



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**

This Week 21st June - 28th June (Psalter Week 4)	Mass Intentions (Mass will be said privately by the Parish Priest)	Other Events
Sunday 21st June Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A	Fr. Terry Luxon RIP The victims of Covid-19 RIP	1.00 pm - 4.00 pm Private Prayer
Monday 22nd June Feast of Ss. John Fisher, Bishop, and Thomas More , Martyrs	Gladys Remedios RIP (KA)	
Tuesday 23rd June Feria in Ordinary Time	Mary Leason RIP (MB)	10.00 am - 12 noon Private Prayer
Wednesday 24th June Solemnity of the Nativity of St. John the Baptist	Intentions of Mr. Shaji, Mrs. Saly & Family (IM)	
Thursday 25th June Feria in Ordinary Time	Betty Priddy (BB)	10.00 am - 12 noon Private Prayer
Friday 26th June Feria in Ordinary Time	Intentions of Jithin Jhony	
Saturday 27th June Feria in Ordinary Time	Bridget Ian Schubert RIP (BB)	10.00 am - 12 noon Private Prayer
Sunday 28th June Solemnity of Ss. Peter & Paul, Apostles Year A	Vincenza Eaton RIP (MF)	1.00 pm - 4.00 pm Private Prayer

“Along with the importance of little everyday gestures, social love moves us to devise larger strategies to halt environmental degradation and to encourage a “culture of care” which permeates all of society. When we feel that God is calling us to intervene with others in these social dynamics, we should realize that this too is part of our spirituality, which is an exercise of charity and, as such, matures and sanctifies us.”

Pope Francis, Laudato Si' (paragraph 231)

SACRED HEART COMMUNITY

Fr. George Mathew SCJ
(Priest-in-Charge)

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**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

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Kate Dalglish

The Sacred Heart

Presbytery

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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:

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 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 **Maureen Patricia Clarke** who died recently. May her soul and the souls of all the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace. The funeral service will be at 11.30 am on Thursday 25th June at St. Mary's Churchyard. Please keep her family and friends in your kind thoughts and prayers.

CHURCH OPEN FOR PRIVATE PRAYER

Dear Parishioners, I am sure you have been waiting for this. The church will be open for private prayers from Sunday 21st June. The church will be open for prayer from 1.00 until 4.00 pm on Sundays and from 10.00 am until 12 Noon on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays. The Blessed Sacrament will be exposed during this time. When you come to the church to pray, you will find some new arrangements made. There will be stewards at the entrance to welcome you and at the exit to help you. To ensure the Government guidelines are followed you will have to sanitise your hands before entering the church and at the exit. Seating arrangements and directions are in place to maintain social distancing. There will only be limited seating available in the church at any one time. If you wish, you may wear hand gloves and/or a face mask to limit the spread of infection. The benches and church premises will be regularly cleaned after use to prevent infection. Please avoid touching walls, door handles etc. as much as possible. Please follow the instructions from the stewards; they are there to help you. These regulations may look rather strange, but they are there to help you to pray in the church safely. Thank you to the volunteers for their great service. If you would like to be a volunteer please see the details below.

Looking forward seeing you all in the church soon.

Fr. George Mathew SCJ

APPEAL FOR VOLUNTEERS FOR STEWARDING

We are opening the church for private prayer from this Sunday. We always need at least two volunteers as stewards in the church. Are you or members of your family or friends (must be over 18 years and under 70 years) able to be a steward in the church for an hour or two at a given time to help us open the church for prayer? If you can help us please contact the parish office via email or by phone for more details. The opening of the church is completely dependent on the availability of the volunteers so please help us. We still need more to join our team. Thank you very much to those who have already offered their time.

USEFUL LINKS

BDES: CATHOLIC EDUCATION

<https://www.bdes.org.uk/resources-for-prayer-and-learning.html>

<https://www.bdes.org.uk/shared-resources-from-diocesan-schools.html>

CAFOD

www.cafod.org.uk

CTS BOOKS

www.ctsbooks.org

VATICAN WEBSITE

<http://w2.vatican.va/content/vatican/en.html>

<https://www.vaticannews.va/en.html>

ALIVE PUBLISHING

<https://www.alivepublishing.co.uk/coronavirus-covid-19/>

PATHWAYS TO GOD

<https://www.pathwaystogod.org/resources>

THE TABLET

<https://www.thetablet.co.uk/>

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.

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. This includes the podcast and transcript *How to pray and re-connect with the church as places of worship re-open for private prayer.*

CAFOD

We have received the following message from CAFOD:

"Thank you to all parishioners at Sacred Heart & St Catherine of Alexandria for your generous support for CAFOD this year and for your latest donation of £397.93 which we received on 29th May 2020. It means so much to us that you have reached out to our brothers and sisters around the world, when life here at home is quite changed. The support of parishes like yours is also the reason why we can be there when an emergency strikes and reach people in urgent need. Thank you so much for being there for our global family."

FATHER'S DAY

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

GIFT AID

The parish has submitted the Gift Aid claim for 2019/2020. These amounts have now been received and are £1995.00 for the Gift Aid Small Donation Scheme (loose collections) and £10,728.04 for the main Gift Aid claim. Thank you all for your generosity to the Sacred Heart Church.

"Then you will call my name. You will come to me and pray to me, and I will listen to you."

Jeremiah 29: 12

TRUST SECRETARY

The Archdiocese is seeking a voluntary part time Trust Secretary to assist the Trustees in good "corporate practices". Details can be found on the parish website.

DROITWICH SVP

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

DROITWICH CATENIANS

Fellow Catholic parishioners – please come and join us!

The Catenians are a Catholic association for men and their families, strengthening family life through friendship and faith. Our Droitwich Circle welcomes new members. For further information, contact **Mike Nott** on **07756 876269**.

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.*

Do not be afraid!

During his years as premier of the Soviet Union, Nikita Khrushchev denounced many of the policies and atrocities of Joseph Stalin. Once, as he censured Stalin in a public meeting, Khrushchev was interrupted by a shout from a heckler in the audience. "You were one of Stalin's colleagues. Why didn't you stop him?" "Who said that?" roared Khrushchev. An agonising silence followed as nobody in the room dared move a muscle. Then Khrushchev replied quietly, "Now you know why". It is not always easy to stand up and be counted.

The Gospel text of today deals with what it takes to stand up and be counted. It is part of Matthew's Mission Discourse in which Jesus, after commissioning his disciples, gives them both instruction for and exhortation in Mission. Today's reading deals with exhortation. 'Do not be afraid to be open about faith, do not be afraid of powerful opponents, and do not be afraid about what future holds in store'. All three lay in God's hands. It is possible that fear might lead to the disciples remaining silent and not communicating the message of Jesus, which is a message of the Kingdom. While the disciples should expect persecution, they should not be paralyzed by fear. They must continue to give bold witness to the message entrusted to them that in Jesus and his words and works, the Kingdom of heaven has indeed come. The disciples will be tempted to give up when things get difficult, but they are called to persevere till the end with the witness that they must give. The ideas expressed in this part of the Gospel are similar to the first reading from Jeremiah. After, castigating the leaders for not obeying God's word and warning them that therefore they would be conquered by Babylon, Jeremiah is scourged and put in stocks by Passhur, the head of the temple police. The text of today, spoken after his release, includes Jeremiah's sixth lament, in which he begins by railing at God for "enticing" him into proclaiming God's message and then allowing him to be mocked and shamed. Though he is tempted to give up his vocation of being a prophet (and so speaking God's word on behalf of God) because he is aware that people are plotting against him, he perseveres. This perseverance results from his confidence in the fact that God will come to his aid and deliver him from his enemies.

These enemies cannot do real harm, because though physical death is indeed a possibility for a disciple of Jesus, it will only be a transition, says Jesus. God's power is much more than even death. All that happens to the disciple is known by God. As surely as God knows the comings and goings of even the littlest bird, so he knows everything that happens to the disciple. He is "father" to the disciples and so the disciples are related to Jesus as brothers and sisters. The best example of this confidence, according to the reading from Romans, is Jesus himself. He was obedient unlike Adam; he remained sinless and faithful unlike Adam and thus made grace reign freely where there would have been universal condemnation. He dared to stand up and be counted. He was unafraid even in the face of ignominy, persecution, and death. Thus, through his life, mission, death and resurrection Jesus has given his disciples the example they must follow, the path they must take and the way they must walk. To walk this way continues to be difficult especially today when fears of all kinds continue to dominate our lives and take control of us, not allowing us to be the kind of persons we are meant to be. There are numerous people who will try their best to stifle the message of justice and peace, simply because it is beneficial to them to do so. There are many who will try to shut down the voices of those who protest against discrimination and violence.

By looking to Jesus, we see that the trials and sufferings of this life, especially what we face as we try to live out and share our faith, are short-lived. We should, therefore, not give in to fear, knowing that in the end truth will triumph over untruth, justice over injustice, and eternal life over death, as we are able to see already in the life, death and resurrection of Jesus. May our Lord Jesus take away all our fear. That we proclaim Jesus fearlessly.

Fr. George Mathew SCJ