

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

Welcome to this House of God:

Talk to God before Mass Listen to God during Mass Talk to others after Mass



Today's Mass Readings

Isaiah 53: 10-11; Psalm 32; Hebrews 4: 14-16

Mark 10: 35-45

This Week 17th October - 24th October (Psalter Week 1)	Mass Intentions	Other Events
Sunday 17th October Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B	8.30 am Daniel Collins RIP (K & PG) 10.30 am Birth Family (BB) 6.00 pm People of the Parish	Retiring Collection and Appeal for the SVP
Monday 18th October Feast of St. Luke, Evangelist	9.15 am Keith Fisher (AB)	
Tuesday 19th October Feria in Ordinary Time	9.15 am Antonio Tempura RIP (I & MM)	
Wednesday 20th October Feria in Ordinary Time	9.15 am Theresa Varkki RIP	6.00 pm: Adoration & Benediction (Live Streamed only)
Thursday 21st October Feria in Ordinary Time	9.15 am Mary Breatnach RIP	2.00 pm: Church Tour
Friday 22nd October Feria in Ordinary Time	9.15 am Alan John Maurice Josey RIP	9.45am: Novena to the Sacred Heart (soon after Mass) 6.30 pm: Youth Group
Saturday 23rd October Feria in Ordinary Time	11.00 am Siwan Smith RIP (CP)	10.15 am - 10.45 am: Confessions 6.00 pm: Confirmation Meeting
Sunday 24th October Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B	8.30 am Margaret Harding (MM) 10.30 am Elizabeth Wilson RIP (EK) 6.00 pm Alan Remedios RIP (KA)	World Mission Day Retiring Collection for the APF (Missio)

"We are called to love everyone, without exception; at the same time, loving an oppressor does not mean allowing him to keep oppressing us, or letting him think that what he does is acceptable. On the contrary, true love for an oppressor means seeking ways to make him cease his oppression; it means stripping him of a power that he does not know how to use, and that diminishes his own humanity and that of others."

Pope Francis, Fratelli Tutti (paragraph 241)

SACRED HEART COMMUNITY

Fr. George Mathew SCJ (Parish Priest) fr.george.mathew@

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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

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PARISH SAFEGUARDING REPRESENTATIVES

Gerry Ceclich
Kate Dalgleish
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> Archdiocese of Birmingham Safeguarding Team

> Tel.: 0121 230 6240 Email: safeguarding @rcaob.org.uk

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

8.30 am & 10.30 am: May your love be upon us, O Lord, as we

place all our hope in you.

6.00 pm: The word of God is more desired than gold; the word

of God is sweeter than honey. Light to our eyes, the Lord's command is clear; greater than gold the

message of eternal life. (11 AK)

PRAY FOR OUR SICK PARISHIONERS

Please pray for all our parishioners, and/or their friends and relatives, who are unwell:

Mary Arulandhu, Barbara Conway, Finbarr Cronin, Eileen Dalton, Delores Delaney, Frank Fawcett, Sheila Ferriter, Tony Gilroy, 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 Dalgleish. Please note that the newsletter is also placed on the parish website. Thank you for your understanding.

SVP APPEAL & SECOND COLLECTION

There will be an appeal and second collection in aid of the SVP today. The Sacred Heart SVP can be contacted on 0777 292 7535 or at droitwichsvp@googlemail.com. The SVP Annual Review is on our website.

CENTENARY CELEBRATION

Thank you to everyone who helped and supported the Centenary Celebration. Fr. George would especially like to thank Caroline Healy for providing food for the day.

CASHLESS GIVING

It is now possible to donate via the cashless giving device at the back of church or via the link to the donation page on the homepage of our website at www.sacredheartdroitwich.org.uk. More options have now been added. If you have any questions regarding cashless giving, please contact the Parish Office.

WORLD MISSION SUNDAY: 24TH OCTOBER 2021

Next Sunday is World Mission Sunday, when the Holy Father invites all Catholics to contribute to a special collection for Missio, his charity for world mission. Please support Missio in helping missionaries to work alongside communities throughout the world that are poor or in need, regardless of their background or belief. Join in on this special day, that unites Catholics all over the world in prayer and celebration of our Church's mission to share God's love with all people. Please call 020 7821 9755 (office hours) or visit Missio's website to give a single gift, set up a Direct Debit and Gift Aid your donation, if possible: missio.org.uk

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.

PARISH YOUTH GROUP

The youth group is currently running on Friday evenings from $6.30 \, \text{pm} - 8.00 \, \text{pm}$. The weekly group is aimed at 9-11 year olds. In the coming weeks we have lots of games, activities and potentially some trips planned. For those that are slightly older we will also soon be launching the youth cafe which will run every other week.

CONFIRMATION

The Confirmation Mass is on Tuesday 7th December at 7.00 pm. Confirmation classes for parish children will start on Saturday 30th October. If your child is in year 6 or above and you would like them to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation this December, please contact Fr. George by Saturday 23rd October. There will be a meeting for parents at 6.00 pm on Saturday 23rd October.

DATES FOR FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PREPARATION - PARISH CHILDREN

The FHC preparation sessions will be held on following days:

November: Saturdays 6th, 13th & 27th

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

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.

PARISH SECRETARY

The parish secretary is now back in the office full-time. Please use the contact number 01905 773258 if you wish to speak to the Parish Secretary. The Parish Secretary is available from 9.00 am until 12 Noon on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

JOB VACANCY

The Diocesan
Education Service are
currently recruiting
for a Senior Adviser
(Senior Leadership
Recruitment and
Training) and an
Office Administrator.
For full details please
see the posters that
are on the website
and have been
emailed with this
newsletter.

Registered as a Charity, Birmingham Roman Catholic Diocesan Trustees: Registered Charity Number 234216. Main Collection: £230.50 Gift Aid: £730.00 Thank you for supporting your Parish.

Additional Retiring
Collection for
CAFOD: £10.00
Thank you for your
generosity.



FOODBANK

There is a new wish list for Sunday 10th October that is on the website. Thank you for your generosity.



Next Sunday's Mass Readings

Jeremiah 31: 7-9; Psalm 125; Hebrews 5: 1-6

Mark 10: 46-52

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.

It is human to be ambitious and desire to be successful. But it is true that sometimes we do not achieve what we desired because God has a different plan for us for He knows us better than we ourselves know. In the Gospel, we saw the James and John requesting Jesus to allow them to be seated at His right and left. They did this because they did not really know what they were asking. Therefore, Jesus teaches them a new understanding of success.

For Jesus success means people realizing and fulfilling God's dream for them. Jesus teaches us, contrary to popular thinking, that anybody cannot be anything. Before a person can be born in to this world, divine providence has already crafted a dream for each person to live out. We do not come into life to write our own job description, we come with a divine job description in our hands and with the physical and mental traits necessary to get the job done. That is what the doctrine of the Immaculate Conception of Mary is all about. God needed a singular job to be done, that of being the mother of His incarnate Son, and He created a woman fully prepared and equipped specifically to do the job. No other woman before or after Mary could have become the mother of God out of her own personal effort or ambition. This is why Jesus tells James and John that, "to sit at my right hand or at my left is not mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared" (verse 40).

Does this mean that God has already determined the outcome of our earthly existence? No. God has an intended destination for which He created you and me. But whether you and I attain this destination or not depends on how we cooperate with God's grace. To say that whatever people are or do in life is what God created them to be and do is determinism. The Bible teaches predestination (God has something in mind for creating you and me) but does not teach determinism (whatever we are or do is what God has predestined for us). God gives us free will to cooperate with divine grace or not. That is why, even though God predestined Mary to be the mother of our Saviour, when the time came for her to accomplish this mission, God sent an angel to seek her cooperation. She is a perfect example of success because she courageously said yes to the word of God detailing to her what Providence has in store for her.

James and John, on the other hand, represent the New Age anyone-could-beanything mentality characteristic of our times. This way of seeing things encourages unbridled ambition, rivalry and unhealthy competition among people, which we call the rat race. But the trouble with the rat race is that, even if you win, you are still a rat. The new vision of success that Jesus teaches, on the contrary, encourages mutual cooperation and the contentment of realizing that we can all be successful because God has created every one of us for something different. God has enough dreams to go round, a different dream for everyone, a different success for everyone. Our ambition in life should be to discover and live God's dream for us. What we are is a gift from God and what we become is our gift to God.

May God grant us the necessary grace to cooperate with God's dream for us.

Fr. George Mathew SCJ