



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 63: 16-17,

64: 1, 3-8;

Psalms 79;

1 Corinthians 1: 3-9

Mark 13: 33-37



This Week 3rd December - 10th December (Psalter Week 1)	Holy Mass & Services	Other Events
Sunday 3rd December First Sunday of Advent	8.30 am Deceased Members of the Everton Family (BB) 10.30 am People of the Parish 6.00 pm Ints. of Betty Parry (BP)	After 8.30 & 10.30 Mass: Coffee and Tea & Traidcraft Stall in the Hall Piety Stall unavailable
Monday 4th December Advent FERIA	9.00 am Morning Prayer 9.15 am Marie Keegan RIP (TG)	10.30 am: Advent Service at St. Joseph's School 12.30 pm - 2.30 pm: Community Meal 7.00 pm: SVP Meeting
Tuesday 5th December Feast of St. Birinus, Bishop	9.00 am Morning Prayer 9.15 am Holy Communion Service	2.30 pm: Choir Practice 7.30 pm: Bible Study Group
Wednesday 6th December Advent feria	9.00 am Morning Prayer 9.15 am Holy Mass	10.00 am - 9.00 pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 6.00 pm: Reception of the Body
Thursday 7th December Memorial of St. Ambrose, Bishop, Doctor of the Church	9.00 am Morning Prayer 9.15 am Geof Hill (BH)	9.00 am: Confessions at St. Joseph's School 11.00 am: Requiem Mass
Friday 8th December Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary	9.00 am Morning Prayer 9.15 am Mary Azzopardi (JJ)	5.00 pm: Christmas Fayre - setting up in the hall
Saturday 9th December Advent FERIA	10.30 am Holy Rosary 11.00 am Jean Wilson RIP (ST)	10.15 am - 10.45 am: Confessions 12 Noon - 3.00pm: Parish Christmas Fayre
Sunday 10th December Second Sunday of Advent Retiring Collection for the Poor Parishes of the Diocese	8.30 am Elizabeth Wilson - Birthday (EK) 10.30 am Holy Mass 6.00 pm People of the Parish	After 8.30 & 10.30 Mass: Coffee and Tea and Piety Stall in the Hall Traidcraft Stall unavailable



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

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HEAD TEACHER

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PARISH SECRETARY

Kate Dalglish

The Sacred Heart
Presbytery

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SAFEGUARDING REPRESENTATIVES

Gerry Ceclich
Cynthia Sharkey

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

8.30 am & 10.30 am: God of hosts, bring us back; let your face
shine on us and we shall be saved.

6.00 pm: (231 Light blue) Like a shepherd He feeds His flock
and gathers the lambs in His arms, holding them
carefully close to His heart, leading them home.

PRAY FOR OUR SICK PARISHIONERS

Ralph & Milly Arnold, Mary Arulandhu, John Blackman, Monica Campbell, Christopher and Mary Campbell-Johnston, Barbara Conway, Bernadette Violet Duffy, Alan Francis, Natasha Hake, Louise Hill, Marie Hopkins, Julia Howles, Alan Hurst, Michael James, Mike Jennings, Eileen Kilminster, Billy Lydon, Kevin McCorry, Jackie McLean, Rose O'Grady, Rob O'Sullivan, Liz Prakash, Rosemarie Preece, Barbara Quigley, James Regan, Michael Sheridan, Bob Shuck, Jacky Smith, Anne & Philip Smith, Pat Smith, Sarah Trueman, Bob Turner, Ann Turton, Jim Tustain, David Veale, Mary Wallace, Breda Wightman, Mark Wightman, Richard Wightman, Brigid Yates and Fr. Tom's sister, Maura.

RECENT DEAD

Your prayers are asked for **Margaret Kennedy & Jean Wilson** who died recently. May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace. The Requiem Mass for Margaret Kennedy will be on Friday 15th December at 9.15 am with the Reception of the Body at 6.00 pm on Thursday 14th December. The Requiem Mass for Jean Wilson will be on Thursday 7th December at 11.00 am; all parishioners are welcome. The Reception of her body will be on Wednesday 6th December at 6.00 pm. Please also remember their family members and friends in your kind thoughts and prayers.

HELP US PREPARE FOR THE CHRISTMAS FAYRE!

The Parish Christmas Fayre is on Saturday 9th December starting at 12 Noon. If you have not already contributed, it is not too late to dig out items for the various stalls; scarves and gloves, pashminas, toiletries, toys, bric-a-brac, books and tombola items. This is not to save you a trip to the tip! Items must be in good saleable condition, clean and tidy. Please do what you can to make our fayre a success. There is a box at the back of church to put your donations in. Larger items (ideally brought in a box) can always be left outside the Romero Room in the hall. **Remember, without your help and generosity, the Christmas Fayre cannot take place. Make sure the date is in your diary – this is a great social event for the parish, so we want you there to support it on the day!**

WEDNESDAY ADORATION

A very big thank you to all the loyal and faithful supporters of Wednesday Adoration. It is much appreciated. The last day of Adoration this year is on the feast of St. Lucy, Wednesday 13th December. It will resume on Wednesday 17th January 2018 so there is a break of 4 weeks. We would invite people to seriously consider joining our rota to keep Our Blessed Lord company throughout the 11 hours of the day, 10.00 am until 9.00²pm. We particularly need new volunteers for hours in the afternoon. If you think you can help please contact Catherine on 01905 778053. Thank you.

URGENT REQUEST FROM ARCHBISHOP BERNARD LONGLEY

Do you support Catholic schools and the right of Catholics to send their children to them? Then we need you to make your voice heard. The Government is making a critical decision on whether to overturn the admissions cap which prevents Catholic schools from allowing all Catholic pupils to attend. They have acknowledged that this policy discriminates against Catholics and promised to abandon it, now we need you to tell them not to u-turn on their promise to Catholics. Visit <http://catholicnews.org.uk/education-cap> or search for 'Catholic Education' in your search engine to write to the Government and urge them to drop their policy which bans new Catholic schools.

ADVENT JOURNEY

The "Walk with Me" booklet and calendar for the Advent journey are now available at the back of the church. This booklet is to help focus on our relationship with God and with people during Advent. Please consider taking a copy home to help prepare for Christmas. These are free but donations would be gratefully received and given to the Missions in India. Thank you.

CALLING ALL KNITTERS!

We need your help to knit Advent Angels. All angels will have a simple Christmas message attached and then they will be left around Droitwich town before Christmas for people to take home. Knitting Patterns are available at the back of church by the Poster. The pattern is also available from www.christmasangel.net. Completed Angels can be taken to The Methodist Church on any Sunday morning up until Sunday 10th December. If you need the angels collecting please contact 01905 775125.

GRAND PARISH CHRISTMAS RAFFLE

Raffle tickets will be on sale at all Masses today at the back of church. This is our main money-spinner for the Christmas Fayre so please be as generous as possible in buying tickets yourself and selling them to your friends, relatives and neighbours. There are some lovely prizes to be won! The draw will take place at the Christmas Fayre on Saturday 9th December in the Parish Hall.

CHURCH CLEANING

Please could all Cleaning Groups come along on Monday 18th December at 9.45 am after Mass to give the church a good clean for Christmas. Thanks to you all for your continued help. If anyone would like to join one of our groups please contact Pat Webb on 01905 455702. I have had one volunteer so far since the last notice in the newsletter. Rotas for 2018 are at the back of church for collection.

CHRISTMAS FAYRE: CAKE STALL

Paper plates are available after Mass today. Please take one and fill it with a contribution (homemade or bought) to the cake stall at the Christmas Fayre. Small cakes for refreshments will also be gratefully received. The hall will be open on Friday 8th December between 5.00 pm and 7.00 pm and items can be brought then or on Saturday morning. Cakes always sell well and the more we have the greater the amount we can raise. Many thanks.

JUSTICE AND PEACE GROUP

The next meeting of Justice and Peace Group is on Wednesday 6th December at 7.30 pm in Margie Osborn's flat. If you wish to come, please contact Judith on 01905 771346 so we know the numbers.



*Congratulations
to all our young
people who
received the
Sacrament of
Confirmation
last
Tuesday.*

BIDDING PRAYER AND TEA/COFFEE ROTA 2018

The 2018 Bidding Prayer Rota and Tea/Coffee making Rota will be available at the back of church this Sunday. Please collect a copy if you are on either of these rotas.

CHOIR PRACTICE

Choir practices for Christmas are on Tuesday 5th December and Tuesday 12th December at 2.30 pm. New members are always welcome if you would like to join us.



Main Collection:
£268.14

Gift Aid: £239.35

Mass Attendance

Last Sunday: 323

**Thank you for
supporting your
Parish.**



**The retiring collection
for Catholic Youth
Services raised:**

£138.20

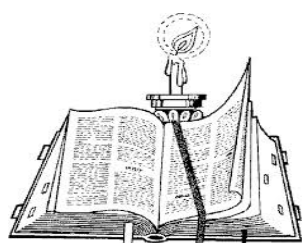
Gift Aid: £109.50

**Thank you for your
generosity.**



FOODBANK

A new wish list for Christmas is on the noticeboard. There is a collection box in the entrance to church if you would like to donate any items. Thank you for your generosity.



**Next Sunday's Mass
Readings**

Isaiah 40: 1-5,

9-11;

Psalms 84;

2 Peter 3: 8-14

Mark 1: 1-8

Welcome to everyone at Mass today, especially if you are new to our church or haven't been to Mass for some time. If you are of another Christian denomination or non-Christian you are warmly invited to approach the priest or minister and ask or signify your wish for a blessing.

SVP: THE CHRISTMAS GIVING TREE

The Giving tree is now in the side chapel. For parishioners who are new to our parish the idea is to take an angel from the tree, purchase a present suitable for a child whose details are given on the angel and return it wrapped in suitable paper with the angel attached. There are additional angels in the box by the tree. The last date for bringing the presents to church is Sunday 17th December. The presents will be distributed mainly to Father Hudson homes and some to families supported by St Vincent de Paul Society locally. **Thank you for supporting this annual appeal.**

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

The idea was raised at the last Parish Council meeting that it may be possible to have a simple but complete 14 Stations of the Cross in the Sacred Heart Church grounds during Lent. The project would provide an alternative to the Stations in Church that would be more public and accessible to passers-by. It could include simple wooden crosses with a basic description and picture on each and a leaflet of explanation for those who might know nothing of the subject. Inexpensive and a temporary experiment. This project would require a small group of parishioners to lead it. Please think about it and those who might wish to help in any way please contact Judith Cussen on 01905 771346 or email jmcussen@yahoo.co.uk.

ST. STEPHEN'S GUILD MASS OF THANKSGIVING

All Altar Servers are invited to a Mass of Thanksgiving for their ministry at St. Chad's Cathedral on Saturday 17th February 2018 at 12 Noon. If you would like to attend, please advise Kate Dalgleish as soon as possible so that we can confirm numbers to the Diocesan Vocations Office by Monday 4th December.

LAUDATE SI

GLOBAL INEQUALITY

Human society and the natural world deteriorate together and gravest effects are suffered by the poorest; we have to realize that concern for the environment must always include questions of justice "so as to hear both the cry of the earth and the cry of the poor. They are the majority of the planet's population; billions of people. They frequently remain at the bottom of the pile, partly because opinion makers, communications media and the centres of power are located in affluent urban areas, far removed from the poor with little direct contact with their problems. (48-53)



POPE FRANCIS