



Societas Presbyterorum
Sacratissimi Cordis Jesu
BETHARRAM

SACRED HEART & ST CATHERINE OF ALEXANDRIA

208 Worcester Road, Droitwich Spa,
WR9 8AZ, Tel: 01905 773258
Email: sacredheartdroitwich@hotmail.co.uk
Web: www.sacredheartdroitwich.org.uk



Today's Mass Readings

*Isaiah 40: 1-5,
9-11;
Psalm 84;
2 Peter 3: 8-14
Mark 1: 1-8*

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



This Week 10th December - 17th December (Psalter Week 2)	Holy Mass & Services	Other Events
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 Edward Yannold (PW) 6.00 pm Gerard Wynne RIP (JM)	After 8.30 & 10.30 Mass: Coffee and Tea and Piety Stall in the Hall Traidcraft Stall unavailable
Monday 11th December Advent Feria	9.00 am Morning Prayer 9.15 am Catherine & Charles McGlinchey RIP (GM)	
Tuesday 12th December Advent Feria	9.00 am Morning Prayer 9.15 am Maria Melville RIP (AM)	2.30 pm: Choir Practice 7.30 pm: Bible Study Group
Wednesday 13th December Memorial of St. Lucy, Virgin, Martyr	9.00 am Morning Prayer 9.15 am Mr. & Mrs. Glossop - 60th Wedding Anniversary (BB)	10.00 am - 9.00 pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
Thursday 14th December Memorial of St. John of the Cross, Priest, Doctor of the Church	9.00 am Morning Prayer 9.15 am Jean Wilson RIP (C & PI)	6.00 pm: Reception of the Body
Friday 15th December Advent Feria	9.00 am Morning Prayer 9.15 am Requiem Mass	
Saturday 16th December Advent Feria	10.30 am Holy Rosary 11.00 am Patricia & Christopher Simpson RIP (SR)	10.15 am - 10.45 am: Confessions 11.00 am: Mass with the Sacrament of Anointing
Sunday 17th December Third Sunday of Advent	8.30 am Vincenza Eaton RIP (MF) 10.30 am Bruce Jackson (D & BO) 6.00 pm People of the Parish	After 8.30 & 10.30 Mass: Coffee and Tea & Traidcraft Stall in the Hall Piety Stall unavailable



SACRED HEART COMMUNITY

Fr. Vincent Arulandhu SCJ
(Parish Priest)

Email: vincentcj@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

HEAD TEACHER

Mrs. Cath Bryan

PARISH SECRETARY

Kate Dagleish

The Sacred Heart
Presbytery

Tel: 01905 773258

Email:
sacredheartdroitwich
@hotmail.co.uk.

SAFEGUARDING REPRESENTATIVES

Gerry Ceclich
Cynthia Sharkey

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

8.30 am & 10.30 am: Let us see, O Lord, your mercy and give us your saving help.

6.00 pm: Show to us your love and mercy, give us your saving help. Repeat. (25 AK)

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** who died recently. May her soul and the souls of all the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace. The Requiem Mass for will be on Friday 15th December at 9.15 am with the Reception of the Body at 6.00 pm on Thursday 14th December. Please also remember her family members and friends in your kind thoughts and prayers.

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, 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 9.00 pm. We particularly need new volunteers for hours in the afternoon. If you think you can help please contact Catherine on 01905 778053. Thank you.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PREPARATION - CHILDREN NOT IN CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

If your child is in Year 3 or above and you wish for your child to be prepared to receive the Sacrament in June 2018, please would you contact Maria Jenkins on 07741 294069 or Fr. Vincent SCJ as soon as possible.

GIVING MACHINE

Please consider making your online purchases using The Giving Machine website. You can make purchases from a number of major retailers via this website. This costs you nothing, but money will be donated to the parish from purchases made. Details of how to use the Giving Machine are on the posters at the back of church.

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Draft minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 29th November 2017 are available on the noticeboard at the back of church. Anyone who would like to be sent a copy by email please contact Jenny Leonard on 01905 775596 or Fr. Vincent SCJ.

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.

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. We have had one volunteer so far since the last notice in the newsletter. Rotas for 2018 are at the back of church for collection.

CHILDREN'S MASS: 5.00 PM CHRISTMAS EVE

We invite all children (and their parents!) to come and sing with us and celebrate Jesus' Birthday at the First Mass of Christmas on Christmas Eve. You might also like to bring jingle bells and/or shakers with you. Shakers can be made from a plastic drinks bottle with rice or something similar inside.

REFUGEE COLLECTION

Thank you to everyone who contributed to this months collection; the response was even more overwhelming than usual! A wonderful array of exquisite knitted items made with such loving care, new underwear, socks, tights, hats, scarves, gloves and donations from those who raided their own stock of items to help the refugees ward off the cold. The next collection date is January 20th, as there will be no February collection. There is a vast quantity of wool at the entrance to the church to help defray knitting costs so please help yourselves. The people who visit the camps say the situation in many is dire and your help brings knowledge that they are not totally forgotten.

PARISH SECRETARY

Over Christmas I will be unavailable from Monday 18th December until Wednesday 3rd January inclusive with the exception of Friday 22nd December and Friday 29th December. If I am unavailable and you need to speak to someone urgently please contact Caroline Healy on 01905 779437 for any queries relating to the Parish Hall and Father Vincent SCJ for everything else. Many thanks, Kate Dalgleish.

CHRISTMAS CARDS TO PRISONERS

Thank you for the cards to prisoners you have generously done. A much bigger number were written this year - more than 150. Thank you for your support.



BIDDING PRAYER AND TEA/COFFEE ROTA 2018

The 2018 Bidding Prayer Rota and Tea/Coffee making Rota is available at the back of church. Please collect your copy if you are on either of these rotas.

CHOIR PRACTICE

The last Choir practice for Christmas is on Tuesday 12th December at 2.30 pm. New members are always welcome if you would like to join us.

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.



Main Collection:

£282.93

Gift Aid: £302.50

Mass Attendance
Last Sunday: 309

Thank you for
supporting your
Parish.



**NEWMAN
ASSOCIATION:
WORCESTER CIRCLE**

Archbishop Bernard Longley will be speaking at the meeting on Thursday 17th January 2018 at 7.30 pm in St. George's Parish Hall, Worcester. The talk is entitled ARCIC III. ARCIC is the Anglican Roman Catholic International Commission which is currently working on the theme of the Church at a local and universal level and how the Church comes to discern right ethical teaching. All are welcome; the charge for non-members is £3.00.



**Next Sunday's Mass
Readings**

Isaiah 61: 1-2, 10-11;

Luke 1;

1 Thessalonians 5 :

16-24;

Mark 1: 6-8, 19-28

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.

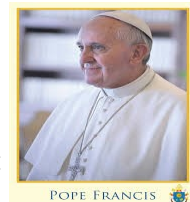
KNITTED ANGELS

We now have just over 200 completed knitted angels but to make this venture a success we still need more. 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 (Amphlett House) up until Tuesday December 12th from 10am so that the labels can be attached. **Also needed - help to attach the labels.** Many thanks to those who have volunteered already.

LAUDATE SI

STRONGER RESPONSES NEEDED

It is remarkable how weak international responses have been. Too many special interests and economic interests easily end up trumping the common good. We have not succeeded in changing harmful habits of consumption which appear to be growing all the more. An outsider looking at our world would be amazed at our behaviour, which at times appears self-destructive. A variety of opinions and approaches emerge. There is no one path to a solution. The Church knows that honest debate must be encouraged, different views respected. We need only to take a frank look at the facts to see that our common home is falling into serious disrepair. Hope would have us recognize that there is always a way out. Still "If we scan the regions of our planet, we immediately see that humanity has disappointed God's expectations." (54-61)



POPE FRANCIS