. Vincent Arulandhu SCJ.

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 notice-board. Please keep our brothers and sisters in the Holy Land in your prayers at this time.

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.

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 on Wednesday 28th December and Wednesday 4th January. Adoration will resume on Wednesday 11th January 2017. Many thanks for your support and prayers. Catherine Ingram.

NEWSLETTER

Over the Christmas period, please could any items for the newsletter be submitted 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.

PARISH SECRETARY

I will be out of the office until Wednesday 4th January with the exception of 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.

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.

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.

ARCHDIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM YEAR BOOK & DIRECTORY 2017

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



**Main Collection:****£346.11****Gift Aid: £221.50****Mass Attendance****Last Sunday: 323****Thank you for
supporting your
Parish.****Last week's retiring
collection for
Christmas Flowers
raised: £309.60****Thank you for your
generosity.****Next Sunday's Mass
Readings***Numbers 6: 22-17;**Psalms 66;**Galatians 4: 4-7**Luke 2: 16-21***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 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.

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.

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.

