



Societas Presbyterorum
Sacratissimi Cordis Jesu
BETHARRAM

SACRED HEART & ST CATHERINE OF ALEXANDRIA

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Today's Mass Readings

Acts 14: 21-27;

Psalm 144;

Apocalypse 21: 1-5;

John 13: 31-35

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

This Week 15th May - 22nd May (Psalter Week 1)	Holy Mass & Services	Other Events
Sunday 15th May Fifth Sunday of Easter Year C Retiring Collection for Ukraine Refugees	8.30 am People of Ukraine (EK) 10.30 am Anthony Pinnell RIP (G & CP) 6.00 pm Michael O'Hara (BO'H)	10.30 am First Holy Communion Commitment Mass
Monday 16th May Easter Feria	9.15 am Fr. Edward Simpson RIP	
Tuesday 17th May Easter Feria	9.15 am For the Sick and Infirm in the Parish	
Wednesday 18th May Easter Feria	9.15 am Margaret Taylor (G & CP)	10.00 am until 7.00 pm: Adoration
Thursday 19th May Easter Feria	9.15 am Sheila Manion RIP (AK)	
Friday 20th May Easter Feria	9.15 am Holy Mass 9.45am: Novena to the Sacred Heart (soon after Mass)	6.30 pm: Youth Group
Saturday 21st May Easter Feria	11.00 am Frances, Ernie & David Veale	10.15 am - 10.45 am: Confessions
Sunday 22nd May Sixth Sunday of Easter Year C	8.30 am People of the Parish 10.30 am Rose Lyon RIP (CL) 6.00 pm Gladys Remedios RIP (KA)	During 10.30 am Mass: Children's Liturgy

“And me? Do I let Jesus love me, and by allowing him to love me, do I pass from loving him to imitating him? May the Holy Virgin help us listen to Christ, know him always more and follow him on the way of service. Hearing him, knowing him, following him.”

Pope Francis, 8th May 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

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Mrs. Cath Bryan

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**PARISH SAFEGUARDING
REPRESENTATIVES**

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Kate Dalgleish

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**Archdiocese of
Birmingham
Safeguarding Team**

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@rcaob.org.uk

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

8.30 am & 10.30 am : I will bless your name for ever, O God
my King.

6.00 pm: The promises of the Lord are true and loving are all
his deeds. I will give you glory O God my king and
praise your name forever, and praise your name
forever.

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 Dalgleish. Please note that the newsletter is also
placed on the parish website. Thank you for your understanding.**

RECENTLY DECEASED

Your prayers are asked for **Dominic Chapman** who died recently. May his
soul and the souls of all the faithful departed through the mercy of God
rest in peace. Details of the funeral will be announced in due course. Please
keep his family and friends in your kind thoughts and prayers.

**RETIRING COLLECTION TO SUPPORT THOSE FROM UKRAINE SEEKING
SAFETY IN THE ARCHDIOCESE**

Many parish communities in our Archdiocese have already been most
generous in their support – financial and through prayer - for those who are
suffering because of the war in Ukraine. Archbishop Bernard has asked
parishes to hold a second collection this weekend to support our ability to
respond to the many needs connected with this work of welcome. We have
already seen, in St Chad's Sanctuary, many Ukrainian families coming for
support as they have not yet received a destitution fund. Our Ukrainian
communities in Wolverhampton and Coventry have held successful
orientation and community events for Ukrainian refugees. We want to
expand this work and support across the Diocese.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY - APPEAL FOR HELP

St. Vincent de Paul Society is looking for a clothes rail for someone who
doesn't have a wardrobe. If you have such a thing that is not being used
and would be happy to donate it to us please make contact either
on 0777 292 7535 or at droitwichsvp@gmail.com. Thank you for your
support.

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.

LIVESIMPLY INITIATIVE

Are you committing to live simply? How big is your environmental footprint?

The planet is in crisis from climate change to the pollution in our oceans and devastation in our forests. It is up to all of us to fix it. Take your first step and work out your carbon footprint at footprint.wwf.org.uk. Also look at climatestewards.org. Make your home more energy efficient, reduce your carbon emissions and lower your energy bills. Home – it's somewhere you want to feel safe and warm. That involves using energy to heat or cool your property, generate hot water and power all your appliances and devices. As a result around 21% of the UK's carbon emissions come from our homes. <http://energysavingtrust.org/>

THREADS THROUGH CREATION

Threads Through Creation is an extraordinary, uplifting textile art exhibition at Worcester Cathedral, on from now until Sunday 5th June. You'll get to see a spectacular display of twelve huge and beautiful silk panels retelling the story of Creation from Genesis. It took Christian artist Jacqui Parkinson three years, miles of thread - and eight million stitches! It's great for Christians to enjoy the detailed bible narrative, and it's one of those special opportunities where you can take non-Christian friends – and be certain they'll enjoy it. You'll have some interesting conversations. And it's great fun for kids too! More info at www.creation-threads.co.uk and www.worcestercathedral.co.uk.

BLESSED EDWARD OLD CORNE CATHOLIC COLLEGE - JOB VACANCIES

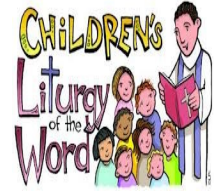
Job vacancies at Blessed Edward Oldcorne Catholic College:

- Level 3 Teaching Assistant with responsibility for Reading Interventions - Closing date: 10.00am on Wednesday 25 May 2022
- TA1 Physical Education Teaching Assistant and Technician - Closing date: 10.00am on Wednesday 25 May 2022
- Examinations officer – Closing date: 10.00am on Wednesday 25 May 2022

For further information and details of how to apply please visit <https://www.blessededward.co.uk/about-us/vacancies/>

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 during the 10.30 am Mass today. This will resume on Sunday 22nd May.

COMMUNITY MEAL

The next Community Meal is on Monday 6th June at 12.30 pm in the Parish Hall.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

If you would like some company a drink, chat and cake then please come and join us on Sunday 12th June 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.

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

Main Collection:
£269.40

Gift Aid: £129.00

**Thank you for
supporting your
Parish.**

**Mass Attendance
Last Sunday: 219**

**The retiring
collection for
the Clergy Training
Fund raised: £84.21**

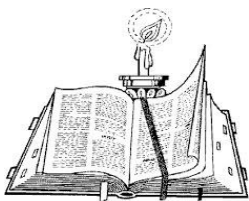
Gift Aid: £105.00

**Thank you for your
generosity.**



FOODBANK

There is a new wish list for Sunday 1st May that is on the website. Thank you for your generosity.



Next Sunday's Mass Readings

Acts 15: 1-2, 22-29;

Psalms 66;

*Apocalypse 21: 10-14,
22-23;*

John 14: 23-29

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.

"Love one another as I have loved you!"

The theme of this Sunday's liturgy is discipleship. St. Paul in the first reading encourages the early Christians to remain faithful in their call as disciples of Jesus Christ. His words are still an encouragement for us too on this 5th Sunday of Easter. He reminds us that: "We all have to experience many hardships before we enter the kingdom of God". In other words, he gives a new meaning to suffering; that for us Christians, suffering for the sake of Christ is a stepping stone to life with Christ. If we do not lose our faith during times of persecution of any kind and hardships, we shall be victorious. Therefore, love for Christ and his church, and love for one another must sustain us as we march towards the kingdom of God.

Through the vision of John in today's second reading, we get a glimpse of the kingdom of God that Paul spoke of in our first reading. The New Jerusalem (Eternal life) is the reward of all Christians who bear an authentic witness to the risen Christ. It is the hope of all who endure persecutions for the sake of Christ and his good news. It is the hope of those who maintain their faith in Christ. It is a place of comfort and consolation where the risen Christ: "Will wipe away all tears from their eyes; there will be no more death, and no more mourning or sadness". Through this vision, we are once again encouraged and assured that God himself has a place for us in his kingdom. It is his wish that one day we too shall be with him in his eternal kingdom where he promised to make all things new for us.

The Gospel reading today gives us the right direction to how one can achieve the goal of a Christian, that is eternal in Heaven. For this reason, Jesus gives us a new commandment that will help us to overcome this world and march into the New Jerusalem. He says: "I give you a new commandment, love one another; as I have loved you..." Through this, Christ reminds us that the only way we can overcome the tribulations and persecutions of this world is by remaining united in love. In times of trials and persecutions, love is the greatest virtue that sustains every Christian community. The early Christian community understood this very well. They obeyed Christ's command and were successful in their missions. So their admirers commented thus: "See how they love one another" (Tertullian, Apology: 39.7, 3 AD). Any Christian community or family that is united in love will never lose its focus or faith in God. This is the love that Paul described in his first letter to the Corinthian Christian community (1 Corinthians 13). This love cares, it does not exploit the other, it endures and forgives, and it empathizes and sympathizes with the other. This love may be blind, but it remains very prudent, sensible, reasonable, and godly. This love leads us to Christian discipleship that is to be with the Master Jesus and become like Him.

Finally, the love that Christ talks about here is an identification mark. Hence, He says: "...By this love everyone will know that you are my disciples". In other words, it is what defines us as true disciple of Christ. Only those who love sincerely can enter the New Jerusalem that the risen Christ promised his people. This love is a mark of the newness of life that Christ brings to all his people this Easter season.