



Societas Presbyterorum  
Sacratissimi Cordis Jesu  
BETHARRAM

## SACRED HEART & ST CATHERINE OF ALEXANDRIA

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### Today's Mass Readings

1 Kings 17: 10-16;  
Psalm 145;  
Hebrews 9: 24-28;  
Mark 12: 38-44

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

This Week 7th November - 14th November (Psalter Week 4)	Mass Intentions	Other Events
<b>Sunday 7th November</b> Thirty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B	8.30 am Deceased members of the Clapham family RIP (MB) 10.30 am George Mason RIP (M.M) 6.00 pm People of the Parish	Retiring Collection for the Johnson Association
<b>Monday 8th November</b> Feria in Ordinary Time	9.15 am Colin Powell RIP (BB)	
<b>Tuesday 9th November</b> Feast of the Dedication of the Lateran Basilica	9.15 am Holy Mass 3.00 pm Funeral Service	
<b>Wednesday 10th November</b> Memorial of St. Leo the Great, Pope, Doctor of the Church	9.15 am Holy Mass	6.00 pm: Adoration & Benediction (Live Streamed only) 7.30 pm Finance Committee Meeting
<b>Thursday 11th November</b> Memorial of St. Martin of Tours, Bishop	9.15 am Deceased members of the Brush family RIP (MB)	
<b>Friday 12th November</b> Memorial of St. Josaphat, Bishop, Martyr	9.15 am Holy Mass	9.45am: Novena to the Sacred Heart (soon after Mass) 6.30 pm: Youth Group
<b>Saturday 13th November</b> Feria in Ordinary Time	11.00 am Harry Remedios RIP (KA)	10.00 am -12 Noon: FHC Preparation - Parish Children <b>10.15 am - 10.45 am: Confessions</b>
<b>Sunday 14th November</b> Thirty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B	8.30 am Arthur Leason RIP (MB) 10.30 am People of the Parish 6.00 pm Holy Mass	Remembrance Day World Day of the Poor

*“Those who truly forgive do not forget. Instead, they choose not to yield to the same destructive force that caused them so much suffering. They break the vicious circle; they halt the advance of the forces of destruction...Revenge resolves nothing.”*

Pope Francis, Fratelli Tutti (paragraph 251)

## SACRED HEART COMMUNITY

Fr. George Mathew SCJ  
(Parish Priest)

fr.george.mathew@  
rcaob.org.uk

**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

St. Joseph's Catholic  
Primary School,  
Droitwich

Tel: 01905 773572

Email: office@st-josephs-  
droitwich.worcs.sch.uk

## HEAD TEACHER

Mrs. Cath Bryan

## PARISH SECRETARY

Kate Dalglish

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## PARISH SAFEGUARDING REPRESENTATIVES

Gerry Ceclich

Kate Dalglish

Clare Tomlinson

Email:  
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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: My soul, give praise to the Lord.

6.00 pm: Come lord and save us, come Lord and save us.  
Maranatha! Come into our world. X

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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, Barbara Coomber, 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 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 **Anna (Angela) McDowell** who died recently. The Funeral Service will be on Tuesday 9th November at 3.00 pm at the Sacred Heart Church. May her soul and the souls of all the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace. Please keep her family and friends in your kind thoughts and prayers.

## NOVEMBER : MONTH OF THE HOLY SOULS

In November we remember and pray especially for those who have died. At the back of church there are "In Remembrance" sheets. If you would like to remember in this special way loved ones who have died, write down their names, place the sheet in one of the envelopes provided and put it in the Holy Souls Box (**do not put any money in the envelope**). The Holy Souls Box will be placed near the altar at each Mass in November. It is a good time to offer the sacrifice of Mass for a loved one in November and also someone you know who is in need or close to you. There are Mass Intention Request envelopes available in the Narthex if you wish to have Mass offered for deceased relatives and friends.

## PAX CHRISTI CHRISTMAS CARDS



Pax Christi are now offering new religious Christmas cards. The three cards have real integrity and come in a mixed pack of 10 cards and envelopes and can be ordered from <https://paxchristi.org.uk/product/nativity-trio-cards/>

The cards were produced with photographs of felt banners made for decorating St. Laurence's church in Cambridge, many years ago.

## 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.
- **Seating:** 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 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 is now open to the public for private prayer and for visiting.

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.

## UNIVERSE CATHOLIC WEEKLY

The Universe Catholic Weekly is thrilled to announce that we have launched our new on line newspaper with the full support of our first subscriber none other than His Eminence Cardinal Vincent Nichols. Order your digital copy by going to [www.universecatholicweekly.co.uk](http://www.universecatholicweekly.co.uk) or call us on 07436 617650 and ask for Michelle. Special offer: Only £20.00 for 3 months.

## ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

If you know of anyone in need please do not hesitate in contacting us on 0777 292 7535 or [droitwichsvp@gmail.com](mailto:droitwichsvp@gmail.com).

## HALL BOOKING SECRETARY

Sally Spink has taken over the role of Hall Booking Secretary. Please contact Sally at [volunteers.sacredheart.droitwich@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:volunteers.sacredheart.droitwich@rcaob.org.uk) or on 07891 144870 if you would like to book the hall. Thank you to Kate for her faithful service as hall booking secretary.

## SUSTAINABLE FLOWER ARRANGING WORKSHOP

The church flower group are getting together on Saturday 20th November at 2.00 pm to try sustainable and eco methods of flower arranging. We would like to invite any parishioners who are interested, to come and join us. There is no obligation to join the flower group. For more information and to book a place please email Penny Gilfeather at [pgilfeather1949@gmail.com](mailto:pgilfeather1949@gmail.com).

## *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.*

## DATES FOR FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PREPARATION - PARISH CHILDREN

The FHC preparation sessions will be held on Saturdays 13th & 27th November. The First Holy Communion Mass will be celebrated on Saturday 4th December at 11.00 am.

## DIOCESAN EDUCATION SERVICE

The Archdiocese of Birmingham is seeking to recruit inspectors of Catholic primary and secondary schools. We are particularly keen to hear from former school leaders who seek to remain connected with Catholic Education. Please email [b.mcardle@bdes.org.uk](mailto:b.mcardle@bdes.org.uk) for details. There is a poster that has been emailed with this newsletter and is also on our website.

## CONFIRMATION

The Confirmation Mass is on Tuesday 7th December at 7.00 pm.

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

**Main Collection:**  
**£167.09**

**Gift Aid: £240.50**

**Thank you for  
supporting your  
Parish.**

**Mass Attendance  
Last Sunday: 184**

### **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. More options have now been added.

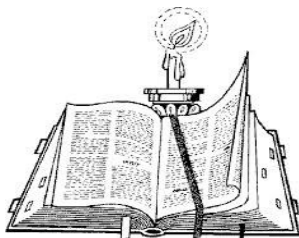
### **CAFOD**

A thank you letter from CAFOD is on the website and has been emailed with this newsletter.



### **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**

*Daniel 12: 1-3;*

*Psalms 15;*

*Hebrews 10: 11-14,  
18;*

*Mark 13: 24-32*

*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.*

### ***Be generous as our Heavenly Father is generous***

When the Old Testament refers to the poor, they often list three categories of people: the stranger, the orphan and the widow (Deut 14:29). The Hebrew Scriptures constantly invite people to be sensitive to the needs of these vulnerable people. When it talks about the justice of God, the Old Testament speaks of the God who defends the stranger, the orphan and the widow (Ps 146:9). It is in this context that the first reading of today becomes even more meaningful. At a time of scarcity, Prophet Elijah, instead of helping the widow, requests help from her. The poor widow generously offers the prophet the last bit of food that she had. The Lord God blesses her generosity, abundantly: "The jar of meal was not spent, nor the jug of oil emptied" (1 Kings 1:16).

Jesus invites those who want to follow him to be kind to the poor: "Go and sell what you own and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me" (Mk 10:21). But Jesus is not glorifying material poverty. He invites us to be "poor in spirit" (Mt 5:3). Therefore, the virtue of detachment or 'poverty in spirit' is not just a challenge for those who are rich in the material sense but for the poor, as well.

In the last few Sundays, we have been reflecting on the events taking place as Jesus was on his journey towards Jerusalem. The powerful theme that was emerging in the teachings of Jesus during that journey was 'discipleship'. Now Jesus has entered Jerusalem and He is inside the temple, he is touched by the generosity of this poor widow, as she contributes to the maintenance of the temple and the upkeep of the priests. Jesus uses this occasion to impart a message once again on discipleship. The widow in today's gospel was not only materially poor because she was a widow, but also poor in spirit because "she from the little she had has put in everything she possessed, all she had to live on" (Mk 12:44). A true disciple is poor in spirit being able to totally depend on God. A true disciple can make themselves vulnerable in front of God. A true disciple is able to give to God the best part of oneself.

Often, we water down the meaning of this text, or rob the text of its depth of meaning by quoting it as an example of generosity. I think, the meaning of the text here goes beyond money, wealth, and possessions: Am I able to make myself vulnerable in the presence of God? Am I able to stand before God, with my arms open and empty, with my mind still searching for answers, and my heart ready to respond to the Grace of God? The story of the widow is only the culmination in a series of people in the Gospels who abandon their false securities in the presence of God: The Magi open their treasures and humbly prostrate before the baby in whom they have seen the presence of God (Mt 2:1-11); The disciples when called by Jesus leave their boats, hired men and even their father and follow Jesus (Mk 1:20, 4:22); Zacchaeus is willing to give half of his property to the poor (Lk 19:9); Bartimaeus, the blind beggar, leaves his upper garment and comes to Jesus in a symbolic nakedness (Mk 10:50); and, The Samaritan woman after her encounter with Jesus leaves her empty water jar at the feet of Jesus in a symbolic abandonment of her past (Jn 4:28).

A question that we can all ask ourselves then is: what is it that I am still<sup>4</sup> holding on to – that prevents me from totally surrendering myself to God?