



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
Web: www.sacredheartdroitwich.org.uk



Today's Mass Readings

Ecclesiasticus 27: 30 – 28: 7;
Psalm 102;
Romans 14: 7-9
Matthew 18: 21-35

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

This Week 13th September - 20th September (Psalter Week 4)	Mass Intentions	Other Events
Sunday 13th September Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A	8.30 am Fr. Alexander Taylor (E & KL) 10.30 am People of the Parish 6.00 pm Jolanta Lange RIP	Retiring Collection for the Catholic Education Service Baptism: 2.00 pm
Monday 14th September Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross	9.15 am Josie & Purchase Family (CT)	
Tuesday 15th September Memorial of Our Lady of Sorrows	9.15 am Julie Glossop RIP (BB)	
Wednesday 16th September Memorial of Ss. Cornelius, Pope & Cyprian, Bishop, Martyrs	9.15 am Sr. Eugenia Geraghty (I & MM)	
Thursday 17th September Feria in Ordinary Time	9.15 am Sheril John & Family (A & S)	
Friday 18th September Feria in Ordinary Time	9.15 am Barbara Lawrence RIP (GM)	
Saturday 19th September Feria in Ordinary Time	11.00 am Alan Remedios RIP (KA)	10.15 am - 10.45 am: Confessions
Sunday 20th September Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A	8.30 am Vincenza Eaton RIP (MF) 10.30 am People of the Parish 6.00 pm Christopher Kondratowicz RIP	Home Mission Day Retiring Collection for Catholic Evangelisation Baptism

“It is good for humanity and the world at large when we believers better recognize the ecological commitments which stem from our convictions”.

Pope Francis, Laudato Si' (paragraph 64)

SACRED HEART COMMUNITY

Fr. George Mathew SCJ
(Parish Priest)

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:

**The Lord is compassion and love, slow to anger and rich in
mercy.**

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.**

RECENTLY DECEASED

Your prayers are asked for **Barbara Lawrence** who died recently. May her
soul and the souls of all the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest
in peace. The Requiem Mass will be on Thursday 24th September at
12 noon. This will be followed by a Cremation at 2.00 pm at The Vale
Crematorium. Please keep her family and friends in your kind thoughts and
prayers.

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 at
[https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/face-coverings-when-
to-wear-one-and-how-to-make-your-own/face-coverings-when-to-
wear-one-and-how-to-make-your-own](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/face-coverings-when-to-wear-one-and-how-to-make-your-own/face-coverings-when-to-wear-one-and-how-to-make-your-own).
- 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.

SACRED HEART ANNUAL SPONSORED WALK

The Annual Sponsored Walk in aid of the Sacred Heart Missionary Work in India will take place in Droitwich on **Saturday 26th September at 2.00 pm.** Fr. George SCJ and Br. Patrick SCJ will be participating in the Droitwich Canal Walk. If you would like to support this fund raising effort, there are sponsorship forms and gift aid envelopes available at the back of church to sponsor and support them. If you would like to join this walk please speak to Fr George or Brother Patrick. Please join Fr. George SCJ and Br. Patrick SCJ to support the Sacred Heart Missionary work in India. For further details please speak to Fr. George or Br. Patrick. Thank you in anticipation of your support.

CHRISTMAS RAFFLE

Due to the pandemic this year we may not be able to have the Christmas Fayre (if the situation improves this may be reviewed) but we will have the Raffle as usual. Your support would be greatly appreciated. If you would like to donate a raffle prize please give your name to Terry who will be at the back of the church after each Mass.

PARISH SECRETARY

The Parish Secretary is now back in the office on Wednesday and Friday mornings and can be contacted via telephone on 01905 773258 on these days. 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.

COUNTERS

Due to Covid-19, some of the volunteers who would usually assist with counting the Sunday offertory are unable to do so. If anyone is able to help or would like further information please could you contact the Parish Office.

REFUGEE ITEMS

Thank you so much for all the wonderful items recently donated. They were taken to the depot in Malvern on Tuesday 1st September ready to be dispatched to Syria in the near future. Your kindness will mean so much to the refugees.

BIRMINGHAM JUSTICE & PEACE ASSEMBLY 2020

THE CLIMATE EMERGENCY: LISTENING TO THE 'CRY OF THE EARTH AND THE CRY OF THE POOR'

This year the Assembly will take place **ONLINE**, with one-hour sessions over three evenings at 7.30pm: Monday 28th September, Wednesday 30th September and Friday 2 October. The Assembly will culminate with Evening Prayer with the participation of Archbishop Bernard on Sunday 4th October at 7pm. Sessions include: Ecological Conversion – an 'examination of conscience' on our care for our common home; Prepare the Future – building back better to address the climate emergency; and Local Government Responsibilities – planning for the West Midlands. For more information and to book go to <https://bit.ly/JPassembly2020> or email bham.jandp@gmail.com.

REDDITCH CARMELITE SPIRITUALITY GROUP

The next meeting is on Zoom at 11.00 am on Saturday 19th September. As usual they shall be praying with Lectio Divina, but they will also be having some input from John Berry TOC, who will be speaking on *Contemplation and the Carmelite Charism*. All are welcome. Please contact Susan Porter by email on ingeva@btinternet.com, or mobile 07789 741900. The link will be sent the day before the meeting.

FR. HUDSON'S ANNUAL PARISH COLLECTION 2020

On Sunday 27th September the second collection will be for Father Hudson's Care to support their mission of supporting vulnerable people across the Archdiocese of Birmingham. Father Hudson's reaches out to people of all ages who need support at times of adversity. Please Call 01675 434000 if you would like to donate outside of Mass this year. Please give generously to this worthy cause.

FOODBANK - HARVEST WISH LIST

Foodbank would be very grateful for any donations. A new wish list for Harvest is on the parish website and has been distributed via email. 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.

Main Collection:
£235.15

Gift Aid: £262.00

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

8.30 am: 64

10.30 am: 60

6.00 pm: 43

**Thank you for
supporting your
Parish.**

DROITWICH SVP

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

ONLINE DONATIONS

Online donations can
be made at
[https://www.
Birminghamdiocese.
org.uk/support-our-
work](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: 6 – 9;

Psalms 144;

Philippians 1: 20-24, 27

Matthew 20: 1-6

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.

How many times Must I Forgive?

My dear brothers and sisters, The Word of God today revolves around the theme 'FORGIVENESS'. The first reading says that "Anger and wrath are abominations" and that by keeping grudge against others, we cannot pray and we cannot ask the Lord for healing. In the Gospel, presuming that forgiving seven times was a gesture of generosity, Peter asks Jesus, "Lord, how often shall my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? As many as seven times?" Jesus' response is very surprising and demanding. Jesus said, "I do not say to you seven times, but seventy times seven". Forgiveness, first of all, presupposes the nature of human beings to be in relationship with others. Human beings are created to live in good relationship with one another and with the whole universe. Our every attempt go against this divine plan will result in a miserable, unbearable and unproductive life. And forgiveness is indispensable part of human relationship. Forgiveness, secondly, presupposes human weakness, that is, we easily get hurt and we hurt others. Sometimes we hurt others intentionally. Forgiveness, thirdly, presupposes our sensitive nature. We are not merely people of reason, but also people of feelings and emotions.

The readings of today portray some of the reasons for forgiving and seeking forgiveness. The first reason: We forgive and we seek forgiveness more for ourselves than for God and for others. In fact, the heaviest burdens that we carry within us are grudge, resentment and hatred. These burdens do more harm to us than towards whom we hold them. Forgiveness gives us the freedom and vitality to live a more serene and happy life. Forgiving, we experience the healing of body and mind. By forgiving, we take control of our lives. While lack of forgiveness equates us with animals, forgiveness makes us more humane and divine.

Secondly, by forgiving and seeking forgiveness, we admit and we proclaim that relationship is more important than the hurt feelings that we have experienced. Thirdly, the experience of forgiveness makes us free and joyful, so does it create the same effect in others.

Again the readings of today offer us certain tips to forgive. First, remember the 'end of our life': We are here on earth as pilgrims; we should not be foolish and imprudent to waste this brief but precious time with negativity. Second, remember the rule that the "measure in which we forgive is the measure in which we are forgiven". Thus, we experience healing and wholeness in our lives. Third, consider the fact that "the Lord has forgiven us, and hence, we must forgive"; we have received without pay, and we must give without pay. Therefore, dear friends, understand today the need to forgive and the need to seek forgiveness; do it without any condition, and your experience of wholeness, enthusiasm, peace and joy will be boundless.

Fr. George Mathew SCJ