



Societas Presbyterorum  
Sacratissimi Cordis Jesu  
BETHARRAM

## SACRED HEART & ST CATHERINE OF ALEXANDRIA

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### Today's Mass Readings

Acts 3: 13-15, 17-19;

Psalm 4;

1 John 2: 1-5;

Luke 24: 35-48

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

This Week 18th April - 25th April Psalter Week 3	Mass Intentions	Other Events
<b>Sunday 18th April</b> <b>THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER</b> Year B	8.30 am Peter Doran RIP (LH) 10.30 am Croucher family (P & CI) 6.00 pm Annamma Mathew RIP (SM)	
<b>Monday 19th April</b> Easter Feria	9.15 am Harry Remedios RIP (KA)	
<b>Tuesday 20th April</b> Easter Feria	9.15 am Alan Remedios RIP (KA)	
<b>Wednesday 21st April</b> Easter Feria	9.15 am Denis & Margaret Allen - Wedding Anniversary (BB)	6.00 pm: Adoration & Benediction (Live Streamed only)
<b>Thursday 22nd April</b> Easter Feria	9.15 am Lyn Snook RIP (P & CI)	
<b>Friday 23rd April</b> Solemnity of St. George, Martyr, Patron of England	9.15 am Siwan Smith RIP (CP)	6.30 pm: Novena to the Sacred Heart (Live Streamed only)
<b>Saturday 24th April</b> Easter Feria	11.00 am Anna Wilson (EK)	<b>10.15 am - 10.45 am:</b> <b>Confessions</b>
<b>Sunday 25th April</b> <b>FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER</b> Year B Retiring Collection for the Clergy Training Fund	8.30 am Johanna Jay RIP (I & MM) 10.30 am Lio Kuriacose (KK) 6.00 pm Intentions of Fr. David Doran	World Day of Prayer for Vocations

*"Recognizing that all people are our brothers and sisters, and seeking forms of social friendship that include everyone, is not merely utopian. It demands a decisive commitment to devising effective means to this end. Any effort along these lines becomes a noble exercise of charity."*

Pope Francis, Fratelli Tutti (paragraph 180)

## **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

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@hotmail.co.uk.

## **SAFEGUARDING REPRESENTATIVES**

Gerry Ceclich

Kate Dalglish

Clare Tomlinson

## **RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

8.30 am, 10.30 am & 6.00 pm:

**Lift up the light of your face on us, O Lord.**

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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, Sheila Manion, Zita McConnell, 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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## **LIVE STREAMING**

Live streaming from the Sacred Heart Church has been installed. Please  
make use of this to participate in Mass and other events if you are unable  
to attend church. The live stream can now be viewed via our own website  
on the homepage. For those who are helping in the Sanctuary, your images  
will be visible via the live stream. Consent forms have been distributed via  
email and are also available from either Fr. George or myself. These will  
need to be completed prior to the first Mass you help at. Please could  
those involved in helping at Masses please let Fr. George know as soon as  
possible if you are not happy to give your consent. The front pew may be  
visible, if you do not want your image to be part of the live stream then  
please sit further back in the church. The pandemic has resulted in a  
significant fall in parish income. The cost of installing the live  
streaming technology was around £5,000.00. If you would like to make a  
donation towards the cost of the live streaming camera, it would be greatly  
appreciated. Thank you to those who have already made a donation.

## **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 sign up  
sheet at the back of the Church.

## COVID-19

Mass continues to be open to the public. 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.

## ACCOUNTS 2020

The accounts for the Financial Year ending on 31st December 2020 have been emailed. If you would like a paper copy of these accounts, please could you contact the parish office and a copy will be printed for you.

## 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 Saturday 8th May.

## CAFOD



Thank you for your generous donations to CAFOD's Family Fast Day during Lent. We featured Marian and her son Svondo in Zimbabwe in Lent 2018. The community vegetable garden that your donations helped provide is growing well and during the pandemic the family has survived on the vegetables. Your support has also helped to provide soap and handwashing stations in the garden and in family homes. This is just one of many long-term development projects that CAFOD has funded with the money from that Fast Day. Thank you for your steadfast support.



## FOODBANK

There is a new wish list that is on the website. Fortnightly collections from the Sacred Heart Church will be resuming on Tuesday 20th April. Thank you for your generosity.

## ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

We would like to say a big thank you to the Jay family and all who donated to SVP Droitwich in memory of Johanna Jay RIP. Your donations will be spent supporting local families thus carrying on the good work of Johanna. For more information about our work or if you would like to become a member please contact us on [droitwichsvp@gmail.com](mailto:droitwichsvp@gmail.com) or 0777 292 7535.

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

**Gift Aid (Sunday 11th April): £372.00**

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

**8.30 am: 50**

**10.30 am: 41**

**6.00 pm: 46**

**Thank you for supporting your Parish.**

**The Retiring Collection for Holy Places raised: £38.00**

**Gift Aid: £58.00**

**Thank you for your generosity.**

### **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: 8-12;*

*Psalm 117;*

*1 John 3: 1-2;*

*John 10: 11-18*

*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.*

### ***Preach and practice***

The last verse of today's Gospel "You are witnesses of these things", sets not only the theme for the readings of today, but also summarizes both the privilege and responsibility of being witnesses. The question, however, is to what are the disciples to witness? To whom must they witness? They are called to witness clearly to the person of Christ - specifically to his death and resurrection

Jesus shows this to them in two ways. The first is in the manifestation of himself. Even as he stands in their midst, he greets them with the greeting of peace. This greeting coming from the risen Lord is more than merely a greeting. It is a gift, a surety, a tangible thing. It refers to wholeness and embraces every aspect of life. It is a gift that will sustain them in all their endeavours and encourage them in their mission. After the gift of peace, Jesus responds to their shock and amazement by convincing them that he is not a spirit, but flesh and blood. He is the same Jesus who died and was buried who is now raised. The second way in which Jesus reveals the content of their witness is in the instructions he gives them concerning mission. Their Mission is not different from His. It is at one with and continues the Mission that Jesus himself inaugurated. The disciples are called to proclaim not merely Jesus' death and resurrection but also that precisely because of this Christ-event, all people everywhere have been forgiven, accepted and loved.

Peter understood this message clearly as is evident in his address to the people gathered in the Temple. Though Jesus was rejected, despised and killed for no fault of his, yet, the God who raised him, forgives all those involved in this heinous act. Because they have received this unconditional forgiveness in Jesus' name, they are called to a metanoia, a change of mind, heart and vision. The acceptance of God's forgiveness must result in a transformation. This idea is reiterated by John in the second reading of today in which he exhorts the community to realize that because Jesus died for the sins of the whole world, the response to such a death must be a life well lived. This is shown by obedience to the command that Jesus taught, that all love one another as brothers and sisters. "You are witnesses of these things", is a declaration that Jesus continues to make even today. We who have experienced God's unconditional love in Jesus are called to proclaim - like the first disciple. The hands and feet that Jesus showed his disciples are visible today in each of us who claim to be his disciples. These are to be shown to the world as "proof" not only of the fact that Jesus is alive, but that in his name, forgiveness is even now being preached. It is significant that the content of the preaching, even after the resurrection of Jesus, is love and forgiveness. This love can be preached and made real only if we bear witness to it through our lives.

Fr. George Mathew SCJ