



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

<p>This Week 22nd March - 29th March (Psalter Week 4)</p>	<p>Mass Intentions (Mass will be said privately by the Parish Priest)</p>	<p>Other Events</p>
<p>Sunday 22nd March Fourth Sunday of Lent Year A</p>	<p>Vincenza Eaton RIP & Marina Fattibene RIP (MF) Bernadette Violet Duffy RIP (PD) Marian Button (MS)</p>	<p>5.00 pm Stations of the Cross (Private - for Fathers and Brothers only)</p>
<p>Monday 23rd March Lent Feria</p>	<p>Bridget Yates RIP (P & AC)</p>	
<p>Tuesday 24th March Lent Feria</p>	<p>Ralph Arnold RIP (I & MM)</p>	
<p>Wednesday 25th March Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord</p>	<p>Sister Camilla Hunt (MR)</p>	
<p>Thursday 26th March Lent Feria</p>	<p>David Veale RIP (MD)</p>	
<p>Friday 27th March Lent Feria</p>	<p>Alan Remedios RIP (KA)</p>	
<p>Saturday 28th March Lent Feria</p>	<p>Barry Hill RIP (AM)</p>	
<p>Sunday 22nd March Fifth Sunday of Lent Year A</p>	<p>George McCleneghan RIP (MM) Deceased members of the Mason Family (AM)</p>	<p>5.00 pm Stations of the Cross (Private - for Fathers and Brothers only)</p>

SACRED HEART COMMUNITY

Fr. George Mathew SCJ
(Priest-in-Charge)
georgemathewscj@
hotmail.com

**In an emergency, please
contact:**

07448 042484

Fr. Brian Boyle SCJ
(Retired Priest)

Fr. Tom Kelly SCJ
(Retired Priest)

Bro. Patrick Leighton SCJ

PARISH SCHOOL

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Email: office@st-josephs-
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HEAD TEACHER

Mrs. Cath Bryan

PARISH SECRETARY

Kate Dalglish

The Sacred Heart
Presbytery

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Email:
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@hotmail.co.uk.

SAFEGUARDING REPRESENTATIVES

Gerry Ceclich
Kate Dalglish
Clare Tomlinson

PRAY FOR OUR SICK PARISHIONERS

Please pray for all our parishioners, and/or their friends and relatives, who
are unwell:

Milly Arnold, Mary Arulandhu, Barbara Conway, Eileen Dalton, Delores
Delaney, Frank Fawcett, Alan Francis, Joan Graham, Beryl Hill, Alan Hurst,
John Jennings, Andrew McDermott, Stella McDermott, Jackie McLean,
Michael Sheridan, Aidan Skinner, Jacky Smith, Paul Smith, Margaret
Steward, Angela Wardle, Breda Wightman, Mark Wightman, Richard
Wightman & Monsignor Graham Wilkinson.

Please keep all parishioners and their families in your thoughts and prayers
at this time.

**Due to the new data regulations (GDPR), the Archdiocese have requested
that we do not list names unless we have the consent of the individual. If
you would like your name to be included in this list please contact
Fr. George SCJ or Kate Dalglish. Please note that the newsletter is also
placed on the parish website. Thank you for your understanding.**

RECENTLY DECEASED

Your prayers are asked for **Ralph Arnold, Pat Smith, Catherine Concannon &
Yurek Mazgajczyk** who died recently. May their souls and the souls of all
the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace. Please keep
their families and friends in your kind thoughts and prayers.

CORONAVIRUS COVID-19

"In response to the Coronavirus pandemic, so many aspects of our lives
must change. This includes the ways in which we publicly express our faith.
It is very clear that, following official advice and in order to keep each other
safe, save lives and support the NHS, at this time we must not gather for
public acts of worship in our churches. This will begin from Friday evening,
20th March 2020, until further notice. Our churches will remain open. They
are not closing. They will be a focal point of prayer, where you will find
solace and strength. In visiting our churches at this time, we will observe
with great care the practices of hygiene and the guidance on social
distancing. However, the celebration of Mass, Sunday by Sunday and day by
day, will take place without a public congregation." Please see the
noticeboard and/or the website for the full letter from Vincent Cardinal
Nichols and Archbishop Malcolm McMahon OP.

CANCELLATIONS

The annual Day of Recollection on **Saturday 28th March**, the showing of the
Passion Play on **Friday 27th March** and **choir practices** have all been
cancelled.

MISSIO: RED BOXES

Please could Missio box holders kindly bring your boxes to church at your
convenience any time before the end of March. Please could you contact
the parish office if this will not be possible. If this is not possible, please
contact the Presbytery and we will see what arrangements can be made to
collect. Many thanks.

MASS INTENTIONS: UPDATED

Mass will continue to be said in Church privately by Fr. George therefore any Mass Intentions already booked will still stand. Mass Intention requests can still be booked in the usual ways (via Fr. George, email or Mass Intention envelope). We make every effort to accommodate Mass Intentions on the dates requested however this is not always possible due to prior bookings. When submitting a Mass Intention request, please could you provide a phone number or email address so that we can contact you if needed. Due to GDPR regulations, with the exception of deceased individuals, we are unable to publish names unless the Request for Mass Intention Form at the back of church is completed. If we do not have a form the Intention will be listed in the newsletter and stated at Mass as Private Intention. Please note that the next available date for Mass Intentions is currently Tuesday 21st April.

REQUEST FOR HELP

The SVP have a young client who is working to put a home together. He has need of a single wardrobe. Would anyone have such an item that they no longer have use for and would be willing to pass on to someone who does? If you think you can help, speak to any SVP member or contact Kevin Larkin direct on 01905 776122 or at kevin.elizabeth@btinternet.com. Thank you.

NEWSLETTER

The newsletter will continue to be published. A few copies will be placed in the church. If you wish to add anything, please submit these via email or letter. Please note that these can include anything you feel may be of value to those self-isolating or the parish as a whole during the current challenging times. Fr. George will retain full editorial discretion on what is included. If you know of anyone who may benefit from receiving the newsletter via email, please let me know and I will put a distribution list together. Kate Dalgleish

PARISH SECRETARY

Please see the noticeboard and/or website for details of the changes to the Parish Secretary's working hours/location for the foreseeable future. If you wish to contact the Parish Secretary, the best way is via email to sacredheartdroitwich@hotmail.co.uk. If this is not possible, notes can be posted through the Presbytery letter box or messages can be left on the Presbytery phone on 01905 773258.

REFUGEE KNITTING & REFUGEE UNDERWEAR

Once again thank you so very much for the wonderful selection of knitted items donated this month. Please avail yourselves to the wool and related items in the church porch cupboards to help defray your costs. Donations of the same are most welcome. A massive thank you for the quantity and variety of underwear received this month. Thank you so very much for your continual support of these collections. **All collections have now been cancelled until further notice.** If you wish to continue knitting, please do so. We can store items in church or, if you prefer, keep them at home until collections resume.

FOODBANK

There is a new wish list from Foodbank on the noticeboard in the Narthex. Any donations can be put in the box in the church porch. Thank you for your continued generosity.



MOTHERING SUNDAY

We would like to wish all mothers a Happy Mother's Day. We hope you enjoy your special day.

GIFT AID ENVELOPES 2020/2021

The gift aid envelopes for the new tax year are at the back of church. Please can you pick up your envelopes at your earliest convenience, thank you.

ONLINE LENT RETREAT 2020

Due to the spread of Coronavirus it has been necessary to cancel all further weekly meetings in the Parish Hall for the online Lent Retreat on the Wednesdays in Lent, although the online part of the retreat continues to be available.

Main Collection:

£82.10

Gift Aid: £226.00

Mass Attendance

Last Sunday: 157

**Thank you for
supporting your
Parish.**

**Additional donation
for CAFOD raised:**

£10.00

**Thank you for your
generosity.**

**NEWMAN
ASSOCIATION -
WORCESTER CIRCLE**

The next meeting on
Thursday 26th March at
7.30 pm at St. George's
Parish Hall, Worcester
has been cancelled.

DROITWICH SVP

Sacred Heart SVP can
be contacted on
0777 292 7535 or at
droitwichsvp
@googlemail.com.

**DIRECTION FOR OUR
TIMES**

Copies of the six
Passiontide Locutions
given by Jesus to Anne in
2018 are available at the
back of the Church, as
they were at this time
last year. They are well
worth reading and
reflecting upon during
the Lenten season.

**Reflections: Fourth Sunday of Lent, Mother's Day
John 9:1-41**

Light plays an important part in Christian liturgy. Especially memorable is the ceremony of light at the Easter Vigil, now just three weeks away. But we light candles at most liturgical services, a sign to us of the presence of the risen Christ, the light of the world. The early Church referred to baptism as 'enlightenment' or 'illumination' and the candidates for baptism as 'those being enlightened'. The story of the cure of the man born blind and his subsequent progress from physical sight to the insight of faith is a picture of what happens to the baptized person. John writes of the physical cure in such a way that it reflects and calls to mind the cure of spiritual blindness granted to those who wash sacramentally in the pool that is truly Jesus, the 'sent one' (cf. v. 7).

There is a rich vein of irony in this story. We can see how God turns the world's expectations on their head. The reality of things is precisely the opposite of what it seems to be. Those who are so sure they can see are, in truth, blind. He who starts out blind takes a risk at Jesus' invitation and ends up seeing. He passes from blindness to sight to insight. The blind man contrasts with the neighbours, who remain in ignorance; his parents, who refuse to take a risk; and the authorities and Pharisees, who refuse to believe what their eyes see. No one is so blind as the person who refuses to see.

Jesus affirms that he is the light of the world, and the giving of sight to the blind man is a sign of this. There is both revelation and judgement. The coming of the light brings illumination to those who will accept it, and brings to light the darkness in the lives of those who are obstinate in unbelief.

How is Jesus the light of the world? He opens minds to understand and scatters the darkness of ignorance. This he does by showing us God, revealing the divine purpose and the divine will in his teaching and deeds. He went through the darkness of his Passion and death and rose to the glory of eternal light. He makes us sharers in his light-giving and life-giving work. We are called to be enlightened by Jesus and to become a light to others.

Lord Jesus, may your light shine ever more radiantly amidst the darkness of the world.

Stop and see, be aware

God was aware of David's adultery with Bethsheba, Uriah's wife, and how he arranged Uriah's murder to cover his sin. Amid political and business 'cover-ups' in today's world, it's important to 'stop and see' - the beauty of nature, the beauty and goodness of your spouse. Don't be too busy to recall the joys you have brought to each other.