



Societas Presbyterorum  
Sacratissimi Cordis Jesu  
BETHARRAM

## SACRED HEART & ST CATHERINE OF ALEXANDRIA

208 Worcester Road, Droitwich Spa,  
WR9 8AZ, Tel: 01905 773258  
Email: sacredheartdroitwich@hotmail.co.uk  
Web: www.sacredheartdroitwich.org.uk



### Today's Mass Readings

Acts 10: 34, 37-43;  
Psalm 117;  
1 Corinthians 5: 6-8;  
Mark 16: 1-7

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

This Week 4th April - 11th April	Mass Intentions	Other Events
<b>Sunday 4th April</b> <b>SOLEMNITY OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD</b> Year B	8.30 am Holy Mass 10.30 am Deceased members of the family on both sides (Whiteman family) <b>No Evening Mass</b>	
<b>Monday 5th April</b> Easter Monday, Solemnity	10.00 am Bernadette Violet Duffy RIP (PD)	
<b>Tuesday 6th April</b> Easter Tuesday, Solemnity	9.15 am Peter Albuquerque RIP (KA) 10.45 am Requiem Mass	
<b>Wednesday 7th April</b> Easter Wednesday, Solemnity	9.15 am Mrs Sylvia Padden RIP (AK) 10.30 am Requiem Mass	
<b>Thursday 8th April</b> Easter Thursday, Solemnity	9.15 am Private Intention (I & MM)	
<b>Friday 9th April</b> Easter Friday, Solemnity	9.15 am Peter Bullock & Jess Partington (BB)	
<b>Saturday 10th April</b> Easter Saturday, Solemnity	11.00 am Hannah Whelton & Tony Whelton RIP (JJ)	<b>10.15 am - 10.45 am: Confessions</b>
<b>Sunday 11th April</b> <b>SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER</b> Year B	8.30 am Colum McCourt RIP (BB) 10.30 am Mass Intentions: Colum McCourt RIP (C & PI) 6.00 pm Colum MacCourt RIP (I & MM)	

*“Providentially, many groups and organizations within civil society help to compensate for the shortcomings of the international community...Here we can see a concrete application of the principle of subsidiarity, which justifies the participation and activity of communities and organizations on lower levels as a means of integrating and complementing the activity of the state. These groups and organizations often carry out commendable efforts in the service of the common good and their members at times show true heroism, revealing something of the grandeur of which our humanity is still capable”*

Pope Francis, Fratelli Tutti (paragraph 175)

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

8.30 am & 10.30 am:

This day was made by the Lord; we rejoice and are glad.

### 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

Mob.: 07927 145040

Email:

sacredheartdroitwich  
@hotmail.co.uk.

### 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.**

---

### RECENTLY DECEASED

Your prayers are asked for **Kathleen (Kay) Mary Billingham, Margaret Walton** and **Peter Doran** 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 Margaret Walton will be at 10.45 am on Tuesday 6th April followed by a cremation at Worcester Crematorium. The Requiem Mass for Kathleen Mary Billingham will be at 10.30 am on Wednesday 7th April followed by a cremation at the Vale Crematorium. Please keep their family and friends in your kind thoughts and prayers.

### LIVE STREAMING

Live streaming from the Sacred Heart Church is currently being installed and should hopefully be available from Thursday 1st April onwards. The link will be made available via the parish website and via email. For those who are helping in the Sanctuary, your images will be visible via the live stream. There are consent forms available from either Fr. George or myself that will need to be completed prior to the first Mass you help at. Please could those helping please let Fr. George know as soon as possible if you are not happy to give your consent. Some pews may also be visible, again if you do not want your image to be part of the live stream then please speak to Fr. George.

### PARISH YOUTH GROUP

The Parish is aiming to start a youth group in the summer. The purpose of the group will be to create a community where young people can enjoy themselves, develop new skills and further their spiritual development. There are many ways that we can contribute towards the creation of this group. This could range from helping with admin., finance and fundraising to being present at meetings and overseeing some of the activities. All contributions will be most welcome. If you would like to be a volunteer Youth Worker, the Archdiocese has also offered to provide a six week (2 hours per week) intensive course into Youth Ministry. If you are interested in contributing please leave your name and email address on the <sup>2</sup>sign up sheet at the back of the Church.



**As you celebrate Easter, may you be filled with abundant Joy, Happiness and Peace in this season of new beginning. May you and your Family be safe and be protected by the Risen Christ who defeated suffering and death.**

### **SUNFLOWER COMPETITION**

Spring is nearly here! Let us celebrate, have some fun and grow a sunflower! A competition for everybody young and old, for all the family. No experience needed, just a patch of soil, water and love. All you have to do is register the growers name, contact number or email address and donate your £1 towards St. Joseph's building fund. You will be supplied with sunflower seeds and growing instructions. Updates on progress/growth can be given by using the email address supplied and I will update a chart located at the back of church. On Wednesday 1st September you will submit the height of your sunflower and diameter of the seed head. A prize, donated by the Droitwich Catenians, will be awarded to the tallest sunflower and the biggest seed head. The judges verdict will be final. Everyone will receive the same variety of sunflower so it's fair for all. Please Contact Paul Clancy at church or by phone on 01905 771716.

### **MASS INTENTIONS**

We make every effort to accommodate Mass Intentions on the dates requested unless there are prior bookings. Due to GDPR regulations, with the exception of deceased individuals, we are unable to publish names unless the Request for Mass Intention Form is completed. This form is available from the Parish Office via email and can now be found on the parish website at the following link: <http://www.sacredheartdroitwich.org.uk/services/request-for-mass-intention-form/>. 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 Wednesday 5th May.

### **COVID-19**

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.

### **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 [kevin.elizabeth@btinternet.com](mailto:kevin.elizabeth@btinternet.com).

### **COLUM MACCOURT RIP**

The family of Colum MacCourt would like to thank every parishioner for their prayers and support and the Masses offered for him and for the family.

### **FOODBANK**

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

### **CATHOLIC UNIVERSE & CATHOLIC TIMES**

To our Catholic Universe and Catholic Times readers in the parish, at the moment you are unable to collect your paper at Mass, but you can get it delivered direct to your home every week with free postage. Please call 0161 820 5722 and they will arrange this for you. The annual cost for the print copy only is £99.00 with free postage and the annual cost for the digital copy only is £55.00.



**Main Collection  
(Sunday 21st March):  
£242.99**

**Gift Aid (Sunday 28th  
March): £2,614.98**

**Thank you for  
supporting your  
Parish.**

**GIFT AID  
ENVELOPES**

Gift Aid envelopes for  
the 2021/2022 Tax  
Year are now  
available to collect  
from the back of  
church.



**Next Sunday's Mass**

**Readings**

*Acts 4: 32-35;*

*Psalm 117;*

*1 John 5: 1-6;*

*John 20: 19-31*

*He is not in the tomb!*

Easter marks the birthday of our eternal hope. "Easter" literally means "the feast of fresh flowers." We are in the season of spring. The vegetation that went dormant and drowsy in the cold and snowy winter, started surfacing as spring began cuddling the wet earth with new life. Which is one of the miracles of the nature. The Resurrection, the resurrection of Jesus is the greatest of the miracles as it proves that Jesus is God. That is why St. Paul writes: "If Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is in vain; and your Faith is in vain and delusion and you are still lost in your sins" (1 Cor. 15:14, 17, 20). If Jesus Christ did not rise from the dead, then the Church is a fraud and faith is a sham. But if Jesus really did rise from the dead, his message is true! Without the Resurrection, Jesus would have remained forever a good person who had met a tragic end. People would remember some of his teachings, and a handful of people might try to live according to them. All the basic doctrines of Christianity are founded on the truth of the Resurrection. "Jesus is Lord; He is risen!" (Rom. 10:9) was the central theme of the 'kerygma' of the apostles.

In the Gospel we see the empty tomb and St. John's Gospel mentions that it was still dark. John is not stating here a time of the day. He is saying that no matter what time of the day it is, no matter how brightly the sun might be shining, it will continue to be dark, because Jesus is not present. The absence of Jesus is what causes the darkness. Once Jesus appears, it will always be light. This darkness that Mary experiences is the darkness all of us experience when Jesus is absent from our lives. Ordinary problems of life seem overwhelming. Small difficulties seem intimidating, and life becomes a burden. However, with the appearance of Jesus darkness retreats and only light appears. Peter and the beloved disciple act on Mary's information and, like her, they run to the tomb to see for themselves what has been told them. If Mary saw only the stone rolled back, the beloved disciple sees that the linen cloths used to wrap the body of Jesus. Peter sees even more. Besides what the beloved disciple sees, Peter sees also the cloth that was used to wrap the head of Jesus. Thus, there is a progression, a development, an enlargement of the picture.

The leaving behind of the grave cloths is very significant since the empty tomb, by itself, does not signify that Jesus has been raised from the dead. Thus, the cloths are an indication of the fact leaving the grave cloths behind, it means that Jesus has left death behind. Death is symbolised by the grave cloths. When Lazarus, who was raised by Jesus from the dead, came out of the tomb, he brought out with him his grave cloths. This was because he would need them when he died again. Jesus, however, will never die again and so, will not need the grave cloths. He has risen to a new life. He has risen, never to die again. Death has died. However, as Peter makes explicit, the conquering of death by Jesus is only one part of the story. There is a second part, also narrated by Peter, the second part of the story is that, because of Jesus' resurrection, everyone who believes will also partake of the same privilege. For everyone who believes, death will never be the end. For everyone who believes, there is the hope of new life. This is because in Jesus, and through his death and resurrection, forgiveness of sins has been obtained by all. God forgives and welcomes all in Jesus, the Risen Christ.

God bless you all and have a Blessed easter.

Fr. George Mathew SCJ