



Societas Presbyterorum
Sacratissimi Cordis Jesu
BETHARRAM

SACRED HEART & ST CATHERINE OF ALEXANDRIA

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Today's Mass Readings

2 Kings 4: 42-44;
Psalm 144;
Ephesians 4: 1-6;
John 6: 1-15

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

This Week 25th July - 1st August Psalter Week 1	Mass Intentions	Other Events
Sunday 25th July Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B	8.30 am Colum MacCourt RIP (NM) 10.30 am Moses Hodgetts RIP 6.00 pm Grandparents and the Elderly	World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly After each Sunday Mass: Novena to our Lady of Betharram
Monday 26th July Memorial of Ss. Joachim & Anne, Parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary	9.15 Special Intention (I & MM) Novena to our Lady of Betharram	
Tuesday 27th July Feria in Ordinary Time	9.15 am Holy Mass Novena to our Lady of Betharram	
Wednesday 28th July Solemnity of Our Lady of Betharram	9.15 am Deceased SCJ Fathers and Brothers	6.00 pm: Adoration & Benediction (Live Streamed only)
Thursday 29th July Memorial of St. Martha	9.15 am Antonio Tempera (I & MM)	
Friday 30th July Feria in Ordinary Time	9.15 am Holy Mass	6.30 pm: Novena to the Sacred Heart (Live Streamed only)
Saturday 31st July Memorial of St. Ignatius of Loyola, Priest	11.00 am Holy Mass	10.15 am - 10.45 am: Confessions
Sunday 1st August Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B	8.30 am Vincenza Eaton RIP (MF) 10.30 am Catherine Sckowski RIP (BS) 6.00 pm John and Mary Ryan (DR)	

“When one part of society exploits all that the world has to offer, acting as if the poor did not exist, there will eventually be consequences. Sooner or later, ignoring the existence and rights of others will erupt in some form of violence, often when least expected. Liberty, equality and fraternity can remain lofty ideals unless they apply to everyone.”

Pope Francis, Fratelli Tutti (paragraph 219)

**SACRED HEART
COMMUNITY**

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RESPONSORIAL PSALM

8.30 am & 10.30 am: You open wide your hand, O Lord, and
grant our desires.

6.00 pm: The promises of the Lord are true and loving are all
his deeds, I will give you glory O God my king and
praise your name for ever, and praise your name
forever.

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 & Phil Yates.

**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 Dalgleish. Please note that the newsletter is also
placed on the parish website. Thank you for your understanding.**

WORLD DAY FOR GRANDPARENTS AND THE ELDERLY

Today we celebrate the first World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly.
The theme chosen by Pope Francis for this inaugural commemoration is "I
am with you always" (Mt 28:20). It expresses the closeness of the Lord and
the Church to every older person, especially in these challenging times of
the Covid-19 pandemic. The theme, "I am with you always" is also "a
promise of closeness and hope that young and old can mutually share". Not
only are grandchildren and youths invited to be present in the lives of older
people, but older people and grandparents also have a mission of
evangelization, proclamation and prayer, and of encouraging young people
in their faith. Pope Francis' message and a prayer are available on the
parish website. The 6.00 pm Mass will be offered for Grandparents and the
Elderly.

PARISH SECRETARY

Over the next few weeks the Parish Secretary will be gradually returning to
being office based with the aim of being permanently office based for the
week commencing Monday 6th September. For the weeks commencing
Monday 2nd August and Monday 9th August the Parish Secretary will be on
annual leave. Please contact Fr. George for any urgent enquiries. Everything
else will be looked at on my return to work on Monday 16th August.

**DATES FOR FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PREPARATION
(PARISH CHILDREN)**

The FHC preparation sessions will be held on following days:

- September: Saturdays 4th, 11th, 18th & 25th
- October: Saturdays 2nd, 9th & 16th
- November: Saturdays 6th, 13th & 27th

The First Holy Communion Mass will be celebrated on Saturday 4th
December at 11.00 am.

COVID 19 STEP 4 GUIDANCE

As the country moved into Step 4 on Monday 19th July with the easing of restrictions, we as parish community are also glad to welcome the changes with caution. Having studied both government and diocesan guidelines we will make the following changes which will take effect by Monday 26th July. Our primary concern is to ensure that our church continues to be a place where people feel safe to gather to worship.

- **Sanitise** your hands at the entrance and exit.
- **Masks:** Even though wearing mask is not a legal requirement we highly recommend you to wear a mask in the church.
- **Test and Trace** : Please give your name and contact details to the steward for Track and Trace or make use of the QR code provided at the entrance.
- **Seating:** There will not be any cordoned pews, so you can occupy any pew you wish to sit. In a pew a maximum of four people can sit, except family pews. Please leave the family pews for the families with children.
- **Holy Communion:** Holy Communion will continue to be under one kind. During Holy Communion, the people sitting on the first pew at the right side of the church will proceed to receive Communion and others will follow the same. Once the right side is over, the person sitting at the last pew on the left side of the church will proceed for Communion and the rest will follow the same.
- **Congregational Singing:** Indoor congregational singing is permitted. It is recommended that singing should be phased in gently as part of worship and that face coverings should be worn by members of the congregation whilst singing together, until infection levels reduce.
- **Exit:** To exit please use both the main door and the side door.
- **Capacity of the Church:** Increased to 150
- **Church visiting by the public:** The church will be open to the public for private prayer and for visiting from 8.00 am until 1.00 pm.

A big thank you to all of you for your cooperation and understanding during the time of the pandemic. We expect the same cooperation and support to continue. Always be considerate and kind towards others so that together we can defeat this pandemic.

CAFOD: CLIMATE CHANGE

Climate change is a challenge that affects us all. Recent events of horrific fires out of control and devastating floods make the problems more real every day. Looking towards the International Climate Talks in Glasgow in November, CAFOD asks for help from us. Leaflets are available free from the back of church. We are asked to take it home, sign it and post it free to the PM or return it here or do it on line as suggested. More leaflets are available if needed. Thank you for your support. Justice and Peace Group

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.*

SAVE THE DATES

Picnic/Afternoon Tea:

Saturday 21st August on the lawn at the back of the Parish Hall or in the hall if necessary. Time TBC. Further details to follow

Centenary Celebration Mass: Saturday 9th October at 3.00 pm

SOLEMNITY OF OUR LADY OF BETHARRAM

In preparation for the Solemnity of Our Lady of Betharram, which we celebrate on Wednesday 28th July at 9.15 am, the Novena to our Lady of Betharram will take place after morning Mass from Tuesday 20th July until Tuesday 27th July and after every Mass on Sunday 25th July.

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

Main Collection
(Sunday 11th July):
£289.68

Gift Aid (Sunday 18th
July): £115.00

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

8.30 am: 57

10.30 am: 50

6.00 pm: 65

Thank you for
supporting your
Parish.



FOODBANK

There is a new wish
list for Sunday 18th
July that is on the
website. Thank you
for your generosity.



Next Sunday's Mass

Readings

Exodus 16: 2-4, 12-15;

Psalms 77;

*Ephesians 4: 17,
20-24;*

John 6: 24-35

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.

The little you can do will be multiplied

In the first reading we see how, by the Lord's power, Elisha feeds 100 men with only 20 loaves. But in today's Gospel the comparison is huge; Jesus' feeding of the 5,000. It is not just a mighty miracle but also a parable with many lessons about the all-sufficiency of Jesus Christ to meet the vast needs of the world through his inadequate disciples. The feeding of the 5,000 precedes Jesus' discourse on being the living Bread that comes down out of heaven to give His life for the world (6:32-58). The people who followed Jesus had multiple reasons to follow Him. These people weren't following Jesus because they recognised Him as the Son of God who could save them from their sins. Some were fascinated just seeing the miracles. Others needed miraculous healing for themselves or their loved ones. Their reasons for following Jesus were often misguided and superficial. So, we must understand that Christ uses inadequate people who surrender what they have to Him, to meet the overwhelming needs of others.

Today we have three points to share. First, God providing in abundance. We heard today not only of the feeding, but of the leftovers. We all know the feeling. At one time or another, every one of us knows hunger. And not just hunger for food. We yearn for love, for mercy, for forgiveness. We may even hunger for meaning and purpose and ache for dignity and respect. Can earthly things satisfy all these hungers? No, only God can appease the ultimate hunger of each one of us. He will provide for us, not just the minimum to survive, but in abundance. We have seen so many of our Catholic charity institutions living, for years, in this providence of God. Trusting that God will provide. Look at the example of the prodigal son, who just wanted his father to take him back as a mere servant. But the father poured out his love with a grand celebration. That is how God provides when we come to him with a contrite heart.

Secondly, introducing others to Jesus. The apostle Andrew, always bringing people to Jesus, introduces a small boy with his lunch. Why did he do it? Would all his friends, the other disciples, laugh at him for suggesting this boy could help? Or did he think, Jesus will turn this small meal into enough for everyone? Andrew took that risk and look what happened. At our churches so many of our brothers and sisters have been mostly introduced to Christ by their Catholic friends. So people will always be grateful to you if you introduce them to Jesus.

Thirdly, offer whatever you may have. Did the small boy today say, "It is my lunch and I am not sharing? Get your own." No, he gave it to Jesus, who gave it back five thousand-fold. Charity is one of the great pillars of our faith. Watch what happens when you give, of your time, your love, your skills or even your wealth. God will take it and do something amazing with it. The people who offer their musical talent to the choir, the young people who help in the church, the retired people who spend their free retirement time for the church, all these are examples of our faith lived in action. So, live your faith, rejoice in the good things given to you by our Lord, introduce Jesus to others and be generous with what you have. Believe me you are sure to experience the abundance of life...!

God bless you, Fr. George Mathew SCJ