



Societas Presbyterorum  
Sacratissimi Cordis Jesu  
BETHARRAM

## SACRED HEART & ST CATHERINE OF ALEXANDRIA

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### Today's Mass Readings

Isaiah 42: 1-4, 6-7;

Psalm 28;

Acts 10: 34-38;

Mark 1: 7-11

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

<b>This Week</b> <b>10th January - 17th January</b> <b>(Psalter Week 1)</b>	<b>Mass Intentions</b>	<b>Other Events</b>
<b>Sunday 10th January</b> <b>Feast of the Baptism of the Lord</b> <b>Year B</b>	8.30 am John Sheen RIP (LH) 10.30 am Peter Norman RIP & Family (P & CI) 6.00 pm John and Mary Ryan (DR)	
<b>Monday 11th January</b> Feria in Ordinary Time	9.15 am Harry Remedios RIP (KA)	
<b>Tuesday 12th January</b> Feria in Ordinary Time	9.15 am Brenda O'Keeffe (JC)	
<b>Wednesday 13th January</b> Feria in Ordinary Time	9.15 am Mike & Sue Beckley (P&CI)	
<b>Thursday 14th January</b> Feria in Ordinary Time	9.15 am Jenny RIP (VF)	
<b>Friday 15th January</b> Feria in Ordinary Time	9.15 am Derek Yoward RIP (JY)	
<b>Saturday 16th January</b> Feria in Ordinary Time	11.00 am Adriel Antony (FG)	<b>10.15 am - 10.45 am:</b> <b>Confessions</b>
<b>Sunday 17th January</b> <b>Second Sunday in Ordinary Time</b> <b>Year B</b>	8.30 am People of the Parish 10.30 am Holy Mass 6.00 pm Holy Mass	

*"A truly human and fraternal society will be capable of ensuring in an efficient and stable way that each of its members is accompanied at every stage of life. Not only by providing for their basic needs, but by enabling them to give the best of themselves, even though their performance may be less than optimum, their pace slow or their efficiency limited."*

Pope Francis, Fratelli Tutti (paragraph 110)

## **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 will bless his people with peace.

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### **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.**

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### **COVID-19**

Further to the new restrictions effective from Tuesday 5th January, Mass will continue to be open to the public. All previous rules and guidance for attending Mass safely will still be in place. Following the new Government guidelines, please do not mingle with anyone outside of your household or support bubble before and after Mass.

### **SVP DROITWICH**

The Sacred Heart Parish and SVP take this opportunity to thank Paul, who is stepping down after serving the SVP faithfully for a long time as President, we wish him all the best for the future. The Sacred Heart SVP can be contacted at droitwicksvp@googlemail.com or on 0777 292 7535. The SVP JustGiving page can be found at <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/SVPDroitwich> if you would like to make a donation. Further information about the SVP is available via the Parish Office or the contact information above.

### **CHURCH CLEANING**

Due to the ongoing pandemic and the high standards of cleanliness required in the church to prevent the spread of Covid-19, we are looking for volunteers to assist with cleaning after Mass. If anyone is able to help, please contact the Parish Office or speak to Fr. George for further information

### **SVP DROITWICH - GIVING TREE APPEAL 2020**

Thank you all for your generous donations to the Giving Tree appeal. The amount raised was £819.75. We have also received the following message from Fr. Hudson's Care: "Thank you so much...for this kind collection, really made my day to see how much you raised particularly during such challenging times".

*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.*

### **REFUGEE COLLECTIONS**

The organisers are experiencing difficulties sending the donations abroad at the moment, so further church collections may have to stop until the spring. All your recent donations are in their warehouse ready to be dispatched as soon as possible. They too are experiencing storage problems, so if any parishioners know of any organisation local or national that would benefit from our donations in the meantime please inform Fr. George. Do continue knitting, when things return to normal we can resume the collections. As ever, thank you so much for your magnificent support.

### **CATHOLIC UNIVERSE**

The Catholic Universe have forwarded a complimentary link to their newspaper dated Friday 1st January. This can be found at the following link: <https://www.thecatholicuniverse.com/DE/UNI210101gb.pdf>. This newspaper will not be distributed with the emailed version of this newsletter due to the size of the publication.

### **PARISH SECRETARY**

Once again the government have directed everyone who is able to work from home to do so. The Parish Secretary will return to working from home full time, and will be available via phone during the following hours:

Monday 10.45 am until 12 noon

Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays: 10.00 am until 12 Noon

To contact the Parish Secretary via phone, please use 07927 145040. Outside of these times, this mobile phone will be switched off, please leave messages via email.

### **REDDITCH CARMELITE SPIRITUALITY GROUP**

You are invited to join their meeting by Zoom on Saturday 17th January at 11.00 am. The speaker is Canon John Udris, whose book on Saint Therese of Lisieux we shall be studying this year. His talk is entitled *Doctor of Daring Prayer*. We shall also be praying with Holy Scripture together. If you would like to join our meeting please contact Susan Porter by email on [ingevea@btinternet.com](mailto:ingevea@btinternet.com)

### **WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER**

There is an online Marriage Enrichment Experience with Bishop David Evans from Saturday 30th January until Sunday 31st January 2021. This is an opportunity for couples to enrich their relationship, regardless of the length of time they have been together. Couples can explore their relationship and gain a deeper understanding of the Sacrament of Marriage. Other dates for 2021 are Saturday 20th March until Sunday 21st March and Saturday 15th May until Sunday 16th May To find out more visit <https://wwme.org.uk/> or call 0845 2602016.

### **THANK YOU**

Fr. George and the Sacred Heart Community wish to thank each and every one for your Christmas and New Year's greetings cards, presents and help and support rendered to us over Christmas time. May you all have a prosperous New Year 2021.

### **SACRED HEART PARISH HALL**

Further to the lockdown announced on Monday 4th January, the Parish Hall (including the toilets) is now closed to all. Essential maintenance will continue to take place.

### **2021 PARISH DIARIES**

We have now given the go ahead for printing and hope that these will be available for parishioners on Sunday 10th January. Please be aware that numbers will be limited. We apologise for the delay. This was due to staff furlough at the printing company.

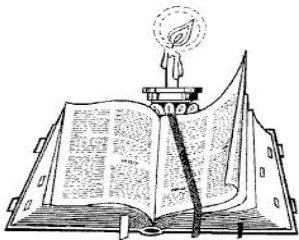
*Registered as a Charity, Birmingham Roman Catholic Diocesan Trustees: Registered Charity Number 234216.*

**Gift Aid: £154.81**

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

**To be announced in  
due course.**

**Thank you for  
supporting your  
Parish.**



**Next Sunday's Mass  
Readings**

*1 Samuel 3: 3-10, 19;*

*Psalms 39;*

*1 Corinthians 6:  
13-15, 17-20;*

*John 1: 35-42*

***You are my beloved***

We always remember the important events of our life such as birthdays, wedding anniversaries, death anniversaries etc. How many of us remember the day of our baptism? Of course most of us were infants when we were baptised. Yet it is worth remembering the day of our baptism. For a Christian, a new life begins at one's baptism and on our baptism day, the minister of the Church had invited us with these words, "The Christian Community welcomes you with great joy. In his name I claim you for Christ our Saviour by the sign of the cross. I now trace the cross on your forehead..."

Today we celebrate the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord Jesus. He is baptised not because He is a sinner, but because He wants to be in solidarity with us, especially with us in our journey towards the kingdom of God. Baptism of the Lord means that He is with us and He is one of us – "Emmanuel; God is with us". Through His baptism Jesus reveals himself to us of who He is and what His mission is going to be. On the one hand, we witness the manifestation of Jesus at his baptism, "You're my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased." On the other, we see the beginning of Jesus public ministry soon after his baptism. This reminds us of a Christian's mission which comes from the Sacrament of the Baptism, to live and to give Christ Jesus to the world.

As we celebrate this feast of baptism of the Lord, we are reminded of the necessity of our own baptism in relation to our salvation, and of the mission entrusted to us when we are baptised in the Lord. Just as there is a close link between Jesus' baptism and his cross, there is a close link between our own baptism and the cross of Jesus. St. Paul in his letter to the Romans 6:3-4 asks us, "Do you not know that all of us who have been baptised into Christ Jesus were baptised into His death? We were buried therefore with Him by baptism into death, in order that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life." St Paul is telling us that when we were baptised, we spiritually entered the tomb with Jesus to leave our life of sin behind. Our baptism, just like the other six sacraments, receives its power from Jesus' death and resurrection. Through baptism we become part Christ and His body, the church. As different parts of the body have a specific function to complete. Each baptised Christian has a unique mission to accomplish in the church.

The baptism of Jesus in the Jordan expressed the programme of His whole life right up to dying on the cross, taking our sins on Himself to save us. Our baptism also expresses the programme of our whole life up to our death, leaving our sin behind and living with the life of Jesus. Every day is to be a living out of our baptism with that new life of Jesus. Every day is another opportunity for us to turn away from sin and to continue following Jesus which we began with our baptism. When we were baptised, we entered the tomb with Jesus to leave our life of sin behind. Jesus was baptised so that all righteousness might be fulfilled and in the same way, when we live our baptism by turning away from sin to live the life of Jesus all righteousness will be fulfilled also in our life and then we will hear the words of the Father saying to each one of us, "You are my beloved son/daughter in whom I am well pleased".

May God bless us all to live our baptism every day.

Fr. George Mathew SCJ