



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 4: 8-12;*  
*Psalms 117;*  
*1 John 3: 1-2;*  
*John 10: 11-18*

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

This Week 25th April - 2nd May Psalter Week 4	Mass Intentions	Other Events
<b>Sunday 25th April</b> <b>FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER</b> <b>Year B</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
<b>Monday 26th April</b> Easter Feria	9.15 am Lorcan O'Toole RIP (BB)	
<b>Tuesday 27th April</b> Easter Feria	9.15 am Peggy Walton RIP (BB)	
<b>Wednesday 28th April</b> Easter Feria	9.15 am Gladys Remedios RIP (KA)	6.00 pm: Adoration & Benediction (Live Streamed only)
<b>Thursday 29th April</b> Feast of St. Catherine of Siena, Virgin, Doctor of the Church	9.15 am Patricia Ceclich RIP (GC)	
<b>Friday 30th April</b> Easter Feria	9.15 am Peter Doran RIP (SS) 12.00 Noon Wedding	6.30 pm: Novena to the Sacred Heart (Live Streamed only)
<b>Saturday 1st May</b> Easter Feria	11.00 am Pat Snelling (PW)	<b>10.15 am - 10.45 am: Confessions</b>
<b>Sunday 2nd May</b> <b>FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER</b> <b>Year B</b>	8.30 am Mr. Diarmuid O'Regan (BB) 10.30 am Mrs. Pat Snelling (PW) 6.00 pm Mary Tommie RIP (P & PG)	

*“Charity, with its impulse to universality, is capable of building a new world. No mere sentiment, it is the best means of discovering effective paths of development for everyone.”*

Pope Francis, Fratelli Tutti (paragraph 183)

**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

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

8.30 am, 10.30 am & 6.00 pm:

**The stone which the builders rejected has become the  
corner stone.**

---

**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 **Zita McConnell** who died recently. May her soul  
and the souls of all the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in  
peace Please keep her family and friends in your kind thoughts and prayers.

**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 the parish office.  
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.

**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.

## 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.

## 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 Thursday 20th May.

## 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.

### *Act of Spiritual Communion Prayer*

*My Jesus,  
I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.  
I love You above all things,  
and I desire to receive You into my soul.  
Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally,  
come spiritually into my heart.  
I embrace You as if You were already there  
and unite myself completely to You.  
Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.*

## REFUGEE KNITTING

A new group has been found to take our knitting to the Refugees. If you have any donations, please could they be brought to church any time before Saturday 1st May. Thank you all who support these collections.

## 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.*

Main Collection  
(Sunday 11th April):  
£186.04

Gift Aid (Sunday 18th  
April): £114.00

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

8.30 am: 67

10.30 am: 53

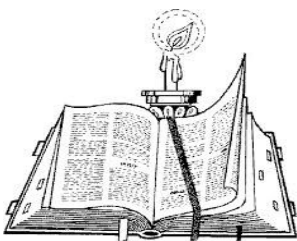
6.00 pm: 39

Thank you for  
supporting your  
Parish.



### FOODBANK

There is a new wish list that is on the website and has been distributed via email. Fortnightly collections from the Sacred Heart Church resumed on Tuesday 20th April. Thank you for your generosity.



### Next Sunday's Mass

#### Readings

Acts 9: 26-31;

Psalms 21;

1 John 3: 18-24;

John 15: 1-8

*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.*

### *I am the Good Shepherd*

The expression "one flock and one shepherd" reveals Jesus' vision and plan for humanity, that all people be united in God. His plan is to lead every sheep to the one fold, to form one family with God. Jesus says, "There are other sheep I have that are not of this fold, and I must lead them too". It is good to remember that Jesus does not abandon any sheep. Hence, we can be sure that no one is excluded in God's plan of salvation. He did this work with all the perfection possible and with great love. Another characteristic of Jesus, as good shepherd, is to consider the sheep as his own, and not as a care-taker.

During the time of Jesus in Palestine, the shepherds would lead their sheep to a fenced enclosure for rest at night. Often this enclosure did not have a door or a gate. Once all the sheep are inside the enclosure, he would sleep at the entrance to the enclosure, literally making himself a gate he becomes a security guard. The wild animals or the robbers who would come to snatch the sheep could not enter the enclosure without disturbing and waking up the shepherd. Sometimes the predator would attack and kill the shepherd to enter and snatch away the sheep. Thus the shepherd lays down his life for his sheep. The care-taker does not bother about the well-being of the sheep; on the contrary, the owner is concerned about the complete welfare of the sheep. The ownership is not a matter of possession, but one of belongingness. The ownership is not intended towards personal gain, but happiness of the sheep. The focus of attention of Jesus is always the happiness, wellbeing and salvation of the other. Jesus came so that we have life, and life in its fullness.

When Jesus says, I AM THE GATE of the sheepfold, he is in fact saying that he gives his life for his sheep. He saves the life for his sheep. Thus becoming another good shepherd. There are plenty of stories of good shepherds in day-to-day life. The Italian priest who offered his ventilator to a young man, thus sacrificed his own life to save the life of that young man. Hundreds of thousands of nurses and doctors who work in hospitals not having time for food and rest, often risking their own lives. Yes, the stories of good shepherd are plenty. There are also stories of people who care only for themselves, who are selfish, greedy, and even those who endanger the life of others. We need good shepherds today, in every walk of life. Parents who love, care and work hard for their children in our homes. Teachers who know their pupils and who take a special interest in them. Doctors and nurses who care about their patients. Public servants who care about the welfare of others. Priests & Religious who are willing to give a loving service to all. So many examples of Good Shepherds.

Today is Vocations Sunday. We are asked to pray for vocations to the priesthood and religious life. Of course, we need vocations and for this we need to pray and work hard. But we should not forget that all Christians have a fundamental vocation to be loving and caring people. We can be and need to be good shepherds in our own life situations. It of course demands sacrifices. Am I willing to be a good shepherd after the example of Christ who came to lay down his life for his sheep?