



Societas Presbyterorum
Sacratissimi Cordis Jesu
BETHARRAM

SACRED HEART & ST CATHERINE OF ALEXANDRIA

208 Worcester Road, Droitwich Spa,
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Web: www.sacredheartdroitwich.org.uk



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

| This Week 29th March - 5th March (Psalter Week 1) | Mass Intentions (Mass will be said privately by the Parish Priest) | Other Events |
|---|---|---|
| Sunday 29th March Fifth Sunday of Lent Year A | George McCleneghan RIP (MM) Deceased Members of the Mason Family (AM) | 5.00 pm Stations of the Cross (Private - for Fathers and Brothers only) |
| Monday 30th March Lent Feria | Kevin Smyth RIP (C & PI) | |
| Tuesday 31st March Lent Feria | Birthday Intention (C & PI) | |
| Wednesday 1st April Lent Feria | Peggy Regan RIP (BB) | |
| Thursday 2nd April Lent Feria | Gladys Remedios RIP (KA) | |
| Friday 3rd April Lent Feria | Patricia Glover (CL) | |
| Saturday 4th April Lent Feria | Kevin Weaver RIP (BB) | |
| Sunday 5th April Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord Year A | Marie Kampes (LR) Yurek Mazgajczyk RIP (BB) Violet Duffy RIP | 5.00 pm Stations of the Cross (Private - for Fathers and Brothers only) |

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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HEAD TEACHER

Mrs. Cath Bryan

PARISH SECRETARY

Kate Dalglish
The Sacred Heart
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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

Following the Prime Ministers address on Monday 23rd March the Sacred Heart Church is now **closed** to the public. However, the celebration of Mass, Sunday by Sunday and day by day, will take place without a public congregation. Below is an extract of the letter sent to parishes from Archbishop Bernard Longley:

"As a sad but necessary consequence we must ensure that the doors of all churches and chapels in the Archdiocese are closed to the public and that they remain permanently locked until these restrictions are lifted. In this way we shall continue to play our part within every parish in fighting the Coronavirus and to show our solidarity with all those who are striving to overcome the current pandemic. In the meantime it will still be a great consolation to your parishioners to know that Mass is being celebrated daily in their local church and that they are spiritually united with the celebrant and with one another as beneficiaries of the Sacrifice of Christ...Our natural instinct as Catholics to gather together and to pray in the real presence of Our Lord is expressed in the Second Eucharistic Prayer: *Humbly we pray that, partaking of the Body and Blood of Christ, we may be gathered into one by the Holy Spirit.* The live-streaming of Mass from twenty-three of our churches (with the Cathedral soon to join that number) is proving to be a great spiritual resource and a powerful way of expressing and deepening our communion in Christ during these challenging days. Please continue to keep in your prayers all those working in the NHS and all those who are ill because of the Coronavirus. I particularly thank all our Hospital and Healthcare Chaplains, working alongside deanery clergy and volunteers at this time, for the hope and trust in Our Lord that they are fostering and for their support of healthcare staff and patients alike.²

With my prayers and kindest wishes. Yours devotedly in Christ,
Most Rev Bernard Longley

MASS INTENTIONS: UPDATED 29TH MARCH

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 via contacting Fr. George on 01905 773258 or via email to sacredheartdroitwich@hotmail.co.uk. If the request is for a living individual, please could you include a declaration that their name can be published in the newsletter. Please do not use Mass Intention envelopes at this time due to the risk of infection via the 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 an email address so that we can contact you if needed. Please note that the next available date for Mass Intentions is currently Tuesday 21st April.

NEWSLETTER

The newsletter will continue to be published and will be available via the website and, whilst there are no Masses, distributed via email. Please contact sacredheartdroitwich@hotmail.co.uk if you would like to be added to the distribution list. If anyone has anything that they would like to include, it can be submitted via email to the email address above.

PARISH SECRETARY

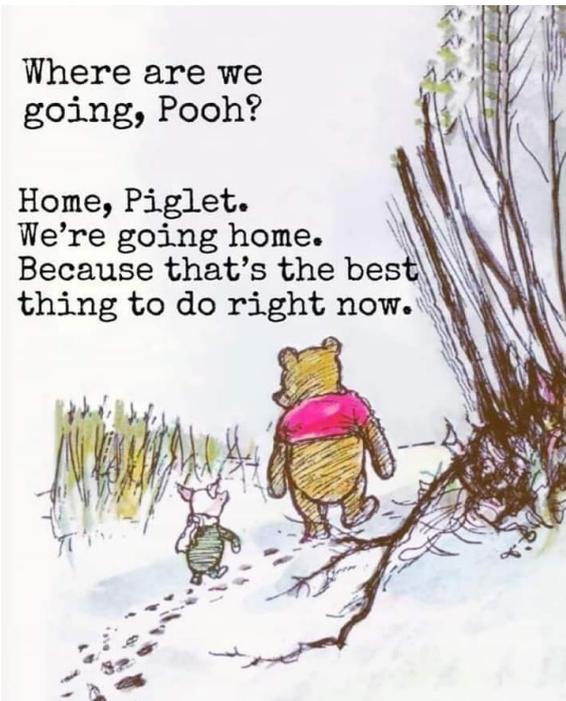
Following the Prime Minister's announcement on Monday 23rd March, the Parish Secretary will now be working from home until lockdown restrictions are lifted. If you wish to contact the Parish Secretary, the best way is via email to sacredheartdroitwich@hotmail.co.uk. If this is not possible messages can be left on the Presbytery phone on 01905 773258 and Fr. George will forward them on.

CTS BOOKS BLOG

An email was sent to the parish office from CTS books. There are a couple of articles that parishioners may find useful entitled *A pastoral response to Covid-19* and *Making Sunday Special when you can't get to Mass*. Please visit <https://www.ctsbooks.org/blog/> to read these articles/. They are free to view.

Where are we
going, Pooh?

Home, Piglet.
We're going home.
Because that's the best
thing to do right now.



MISSIO: RED BOXES

As the church is now closed to the public, please could you keep your Missio boxes until further notice. Once Mass has resumed we will make arrangements for them to be returned to church then. Many thanks for your understanding and co-operation.

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.

“Even the darkest
night will end and
the sun will rise”

Victor Hugo

FOODBANK

Foodbank have sent through a new wish list. Their two posters are on the website and also added to the email with this newsletter. They would be very grateful for any donations. Whilst the church is closed there are collection points in Droitwich at Waitrose and Specsavers.

DROITWICH SVP

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

REFUGEE KNITTING & REFUGEE UNDERWEAR: UPDATED

Once again thank you so very much for the wonderful selection of knitted items donated this month. Also, 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 and, given that church is now closed, keep them at home until collections resume.

Reflections: Fifth Sunday of Lent

Dear People of God,

I hope and pray that all of you are safe and sound. I take this opportunity to send you a copy of the letter from Mgr. John Armitage rector of Our Lady of Walsingham before the Re-dedication of England as the Dowry of Mary on the 29th March 2020 from Our Lady's Shrine at Walsingham.

I am delighted to be able to share with you a message from Pope Francis which has been sent to Cardinal Nichols. The Holy Father "prays that the act of re-dedication will inspire all to persevere in the urgent task of sharing the joy of the Gospel with the men and women of our time". The Holy Father once more entrusts "Mary's Dowry" to her maternal protection and willingly imparts his Apostolic Blessing as a pledge of grace and peace in the Lord.

In 1893 Pope Leo XIII wrote about "the love which burnt within the heart of your forefathers towards the great Mother of God ... to whose service they consecrated themselves with such abundant proofs of devotion, that the kingdom itself acquired the singular and highly honourable title of 'Mary's Dowry". Later he prophesied that "When England returns to Walsingham, Our Lady will return to England". I realise that in the light of the restrictions under which we now operate the Re-dedication will now not take place at the Sunday Mass, but it is a prayer that can take place anywhere and indeed anytime. I invite you to encourage your people to take part in whatever way they can, whenever they can. A range of resources, including the livestream and prayers for the Re-dedication, are all available from www.behold2020.com, www.LentInIsolation.com. In the midst of such current turmoil and fear, we once again turn to the one that God called Mother, seeking her guidance and protection. The Re-dedication is a timely moment, where we will join with our brothers and sisters in prayer from all over the world, confident that Mary our Mother leads us to do the will of Her Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ.

I believe the message of Our Lady at Walsingham, which is to "Share my Joy in the Annunciation", can bring much comfort to our people. Let us all go back to the school of Mary and dedicate our families into the protecting hand of Mary that she may protect us from all evil harm and dangers. Especially from Coronavirus.

Fr. George Mathew SCJ

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