



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

Acts 10: 34, 37-43;  
Psalm 117;  
1 Corinthians 5: 6-8;  
John 20: 1-9

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

This Week 17th April - 24th April	Holy Mass & Services	Other Events
<b>Sunday 17th April</b> <b>SOLEMNITY OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD</b> Year C	8.30 am Holy Mass 10.30 am Holy Mass <b>No Evening Mass</b>	Easter Offering for the Parish Clergy
<b>Monday 18th April</b> Easter Monday	<b>10.00 am Holy Communion Service</b>	
<b>Tuesday 19th April</b> Easter Tuesday	<b>9.15 am Holy Communion Service</b>	
<b>Wednesday 20th April</b> Easter Wednesday	<b>9.15 am Holy Communion Service</b>	10.00 am until 7.00 pm: Adoration
<b>Thursday 21st April</b> Easter Thursday	<b>9.15 am Holy Communion Service</b>	
<b>Friday 22nd April</b> Easter Friday	9.15 am Sheila Manion RIP (PW)	12 Noon: Wedding
<b>Saturday 23rd April</b> Easter Saturday	11.00 am Doreen RIP (P & CI)	<b>10.15 am -10.45 am: Confessions</b>
<b>Sunday 24th April</b> <b>Second Sunday of Easter</b> Year C	8.30 am Kathleen O'Toole-Healy- Hannon (CH) 10.30 am Special Intention (Mrs MC) 6.00 pm Dennis O'Hara RIP (BO)	Divine Mercy Sunday 12 Noon: Baptism

*"We are preparing to celebrate the victory of the Lord Jesus Christ over sin and death - over sin and death - not over someone and against someone else. But today, there is a war. Because there is something to be won this way, according to the way of the world? This is only the way to lose. Why not allow Him to win? Christ bore his cross to free us from the dominion of evil. He died so that life, love, peace might reign."*

Pope Francis, 10th April 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: This day was made by the Lord; we  
rejoice and are glad.

6.00 pm: No evening Mass

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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, Joan Graham, Bev Griffiths, Beryl  
Hill, Alan Hurst, John Jennings, Sally McCool, Andrew McDermott, Jackie  
McLean, Michael Sheridan, Jacky Smith, Paul Smith, Margaret Steward,  
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 **Angela Wardle** and **Anthony Gilroy** who died  
recently. May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed through  
the mercy of God rest in peace. The Requiem Mass for Anthony Gilroy will  
be on Thursday 28th April at 12 Noon. Please keep their family and friends  
in your kind thoughts and prayers.

## FR. GEORGE SCJ

Fr. George will be away from the parish on a pilgrimage to the Holy Land  
from Easter Monday until Saturday 23rd April. There will be Holy  
Communion Services from Monday until Thursday next week. Fr. Biju will  
say Mass on Friday 22nd April and Saturday 23rd April and will also be  
available to hear Confessions on the Saturday.

## LIVE SIMPLY

So, what is the LiveSimply award? It is awarded to communities who can  
show how they have been:

- Living simply.
- Living in solidarity with people in poverty.
- Living sustainably with creation.
- "We will find it hard to feel and show any real concern for those in  
need, unless we are able to cultivate a certain simplicity of life,  
resisting the feverish demands of a consumer society, which leave us  
all impoverished and unsatisfied, anxious to have it all now." Pope  
Francis, 2018, Gaudete et Exsultate para. 108

## CASHLESS GIVING DEVICE

If you notice any issues with the cashless giving device in church, please  
could you contact the parish office as soon as possible. This will enable any  
issues to be resolved swiftly. Many thanks. Parish Secretary.

## SAFEGUARDING - DBS CHECKS

It is the responsibility of the parish to ensure that individuals volunteering in the following roles have a current DBS check in place: Altar Servers (over 18s only), Catechists, Children's Liturgy Leaders, Eucharistic Ministers (home visitors only), SVP and Youth Group Leaders (over 18s only). If you currently volunteer in one of these roles and have not had a DBS check in the last 3 years or are unsure please could you contact [sg.sacredheart.droitwich@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:sg.sacredheart.droitwich@rcaob.org.uk) as soon as possible. Many thanks, the Safeguarding Team.

## CARITAS SOCIAL ACTION NETWORK (CSAN)

### POVERTY CHALLENGE - SEE, JUDGE, ACT

Following the pandemic, many households now also face new hardships as prices rise. Caritas Social Action Network (CSAN), the Catholic agency addressing poverty and injustice in England and Wales, has released a new free booklet to increase awareness of Catholic Social Teaching on poverty, and to inform local responses. This can be downloaded from [www.csan.org.uk](http://www.csan.org.uk).

## 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.

## 200 CLUB WINNERS 2022 QUARTER 1

Month	Prize	Ticket No.	Initials
January 2022	£75.00	88	PWe
	£50.00	32	GNLy
	£25.00	117	GPI
February 2022	£75.00	18	VBa
	£50.00	200	FHo
	£25.00	21	PBe
March 2022	£75.00	68	KLa
	£50.00	193	BR-B
	£25.00	109	MO'R

More members are required please. The 2021 200 club accounts have been distributed with this newsletter.

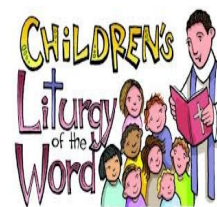
## *Act of Spiritual Communion Prayer*

*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.*



## COMMUNITY MEAL

Thank you to all those who have volunteered their time to help with the Community Meal. There will be a coffee meeting for all volunteers after the 8.30 am Mass on Sunday 1st May.



## CHILDREN'S LITURGY

Children's Liturgy will resume on Sunday 8th May.

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

**Gift Aid: £165.00**

**Thank you for  
supporting your  
Parish.**

**Mass Attendance  
Last Sunday: 211**



### **ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY**

If you would like some company a drink, chat and cake then please come and join us on Sunday 8th May from 2.30 pm to 4.30 pm in the church hall. Please see the notice at the back of church for more information.

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



### **Next Sunday's Mass**

#### **Readings**

*Acts 5: 12-16;*

*Psalms 117;*

*Apocalypse 1: 9-13,  
17-19;*

*John 20: 19-31*

*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.*

### ***He is not here! He is risen! Alleluia!***

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ, One of the things that makes the stories of the first Easter so believable is just that sense of unexpectedness – the disciples came to the tomb never having really believed that their Lord would return from death, and now they find themselves in a disturbing new world where anything is possible. What was it like for those first few hours after the empty tomb had been found, after Mary Magdalene had delivered her breathless message? It must have been a period of alarming doubt, half hope, half terror.

It is interesting to note that Easter is the least commercialised Christian feast. Perhaps the message of Easter is not so easily domesticated as Christmas and the other feast days. It is a story that now spans nearly two millennia and features men and women who have been stunned by joy. Christian joy, the joy of Easter, is also offered to the world not to guarantee a permanently happy society, a society free from tension, pain or disappointment, but to affirm that whatever happens in an unpredictable world - sometimes wonderfully unpredictable, sometimes horribly unstable – there is a deeper level of reality. A new creation that is a sort of world within the world, where love and reconciliation are ceaselessly at work, a world with which contact can be made so that we are able to live honestly and courageously with the challenges constantly thrown at us. And on the first Easter morning we are allowed to see, like Peter and John at the empty tomb, into the darkness for a moment – and find our world turned upside down, joy made possible. This joy is not simply the confident expectation of life after death, our deaths. If that is all Easter means, then Karl Marx was correct in condemning religions, especially Christianity, as the opiate of the people. What makes the joy of Easter resist domestication? The wounds, the scars. The risen body of Jesus contained the scars from nail and spear, and these scars identified the risen One to his followers. And yet, the wounds of Jesus took on new significance considering his Resurrection. While still reminders of the violence of crucifixion his wound-marked risen body demonstrates God's power over evil and death. His Resurrection is not a disembodied spiritual reality for life after the grave; it bears the marks of his wounded life here and now, yet with new significance. The Resurrection of Christ is central to our faith and gives profound value to what we do in this world. The struggle for justice and mercy, acts of love and the creation of communities of kindness and forgiveness all these all matter, and they matter forever. Take away the Resurrection, and these things are important for the present but irrelevant for the future and hence not all that important after all even now.

The vocation to holiness to the fully human life, reflecting the image of God, that is made possible by Jesus' victory on the cross and that is energized by the Spirit of the risen Jesus present within communities and persons. The Resurrection demonstrates that cynicism, despair and death do not have the final word either for human beings or for God's creation. God's last word is Resurrection amidst our human, often-wounded lives now. Pope Francis celebrates Easter Sunday with thousands of pilgrims in St. Peter's. He asked them to return home repeating the words, "Christ is risen." We no longer look for Jesus among the dead, in fairy tales or comforting fables, for Christ is risen, wounded yet glorious. Christ is risen, so our lives and the witness of our communities matter. Christ has risen, our joy is complete.

Wishing you all a Happy Easter. Fr. George Mathew SCJ