



Societas Presbyterorum
Sacratissimi Cordis Jesu
BETHARRAM

SACRED HEART & ST CATHERINE OF ALEXANDRIA

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Today's Mass Readings

Isaiah 45: 1, 4-6;

Psalm 95;

1 Thessalonians 1: 1-5,

Matthew 22: 15-21

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

This Week 18th October - 25th October (Psalter Week 1)	Mass Intentions	Other Events
Sunday 18th October Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A	8.30 am Intentions of Margaret Harding (MM) 10.30 am People of the Parish 6.00 pm Holy Mass	Retiring Collection for World Mission Day (APF)
Monday 19th October Feria in Ordinary Time	9.15 am Alan Remedios RIP (KA)	
Tuesday 20th October Feria in Ordinary Time	9.15 am Mike Ryan RIP (MR)	
Wednesday 21st October Feria in Ordinary Time	9.15 am Private Intention (M)	
Thursday 22nd October Feria in Ordinary Time	9.15 am Gladys Remedios RIP (KA)	
Friday 23rd October Feria in Ordinary Time	9.15 am Holy Mass	
Saturday 24th October Feria in Ordinary Time	11.00 am Fr. Xavier Pondokkan SCJ RIP (Fr.G)	10.15 am - 10.45 am: Confessions
Sunday 25th October Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A	8.30 am Vincenza Eaton RIP (MF) 10.30 am Baptism of Annabelle Rosalind 6.00 pm People of the Parish	

“Superficially, apart from a few obvious signs of pollution and deterioration, things do not look that serious, and the planet could continue as it is for some time. Such evasiveness serves as a licence to carrying on with our present lifestyles and models of production and consumption. This is the way human beings contrive to feed their self-destructive vices: trying not to see them, trying not to acknowledge them, delaying the important decisions and pretending that nothing will happen.”

Pope Francis, Laudato Si' (paragraph 59)

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

8.30 am, 10.30 am & 6.00 pm:

Give the Lord glory and power.

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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HEAD TEACHER

Mrs. Cath Bryan

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The Sacred Heart
Presbytery

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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.

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.

PARISH SECRETARY

As the government advice has changed to again working from home if possible, the Parish Secretary is now working from home on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays and from the Parish Office on Fridays. Hours are as follows:

Monday 10.45 am until 12 noon

Tuesday 10.00 am until 1.00 pm

Wednesday 9.00 am until 12 Noon

Friday 8.45 am until 12.45 pm (Parish Office)

To contact the Parish Secretary via phone from Monday to Wednesday, please use 07927 145040. Outside of these times, this mobile phone will be switched off, please leave messages via email or the Presbytery² phone number 01905 773258 as messages left on this mobile phone will not be listened to.

CHRISTMAS RAFFLE

Raffle tickets are now available at the Parish Hall after each Mass. Since we cannot have our usual Christmas Fayre this year, the selling of Raffle Tickets are the only way we could find some funds to top up the extra expense incurred on the parish because of Pandemic. Your generous support would be greatly appreciated. There are two 1st prizes worth £100.00 and three 2nd prizes worth £50.00, plus many others. Thank you to all who have donated raffle prizes. If you are still shielding at home and would like to buy raffle tickets please let us know, we will arrange to send the tickets to you at home.

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: 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.

THANKSGIVING MASS FOR MARRIAGE 2020

The Thanksgiving Mass will be live-streamed from St Chad's Cathedral at 12 noon on Sunday 1st November at <https://www.stchadscathedral.org.uk/>. The Celebrant is Bishop David Evans. During the Mass couples will be invited to make the Renewal of Commitment at home. If you are celebrating a milestone anniversary this year, whether it is your 1st Anniversary or every 5th year up to 60th (and every year after 60), and would like to be listed in the Mass booklet please email Lianne Pap before October 18th at lianne.pap@rc-birmingham.org. Please mark the email 'Marriage Mass' and include the following information: Full name of the couple, Anniversary being celebrated in 2020. You are also encouraged to email photos of your wedding day and a current one and the parish you were married in as well as the name of current parish.

RACHEL'S VINEYARD – HEALING THE TRAUMA OF ABORTION ONE WEEKEND AT A TIME

Rachel's Vineyard has now got charity status. The team is very excited about this because we can now help more post-abortive women and man who seek support after the trauma of abortion. The retreats are a safe place where those affected by abortion can grieve and seek the healing they need in a confidential and supportive setting. Our next retreat this year is Friday 27th to Sunday 29th November. We plan to have 4 retreats next year. For more information either call Rachel 07734 059 080, look at the website www.rachelsvineyard.org.uk or email Rachel Mackenzie: rachelmackenzie1@hotmail.co.uk. Please pray for this ministry and support us in any way you can.

TRAIIDCRAFT

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

STEWARDS

We currently have a small team of dedicated stewards. If you are able to help by joining the team to steward at Masses, please speak to Fr. George or contact the Parish Office. To volunteer you must be fit and well. Thank you to all those who currently steward for your continued help and support. A new rota has been distributed via email.

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.

**Main Collection:
£169.13**

Gift Aid: £139.00

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

8.30 am: 58

10.30 am: 60

6.00 pm: 55

**Thank you for
supporting your
Parish.**

**The Retiring
Collection for the SVP
raised: £474.75**

**Gift Aid (Peter's
Pence): £1.00**

**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**

Exodus 20: 20-26;

Psalm 17;

*1 Thessalonians 1: 5-10,
Matthew 22: 34-40*

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.

God and Caesar

God is truly almighty and can bring about good in every situation - even when we or those who govern resist His Word. Always we are called by the Scriptures to acknowledge that God is truly all powerful and in charge of all that happens.

The first reading tells of the presence of the God of Israel in the life of Cyrus a pagan King. God uses Cyrus as an instrument to put an end to Babylonian Captivity to bring back the Israelites to their own land and rebuild the temple. In the second reading Saint Paul wants to bring the Gospel to others. You and I should be that kind of person: able to speak about our faith and believing so deeply in the Lord Jesus that His presence radiates out of us. Of course we might not be that way all of the time, but it is a goal because in that way the Gospel is brought to people and people are brought to Jesus Christ and His Church.

Today's Gospel from Saint Matthew brings us back to the challenge of living in a world that is not Christian and learning how to live with politicians and civil governors. The Gospel gives us the account of the Herodians trying to trap Jesus by having Him be against the government. Instead, Jesus goes right around their arguments and simply tells them that civil government must be obeyed insofar it is not a Church matter. Today in many countries, civil governments are beginning to make laws that will make Christians have to live against the law. In the areas of sexuality, sexual identity, marriage, abortion and euthanasia, the civil governments are moving in directions completely against the teachings of our Lord. And there is very little civil discourse about these matters. Societies are being polarized and Christians who want to be faithful are being seen as old fashioned, out of date and against others. In the eyes of the materialistic world Christianity is a religion of the poor, the weak, the fearful, etc. in fact it is. Each Christian has a responsibility to abide by the civil law, in so far it does not lead us to break the divine law which is far superior to human laws. We can give to Caesar what is Caesar's, but we cannot give to Caesar that which belongs to God.

So we are called today to prepare ourselves for conflict and for being judged badly and for being seen as old-fashioned. In fact, we might even have to suffer for our beliefs. Let us trust that God will always give us the strength to be faithful to Him and to His Church.

Fr, George Mathew SCJ

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