



Societas Presbyterorum
Sacratissimi Cordis Jesu
BETHARRAM

SACRED HEART & ST CATHERINE OF ALEXANDRIA

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Today's Mass Readings

Ezekial 18: 25-28;

Psalm 24;

Philippians 2: 1-11

Matthew 21: 28-32

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

This Week 27th September - 4th October (Psalter Week 2)	Mass Intentions	Other Events
Sunday 27th September Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A	8.30 am Ella Patterson RIP (M & J) 10.30 am Jeannie Young RIP (MR) 6.00 pm Michael & Barbara Lawrence (SM)	Retiring Collection for Fr. Hudson's Care
Monday 28th September Feria in Ordinary Time	9.15 am Jeannie Young RIP (AM)	
Tuesday 29th September Feast of Ss. Michael, Gabriel and Raphael, Archangels	9.15 am Jeannie Young RIP (EK)	
Wednesday 30th September Memorial of St. Jerome, Priest, Doctor of the Church	9.15 am Oliver Andrade RIP (KA)	
Thursday 1st October Memorial of St. Therese of the Child Jesus, Virgin, Doctor of the Church	9.15 am Mary Fieldsend - Birthday (EK)	
Friday 2nd October Memorial of the Guardian Angels	9.15 am Sacred Heart Frs. & Bros. of Betharram (BB)	
Saturday 3rd October Feria in Ordinary Time	11.00 am Anna Wilson (EK)	10.15 am - 10.45 am: Confessions
Sunday 4th October Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A	8.30 am Gloria & Andrew Newman – Golden Wedding Anniversary (GN) 10.30 am Jean Atkins (LH) 6.00 pm Shirley Allard RIP (SR)	Retiring Collection for Peter's Pence - Please note change

"No system can completely suppress our openness to what is good, true and beautiful, or our God-given ability to respond to his grace at work deep in our hearts. I appeal to everyone throughout the world not to forget this dignity which is ours. No one has the right to take it from us."

Pope Francis, Laudato Si' (paragraph 205)

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

8.30 am, 10.30 am & 6.00 pm:

Remember your mercy, Lord.

SACRED HEART COMMUNITY

Fr. George Mathew SCJ
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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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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, Colum MacCourt, Sheila Manion, 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.

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 **Lorraine Gould** and **Jeannie Young** who died recently. May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace. Please keep their family and friends in your kind thoughts and prayers.

COVID-19: KEEPING CONTACT DETAILS OF THOSE ATTENDING MASS

Government guidance for the safe use of places of worship states that churches should assist NHS Track and Trace by keeping a record of those who come to church. With effect from Sunday 27th September we will be keeping details of those who attend Mass. Only one name and telephone number will be needed per group. If you decline to provide this information, you can still attend Mass. If NHS Track and Trace contacts the parish, details of those who attended the relevant Mass will be provided. Information will be destroyed after 21 days. In addition, QR codes for use with the NHS Covid-19 app are also on display outside and inside the church. Please note that these are different for the Church and Hall so please ensure that you scan the code with Sacred Heart Church written underneath.

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.
- 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. Please sanitise your hands on the way out.

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.

DIOCESAN SECOND COLLECTIONS

Due to the lockdown, many Diocesan Second Collections were missed. These will be rescheduled for the remainder of 2020. There are several changes to the original dates for Diocesan Second Collections and some will now not take place at all. Some parishioners have already donated to these causes earlier in the year on their original dates, thank you for your generosity. **In changes to what has been previously advertised, the Second Collections for the remainder of 2020 are as follows:**

- Today: Fr. Hudson's Care
- Sunday 4th October: Peter's Pence
- Sunday 11th October: Droitwich SVP
- Sunday 18th October: World Mission Sunday
- Sunday 1st November : Clergy Training Fund
- Sunday 6th December: Poor Parishes Fund

There will also be a Second Collection for Christmas Flowers - date to be confirmed. Any money already donated to causes not listed above will still be passed to the relevant collection.

SVP APPEAL

The St Vincent de Paul Society has been active in the Sacred Heart Parish for many years. This is an international lay Christian organisation of men, women and young people working to help relieve suffering, whether this be loneliness, illness, homelessness or any other form of poverty. On Sunday 11th October there will be an appeal and second collection for the Droitwich SVP. For further information about the SVP please contact them on 0777 292 7535 or at droitwichsvp@googlemail.com.

REFUGEE KNITTING

Thank you so very much for the exquisite, blankets, cardigans, jumpers hats and scarves recently donated. How delighted the refugees will be to receive such precious gifts! Wool, patterns, needles, buttons and wool are available in a cupboard in the porch to help defray costs. For anyone new to the parish, knit anything you feel would benefit adults and children in the camps.

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. For more information and to book go to <https://bit.ly/JPasssembly2020> or email bham.jandp@gmail.com.

FR. HUDSON'S ANNUAL PARISH COLLECTION 2020

Today the second collection will be for Father Hudson's Care to support their mission of supporting vulnerable people across the Archdiocese of Birmingham. Please give generously to this worthy cause.

TRAIDCRAFT

If you would like to see a Traidcraft Catalogue, please contact Kevin or Elizabeth Larkin.

FOODBANK - HARVEST WISH LIST

A new wish list for Harvest 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.

SMARTPHONES

Bromsgrove and Redditch Welcomes Refugees are appealing for donations of old smartphones. The refugees will use these to keep in touch with their families and Migrant Help cheaply and easily via Wifi. Any donations can be placed in the box at the back of church. For further information please contact info@brwr.uk.

Main Collection:

£204.50

Gift Aid: £65.00

Mass Attendance

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

8.30 am: 62

10.30 am: 61

6.00 pm: 66

**Thank you for
supporting your
Parish.**

**Gift Aid (Various
Retiring Collections):
£100.00**

**Thank you for your
generosity.**

**GIFT AID
DONATIONS
2019-2020**

Due to the working from home directive, the Archdiocese has been unable to send the letters to donors for the 2019/2020 Tax Year. If you need to know the total amount you donated, please contact the Parish Office.



**Next Sunday's Mass
Readings**

Isaiah 5: 1-7;

Psalms 79;

Philippians 4: 6-9

Matthew 21: 33-43

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 say yes to my God?

This is the 26th Sunday of the Ordinary Time. The Liturgy of the word places before us some important lessons for our consideration and follow up action. The Prophet Ezekiel speaks of his mission to tell the house of Israel that they are at fault that they need to change their ways instead of saying that the Lord's ways are unjust. Yahweh made a covenant to the people of Israel: "I shall be your God and you shall be my people". To enjoy the status, the people had to remain faithful, keeping the commandments and statutes that Yahweh taught them. Though God remained faithful and unchanging, when their wrong doings brought disaster on them, they developed a belief that God is not fair, God is cruel and that He is not a just God. When people experienced the consequences of their own wrong-doings they began to believe that God punished them. Not only they were punished, but God punished generations after them. It was as if they believed that punishment was inherited. Such a belief was prevalent even during the time of Jesus: People believed that sickness, any tragedy or any evil they encountered was due to sin or due to God's anger.

My dear Brothers and Sisters, God does not punish anyone but respects the free will he has bestowed on his children; on you and me, to make responsible choices and decisions and also to accept the consequences of our own decisions. He doesn't wish any misfortune would happen to us because He is full of love and mercy. If it is the case, why we suffer from misfortunes? We are all under the watchful care and protection of God; when we go against God because of our sins, we break the relationship with God and thus break away from His watchful care and protection. That means we become vulnerable to the world and its dangers just like a chick being separated from the mother hen become vulnerable to its predator. At the same time, God is an unconditional lover; so, at any time if we realise our fault, repent and turn to him, we shall live and save our life.

The first lesson: God is telling us that although our sins deserve punishment, His plan for us is that we all be saved. That is Good News for us unworthy Children of God. The second lesson for today is indicated in the Parable of the two sons in the Gospel Mt 21:28-32. The Parable indicates that God saves everyone who says "Yes" to him both with their lips and with their deeds. Promise is not enough; performance is equally necessary. We all are invited to the kingdom of God and we need to respond positively to this invitation, we need to EARN it. Our profession of faith without corresponding action will wither away. Therefore, what shall we take home this Sunday. First: We shall never blame God for our failures to live as children of God. Second: We shall practice what we profess. Our promises and corresponding performances are equally important in life. Thirdly: We shall take Jesus as our model and example, whom we imitate in our life. May God bless us.

Fr. George Mathew SCJ