

**SACRED HEART &  
ST CATHERINE OF  
ALEXANDRIA**

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Societas Presbyterorum  
Sacratissimi Cordis Jesu  
BETHARRAM



**Today's Mass Readings**

*Apocalypse 11: 19 -12: 1-6, 10;*  
*Psalm 44;*  
*1 Corinthians 15: 45-51*  
*Luke 1: 39-56*

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

This Week 16th August - 23rd August (Psalter Week 4)	Mass Intentions	Other Events
<b>Sunday 16th August</b> <b>Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary</b> <b>Year A</b>	8.30 am Max & Cecilia Jourdier (Fr. G) 10.30 am Paul, Catherine & Theresa Ingram (BB) 6.00 pm People of the Parish	
<b>Monday 17th August</b> Feria in Ordinary Time	9.15 am Mr. Christopher Campbell Johnston (BB)	
<b>Tuesday 18th August</b> Feria in Ordinary Time	9.15 am Intentions of the Ingram Family (BB)	
<b>Wednesday 19th August</b> Feria in Ordinary Time	9.15 am Alan Remedios RIP (KA)	
<b>Thursday 20th August</b> Memorial of St. Bernard, Abbot, Doctor of the Church	9.15 am Intentions of Iain & Marie Martin (BB)	
<b>Friday 21st August</b> Memorial of St. Pius X, Pope	9.15 am Sally McCool (BB)	
<b>Saturday 22nd August</b> Memorial of the Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary	11.00 am Gladys Remedios RIP (KA)	<b>10.15 am - 10.45 am: Confessions</b>
<b>Sunday 23rd August</b> <b>Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time</b> <b>Year A</b>	8.30 am Audrey Williams RIP (SL) 10.30 am People of the Parish 6.00 pm Holy Mass	

*“The God who created the universe out of nothing can also intervene in this world and overcome every form of evil. Injustice is not invincible.”*

Pope Francis, Laudato Si' (paragraph 74)

## 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-  
droitwich.worcs.sch.uk

### HEAD TEACHER

Mrs. Cath Bryan

### PARISH SECRETARY

Kate Dalglish

The Sacred Heart  
Presbytery

Tel: 01905 773258

Email:  
sacredheartdroitwich  
@hotmail.co.uk.

### SAFEGUARDING REPRESENTATIVES

Gerry Ceclich  
Kate Dalglish  
Clare Tomlinson

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

8.30 am, 10.30 am & 6.00 pm :

On your right stands the queen, in garments of gold.

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### 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, Colum MacCourt, Sally McCool, Andrew McDermott, Stella McDermott, Jackie McLean, Michael Sheridan, 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.**

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### CHURCH OPEN FOR MASS

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. There will be stewards at the entrance to welcome you and at the exit to guide you. 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. Holy Communion will be distributed only in hand in One Kind. Please follow the instructions from the stewards; they are there to help you. Thank you, Fr. George Mathew SCJ

### NOTES FOR THOSE ATTENDING MASS

When coming to Mass on a Sunday, it would be helpful if you would please keep in mind the following:

- Wear a face covering unless you are in a category exempted by the UK Government. Please note that wearing of a face covering in places of worship is a legal requirement from Saturday 8th August. Details of those who are exempted by law can be found [here](#).
- Make use of the hand sanitiser on entering.
- To sit on the R/H side of the church, access by way of the R/H side aisle. To sit on the L/H side of the church, access by way of the centre aisle.
- On entering an empty pew, pass to its far L/H end.
- A pew will accommodate 3 singletons or 1 singleton and 1 couple or families may make use of an entire bench.
- After Communion, return to your seat by way of the side aisle that is adjacent to your seat.
- At the end of Mass, stewards will indicate the order in which the congregation will leave the church. You do not have to leave immediately but remember that the cleaners have work to do before the next Mass.
- Please sanitise your hands on the way out.

## 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 to Caroline Healy for cleaning 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.

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### USEFUL LINKS

#### NATIONAL JUSTICE AND PEACE GROUP

<https://www.justice-and-peace.org.uk/>

#### CAFOD

[www.cafod.org.uk](http://www.cafod.org.uk).

#### VATICAN WEBSITE

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

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

#### CATHOLIC BISHOPS CONFERENCE OF ENGLAND AND WALES

<https://www.cbcew.org.uk/>

#### ARCHDIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM

<https://www.birminghamdiocese.org.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.

#### ST. CHAD'S CATHEDRAL

St. Chad's is continuing to live stream Masses. Please visit <https://www.stchadscathedral.org.uk/> for days and times. A list of all parishes in the Archdiocese offering online Masses can be found at <https://www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/parishes-online>.

#### BELMONT ABBEY ONLINE RETREATS

Belmont Abbey is offering online Retreats. Please visit <https://www.belmontabbey.org.uk/> for further information. Please note that you will need to register on the website at least 24 hours before the event to receive the Zoom log-in details.

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#### FOODBANK

Foodbank would be very grateful for any donations. A new wish list is on the parish website. Whilst we are still not collecting at the Sacred Heart Church there are collection points in Droitwich at Waitrose and Morrisons. Thank you for your continued generosity.



#### GIFT AID ENVELOPES 2020/2021

The gift aid envelopes for the new tax year are at the back of church. Please can you collect your envelopes. Thank you.

#### THE POPE'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR AUGUST

The Maritime World:

*"We pray for all those who work and live from the sea, among them sailors, fishermen and their families."*

#### 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**.

#### 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.

**Main Collection:**

**£244.30**

**Gift Aid: £87.00**

**Mass Attendance  
Last Sunday (church  
capacity with social  
distancing 1m + = 80)**

**8.30 am: 65**

**10.30 am: 44**

**6.00 pm: 45**

**Thank you for  
supporting your  
Parish.**

### **DROITWICH SVP**

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

### **SPONSORED EVENT**

John Hartley will be  
taking on the 'Fan  
Dance' 24km endurance  
challenge in the Brecon  
Beacons to raise money  
for March for Life. If you  
would like to  
sponsor John please  
contact him on  
07708188108  
or [hartley.jdr@pm.me](mailto:hartley.jdr@pm.me).  
Your support would be  
gratefully received. All  
money raised will go to  
March for Life UK to aid  
them in their mission to  
unite the Pro-Life  
movement and bring an  
end to abortion in the  
UK.

### **Next Sunday's Mass**

#### **Readings**

*Isaiah 22: 19 –23;*

*Psalms 137;*

*Romans 11: 33-36*

*Matthew 16: 13-20*

*Welcome to everyone at Mass today, especially if you are new to our church or haven't been to Mass for some time. If you are of another Christian denomination or non-Christian you are warmly invited to approach the priest or minister and ask or signify your wish for a blessing.*

### *Assumption Of Blessed Virgin Mary*

Today we celebrate the Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary. In order to understand the meaning of this dogma; this is one of the four dogmas which Church holds regarding blessed Virgin Mary. The four dogmas are Mary is the Mother of God, Mary was Immaculately conceived that means without any original sin, Mary was perpetually a virgin and finally that Mary was totally assumed into Heaven. Of these dogmas the central dogma is that Mary is the Mother of God. Mary was preserved from original sin because she is the mother of God, Mary is perpetually virgin because she wanted to be totally available to God and Mary's Assumption or glorification is the result of being Mother of God.

So, having said that we may have to go back to the history of the dogma of the Assumption. In the Bible we don't find anything about the Assumption of Mary. The Gospels and the Pauline letters speak about how Jesus rose from the dead in 1 Corinthians 15 and it will speak also about how the Christians are destined to rise from the dead; nothing about Mary. So how did this dogma emerge if there is no Scriptural background? It emerged in a very interesting way, for instance you will find that even though there is nothing said about Mary, the Christian community felt that since she is mother of God, there is something special about the end of Mary. Then there was a big controversy about Mary. Did Mary die? Or was she taken straight up to heaven? The issue is not settled; because one group said Mary died; after all her Son Jesus died even though He was Son of God, why can't Mary die? Others said, 'death is the result of sin'; Mary has no sin, so she has taken up to heaven. Thus, this dogma was first celebrated liturgically in the east in the 6th century: The Feast of Falling Asleep of Mary. Later it came to the west. When in the east the Falling Asleep of Mary was celebrated on 15th August, the west called it the Assumption. So, it was celebrated all over the world and on 1st of November in 1950, Pope Pius XII in a solemn document defined that, "The Blessed Virgin Mary, when the course of her earthly life was ended was taken up body and soul into heaven".

What does the dogma tell us? It tells us that the final state of redemption, when we redeemed both body and soul has begun already in Jesus Christ, yes, but in one more person is the Blessed Virgin Mary. And so, it tells us what is the destiny each one of us. Mary is the sign and a mode of each one of us are called to be. The destiny and mission of each one of us is to present Jesus Christ to the world. So, what Mary presented in a unique way has to take place in our life too. As the dogma of the immaculate conception states we need to be free from sin so in Mary is realised what each one of us are called to be. To be available to God. Finally, the Assumption of Mary as she is taken up in body and soul to Heaven; so, that is the destiny of each one of us. So, the glorification of Mary shows what our own glorification is going to be.

May the Blessed Virgin Mary help us to be like her to imitate Christ. Amen.

Fr. George Mathew SCJ