



Societas Presbyterorum
Sacratissimi Cordis Jesu
BETHARRAM

SACRED HEART & ST CATHERINE OF ALEXANDRIA

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Today's Mass Readings

Isaiah 50: 5-9;
Psalm 114;
James 2: 14-18
Mark 8: 27-35

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

This Week 12th September - 19th September Psalter Week 4	Mass Intentions	Other Events
Sunday 12th September Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B	8.30 am Holy Mass 10.30 am Deceased members of both sides of the family (M & BW) 6.00 pm People of the Parish	Retiring Collection for the Catholic Education Service
Monday 13th September Memorial of St. John Chrysostom, Bishop, Doctor of the Church	9.15 am Holy Communion Service	
Tuesday 14th September Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross	9.15 am Holy Communion Service	
Wednesday 15th September Memorial of Our Lady of Sorrows	9.15 am Holy Communion Service	3.00 pm Rosary of the Seven Dolours
Thursday 16th September Memorial of Ss. Cornelius, Pope, and Cyprian, Bishop, Martyrs	9.15 am Marie & Frank Webb RIP (PW)	
Friday 17th September Feria in Ordinary Time	9.15 am Holy Mass	1.30 pm: Interment of Ashes Youth Group
Saturday 18th September Feria in Ordinary Time	11.00 am Mike & Joan Sherrard (BB)	10.00 am - 12 Noon: FHC Preparation - Parish Children
Sunday 19th September Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B	8.30 am People of the Parish 10.30 am Anthony Kelly (BB) 6.00 pm Holy Mass	Retiring Collection for the Catholic Evangelisation 12 Noon: Baptism

"In a family, parents, grandparents and children all feel at home; no one is excluded. If someone has a problem, even a serious one, even if he brought it upon himself, the rest of the family comes to his assistance; they support him. His problems are theirs... In families, everyone contributes to the common purpose; everyone works for the common good, not denying each person's individuality but encouraging and supporting it. They may quarrel, but there is something that does not change: the family bond. Family disputes are always resolved afterwards. The joys and sorrows of each of its members are felt by all. That is what it means to be a family!"

Pope Francis, Fratelli Tutti (paragraph 230)

SACRED HEART COMMUNITY

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**In an emergency, please
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Fr. Brian Boyle SCJ
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(Retired Priest)

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RESPONSORIAL PSALM

8.30 am, 10.30 am & 6.00 pm:

**I will walk in the presence of the Lord in the land of the
living.**

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.

REFUGEE KNITTING COLLECTION

Thank you so much to everyone who brought such useful and thoughtful
items last week. The appeal finishes today as the goods are being
collected for prompt dispatch during the week. Do please continue knitting
and crocheting, but because of storage problems can you please keep them
at home until requested.

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.

CENTENARY CELEBRATION: PHOTOGRAPHS

We are hoping to have a display of photographs for our Centenary
Celebrations on 9th October. Could parishioners please look through your
old photos of the church and college and see if there is anything you would
like to share? Please make sure your name and address is on the back of
every item! The Centenary Mass is on Saturday 9th October at 3.00 pm.

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.

ANNUAL SPONSORED WALK

The annual Sacred Heart Community Sponsored Walk for the SCJ Mission in India will be on Saturday 25th September at the Canal towpath near Kingswood boat basin, Solihull. If you would like to sponsor the walk, please give your name after Mass. If you wish to join the walk you are most welcome. Gift aid envelopes also available at the back of the church.

HAGLEY CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL OPEN MORNING

Parents and Carers are warmly invited to attend Hagley Catholic High School's Open Morning on Saturday 9th October starting at 9.00 am. We will be offering personal tours of the school site and a talk from the Principal. Please book your place via Eventbrite: <https://tinyurl.com/4m8ns695>. Hagley is a Catholic school, totally universal in its approach, with the very highest levels of academic achievement, behaviour, progress and pastoral care.

PARISH HALL KEYHOLDERS

There will be a Key Holder's meeting on Monday 27th September at 6:45 pm. Please can all Key Holders come along.

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*

THANK YOU

Many thanks for all the delicious cakes which were donated to the Parish Picnic and Tea. They were all much appreciated. We had a lovely social occasion with parishioners old and new. Sincere thanks to everyone who helped and supported the event in any way.

FEAST OF OUR LADY OF SORROWS

Wednesday 15th September is the Feast of Our Lady of Sorrows and, all being well, the rosary of the Seven Dolours will be said in church at 3.00 pm, on that day. It would be good to have your company.

YOUTH GROUP

If you are able to support the Youth Group financially, please speak to Fr. George or Matthew Hartley.

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

Main Collection:
£223.68

Gift Aid: £168.50

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

8.30 am: 75

10.30 am: 90

6.00 pm: 49

Thank you for
supporting your
Parish.



FOODBANK

There is a new wish
list for Sunday 5th
September that is on
the website. Thank
you for your
generosity.



Next Sunday's Mass Readings

Wisdom 2: 12, 17-20;

Psalms 53;

James 3: 16 - 4: 3

Mark 9: 30-37

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.

Who is Christ for Me?

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ Jesus, On the 24th Sunday of the year, the evangelist Mark makes us reflect about the identity of Jesus through a question raised by Jesus himself. Jesus asks his disciples, "Who do people say that I am?" The disciples replied with different answers. Jesus asked them another question "Who do you say that I am?" Peter answers him: "You are the Christ". By the fact that Jesus did not ask any more question about his identity reveals that he was happy with the answer given by Peter. It is good for us to reflect why Jesus was satisfied with the answer of Peter.

Our limited understanding makes us affirm that Jesus is a prophet like John the Baptist and Elijah. But Jesus is someone greater than the prophets; he is the Christ, the anointed one, the Son of God. The answer of Peter that Jesus is the Christ, makes Jesus an indispensable part of our life because we who are creatures do not have existence without Jesus who is the Son of God. The question that Jesus asked the disciples, he pauses before us today. Who do we say that Jesus is? We can give different answers, and perhaps all of them right. But the perfect answer would be the answer given by Peter. It is important to have the right answer because it expresses our belief system. And our beliefs will always determine our lifestyle. Our faith will always express itself in corresponding action. If our answer is wrong or partial, our lifestyle too can be faulty or one-sided.

This is the truth that the second reading of today, taken from the letter of St James, confirms. St. James states that our faith cannot be devoid of good works. If our faith is not accompanied by works, it is dead. The focal point of how faith leads to consequent life style is very clear in the conversation that follows between Jesus and Peter. Peter was happy that he could give the right answer to Jesus about his identity. Though he gave the right answer, he had a wrong idea about Christ. He, perhaps, thought of a triumphant and glorious Christ who would destroy the enemies and establish the Kingdom of God. On the contrary, Jesus expressed the true identity of the Christ as someone who has to suffer; he would be rejected by the elders, the chief priests and the scribes, and be killed. Peter could never accept a suffering Christ. He could never accept a weak Christ who would be put to death by the enemies. It is true even in this age. The modern society has difficulty to accept a God who suffered for humanity. Hence, Peter began to rebuke Jesus and correct him. The response of Jesus to Peter's rebuke is very harsh. He tells Peter: "Get behind me satan". Jesus has never used the word satan against anyone else. Jesus had enemies. There were people trying to plot against him and to get rid of him. Jesus, as son of man, knew their plans. But he never addressed them as satan. On the contrary, here is Jesus calling his dearest disciple satan. What is the reason? The reason, I believe, is simple: how you believe, so you live. If Peter were to believe in a glorious king in Jesus, he would also expect to be glorious in his way of life. On the contrary the way of life shown by Jesus is different: a simple life, a life of sacrifice, a life of suffering, a life of unconditional love. This doesn't mean that our God doesn't wish our wellbeing. He wants us to value both happiness and sorrow as part of human life and we need to discover God's plan in all those times. We need to find God's hands in all the events of our day today life. Let us get our thoughts enlightened and inspired because where our thoughts are there we are; if we save our thoughts, we save ourselves. May you all have a lovely Sunday.

Fr. George Mathew SCJ