



Societas Presbyterorum
Sacratissimi Cordis Jesu
BETHARRAM

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



Today's Mass Readings

Genesis 15: 5-12, 17-18;

Psalm 26;

Philippians 3: 17 - 4: 1;

Luke 9: 28-36

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

This Week 13th March - 20th March (Psalter Week 2)	Holy Mass & Services	Other Events
Sunday 13th March Second Sunday of Lent Year C	8.30 am Pat Tomlinson (EK) 10.30 am Special Intention (MM) 6.00 pm Mary Frawley RIP (S & SR)	Retiring Collection for CAFOD 12 Noon: Baptism 5.15 pm: Stations of the Cross
Monday 14th March Lent Feria	9.15 Linda Amatnieks RIP	
Tuesday 15th March Lent Feria	9.15 am Patricia Ceclich RIP (GC)	
Wednesday 16th March Lent Feria	9.15 am Eileen Johns RIP (CP)	6.00 pm: Adoration & Benediction (Live Streamed only)
Thursday 17th March Feast of St. Patrick, Bishop, Patron of Ireland	9.15 am For Peace in the World	
Friday 18th March Lent Feria	9.15 am Fr. Brian Boyle 9.45am: Novena to the Sacred Heart (soon after Mass)	6.30 pm: Youth Group
Saturday 19th March Solemnity of St. Joseph, Husband of the Blessed Virgin Mary	11.00 am Jennifer Cornwall RIP (CT) (Mass with the Sacrament of Anointing)	10.15 am -10.45 am: Confessions
Sunday 20th March Third Sunday of Lent Year C	8.30 am People of the Parish 10.30 am Holy Mass 6.00 pm Holy Mass	During 10.30 am Mass: Children's Liturgy 5.15 pm Stations of the Cross

Rivers of blood and tears are flowing in Ukraine. It is not merely a military operation, but a war, which sows death, destruction and misery...The need for humanitarian assistance in that troubled country is growing dramatically by the hour. I make a heartfelt appeal for humanitarian corridors to be genuinely secured, and for aid to be guaranteed and access facilitated to the besieged areas, in order to offer vital relief to our brothers and sisters oppressed by bombs and fear. I thank all those who are taking in refugees. Above all, I implore that the armed attacks cease and that negotiation - and common sense - prevail. And that international law be respected once again!

Pope Francis, 6th March 2022

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

Tel.: 01905 773258

Email:
sacredheart.droitwich@
rcaob.org.uk

PARISH SAFEGUARDING REPRESENTATIVES

Gerry Ceclich

Kate Dalglish

Clare Tomlinson

Email:
sg.sacredheart.droitwich
@rcaob.org.uk

**Archdiocese of
Birmingham
Safeguarding Team**

Tel.: 0121 230 6240

Email: safeguarding
@rcaob.org.uk

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

8.30 am & 10.30 am: The Lord is my light and my help.

6.00 pm: There is one thing I ask of the Lord (x2).
For this I long to live in the house of God each day
of my life, each day of my life.

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, Tony Gilroy, Joan Graham, Bev Griffiths, 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.

LIVE SIMPLY - THE NEXT CHAPTER

The Pope is urging us to Live Simply; the bible urges us to help others. The parish is proposing to combine the two by setting up a Community Garden to grow vegetables for those in need, the Foodbank and the presbytery. We need to start quickly for this season and above all we need a Garden Leader and a bunch of helpers – the more hands the lighter the work! If you would like to help with this project please give your name to Fr George or the Parish Office or write your name on a card and put it in the box provided at the back of church. We will get in touch with you. Thank you for your support.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Lent is a time to reflect more deeply on Jesus's journey to Calvary. This year this traditional devotion is at 5.15 pm on each Sunday of Lent. In previous years individuals and groups have offered to lead the reflection. If you wish to lead this devotion on one of the Sundays, please speak to Fr. George SCJ. Many thanks.

ADORATION ON WEDNESDAYS

We are planning to resume the Wednesday Adoration from 10.00 am until 7.00 pm on Wednesday 23rd March. If you would like to pledge an hour with the Lord in Adoration on Wednesdays, please write your names and the desired time in the list at the back of the church.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PROGRAMME 2022

If your child is in Year 3 or above and you wish for your child to be prepared to receive this Sacrament in the summer 2022, please would you contact Fr. George SCJ or the Parish Office by Sunday 27th March. The first meeting for parents and children will take place on Saturday 2nd April at 10.00 am in the Parish Hall. This year the First Holy Communion Mass will be on Saturday 11th June at 11.00 am.

SVP DROITWICH

Would you like some company on a Sunday afternoon? Come once a month to the Sacred Heart Church Hall for a friendly get together and have a cuppa, cake and biscuits and a chat. Initially we will meet on the second Sunday of the month 2.30 pm until 4.30 pm in the Sacred Heart Church Hall Elgar room. This is open to all and will be ecumenical and free. For more information please contact the SVP on 0777 292 7535. **Our first meeting is today. We look forward to seeing you.**

COVID-19 GUIDANCE: UPDATED 27TH FEBRUARY

The Archdiocese have recently updated their Covid-19 guidance. Please note that the wearing of face covering is now advised rather than mandatory. Please sanitise your hands on entrance and exit. Holy Communion will continue to be under one kind. Social distancing is not required but please be sensitive to the needs of others in church. As has always been good practice during pandemic, please **avoid** attending church if you, or someone in your household, has symptoms of COVID. A big thank you to all of you for your cooperation and understanding.

SVP & UKRAINE

SVP have active conferences in Ukraine and neighbouring Romania. If anyone would like to use SVP as a conduit for refugee relief donations, the appeal website is: www.svp.org.uk.

TEAS AND COFFEES

We are planning to resume offering refreshments after the 8.30 am and 10.30 am Sunday Masses from the First Sunday in Lent. If you would like to volunteer to be on a rota to make the teas and coffees after either Mass, please contact the parish office or speak to Fr. George.

THE ARCHDIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM: DIOCESAN DIRECTORY 2022

We have a few copies of the 2022 Diocesan Directory available for parishioners. These are £2.75 each and are available from the Parish Office.

ONLINE LENT RETREAT

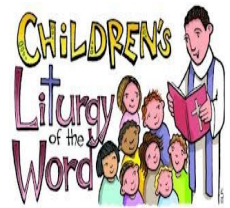
The online Lent Retreat started on Ash Wednesday and will run until Easter Sunday (17th April). If you would like to join in please contact Max and Cecilia Jourdier as soon as you can at mandcjourdier@gmail.com or on 01886 812259.

FRIENDS OF THE HOLY LAND: HOW IS THE HOLY LAND?

On Tuesday 22nd March at 7.00pm Laila Asfoura will be in Worcester at St. George's Hall as part of her country wide tour to talk to all of our contacts about the current situation in the Holy Land and how our brothers and sisters are faring after two years of pandemic without pilgrimages. To reserve a seat, please contact Jim Quinn at j.quinn789@btinternet.com or phone on 01299 851021.

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.*



CHILDREN'S LITURGY

There will be no Children's Liturgy today.

COMMUNITY MEAL

Caroline is looking for volunteers to help with the Community Meal, which she is hoping to start at the end of March or the first week in April. Thank you for your support.

MASS WITH THE SACRAMENT OF ANOINTING

The Anointing Mass has resumed on every third Saturday of the month.

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

Main Collection:
£197.83

Gift Aid: £230.00

**Thank you for
supporting your
Parish.**

**Mass Attendance
Last Sunday: 210**

**The retiring
collection for
Cathedral
Maintenance raised:
£55.06**

Gift Aid: £70.00

**Thank you for your
generosity.**

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

If you know of
anyone in need
please do not
hesitate in contacting
us on
0777 292 7535 or at
droitwichsvp
@gmail.com.



Next Sunday's Mass Readings

*Exodus 3: 1-8,
13-15;*

Psalms 102;

*1 Corinthians 10: 1-6,
10-12;*

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 mysterious episode of the transfiguration told in today's Gospel (Luke 9:28-36) confirms the pattern of life and mission set by Jesus in his triple victory over Satan during the time of his testing in the desert, the account of which we heard last Sunday. The focal point of the event of transfiguration is a mountain. The Gospel describing the transfiguration clearly has three parts: (1) going up the mountain, (2) the moment of grace on top of the mountain and (3) coming down the mountain with the fruits of that experience.

Going up the mountain: The gospel reading of Ash Wednesday, proposed a programme for the spiritual journey of the season of Lent: fasting, prayer and almsgiving. These three 'strategies' are relevant not only for the season of Lent but throughout our Christian life. The season of Lent is but an intense way of living out our Christian life. Therefore fasting, prayer and almsgiving are ways to go beyond ourselves, extend our hearts to God (vertical dimension - in prayer) and to stretch out our hands to our neighbours (the horizontal dimension - in charity). These two dimensions of our Christian life journey are like going up the mountain and coming down it. What does the gospel text of today tell us about going up the mountain, more precisely, about Christian prayer? It is Jesus who "took with him Peter and James and his brother John went up a high mountain where they be alone." It is God himself who enables us to pray. Just as it was God who invited Abram to enter a covenant with Him, as we heard in the first reading of today (Gen. 12: 1-4), it is God who invites us to enter a relationship with Him in prayer. Our task is to respond positively to His invitation. Lent is the special time set aside for this.

On the mountain-top: On top of the mountain the three disciples are privileged to witness a theophany despite their own inability to be present to God. Other Gospels tell us, "Peter and his companions were heavy with sleep..." (Lk 9: 32). They see Jesus in the company of two great men in the history of Israel: Moses and Elijah. Moses stands for the Law and Elijah for the Prophets, thus showing that Jesus is the fulfilment of the Old Testament. And "suddenly from the cloud there came a voice which said, 'This is my Son, the Beloved; he enjoys my favour. Listen to him!'" (v.5) This was for the disciples an experience of God in the person of Jesus. We encounter God in the person of Jesus. That is the very reason why He took human form. We see God and feel His presence in the person of Jesus. The most experiential moment is the time that we receive Him in the Eucharist.

Coming down the mountain: The Gospels tell us: "As they came down from the mountain Jesus gave them this order, 'Tell no one about this vision until the Son of man has risen from the dead'" (Mt 17: 9). God experience invites us to silence and contemplation, so that the effects of the experience could be deepened, at least until the right time. Secondly, this silence is not necessarily a permanent isolation from the world. It is also something that is carried forward to the marketplace, to our daily life, to our homes, to the place of work and study. This is the significance of coming down the mountain. The spiritual exercises of the Lenten season are meant to offer us the possibility of experiencing God more deeply, and to carry that experience to our encounter with people. May Christ who transfigured on Mount Tabor bless us to live in a state of grace all through this lent.