



Societas Presbyterorum
Sacratissimi Cordis Jesu
BETHARRAM

SACRED HEART & ST CATHERINE OF ALEXANDRIA

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Today's Mass Readings

Acts 7: 55-60;
Psalm 96;
Apocalypse 22: 12-14, 16-17, 20;
John 17: 20-26

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

This Week 29th May - 5th June (Psalter Week 3)	Holy Mass & Services	Other Events
Sunday 29th May Seventh Sunday of Easter Year C Retiring Collection for Catholic Communications	8.30 am John Fleming RIP (M & LR) 10.30 am For People with Dementia 6.00 pm People of the Parish	After 8.30 am Mass: Tea and Coffee in the Hall World Communications Day 12 Noon: Baptism
Monday 30th May Easter Feria	9.15 am For the Sick and Housebound Parishioners	
Tuesday 31st May Feast of the Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary	9.15 am Holy Mass	
Wednesday 1st June Memorial of St. Justin, Martyr	9.15 am For Peace in the World	10.00 am until 7.00 pm: Adoration
Thursday 2nd June Easter Feria	10.00 am HM the Queen 70th Year on Throne (BB)	
Friday 3rd June Memorial of Ss. Charles Lwanga & Companions, Martyrs	10.00 am Holy Mass 10.45am: Novena to the Sacred Heart (soon after Mass)	
Saturday 4th June Easter Feria	11.00 am Alan Remedios RIP (KA)	10.15 am - 10.45 am: Confessions
Sunday 5th June Solemnity of Pentecost Year C	8.30 am Kevin & Isabella Read RIP (MM) 10.30 am People of the Parish 6.00 pm Holy Mass	After 8.30 am Mass: Tea and Coffee in the Hall After 10.30 am Mass: Tea and Coffee in the Hall Day of Prayer for the Church

“Let us learn to say every day: “Lord, give me your peace, give me your Holy Spirit”...And let us also ask this for those who live next to us, for those we meet each day, and for the leaders of nations. May Our Lady help us welcome the Holy Spirit so we can be peacemakers.”

Pope Francis, 22nd 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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Primary School,
Droitwich

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

HEAD TEACHER

Mrs. Cath Bryan

PARISH SECRETARY

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**PARISH SAFEGUARDING
REPRESENTATIVES**

Gerry Ceclich

Kate Dalgleish

Clare Tomlinson

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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 & 6.00pm:

The Lord is king, most high above all the earth.

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 **Betty Priddey** who died recently. May her soul and the souls of all the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace. The Requiem Mass will be on Thursday 9th June at 12 noon. Please keep her family and friends in your kind thoughts and prayers.

MASS: THURSDAY 2ND & FRIDAY 3RD JUNE

Please note the changes to the start times of the Masses on Thursday 2nd and Friday 3rd June. Due to the Bank Holidays to honour Her Majesty the Queen, Mass will start at **10.00 am** on these dates.

LIVESIMPLY INITIATIVE

Huge amounts of energy and fossil fuels are needed to make new plastic, and it sticks around in our environment for a long time. It is also only possible to recycle plastic two or three times before it becomes too degraded. Micro plastics have been found everywhere from human blood to Arctic snow. Government figures suggest that UK households recycled 44% of their waste in 2020. But some plastics put in recycling bins goes to landfill or incinerators, or is even sent abroad where it can be dumped instead. In 2020 BBC News uncovered mountains of plastic waste sent from the UK to Turkey. Participants in the Big Plastic Count receive a pack explaining how to count the plastics they use, broken down into 19 categories. They then tally up each type of plastic waste before putting it in the bin or the recycling. The data will be analysed by Everyday Plastic and Greenpeace to produce a national picture of plastic waste. The campaigners say radical action by government and supermarkets is required to reduce how much plastic is produced and to improve recycling rates.

CCTV

We have installed four CCTV cameras in the church covering the Narthex, main entrance and the path through the graveyard. For information access requests please contact the Archdiocese of Birmingham on 0121 230 6216 during office hours or the Parish Office on 01905 773258 outside of these times.

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.

REFUGEE KNITTING

Thank you so much to the parishioners who left such a vast quantity of wool recently. It is stored in the cupboard at the back of the church if anyone would like to knit anything to benefit the Syrian and Ukrainian Refugees. There are also patterns, needles and buttons to help defray your costs. The knitting collections can now resume, as GAIN are able to once again receive donations. Unfortunately I am unable to accept other items these days, with the exception of new underwear, but if any parishioner has storage facilities to extend the collections, please contact the Parish Office who can direct you to the charity. Many thanks to those who continued to knit and store items at home, I look forward to seeing your wonderful creations.

UNIVERSE CATHOLIC WEEKLY

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

THREADS THROUGH CREATION

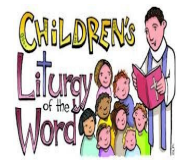
Threads Through Creation is an extraordinary, uplifting textile art exhibition at Worcester Cathedral, on from now until Sunday 5th June. You'll get to see a spectacular display of twelve huge and beautiful silk panels retelling the story of Creation from Genesis. It took Christian artist Jacqui Parkinson 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.

MARYVALE INSTITUTE

Join online on Wednesday 15th June 2022 at 6.00 pm (London) time for the latest in a series of occasional, online public seminars by Maryvale academics. This time, Dr. John Murray will be discussing *The Man With Two Consciences: A Modern Catholic Horror Story?* Attendance of the forum is free. Register at <https://www.maryvale.ac.uk/activities.html> to receive the link for the evening.

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.

10.30 AM MASS:

If you would like to help serve coffee and tea after the 10.30 am Mass please contact the parish office.

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:
£248.40**

**Gift Aid (15th May):
£185.00**

**Gift Aid (22nd May):
£251.00**

**Thank you for
supporting your
Parish.**

**Mass Attendance
Last Sunday: 197**

**Additional Gift Aid
donation for Clergy
Training: £5.00**

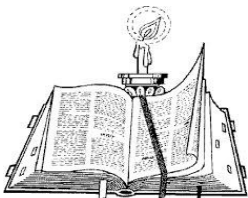
**Thank you for your
generosity.**



FOODBANK

There is a new wish list for Sunday 22nd May that is on the website and the noticeboard at the back of church. Any donations would be gratefully received.

Thank you.



Next Sunday's Mass

Readings

Acts 2: 1-11;

Psalm 103;

*1 Corinthians 12: 3-7,
12-13*

John 20: 19-23

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.

In the first reading we hear about how St. Stephen, the first martyr, courageously gave up his life for the love of Christ. In a worldly sense it was a tragic moment but for a Christian it is a gain. A few days before we celebrated the feast of the Ascension of our Lord. Jesus ascends, not distances himself from us but that we, his members, might be confident of following where He, our head, has gone before.

In the Gospel reading today we hear our Lord praying for his disciples. This prayer, recalls Jesus' prayer at the Last Supper. When He prays for us, it touches us to the heart. What a beautiful thing to know that the Son of God personally prayed for us while He was still on earth. In this prayer He says that we are the Father's gift to Him. By praying for us Jesus shares something of his wish list as he prepares to face his own suffering and death and his return to the Father. Perhaps we could more accurately describe Jesus' wish list as a prayer list. In the presence of his disciples, Jesus prays what is known as his High Priestly Prayer. This prayer becomes the conclusion of Jesus' farewell discourse. His prayer is that all may be one, as he and the Father are one. The oneness he shares with the Father he wishes for his disciples and for us. Further, he prays for all who will come to believe in him through the word and witness of his disciples. "I wish that where I am they also may be with me, that they may see my glory that you gave me, because you loved me before the foundation of the world" (John 17:24). Through his words, Jesus reminds the disciples and us that the unity he shares with the Father is not meant to be exclusive for the two of them. His prayer is that all people may be drawn into this uniting love that he, the Father and the Spirit share.

That for which Jesus prayed reveals what was important to him and also gives us a focus for living our lives. Each of us through our baptism is linked to that line of witnesses and believers for whom Jesus prayed. On this Seventh Sunday of Easter and as we prepare in another week to conclude the Easter season with the Feast of Pentecost, it is good for each of us to ponder the consistency of our witness to faith in the risen Lord. How do we strive to witness each day to the life-giving power of the Holy Spirit within us? How do we describe the quality of our love for each other? It is witness to and from others that encourages, gives hope, invites conversion of heart and mind and deepens faith. In the celebration of the Eucharist today, let us pray for the grace to be faithful witnesses of the message of the Gospel. May Jesus' prayer that we be one inspire and challenge us to work for unity and harmony in the church and in all the relationships that are part of our lives. God bless to love others as he loved us and pray for others as He prayed for us.

Fr. George Mathew SCJ