



Societas Presbyterorum
Sacratissimi Cordis Jesu
BETHARRAM

SACRED HEART & ST CATHERINE OF ALEXANDRIA

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Today's Mass Readings

Joshua 24: 1-2, 15-18;
Psalm 33;
Ephesians 5: 21-32;
John 6: 60-69

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

This Week 22nd August - 29th August Psalter Week 1	Mass Intentions	Other Events
Sunday 22nd August Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B	8.30 am Christopher Campbell-Johnston RIP (MJ) 10.30 am Patrick & Deg Bluett (G.B) 6.00 pm People of the Parish	
Monday 23rd August Feast of St. John Wall, Priest, Martyr	9.15 am Siwan Smith RIP (CP)	
Tuesday 24th August Feast of St. Bartholomew, Apostle	9.15 am Gladys Remedios RIP (KA)	
Wednesday 25th August Feria in Ordinary Time	9.15 am Holy Communion Service	
Thursday 26th August Feast of Blessed Dominic Barberi, Priest, Religious	No Holy Communion Service or Mass	
Friday 27th August Memorial of St. Monica	9.15 am Holy Communion Service Mass Intention (Private Mass) Michael Sckowski RIP (B.S)	
Saturday 28th August Memorial of St. Augustine, Bishop, Doctor of the Church	11.00 am Holy Communion Service	
Sunday 29th August Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B	8.30 am Brendan Chinnery RIP (R.B) 10.30 am People of the Parish 6.00 pm Holy Mass	

*"Saint Paul describes kindness as a fruit of the Holy Spirit (Gal 5:22). He uses the Greek word *chrestotes*, which describes an attitude that is gentle, pleasant and supportive, not rude or coarse. Individuals who possess this quality help make other people's lives more bearable, especially by sharing the weight of their problems, needs and fears."*

Pope Francis, Fratelli Tutti (paragraph 223)

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

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Primary School,
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HEAD TEACHER

Mrs. Cath Bryan

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Safeguarding Team**
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RESPONSORIAL PSALM

8.30 am & 10.30 am: Taste and see that the Lord is good.

**6.00 pm: I will bless the Lord at all times, His praise always on
my lips. In the Lord my soul shall make its boast: the
humble shall hear and be glad.**

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, Joan Graham, Beryl Hill, Alan Hurst, John Jennings,
Sheila Manion, Sally McCool, Andrew 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 Dalglish. Please note that the newsletter is also
placed on the parish website. Thank you for your understanding.**

FR. GEORGE MATHEW SCJ

Fr. George will be away from the Parish from Wednesday 25th August until
Wednesday 15th September. During this time there will be Holy
Communion Services on weekdays and Saturdays. Please note that there
will be no service on Thursday 26th August due to essential maintenance
works in the church.

CASHLESS GIVING

We have decided to make cashless payment options available to
parishioners and visitors who may wish to donate. We expect this to be
available within the church and on our website in the coming weeks.
Donations by cash, standing order and using Gift Aid envelopes will also
remain an option. In the church there will be a cashless giving terminal with
a tap and go facility. This will be set up to give the option of donating for
general parish funds (the first collection), specific fundraising collections,
mass offerings and charitable/second collections when they occur. Gift Aid
payments will also be possible. Once operational, the payment system will
also enable fast payments to be made. An online link will also be available
to make payments through our website. This system is already in use within
many churches in our diocese and has proved to be very popular with
parishioners and visitors. More information is available in the leaflet at the
back of the church.

CAFOD RESPONDING TO MULTIPLE EMERGENCIES ACROSS THE WORLD

CAFOD is responding to significant crises across the world this week. You
can read more about how we can all express solidarity with our sisters and
brothers affected by these emergencies on the CAFOD website:

<https://cafod.org.uk/News/Emergencies-news>.

Your compassion, generosity and prayers have helped us to stand ²together
and enable us to continue to support communities in these difficult times.
Thank you.

COVID 19 STEP 4 GUIDANCE

- **Sanitise** your hands at the entrance and exit.
- **Masks:** We highly recommend you to wear a mask in the church.
- **Test and Trace:** Please give your name and contact details to the stewards for Test 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.
- **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.

NATIONAL MASS FOR THE GUILD OF ST. STEPHEN

The National Mass for the Guild of St. Stephen will be on Saturday 25th September 2021 at 12 noon at the parish of Ss. Mary & John, Wolverhampton. Archbishop Bernard Longley will be the principal celebrant and homilist at the Mass. After the Mass, there will be refreshments in the parish centre. This Mass, to which servers from across the country are invited, is in addition to our annual Diocesan Mass, which takes place each spring at the Cathedral. It is completely FREE to attend, but booking is required. Everything you need to know is at www.vocations.org.uk/guild-national.

THANKSGIVING MASS FOR MARRIAGE 2021

The annual diocesan Thanksgiving Mass for Marriage will take place on Saturday 9th October at 12 noon at St Chad's Cathedral. If you are celebrating a milestone anniversary during 2021 (from your 1st up to 60th (every 5 years), and every year over 60) please email Lianne Pap (Marriage and Family Life Co-ordinator) at marriage.mass@rcaob.org.uk for your names to be listed in the Mass booklet. You can also send in 'then & now' photos to be part of the video compilation. We are looking to find the longest married couple in the diocese, so if you think you, your parents or grandparents could be it then let Lianne know! The Mass is open to all married couples, as well as those preparing to marry in 2021 but you will need to register a place via email at marriage.mass@rcaob.org.uk. Closing date to register for the Mass is Friday 1st October.

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 DATE

*Centenary
Celebration Mass:
Saturday 9th
October at
3.00 pm*

CHRISTOPHER CAMPBELL- JOHNSTON

Christopher Campbell-Johnston, who lived in this parish with his wife Mary for more than 40 years, died peacefully in Devon at the age of 88. The 8.30 am Mass will be said for him today.

ALTAR SERVERS

As we are gradually getting back to normal we welcome back our altar servers to serve for each Mass on Sundays. The Guild of St. Stephen here at Sacred Heart Church will warmly welcome those children who received their First Holy Communion. If you wish to join the altar servers please contact Fr. George or Kevin Larkin.

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

**Main Collection
(Sunday 8th
August): £209.29**

**Gift Aid (Sunday 15th
July): £166.00**

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

8.30 am: 64

10.30 am: 49

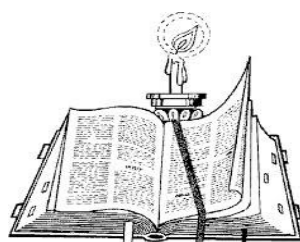
6.00 pm: 47

**Thank you for
supporting your
Parish.**



FOODBANK

There is a new wish list for Sunday 10th August and a thank you letter that are on the website and have been emailed with this newsletter. Thank you for your generosity.



Next Sunday's Mass

Readings

*Deuteronomy 4: 1-2,
6-8;*

Psalms 14;

*James 1: 17-18, 21-22,
27*

*Mark 7: 1-8, 14-15,
21-23*

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.

The poem *The Road not Taken*, by Robert Frost, ends with these words:

Two roads diverged in a wood, and I -

I took the one less travelled by,

And that has made all the difference.

The theme of the first and third readings centres on that of making a choice. The choice here is whether to take the road not taken or the road less travelled, confident that it will indeed make a difference. In the first reading, Joshua invites the people to choose which God they will serve. Joshua clearly opts for the one true God. He decides to take the road less travelled. The people, remembering the great acts that God had done for their forefathers, prudently decide that they too, like Joshua, will follow the one true God. To be sure, their decision was prompted by their experience that, in the past, God had come to their rescue and revealed himself as a gracious and redeeming God. He had revealed himself as a caring and compassionate God.

Jesus addresses a similar question in the Gospel text of today. These people find the following of the true God too difficult and so, opt out. They could not understand him because they did not have any experience with Jesus because their relationship with Jesus was very shallow and superficial. At the same time, they preferred to stay in their ignorance. However, Peter, who serves as the spokesperson for the twelve, makes the choice for Jesus and so, for the true God. He, too, like other people, could not make total sense of how Jesus could offer himself as food and drink. However, he knows that, in following Jesus, he is following the truth. He knows that taking this road and making the choice for Jesus will make all the difference.

The problem of choice that the people and the disciples faced is a problem that we face even today. We are, at every moment, called to make a choice. Just because we are baptized does not necessarily mean that we have opted for Jesus. Just because we go to church regularly does not mean that we have made a choice for the one true God. The choice that we make for the one true God is a choice that has to be shown in action. This action is what the Christians of Ephesus are called to in the second reading of today. It is action that has to be lived out first in family relationships. Wives and husbands and all other members of a family, and members of the larger family of the Church, have to live lives of respect and love for one another. Jesus Christ continues to be the model for such lives and relationships. Just as Jesus did not consider his own comforts as more important than those of others.

We can never assume that we have made the choice for Christ once for all. This is because it is a decision that has to be renewed every day. He does not promise a life of ease or comfort. He does not suggest that following him will mean that all our problems will be solved or all our questions will be answered. On the contrary, he makes it clear that following him will mean hardships and difficulties and sometimes, we may have more questions than answers. He makes it clear that following him will mean that the road ahead may not always be even or the going smooth. He, however, constantly invites us, beckons and challenges us to follow.