



Societas Presbyterorum  
Sacratissimi Cordis Jesu  
BETHARRAM

## SACRED HEART & ST CATHERINE OF ALEXANDRIA

208 Worcester Road, Droitwich Spa,  
WR9 8AZ, Tel: 01905 773258  
Email: [sacredheartdroitwich@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:sacredheartdroitwich@hotmail.co.uk)  
Web: [www.sacredheartdroitwich.org.uk](http://www.sacredheartdroitwich.org.uk)



### Today's Mass Readings

*Isaiah 22: 19 –23;*

*Psalms 137;*

*Romans 11: 33-36*

*Matthew 16: 13-20*

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

<b>This Week 23rd August - 30th August (Psalter Week 4)</b>	<b>Mass Intentions</b>	<b>Other Events</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	
<b>Monday 24th August</b> Feast of St. Bartholomew, Apostle	9.15 am Charles McLoughney RIP (P & JC)	
<b>Tuesday 25th August</b> Feria in Ordinary Time	9.15 am Edward Cash RIP (SD)	
<b>Wednesday 26th August</b> Feast of Blessed Dominic Barberi, Priest, Religious	9.15 am Holy Mass	
<b>Thursday 27th August</b> Memorial of St. Monica	9.15 am For the sick and housebound of the Parish	
<b>Friday 28th August</b> Memorial of St. Augustine, Bishop, Doctor of the Church	<b>9.15 am Holy Communion Service</b>	
<b>Saturday 29th August</b> Memorial of the Beheading of St. John the Baptist, Martyr	<b>11.00 am Holy Communion Service</b>	
<b>Sunday 30th August</b> <b>Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time</b> <b>Year A</b>	8.30 am Holy Mass 10.30 am George Mason (MM) 6.00 pm For the families of the Parish	

*“By learning to see and appreciate beauty, we learn to reject self-interested pragmatism. If someone has not learned to stop and admire something beautiful, we should not be surprised if he or she treats everything as an object to be used and abused without scruple. If we want to bring about deep change, we need to realize that certain mindsets really do influence our behaviour.”*

Pope Francis, *Laudato Si'* (paragraph 215)

## 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 :

Your love, O Lord, is eternal: discard not the work of your hands.

---

## 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.**

---

## CHURCH OPEN FOR MASS

The normal Mass timetable has now resumed. **Please note that there will be Holy Communion Services on Friday 28th & Saturday 29th August.** 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.

## PARISH SECRETARY

The Parish Secretary is now back in the office on Friday mornings and can be contacted via telephone on 01905 773258 on this day. Please continue to use phone and email if possible to minimise in person visits. For the remainder of the week the Parish Secretary continues to work from home.

## REFUGEE ITEMS

People in Motion have recently resumed collecting items, so if you have been storing articles at home please bring them to church and they will be forwarded on to the organisation. Thank you so much for the beautiful knitted hats, scarves and exquisite scarf & glove sets recently donated. A massive thank you also for the vast amount of new underwear. Your kindness will mean so much to the refugees.

---

## 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>.

---

## SPONSORED EVENTS FOR MARCH FOR LIFE

On the Friday 28th August Peter Hartley will be climbing the highest mountain in England, Scafell Pike. If you would like to sponsor Peter, please contact him at [phartley@protonmail.com](mailto:phartley@protonmail.com). John Hartley will be taking on the 'Fan Dance' 24km endurance challenge in the Brecon Beacons. 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.

## CHURCH STEWARDS

A new rota has been issued via email for the weeks commencing Mondays 24th and 31st August and Monday 7th September. Please contact the Parish Secretary if you have not received a copy. Thank you for your continued help.

## 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:**  
**£220.40**

**Gift Aid: £223.20**

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

**8.30 am: 56**

**10.30 am: 48**

**6.00 pm: 52**

**Thank you for**  
**supporting your**  
**Parish.**

### **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. 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.



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

*Jeremiah 20: 7 – 9;*

*Psalms 62;*

*Romans 12: 1-2*

*Matthew 16: 21-27*

*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.*

### ***Do I know him?***

I am sure most of you have watched Mel Gibson's movie The Passion of Christ. Lucca Lionello the actor who played Judas in this movie is a good example of how God intervenes in our life in a mysterious way. Lucca grew up Catholic, but after confirmation he stopped going to Mass and left his faith behind. By the time he started working on The Passion, he was a confirmed and convinced atheist living in an irregular marriage with an un-baptized daughter. While filming the scene where Judas gave in to despair and took his own life, Lucca had to think deeply how to portray a person that was torn apart by sin and separated from friendship with God. He could not get it out of his mind, even after the scene was finished and all the filming was done. A few months later, during post-production process, he saw a priest near the sound studio, began a conversation, which eventually led him to return to the Sacraments, rectified his marriage, and baptized his nine-year-old daughter.

God uses the role of Judas to bring a prodigal son back home. Hence, no surprises why Jesus entrusts his Church, his mission, to Peter – the man he knew would certainly deny him three times, though out of fear. Jesus knew deep beneath that fear, Peter had a heart filled with love. My dear friends, God's ways may seem weird to the human mind. That does not mean that our response to Him can also be weird. No, our response to God should be one of humble submission to his plan. We have ample number of ways by which we can know about God, about Jesus, about Scripture and about spirituality. I may have a doctorate in theology and in scripture. But that does not necessarily guarantee that I know God, Jesus and his Words. Only the one who in humble submission seek for him in will know Him. This humble submission is possible only through a personal experience of God. Jesus knew his Father, so was able to surrender himself to His plan. Peter was able to articulate his personal experience of Jesus saying, "you are the Christ, the anointed one, the Messiah". He did it with conviction. What is our personal conviction about Jesus? Are we able to articulate our experience of Jesus and confess our faith in him as Peter did? Our faith in Jesus, and our submission to His plans opens up our hearts to him even as He does His to us.

It is good to remember the times when Jesus said to the people he healed, "Your faith has healed you." (Mt 9:22, Mk 5:34, 10:52, Lk 7:50). Because of their FAITH, because they opened their hearts to God, Jesus was able to act on them. It's only such a FAITH will enable us to fight the evil one. As Jesus said, "the gates of hell shall not prevail against you." We know both Judas and Peter sinned. Both disowned Jesus. Both repented too. (Mt 27:3). Only Peter returned to the Lord. That is why Peter is the rock on which the Church is founded. The Church was founded on Peter, who loved, and sinned, and held on to the Lord anyway. The gates of Hell cannot prevail against this kind of love.

May God grant us a deep faith that comes from our personal experience of Him.

Fr. George Mathew SCJ

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