



Societas Presbyterorum
Sacratissimi Cordis Jesu
BETHARRAM

SACRED HEART & ST CATHERINE OF ALEXANDRIA

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Today's Mass Readings

Zechariah 9: 9-10;

Psalms 144;

Romans 8: 9, 11-13

Matthew 11: 25-30

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

This Week 5th July - 12th July (Psalter Week 2)	Mass Intentions (Mass will be said privately by the Parish Priest)	Other Events
Sunday 5th July Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A	8.30 am Holy Mass 10.30 am Holy Mass 6.00 pm Holy Mass	
Monday 6th July Feria in Ordinary Time	9.15 am Maria Kutty Francis RIP (Jose)	
Tuesday 7th July Feria in Ordinary Time	9.15 am Holy Mass	
Wednesday 8th July Feria in Ordinary Time	9.15 am Patrick Cussen RIP & Family Members (JC)	
Thursday 9th July Feria in Ordinary Time	9.15 am Mary Leason RIP (MB) & Alma Gell RIP (LH)	
Friday 10th July Feria in Ordinary Time	9.15 am Frances Veale RIP (AM)	
Saturday 11th July Feast of St. Benedict, Abbot, Patron of Europe	11.00 am Patrick Cussen RIP & Family Members (JC)	Confession by prior appointment only
Sunday 12th July Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A	8.30 am Vincenza Eaton RIP (MF) 10.30 am Holy Mass 6.00 pm Holy Mass	

“Everything is connected. Concern for the environment thus needs to be joined to a sincere love for our fellow human beings and an unwavering commitment to resolving the problems of society ”

Pope Francis, Laudato Si' (paragraph 91)

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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6 St Joseph's Close,
Ombersley Way,
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droitwich.worcs.sch.uk

HEAD TEACHER

Mrs. Cath Bryan

PARISH SECRETARY

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The Sacred Heart
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SAFEGUARDING REPRESENTATIVES

Gerry Ceclich
Kate Dalglish
Clare Tomlinson

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

8.30 am, 10.30 am & 6.00 pm :

To be announced during Mass

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 & Jeannie Young.

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.

CHURCH OPEN FOR PUBLIC MASS

Following the announcement that collective acts of worship can resume on Saturday 4th July, the normal Mass timetable has now resumed. Please check the website before attending Mass in church in case changes are made due to unforeseen circumstances. All are welcome to attend either Sunday, Saturday or weekday Masses. When you come to the church you will see similar arrangements to those made for private prayer. There will be stewards at the entrance to welcome you and at the exit to guide 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 of 1m plus between household groups. Each pew has the capacity to accommodate three individuals or two couples from different households with social distancing. A family household of five can also be seated in a pew. We want to make the effort to accommodate the maximum number people with social distancing in the church, however, the number in church is limited to 80. **All attending Mass will be required to wear a face covering, except for people with breathing problems and children under the age of five.** If you wish, hand gloves can also be worn to limit the spread of infection. The pews and church premises will be cleaned after each use to prevent infection. Please avoid touching walls, door handles, sacred images and statues etc. as much as possible. To limit the spread of infection through droplets there will not be singing, but the hymns will be played by the organist. Holy Communion will be distributed only in hand in One Kind. 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 us keep safe. Thanking you all in anticipation of you returning to church for Mass and for your understanding and co-operation. 2

Fr. George Mathew SCJ

APPEAL FOR VOLUNTEERS FOR STEWARDING

The church is now open for public Mass. We always need at least two volunteers as stewards in the church for each. 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 the Mass you come to on Sundays and weekdays help us? The stewards are mostly needed before and after the Masses. That means you can attend the Mass whilst being a steward. If you can help us, please contact the parish office via email or by phone for more details. Unlike during private prayer, the stewards will not have to sanitise the pews after each use. Thank you very much to those who have already offered their time as stewards during Private Prayer and offered to continue their help. We still need more to join our team.

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/>

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 a letter from the Archbishops on the resumption of collective worship.

KENELM YOUTH TRUST: SUMMER CAMP 2020

31ST JULY UNTIL 2ND AUGUST ONLINE FROM ALTON CASTLE

This year, Summer Camp is going online. Join in online from wherever you are for times of prayer, Holy Mass, talks from our amazing speakers, praise and worship, and so much more. If you've been before, you'll still have a chance to be part of small group sessions, silly games and praise with Sarah. You can even purchase some merchandise and wear your camp t-shirt to online sessions! There is no cost or sign-up fee, all you need to do is fill out a registration form and make sure you follow our social media accounts so that you can join us when we release content and go live! For further information and to register visit <https://www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/Event/online-lifeteen-camp-uk-2020>.

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.

"I was happy when they said to me, "Let's go to the Temple of the Lord"."

Psalm 122: 1

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.

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.

DROITWICH SVP

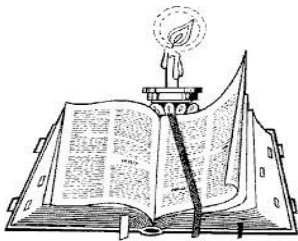
Sacred Heart SVP can be contacted on 0777 292 7535 or at droitwichsvp@googlemail.com.

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.



Next Sunday's Mass

Readings

Isaiah 55: 10-11;

Psalms 64;

Romans 8: 18-23

Matthew 13: 1-23

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

His Yoke is Easy

One day a man saw a small boy carrying a still smaller boy on his back. The smaller boy was lame. As they passed by, the man commented to the small boy, "That's a heavy burden for you to carry". The small boy answered, "He's no burden, Mister. He's my little brother." The yoke of Jesus is not a burden, it is kind (easy) and light.

To understand fully the Gospel text of today, two points must be kept in mind. The first is that it is placed by Matthew after three "negative" passages which begin at 11:2. These are the response of Jesus to the disciples of John the Baptist to their question whether Jesus was the Messiah, the exasperation with the crowd who do not recognize John nor Jesus, and the denunciation of the cities of Chorazin, Bethsaida and Capernaum. Indeed, this entire section of Matthew's Gospel seems to deal with people's disappointment over the "failure" of Jesus to measure up to their expectations in terms of what a "Messiah" would look like or act like.

The second point is that this text is clearly a Matthean composition and is made of three elements. This first two of these are found in Luke but in different contexts and the third is exclusive to Matthew. In Matthew, the audience is clearly the crowds and so the words of Jesus here are meant for all. So the passage seeks to state that despite so much doubt and negativity, that despite so much blindness and closed attitudes, this is not the last word. Despite the fact that Jesus' message has been questioned by John the Baptist, rejected by many, especially the wise and understanding, and not heeded by the cities, yet his invitation and message will find acceptance by others who are open and receptive. Often 'the wise' tend to become proud and self-sufficient in their 'wisdom' and refuse to receive what is new and unexpected. This is because they have already made up their minds about what kind of Messiah is to come. The person of Jesus and the nature of the fulfillment he brings cannot be understood if he is restricted to preconceived categories and human conceptual frameworks. On the other hand, the childlike are most often open, dependent, and receptive. They are willing to let God work in their lives. They have not decided in advance how God must act and are willing to let God be God. Therefore, they are able to believe and so to rejoice.

This note of joy brought by faith already sounds in the words of Zechariah, in the first reading. 'Rejoice, daughter of Zion! Shout with gladness', Zechariah cries out, 'Rejoice, because the messiah-king is coming - doing away with the 'horses' and other things of war.' He will ride on a donkey, but strong and triumphant, as he brings a peace that embraces the whole world. Despite the overwhelming significance of his person, the relationship he shares with the Father and the fact that the total mission was given him by the Father, Jesus comes meekly and humbly as a servant, like the messiah-king about whom Zechariah prophesied.

Jesus invites all to come to him, to enter into a relationship with him and to follow him in discipleship. It is his yoke to which he calls; it is he who gives rest. The fact that Jesus' yoke is easy, and his burden is light must not be misunderstood to mean that the discipleship and righteousness to which Jesus calls are easy and undemanding. Discipleship demands nothing less than life-commitment and a total denial of self. This is what Paul means when he tells the Romans that they must not live unspiritual lives but show that they belong to Christ and are his disciples by choosing the spiritual over the unspiritual.

Because Jesus brings the new era of grace and salvation through his intimate relationship with his Father, he is both qualified and able to reveal him as unconditional love and mercy. While "yoke" signifies obedience, it could also, if misunderstood, become a burden that is too heavy to carry. In Jesus' understanding, the experience of serving God is not a burden and does not cause fatigue. On the contrary, since the yoke is easy and the burden is light, it leads only to joy. Thus, his yoke is not just a yoke from him but also a yoke with him. To take the yoke of Christ is to associate and identify ourselves with him: our destiny with his destiny, our vision with his vision and our mission with his mission. It is to know that we are not pulling the yoke alone and by our own power but together with Christ and by the strength that comes from him. It is to know that with him and in him the yoke is easy and the burden light. God Bless you all.