



Societas Presbyterorum  
Sacratissimi Cordis Jesu  
BETHARRAM

## SACRED HEART & ST CATHERINE OF ALEXANDRIA

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### Today's Mass Readings

Acts 1: 15-17, 20-26;  
Psalm 102;  
1 John 4: 11-16;  
John 17: 11-19

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

This Week 16th May - 23rd May Psalter Week 3	Mass Intentions	Other Events
<b>Sunday 16th May</b> <b>SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER</b> Year B	8.30 am Steve and Sue Rawlings Anniversary - Thanksgiving 10.30 am Edward Whelan RIP 6.00 pm Sujatha Rajendran RIP (Fr. G)	World Communications Day Retiring Collection for Catholic Communications
<b>Monday 17th May</b> Easter Feria	9.15 am Zita McConnell RIP (MR)	
<b>Tuesday 18th May</b> Easter Feria	9.15 am Alan Francis (BB)	
<b>Wednesday 19th May</b> Easter Feria	9.15 am Iain & Marie Martin (BB) 12.30 pm: Funeral Service	6.00 pm: Adoration & Benediction (Live Streamed only)
<b>Thursday 20th May</b> Easter Feria	9.15 am Andrew Madden RIP & Family (C & PI)	
<b>Friday 21st May</b> Easter Feria	9.15 am Michael Webb RIP (PW) 12.30 pm Wedding	6.30 pm: Novena to the Sacred Heart (Live Streamed only)
<b>Saturday 22nd May</b> Easter Feria	11.00 am Harold Ingram RIP (TI)	<b>10.15 am - 10.45 am:</b> <b>Confessions</b>
<b>Sunday 23rd May</b> <b>SOLEMNITY OF PENTECOST</b> Year B	8.30 am Patricia Watkins RIP (KG) 10.30 am Siwan Smith RIP (CP) 6.00 pm Bernadette Violet Duffy RIP (PD)	Day of Prayer for the Church

*“Politics too must make room for a tender love of others. “What is tenderness? It is love that draws near and becomes real. A movement that starts from our heart and reaches the eyes, the ears and the hands... Tenderness is the path of choice for the strongest, most courageous men and women”. Amid the daily concerns of political life, “the smallest, the weakest, the poorest should touch our hearts: indeed, they have a ‘right’ to appeal to our heart and soul. They are our brothers and sisters, and as such we must love and care for them”*

Pope Francis, Fratelli Tutti (paragraph 194)

## SACRED HEART COMMUNITY

Fr. George Mathew SCJ  
(Parish Priest)

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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

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## HEAD TEACHER

Mrs. Cath Bryan

## PARISH SECRETARY

Kate Dalglish

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## SAFEGUARDING REPRESENTATIVES

Gerry Ceclich  
Kate Dalglish  
Clare Tomlinson

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

8.30 am & 10.30 am: The Lord has set his sway in heaven.

6.00 pm: My soul give thanks to the Lord, all my being bless  
his holy name.

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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, 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 **Dennis O'Hara** and **Rosaleen Cecilia Pearce** who  
died recently. May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed  
through the mercy of God rest in peace. The funeral service for Mrs  
Rosaleen Cecilia Pearce will take place on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> May at 12.30pm  
at the Sacred Heart Church followed by a burial at St. Nicholas' Churchyard  
at 1.30 pm. Please keep their 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. 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. Thank you very much for your generous donations towards the  
cost of the live streaming camera. So far we have received £1,017.81. The  
total cost of the installation was £5,076. Any additional donations would be  
greatly appreciated. Donations can be made by cash or by cheque; for bank  
transfers please contact the parish office. Thank you for your generosity.

## WORLD COMMUNICATIONS DAY: SUNDAY 16TH MAY

The Pope's message for the 55th World Communications Day follows the  
theme "Come and See" (Jn 1:46). The theme echoes the words of the  
Apostle Philip, recognising that authentic communication leads to  
"encountering people as and where they are". On this day, Catholics are  
encouraged to pray for all those professionals who work in  
Communications and particularly for those who are responsible for  
communicating on behalf of the Catholic Church in this country.  
The Communications Office of the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England  
and Wales supports the mission of the bishops to proclaim the love of Jesus  
Christ. Please pray for all communicators on World Communications Day  
and please give generously to the second collection.

## FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PROGRAMME 2021

If your child is in Year 3 or above and you wish for your child to be prepared to receive this Sacrament in the summer 2021, please would you contact Fr. George SCJ as soon as possible. The first meeting for parents and children will take place in May, date and time will be announced in due course. Due to the Covid-19 restrictions in place, this year the children being prepared by the parish will receive their First Holy Communion separately from the children at St. Joseph's. The First Holy Communion Mass for children prepared in the parish will take place sometime before the school summer holidays.

## 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.

## REFUGEE KNITTING

Thank you so much for the exquisite blankets, hats, scarves and baby/toddler jumpers and cardigans so beautifully crafted and packaged. Thank you also for the underwear and miscellaneous items so kindly purchased. The donations are being sent to Bosnia by Agape, a Birmingham based charity. They will let us know as and when they are shipping goods in the future. Therefore, please could you keep any items at home until we have the next date. Once again, thank you for your continual support which is so appreciated and heart warming.

## CAFOD



As coronavirus brings devastation across India, CAFOD is working with experienced local Church agency, Caritas India, to provide vital support to poor and marginalised communities. Donations to CAFOD's Coronavirus Appeal will help Caritas India distribute PPE kits to frontline health workers, promote COVID & vaccine awareness campaigns, and set up safely run isolation & quarantine centres. You can donate online here: [cafod.org.uk/give](https://cafod.org.uk/give). Please keep praying for the people of India and all those affected by the pandemic.

## FOODBANK

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



## *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.*

## NOVENA PRAYERS

In preparation for Pentecost we will be having Novena Prayers along with morning Mass from Ascension day till Pentecost Sunday. Please make use this opportunity to pray and be filled with the Holy Spirit.

## G7 SUMMIT

CAFOD has asked us all to pray for the success of G7 summit taking place in Cornwall, UK from Thursday 10th until Saturday 12th June, and to contact our MP's support in this. The three aims of the summit are: how best to deal with the corona pandemic, dropping the debt of developing world countries, and cutting the greenhouse gas emissions round the world. Big subjects, big prayers. Thank you. Justice and Peace Group.

## THANK YOU

Fr. David Doran has thanked every parishioner for their prayers and Masses offered for his father Peter Doran.

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

**Main Collection  
(Sunday 2nd May):  
£224.92**

**Gift Aid (Sunday 9th  
May): £130.00**

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

**8.30 am: 61**

**10.30 am: 63**

**6.00 pm: 38**

**Thank you for  
supporting your  
Parish.**

**Additional  
donations for  
the Clergy Training  
Fund:**

**Gift Aid: £5.00**

**Thank you for your  
generosity.**



**Next Sunday's Mass**

**Readings**

*Acts 2: 1-11;*

*Psalms 103;*

*1 Corinthians 12: 3-7,  
12-13;*

*John 20: 19-23*

*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.*

*Keep us in your care*

On the Seventh Sunday of Easter, we always read from the seventeenth chapter of John's Gospel. This chapter of John's Gospel comes at the conclusion of Jesus' farewell discourse delivered to the disciples at the Last Supper. This entire chapter is a prayer by Jesus, commending himself to the Father and expressing his care and concern for his disciples. At the end of this prayer, Jesus and his disciples depart for the garden, and Jesus is arrested.

Jesus' prayer in John's Chapter 17 is known as priestly prayer of Jesus. This prayer has got three parts. In the first part Jesus is praying for himself. That, through his passion, death and resurrection the whole of humanity may be saved and thus glorify His name. Secondly, he prayed for his beloved disciples. Soon He will be ascended to heaven, but His disciples will be still in the world. Therefore, they need to be protected from the charming of the world and the snares of the evil. Thirdly, He prayed for all of us and the universal church who would persevere in observing the teachings of Jesus until the end of time. He besought four favours from the Father: (a) Preserve us in union with God and our brethren, (b) Thus, the whole world should know that Jesus was sent into this world by the Father, (c) The whole of humanity should know that as the Father loves his son Jesus, so He loves each one of us too and (d) At last, make us partakers of Christ's Glory.

In today's reading, we hear Jesus include all his disciples in this union with the Father. We are reminded that Christ is the source of Christian unity. Through Christ, we are united with one another and with God Our Father. In this prayer, Jesus describes part of his mission in the language of protection. He has protected those who were given to him by the Father. In this we hear echoes of the dualism that is reflected throughout John's Gospel. Beginning with the opening chapter, the Evangelist John has presented Jesus' mission on earth in the context of a cosmic struggle between good and evil, represented by light and darkness.

In Jesus' presence, his disciples have been protected from Satan. Now that Jesus is returning to the Father, he prays that his disciples will continue to be protected from the evil one. We also see in this chapter the distinction found in John's Gospel between the world and the disciples. The disciples are in the world, but they do not belong to the world. Yet like Jesus, they are sent into the world for the world's salvation. As Jesus' teaching and ministry was a source of consternation for some, Jesus knows that the world may not accept his disciples with open arms. The world, according to John, prefers the darkness. Yet the light will not be overcome by the darkness. Reading this prayer of Jesus during the Easter Season, through the lens of his Resurrection, we know that the light of Christ has overcome the darkness of sin and death in our world. In the opening line of this prayer, we hear Jesus pray that his disciples will be kept in the name that he was given by God. We know that the salvation is given to us in the name of Jesus, and that his name "God saves" announces his mission on our behalf. May God bless us.

Fr. George Mathew SCJ