



Societas Presbyterorum
Sacratissimi Cordis Jesu
BETHARRAM

SACRED HEART & ST CATHERINE OF ALEXANDRIA

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Today's Mass Readings

Isaiah 5: 1-7;

Psalm 79;

Philippians 4: 6-9

Matthew 21: 33-43

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

This Week 4th October - 11th October (Psalter Week 3)	Mass Intentions	Other Events
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
Monday 5th October Feria in Ordinary Time	9.15 am James Sexton RIP (BB)	
Tuesday 6th October Feria in Ordinary Time	9.15 am James Regan RIP (BB)	
Wednesday 7th October Memorial of Our Lady of the Rosary	9.15 am Private Intention (P & CI)	
Thursday 8th October Feria in Ordinary Time	9.15 am Don & Rose Brooks RIP (PW)	
Friday 9th October Feast of St. John Henry Newman, Priest	9.15 am Arthur Blizzard RIP (RB)	
Saturday 10th October Feria in Ordinary Time	11.00 am Paddy McLoughlin RIP (BB)	10.15 am - 10.45 am: Confessions
Sunday 11th October Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A	8.30 am People of the Parish 10.30 am Sarah & Jonathan Newland (LH) 6.00 pm Mary Ryan (DR)	Retiring Collection for the Droitwich SVP

“Laudato sí, mi Signore” – “Praise be to you, my Lord”. In the words of this beautiful canticle, Saint Francis of Assisi reminds us that our common home is like a sister with whom we share our life and a beautiful mother who opens her arms to embrace us. “Praise be to you, my Lord, through our Sister, Mother Earth, who sustains and governs us, and who produces various fruit with coloured flowers and herbs”.

Pope Francis, Laudato Si' (paragraph 1)

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

8.30 am, 10.30 am & 6.00 pm:

The vineyard of the Lord is the House of Israel.

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

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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 **Mary Elizabeth (Mai) Franklin, Catherine Mary Healey and Pamela Jennings** 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.

Funeral Details:

Mary Elizabeth Franklin: Thursday 8th October at 12.15 pm at Worcester Crematorium

Catherine Mary Healey: Thursday 15th October at 2.00 pm at the Sacred Heart Church, followed by a Cremation at Worcester Crematorium at 3.15 pm

Pamela Jennings: Friday 15th October at 2.15 pm at the Sacred Heart Church, followed by a Cremation at Worcester Crematorium at 3.15 pm

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. From Sunday 4th October there will be a tick list for Sunday Masses to speed up the process of taking contact details. If you provide your name to a steward then you are giving your consent to details already held for NHS Track and Trace within the 21 day time period being kept for a further 21 days from the date of this Mass. If your name is not on the list it could be because either 21 days has expired since you last gave details or you have not provided your details before.

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. Raffle tickets are now available from the back of church. Your support would be greatly appreciated. If you would like to donate a raffle prize please speak to Terry.

STELLA MARIS (APOSTLESHIP OF THE SEA) CENTENARY MASS

To mark the beginning of their centenary year, there will be a live-streamed Mass celebrated by Archbishop Philip Tartaglia of Glasgow. You can join them online to share in this very special celebration on **Sunday 4th October at 3.00 pm**. The Mass will be streamed live at www.stellamaris.org.uk/centenarymass.

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: 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. If you prefer there is also a JustGiving page for online donations at www.justgiving.com/fundraising/SVPDroitwich. 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**. The Assembly will culminate this evening with Evening Prayer with the participation of Archbishop Bernard at 7.00pm. For more information and to book go to <https://bit.ly/JPassembly2020> or email bham.jandp@gmail.com.

TRADCRAFT

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:
£194.56

Gift Aid: £159.50

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

8.30 am: 56

10.30 am: 72

6.00 pm: 55

**Thank you for
supporting your
Parish.**

**The Retiring
Collection for Fr.
Hudson's Care raised:
£95.60**

**Gift Aid (Various
Retiring Collections):
£23.00**

**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 25: 6-10;

Psalm 22;

*Philippians 4: 12-14,
19-20*

Matthew 22: 1-14

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.

We are mere tenants not owners.

When you paint a very interesting piece of art, naturally, you'd like to people to look and admire the art work. When you cook something special for an occasion, you'd want people to taste the food, and you're attentive to their facial expressions. Or when you plant a flower sapling at home, won't you patiently wait to see them grow bigger and bloom with flowers! For God too, it was quite the same when he chose to create human beings, His masterpiece: male and female in his own image.

Today's readings all direct us to this: bearing right type of fruits in our lives. The first reading from Isaiah looks very melancholic. It's a Sorrow song of the Vinedresser. The Gospel also presents us with a parallel parable of the wicked tenants. Here too, the scene repeats, the landowner locates, purchases, fences, clears up, plants and builds a tower at his vineyard. But here he hands over it the care of the tenants. He provides the environment to grow and bare best fruits. In both stories, the owners DO NOT get to enjoy the fruit of their hard labour. But rather finds irresponsible and evil tenants who through their wicked ways tries to occupy the passion of the vineyard.

In the Biblical language vineyards always represents the chosen people of Israel. Today it is each one of us. We are that Choicest Vineyard of the Lord. The ones whom he blessed: "Be Fruitful and Multiply" When we think about ourselves, we realize, how much the Lord has been gracious and caring towards us. He has secured for us the best environment to grow. But have we borne only wild and sour fruits of anger, frustration, failure or jealousy and all the vices of the world? We hear every day in our society violation of human freedom and its dignity. Killing of innocent lives in the name of cast, creed, colour, nationality religious fundamentalism, utopian ideology, and pseudo nationalism etc. What are these but wild grapes in the best environment.

My dear brothers and sisters, this parable is a call and invitation to produce good fruits that should be shared with one another. Try if you can recall, when was the last time that I shared my good fruits with others? In my family, in my community and in my society. Have I lived well my Christian life and tried to share the good works with others? Have I been able to inspire others in my neighbourhood, in my community and in my workplace through my life examples? Aspire to be truthful and work hard to produce good fruits for the Lord. We shall never forget the Lord's Image: I am the Vine you are the branches. Apart from me you can do nothing. God bless us, that we may never be separated from Him.

Fr. George Mathew SCJ