



Societas Presbyterorum  
Sacratissimi Cordis Jesu  
BETHARRAM

## SACRED HEART & ST CATHERINE OF ALEXANDRIA

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### Today's Mass Readings

*Exodus 20: 1-17;*

*Psalm 18;*

*1 Corinthians 1: 22-25;*

*John 2: 13-25*

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

This Week 7th March - 14th March (Psalter Week 3)	Mass Intentions	Other Events
<b>Sunday 7th March</b> <b>Third Sunday of Lent</b> <b>Year B</b> Retiring Collection for Cathedral Maintenance	8.30 am Colum MacCourt RIP (LH) 10.30 am Private Intention of Thanksgiving (J & MF) 6.00 pm Cillian Ryan (DR)	Day of Prayer for the Candidates for the Sacraments.
<b>Monday 8th March</b> Lent Feria	9.15 am Johanna Jay RIP (AK) 1.00 pm Requiem Mass	
<b>Tuesday 9th March</b> Lent Feria	9.15 am Adrian & Elsie RIP (BB)	
<b>Wednesday 10th March</b> Lent Feria	9.15 am Pat Joe Collins RIP (P & KG)	
<b>Thursday 11th March</b> Lent Feria	9.15 am Canon Giles Goward RIP (MB)	
<b>Friday 12th March</b> Lent Feria	9.15 am Marina Dibello RIP (MF)	
<b>Saturday 13th March</b> Lent Feria	11.00 am Jean Thompson RIP (MB)	<b>10.15 am - 10.45 am: Confessions</b>
<b>Sunday 14th March</b> <b>Fourth Sunday of Lent</b> <b>Year B</b> Retiring Collection for St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School	8.30 am Colum MacCourt RIP 10.30 am Baby Rowan Finch (M.M) 6.00 pm Johanna Jay RIP (P & PG)	

*"The development of a global community of fraternity based on the practice of social friendship on the part of peoples and nations calls for a better kind of politics, one truly at the service of the common good. Sadly, politics today often takes forms that hinder progress towards a different world."*

Pope Francis, Fratelli Tutti (paragraph 154)

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

8.30 am, 10.30 am & 6.00 pm:

You Lord, have the message of eternal life.

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### 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,

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Ombersley Way,  
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Email: office@st-josephs-  
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### HEAD TEACHER

Mrs. Cath Bryan

### PARISH SECRETARY

Kate Dalglish

The Sacred Heart  
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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, 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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### RECENTLY DECEASED

Your prayers are asked for **Peter Doran, Veronica Joan Powell, Johanna Jay and Colum MacCourt** who died recently. May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace. The Requiem Mass for Colum MacCourt will be on Monday 8th March at 1.00 pm at the Sacred Heart Church, followed by a cremation at Worcester Crematorium at 2.30 pm. **Due to Covid restrictions, attendance in church and at Worcester Crematorium will be by invitation only.** The whole service will be livestreamed and the information about the livestream will be given in due course. The Funeral Service for Veronica Powell will be on Wednesday 10th March at 10.45 am at Worcester Crematorium. Please keep their family and friends in your kind thoughts and prayers.

### COVID-19—UPDATE

Mass continues to be open to the public. In light of cases of the South African variant of Covid-19 being identified locally, we would like to remind all parishioners to ensure that you fully observe the rules that are in place at the Sacred Heart Church. It is especially important that you keep your distance from those not in your household or bubble and leave promptly after Mass. We appreciate your co-operation in helping us keep those who attend Mass safe from Covid-19.

### STATIONS OF THE CROSS: LENT 2021

Due to the pandemic we are advised not to have the traditional Stations of the Cross in the church. In place of this each week we will make available a copy of the Stations of the Cross with different themes so that you can reflect and meditate about it by yourself at home. These will be sent by email and made available at the back of the church to take home.

### EASTER SERVICES

Due to the restrictions on numbers in church, booking will be required for the following Masses over the Easter period: Maundy Thursday (7.30 pm), Good Friday (3.00pm), Easter Vigil (Saturday, 8.00pm) and Easter<sup>2</sup>Sunday (8.30 am and 10.30 am). Booking will open from Sunday 7th March and close on Palm Sunday.

## **FUNERAL: JOHANNA JAY RIP**

The funeral Mass for Johanna will be on Tuesday 9th March at midday at St. George's Church in Worcester. Due to Covid restrictions, attendance in church and at Worcester Crematorium will be by invitation only. The Mass will be streamed so that all who wish to can participate remotely. To access the live stream please visit <https://www.churchservices.tv/worcester> and select the Mass from the listing for Tuesday 9th March. A short committal service at the Crematorium will follow the mass and will also be streamed. For those wishing to make a charitable donation in memory of Johanna you can please do so by using the link: <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/svp-droitwich-johanna-jay-rip>. Alternatively donations in an envelope, clearly marked, can be passed to the presbytery to be forwarded to the family.

## **ONLINE LENT RETREAT 2021**

There is an online Lent Retreat (from the Jesuits in Scotland) running until Sunday 11th April. If you are interested, or would like to join in, or for more details, please contact Max and Cecilia Jourdir as soon as you can on 01886 812259 or [mandcjourdir@gmail.com](mailto:mandcjourdir@gmail.com).

## **MASS INTENTIONS**

We make every effort to accommodate Mass Intentions on the dates requested however this is not always possible due to prior bookings. When submitting a Mass Intention request, please could you provide a phone number or email address so that we can contact you if needed. Due to GDPR regulations, with the exception of deceased individuals, we are unable to publish names unless the Request for Mass Intention Form at the back of church is completed. If we do not have a form the Intention will be listed in the newsletter and stated at Mass as Private Intention. Please note that the next available date for Mass Intentions is currently Sunday 25th April.

## **200 CLUB**

200 Club ticket holdings have contracted yet again and stand at some sixty less than the maximum achieved in 2010. If, as a fresh face in our parish family, you are reading this, the parish 200 club offers monthly prizes of £75, £50, £25; in return we ask for an annual subscription of £26. With 200 tickets in the draw, we look to provide the parish with £3000 a year; your contribution can bring you an occasional reward and you can be sure that it is valued by the parish. Interested in joining? Please contact Kevin and Elizabeth Larkin on 01905 776122 or at [kevin.elizabeth@btinternet.com](mailto:kevin.elizabeth@btinternet.com).

## **ST. PETER'S BROMSGROVE MINI VINNIES**

St Peter's Church, Bromsgrove is currently closed but they have an SVP Mini Vinnie's group aimed at children aged 7-11 years. This is a St Vincent de Paul Society group operating within the parish. The leaders have organised YouTube Lent talks for the children in lieu of Children's Liturgy. The YouTube presentations can be found using the following link: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCdCalDCMoP1awbk9Dsif5PQ>.

## **ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL**

Following the fire at the school, a retiring collection in aid of St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School will be held on Sunday 14th March. Please keep the whole school community in your prayers.

## **STEWARING ROTA**

A new rota has been distributed via email. If anyone would like to join the team, please contact the Parish Office.

## **COUNTING THE SUNDAY COLLECTION**

If you can count and if you can spare half an hour once a month, you would be a great help to us if you'd join the rota of counters.

The task is not onerous and becomes even less so when there are more of us and the half hour comes around only once in six or seven weeks.

For more information contact Kevin Larkin on 01905 776122 or at [kein.elizabeth@btinternet.com](mailto:kein.elizabeth@btinternet.com)

## **ADVENT JOURNEY**

The "Walk with Me" booklet for the Lenten journey is available at the back of the church. This booklet is to help focus on our relationship with God and with people during Lent. Please consider taking a copy home to help prepare for Easter. These are free but donations would be gratefully received and given to the Missions in India. Thank you.

**Main Collection  
(Sunday 21st  
February): £237.05**  
**Gift Aid (Sunday 28th  
February): £142.99**  
**Mass Attendance  
Last Sunday (church  
capacity with social  
distancing 1m + = 80)**

**8.30 am: 60**

**10.30 am: 38**

**6.00 pm: 36**

**Thank you for  
supporting your  
Parish.**

### **FOODBANK**

There is a new wish that has been distributed with this newsletter and is on the website. Donation points are listed on this poster. Thank you for your generosity.



### **Next Sunday's Mass Readings**

*2 Chronicle 36: 14-16,  
19-23;*

*Psalm 136;*

*Ephesians 2: 4-10;*

*John 3: 14-21*

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

## *We are the temples of the Holy Spirit*

We are so used to seeing images of Jesus that are meek, mild and in pain. Very rarely do we get to see portraits of him smiling or laughing or even angry. Anger is an emotion like any other emotion. It is part of being human. While Jesus expressed his anger quite spontaneously, many of us have trouble dealing with our anger in an appropriate manner. Some people deny and swallow their anger. As a result they might convert their anger into ulcers or some other ailments. Others express their anger as hurt or as a feeling of being victimized that can even lead to depression. Finally, there are some who ventilate their anger in very disproportionate and destructive ways either through verbal abuse or physical violence that is quite unacceptable in modern, civilized society.

In today's Gospel reading we see Jesus getting angry in the temple. One thing we notice here is that Jesus regularly joined others in the worship. Many like to draw a distinction between temple worship and the Mass we celebrate every Sunday. In reality they are very similar. The main difference is that while the Jews had regular sacrifices in their temple, we do not offer any sacrifice of animals, we only offer the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass in which we only commemorate the Sacrifice of Christ, which is the ultimate Sacrifice. Jesus is the Lamb of God, sacrificed once and for all as an expiation for the sins of humanity. We do not have the temple because, as the bible tells us, we the people of God are the temples, temples of the Holy Spirit. In the gospel we read that when Jesus came to the temple, He did not find worshippers in the temple, but He saw His Father's house turned into a marketplace where trade within the temple grounds and cheating the poor worshippers took place. He saw people making great profit, not raising great praise to God. He was sick of seeing all this. So, he made a whip and began casting them out of the temple. Here we must understand something. Jesus' anger was not a sinful anger like ours. We get angry when our ego gets hurt, but Jesus got angry when His Father was wronged.

Now, to go a little deeper into what Jesus was doing by driving out those who were doing business in the temple, He was destroying the idolatry that was taking place in the temple which were perverting the true worship of God. These practices had been going on for so long in the temple. When Jesus tried to remove the corrupt practices and wrong traditions, he became the bad guy for them. Please note that it was clearly taught by the prophets that when the Messiah comes, He would correct the misguided worship of Israel (Zech 14:21). Jesus says, "zeal for my Father's House will devour me". Therefore, He cannot tolerate anything that destroy the sanctity of the temple. We are the temples of the Holy Spirit that we too need to respect and safeguard it with respect and dignity. Today we can see human body becoming an easy target of abuse and mistreat that it is being treated by oneself and others as mere object. One of the deadly evils in today's world is the sin of the flesh which takes away every dignity of human body. Therefore, our Lord while expressing his anger was emphatic in alluding to the temple as his own body. We too need to be responsible for and respect our own bodies as temples and bring about closeness and love of God and our neighbour. God bless us.