

**SACRED HEART &
ST CATHERINE OF
ALEXANDRIA**

208 Worcester Road, Droitwich Spa,
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Societas Presbyterorum
Sacratissimi Cordis Jesu
BETHARRAM



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

This Week 31st May - 7th June (Psalter Week 1)	Mass Intentions (Mass will be said privately by the Parish Priest)	Other Events
Sunday 31st May Solemnity of Pentecost Year A	Vincenza Eaton RIP (MF)	
Monday 1st June Memorial of Mary, Mother of the Church	Alan Remedios RIP (KA)	
Tuesday 2nd June Feria in Ordinary Time	Private Intention RIP (BA)	
Wednesday 3rd June Memorial of Ss. Charles Lwanga and Companions, Martyrs	Paul Smith RIP (AM)	
Thursday 4th June Feast of Our Lord Jesus Christ, Eternal High Priest	David Veale RIP (MD)	
Friday 5th June Memorial of St. Boniface, Bishop, Martyr	Harry Remedios RIP (KA)	
Saturday 6th June Feria in Ordinary Time	Cyril & Mary Hancock RIP (AM)	
Sunday 7th June Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity Year A	Isabella Read RIP (MM)	

*“What kind of world do we want to leave to those who
come after us, to children who are now growing up?”*

Pope Francis, Laudato Si' (paragraph 160)

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

St. Joseph's,

6 St Joseph's Close,
Ombersley Way,
Droitwich, WR9 0RY
Tel: 01905 773572

Email: office@st-josephs-
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HEAD TEACHER

Mrs. Cath Bryan

PARISH SECRETARY

Kate Dalgleish

The Sacred Heart
Presbytery

Tel: 01905 773258

Email:

sacredheartdroitwich
@hotmail.co.uk.

SAFEGUARDING REPRESENTATIVES

Gerry Ceclich

Kate Dalgleish

Clare Tomlinson

PRAY FOR OUR SICK PARISHIONERS

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

Mary Arulandhu, Barbara Conway, Eileen Dalton, Delores Delaney, Frank Fawcett, Sheila Ferriter, 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 Dalgleish. Please note that the newsletter is also placed on the parish website. Thank you for your understanding.

CORONAVIRUS COVID-19

The Sacred Heart Church is currently **closed** to the public. Celebration of Mass, Sunday by Sunday and day by day, will take place without a public congregation. 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.

MARRIAGE & FAMILY LIFE: SCRIPTURE REFLECTIONS - PENTECOST: (ACTS 2: 1-11, 1 CORINTHIANS 12: 3-7 & 12-13, JOHN 20: 19-23)

The Spirit works in all sorts of different ways. Years ago, on a Marriage Encounter weekend, we had a real experience of the Spirit working "in all sorts of different ways in different people", not in Church documents, but in real life. We were like the disciples at Pentecost, "filled with joy when they saw the Lord", and we heard our own native language, deep inside each of us.

GIFT AID DONATIONS

Prior to lockdown collection, Gift Aid envelopes were made available for collection at the back of church. As the church is now closed, it has not been possible for these to be collected. If you would like your envelopes delivered directly to you via post please email sacredheartdroitwich@hotmail.co.uk. Please also contact this email address if you would like information on making donations via standing order. Thank you all for your continuing generosity to the Sacred Heart parish.

200 CLUB WINNERS

<u>Month</u>	<u>Prize</u>	<u>Ticket No</u>	<u>Initials</u>
March 2020	£75.00	66	PG
	£50.00	54	MPT
	£25.00	159	KB
April 2020	£75.00	122	NH
	£50.00	71	MGM
	£25.00	134	AS
May 2020	£75.00	17	Droitwich SVP
	£50.00	118	MB
	£25.00	18	VB

MASS INTENTIONS

Mass will continue to be said in Church privately by Fr. George; 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 at 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. If you would like to make a donation please could this be done via cheque made payable to the Sacred Heart Fathers & Brothers or if you wish pay in cash you may post them at the Presbytery. 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.

BDES: CATHOLIC EDUCATION

The BDES website has new pages *Prayer and Learning Resources* and *Shared Resources*. These can be found at <https://www.bdes.org.uk/resources-for-prayer-and-learning.html> and <https://www.bdes.org.uk/shared-resources-from-diocesan-schools.html>. They have some useful resources so please do visit them.

CAFOD

CAFOD have provided many resources, including online liturgy for children and adults, blogs and prayer resources. To access these resources, please visit www.cafod.org.uk.

CTS BOOKS

Please visit www.ctsbooks.org for some useful articles, blogs and videos to help support parishioners whilst the church is closed. These articles are updated regularly and are free to view. There is currently a blog entitled *How God Makes Us Co-Creators of his Beauty*. There are also some other useful articles on this website under Spiritual Support in Isolation.

VATICAN WEBSITE

The English language version of the Vatican website can be found at <http://w2.vatican.va/content/vatican/en.html>. There are many useful resources on this website, particularly in the news section at <https://www.vaticannews.va/en.html>.

ALIVE PUBLISHING

The publishers of Bible Alive, Alive Publishing, have a page on their website dedicated to the COVID-19 outbreak. To view these free resources, please visit <https://www.alivepublishing.co.uk/coronavirus-covid-19/>.

MENTAL HEALTH

The Pathways to God website has articles, prayers and audio exercises to help and support readers and listeners struggling with their mental health. Please visit <https://www.pathwaystogod.org/resources/mental-health-awareness-week> to view these.

CATHOLIC SATELLITE TV (EWTN)

Catholic Satellite TV (EWTN) on Sky TV channel 588, broadcasts daily Mass at 1.00 pm, 6.00 pm and 11.00 pm and it has 24 hours of different programs which will be helpful for us all in this time. EWTN is also available on other digital platforms.

PARISH COUNCIL

The Parish Council met on Wednesday 13th May. They will meet again on Wednesday 10th June and the AGM is postponed until Wednesday 23rd September. Anyone who would like to be sent a copy of the minutes by email please contact Jenny Leonard on 01905 775596 or Kate Dagleish at the parish email address.



“They were all filled with the Holy Spirit.”

Acts 2: 4

THE CATHOLIC CHURCH BISHOPS' CONFERENCE OF ENGLAND AND WALES

Please visit www.cbcew.org.uk/ for resources including news articles, links to streamed Masses, podcasts and prayers. There is also a reflection *In Times of Darkness* that can be found on their homepage.

From Babel to Pentecost

DROITWICH SVP

Sacred Heart SVP can be contacted on 0777 292 7535 or at



FOODBANK

Foodbank would be very grateful for any donations. Whilst the church is closed there are collection points in Droitwich at Waitrose and Morrisons.

ONLINE DONATIONS

Online donations can be made at <https://www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/support-our-work> and would be gratefully received. Please select Droitwich if you wish to donate to the Parish. Thank you for your generosity.



*Registered as a Charity,
Birmingham Roman Catholic
Diocesan Trustees:
Registered Charity
Number 234216.*

The little boy was taken to the nursery school by his mother. Aware of his anxiety about being abandoned, the boy's mother leaned down, kissed her son, and said, "Goodbye, my love. No one is leaving." Each day, his mother would bid him farewell with those same words. The boy was too young to recognize the paradox and embraced his new existence and quickly adjusted to new and frightening surroundings. Day after day, and week after week, his mother bid the same farewell: "Goodbye, my love. No one is leaving." The boy grew into adulthood, and there came a day when he was confronted with the reality of having to place his mother in a nursing home. She - now elderly and frail, with advanced Alzheimer's disease - barely recognized him, often forgot to eat, and simply could no longer care for herself. As he departed from her, leaving her in her new and frightening surroundings, he remembered her words. He leaned down, kissed his mother, and said, "Goodbye, my love. No one is leaving" - words his mother recognized even though she no longer recognized him. A tear appeared in her eye, as she clasped his hand and repeated, "Goodbye, my love. No one is leaving."

This is Jesus' message to his disciples on his departure to the Father: "Goodbye, my love. No one is leaving". Jesus is departing from us, out of our sight. We find ourselves in the new and frightening surroundings of this life, in a place where we are often uncomfortable and often feel ill-equipped to carry on. And yet, Jesus continues to assure us of his continued presence through his gift of the Holy Spirit. Therefore, though he says goodbye, he is not leaving. This is shown in the Gospel text of today when he comes to the frightened disciples after his Resurrection, with a twofold greeting of peace. These disciples, who fled in fear at Jesus' arrest, are now themselves forgiven and told to continue his mission from the Father. Though they abandoned Jesus, he will not abandon them; though they failed him, God's love will not fail them. Then, reminiscent of God's action at creation, Jesus breathes on them, and gifts them the gift of the Spirit and with it the gift of new life. They have become a new creation.

Along with the gift of the Spirit is also a commission to forgive or retain sin. "Retaining sin" is not a juridical act. It is not just the eleven but the "disciples" who are gathered in the room. So this means that through the gift of the Spirit, the disciples are given power to take away the sin of the world and unmask and control the power of evil as Jesus himself did. Through their just and loving actions in imitation of the Lord, they are to communicate the unconditional love of the Father. At Pentecost, as the Acts of the Apostles narrates, the Spirit of God - and through the Spirit, God's unconditional love - comes down upon the disciples, resting on each of them and thereby bringing them and us together once again. The disciples get a crash course as it were in the language of God. After Pentecost, the days of Babel and confusion are over. The great differences among us, in culture and background, wealth and poverty, are scattered in "the rush of a violent wind". They are burned away by tongues of fire. Their nationality or culture does not really matter. Each one hears the same message in his/ her native tongue simply because it is a language of forgiveness and love, and the language of love is one. The unity which this love brings is summarized by Paul in his first letter to the Corinthians. The Spirit is at work in each of us, always fresh and always new, waiting to be translated into the language of our own lives, into the language of love.

Our world, however, is still tongue-tied. Babel, the parable of our first clash of cultures and failure to communicate, is more than a mythic explanation of the differences among nations and languages. It is an apt description of the human condition itself. We often do not understand one another even when we speak the same language. We remain stymied by our fundamental inability to accept the differences among us. It is only to a extent that we make an effort to accept the other, no matter how different or foreign, that we come to understand the language of God. Only then is Babel turned to Pentecost.

I wish you all every blessings of Pentecost,

Fr. George Mathew SCJ