



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 5: 27-32, 40-41;
Psalm 29;
Apocalypse 5: 11-14;
John 21: 1-19

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

This Week 1st May - 8th May (Psalter Week 3)	Holy Mass & Services	Other Events
Sunday 1st May Third Sunday of Easter Year C	8.30 am Tony Allen RIP (MR) 10.30 am Doreen RIP (P & CI) 6.00 pm Dominic Chapman RIP (Pilley Family)	During 10.30 am Mass: Children's Liturgy
Monday 2nd May Memorial of St. Athanasius, Bishop, Doctor of the Church	10.00 am Alan Remedios RIP (KA)	1.30 pm Reception of the Body and 2.30pm Burial Service of Fr. Ted
Tuesday 3rd May Feast of Ss. Philip & James, Apostles	9.15 am Angela Wardle RIP (BB)	12 Noon: Church Tour (Private Group)
Wednesday 4th May Feast of the English Martyrs	9.15 am Angela Corrigan (M & LR)	10.00 am until 7.00 pm: Adoration
Thursday 5th May Easter Feria	9.15 am Sheila Manion RIP (SVP)	
Friday 6th May Easter Feria	9.15 am Enid Larkin RIP & Maurice Larkin RIP (K & EL) 9.45am: Novena to the Sacred Heart (soon after Mass)	6.30 pm: Youth Group
Saturday 7th May Easter Feria	11.00 am Intentions of Ekaterina & Jesse (K & EL)	10.15 am -10.45 am: Confessions
Sunday 8th May Fourth Sunday of Easter Year C Retiring Collection for the Clergy Training Fund	8.30 am Francis Nixon RIP (RB) 10.30 am Fr. Edward Simpson RIP 6.00 pm Dominic Chapman RIP (SVP)	After 8.30 am Mass: Community Meal Meeting During 10.30 am Mass: Children's Liturgy 2.30 pm: SVP Afternoon

"Christ is risen, he is truly risen! May he fill with hope the good expectations of hearts. May he grant peace, outraged by the barbarity of war...It is sad that in these days, which are the holiest and most solemn for all Christians, the deadly roar of weapons is heard rather than the sound of bells announcing the Resurrection; and it is sad that weapons are increasingly taking the place of words."

Pope Francis, 24th 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 & 6.00 pm:

I will praise you, Lord, you have rescued me.

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.

RECENTLY DECEASED

Your prayers are asked for **Fr. Edward (Ted) Simpson SCJ, Dominic Chapman** and **Angela Wardle** 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 Fr. Ted will be at 11.00 am on Monday 2nd May at Olton Friary with the Reception of the Body on Sunday 1st May at 7.30 pm. Following the Requiem Mass the body will be brought to the Sacred Heart Church, Droitwich at 1.30 pm with the burial at 2.30 pm. After the burial there will be a reception in the hall in honour of Fr. Ted. Details of the other funerals will be announced in due course. Please keep their family and friends in your kind thoughts and prayers.

LIVESIMPLY INITIATIVE

Are you committing to live simply - think about what you can and can't change in your life right now. Maybe there are small steps you can take right away.

- Have you tried getting off the bus one stop earlier and walking, or aiming to cycle two days into work rather than one. Find out bus or train information. You want to travel to and from work using your own steam – like walking, running or cycling – practise your route at least once before you do it during a busy period of the day like rush hour. This is particularly important if you intend to cycle to work and you want to build up your confidence to cycle safely in traffic.
- Walk to Mass and meetings or share lifts. Offer someone who lives near you a lift to Mass.
- Use LED light bulbs and turn them off when they're not needed. Turn off computers and photocopiers when not in use.
- Check that you are recycling and composting as efficiently as possible.

READERS AND EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS - NEW ROTA

The new rota for Readers and Eucharistic Ministers from Sunday 24th April until Sunday 12th June was emailed to all on Tuesday 19th April. Copies are available from the Sacristy for those without email addresses.

JESUIT ONLINE RETREAT

33 of us joined in the Jesuit online Lent retreat this year from different churches and different denominations. We had zoom meetings on Tuesday afternoons for one group and on Thursday evenings for another larger group, which was split into 2 smaller breakout groups. We found that the story of St. Ignatius fitted in very well with the progress through Lent and many found his story both new and inspiring. As in previous years, the sharing in the weekly meetings was uplifting and a great blessing for all of us while the daily personal prayer with the wonderful resources provided yielded much fruit.

COVID-19 GUIDANCE: UPDATED 27TH FEBRUARY

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. Thank you for your co-operation.

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.

UNIVERSE CATHOLIC WEEKLY

The Universe Catholic Weekly is thrilled to announce that we have launched our new online newspaper. Order your digital copy by going to www.universecatholicweekly.co.uk or call us on 0743 661 7650.

NEWMAN ASSOCIATION - WORCESTER CIRCLE

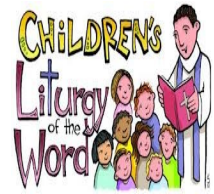
An open meeting will held on Wednesday 11th May at 7.30 pm at St. George's Parish Hall, Worcester to discuss the possibility of a relaunch of the Worcester Circle of the Newman Association. All welcome, bring along ideas of speakers, topics and the time of day meetings might be held.

FRIENDS OF THE HOLY LAND - PENTECOST CHALLENGE 2022

For further information about the Friends of the Holy Land Pentecost Challenge, please visit <https://www.friendsoftheholylan.org.uk/Appeal/pentecost22>. What is raised from this year's Pentecost Challenge will help Friends of the Holy Land support vocational training, jobs and small family businesses, along with funding their wider work across the Holy Land. We'll use your gifts where they will have the greatest impact. The link above also includes details of how to donate directly.

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

Children's Liturgy will resume today.

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.

CAFOD

CAFOD have thanked all parishioners for your generous donations to their Lent Family Fast Day.

SHEILA MANION RIP

Thank you to all who helped to make Sheila's Funeral Mass such a special occasion and also for the £220.00 in donations for St. Richards Hospice which has now been sent to them.

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

Main Collection:
£282.83

Gift Aid: £141.00

**Thank you for
supporting your
Parish.**

**Mass Attendance
Last Sunday: 193**

**Additional donation
for Holy Places:**

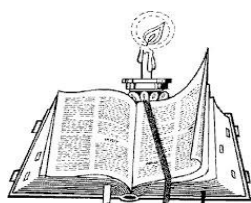
Gift Aid: £20.00

**Thank you for your
generosity.**



FOODBANK

There is a new wish list for Sunday 1st May that is on the website and has been emailed with the newsletter. Thank you for your generosity.



Next Sunday's Mass Readings

Acts 13: 14, 43-52;

Psalms 99;

*Apocalypse 7: 9,
14-17;*

John 10: 27-30

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.

Are we reaching out to others?!

Today's reading from the Acts of the Apostles tells of the preaching of Jesus' followers and how they simply could not keep quiet about what had happened. Those who followed Lord Jesus then often found that they could not be silent about what He had done in their lives. This is happening even today. We hear testimonies of people about the ways that Jesus has changed their lives just like the early disciples. The second reading, from the Book of Revelation, takes us to heaven and gives witness that even in heaven, there is praise of the Risen Lord. It is as if heaven reflects to us what happened here on earth when Jesus rose from the dead.

The Gospel today brings us back to the post resurrection appearances of Jesus on lake Tiberius with a special and touching conversation between the Risen Jesus and Peter. Within one dialogue it combines two things. The mention of the "charcoal fire with fish on it" prepares us for this scene. Jesus used the 'charcoal fire' in his servant role as chef and as the giver of bread and fish. This 'charcoal fire' now serves as a witness for Peter's profession of love, recalling the previous 'charcoal fire' at the hour of Jesus' passion, next to which Peter had denied the Lord. There is the reconciliation between Jesus and Peter. Jesus offers Peter a public opportunity to profess 'repentance through love,' surely a striking example of what it is that re-establishes our relationship with the Lord after sin. In the gentlest of ways, the Risen Lord asks him, "Simon, son of John, do you love me more than these?" Peter now is confronted with his threefold denial and he ambiguously responds, "Yes, Lord, you know that I love you." Three times he is asked the same question just as three times he had denied. Now Peter is 'upset'. It deeply hurts him and he finally replies: "Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you." Peter's threefold denial is balanced by his threefold profession of love. With this, he and the Lord are reconciled. The dialogue is more than a moment of reconciliation. Jesus now hands over to Peter and to his companions the mission he himself had been given by the Father. "Feed my sheep". This is the responsibility of the Church and, as members of that Church, a responsibility that rests in varying degrees on every one of us. It is not just bishops, priests, religious who have this responsibility. It is also that of parents, teachers and even simply of brothers and sisters to each other. But first we need to reconcile with Jesus, for in our day to day lives there may be so many occasions when we denied the Lord by being a false witness. We need to express from the core of our hearts the words of Peter: "Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you". This is a call to friendship with Jesus as well.

As soon as Peter affirms his friendship with Jesus, He invites him to lay down his life for Jesus. Peter is aware that following Jesus is not going to be an easy task. He is ready, willing, and able. This witness is evident in the first reading in the Acts of the Apostles, Peter is willing to face any challenge that might come because of preaching the Risen Lord. He not only willing to suffer but also learned to rejoice in his suffering. The call to follow Jesus today will continue to be heard if there are people who dare open their hearts to his call. It will always a call to be a witness. Because the voice of Jesus can only be heard today in his disciples. He can be seen and experienced only those who are brave enough to follow Jesus and His teaching and reach out to others in Love.

Fr. George Mathew SCJ