



Societas Presbyterorum  
Sacratissimi Cordis Jesu  
BETHARRAM

## SACRED HEART & ST CATHERINE OF ALEXANDRIA

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Web: www.sacredheartdroitwich.org.uk



### Today's Mass Readings

*Genesis 18: 1-10;*  
*Psalms 14;*  
*Colossians 1: 24-28;*  
*Luke 10: 38-42*

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

This Week 17th July - 24th July (Psalter Week 4)	Holy Mass & Services	Other Events
<b>Sunday 17th July</b> <b>Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time</b> <b>Year C</b>	8.30 am Fergus O'Toole RIP (CH) 10.30 am Bernadette Violet Duffy RIP (PD) 6.00 pm Yvonne Jackson RIP (B O'H)	After 8.30 am Mass: Tea and Coffee in the Hall During 10.30 am Mass: Children's Liturgy 12 Noon: Baptism
<b>Monday 18th July</b> Feria in Ordinary Time	8.55 am Morning Prayer 9.15 am Anthony Towey RIP (J & MM)	
<b>Tuesday 19th July</b> Feria in Ordinary Time	8.55 am Morning Prayer 9.15 am Alan Remedios RIP	
<b>Wednesday 20th July</b> Feria in Ordinary Time	8.55 am Morning Prayer 9.15 am Phil Yates RIP (AK)	10.00 am until 7.00 pm: Adoration
<b>Thursday 21st July</b> Feria in Ordinary Time	8.55 am Morning Prayer 9.15 am Denise Kearns (MG)	
<b>Friday 22nd July</b> Feast of St. Mary Magdalene	8.55 am Morning Prayer 9.15 am Milbrough Blizard RIP (RB)	9.45am: Novena to the Sacred Heart (soon after Mass)
<b>Saturday 23rd July</b> Feast of St. Bridget, Religious, Patron of Europe	11.00 am Gladys Remedios RIP 1.00 pm Wedding	<b>10.15 am - 10.45 am:</b> <b>Confessions</b>
<b>Sunday 24th July</b> <b>Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time</b> <b>Year C</b>	8.30 am People of the Parish 10.30 am Rose Coe 6.00 pm Holy Mass	After 8.30 am Mass: Tea and Coffee in the Hall 12 Noon: Baptism

*“The Gospel teaches us to see – it leads each of us to correctly understand reality, overcoming preconceptions and dogmatism each day...Then, it teaches us to follow Jesus, because following Jesus teaches us to have compassion – to see and to have compassion – to become aware of others, especially those who suffer, those who are in need, and to intervene like the Samaritan, not to pass by but to stop.”*

Pope Francis, 10th July 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

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**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:** The just will live in the presence of the  
Lord.

**6.00 pm:** Let the Lord enter in, he is the king of glory. Let the  
Lord enter, let the Lord enter, enter into your heart.

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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, Finbarr Cronin, Eileen Dalton, Delores  
Delaney, Frank Fawcett, Joan Graham, Bob Grant, 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.

**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.**

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**RECENTLY DECEASED**

Your prayers are asked for **Peg Heffernan** who died recently. May her soul  
and the souls of all the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in  
peace. Please keep her family and friends in your kind thoughts and  
prayers.

**ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL:**

**FOUNDATION GOVERNORS**

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School has vacancies for Foundation Governors  
on the governing body. Foundation Governors are appointed by the Bishop  
specifically to preserve and develop the Catholic ethos of the school and  
must be practising Catholics. The governors of a Catholic school work as a  
team, in close co-operation with the headteacher and all the staff.  
Foundation governors share the responsibilities of all governors:

- Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction;
- Holding the headteacher to account for the educational performance of  
the school and its pupils, and the performance management of staff;
- Overseeing the financial performance of the school and making sure its  
money is well spent.

If you think you can support the school in this way, please speak to  
Fr. George or Mrs. Lamb (Clerk to Governors) at office@st-josephs-  
droitwich.worcs.sch.uk

## PARISH HALL KEYHOLDERS

There is a need for more people to join the existing team of keyholders who open and close the hall for the groups that use it. If you are able to help, please contact the Parish Office. Many thanks.

## ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

If you would like some company, a drink, chat and cake then please come and join us on Sunday 14th August from 2.30 pm to 4.30 pm in the church hall. Please see the notice at the back of church for more information. You can contact us at [droitwichsvp@gmail.com](mailto:droitwichsvp@gmail.com) or on 07772 927535.

## CONFIRMATION PROGRAMME 2022

Children who will be in Year 6 or above in September and are not at St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School can be prepared to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation in the Autumn Term 2022. If you would like your child to be part of this parish preparation group please could you contact Fr. George SCJ or the Parish Office by Saturday 27th August. Confirmation preparation classes will begin in September.

## REFUGEE KNITTING

If anyone would like to knit anything to benefit the Syrian and Ukrainian Refugees there is wool, patterns, needles and buttons to help defray your costs stored at the back of church. 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. Many thanks to those who continued to knit and store items at home, I look forward to seeing your wonderful creations.

## 200 CLUB

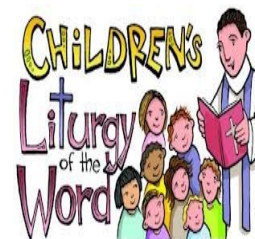
Our thanks to parishioners who have signed up to the 200 Club following our recent appeal for new members. Please complete and return application forms if you've not already done so. We would ask anyone who may be thinking of joining the 200 Club to turn those thoughts into actions; we need you to take on one of those remaining thirty tickets

## COVID-19 GUIDANCE

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. Please **avoid** attending church if you, or someone in your household, has symptoms of COVID. Thank you for your co-operation.

## 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.



## CHILDREN'S LITURGY

There will be Children's Liturgy for 4 to 11 year olds at the 10.30 am Mass on today. All children are welcome. After this week there will be a break over the summer and Children's Liturgy will resume in September.

## COMMUNITY MEAL

The next Community Meal is on Monday 8th August at 12.30 pm in the Parish Hall.



## FOODBANK

There is a wish list on the website. Any donations would be gratefully received.

Thank you.

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

**Main Collection**

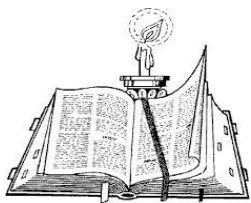
**£276.92**

**Gift Aid: £106.00**

**Thank you for  
supporting your  
Parish.**

**Mass attendance  
last Sunday: 215**

**The retiring  
collection for  
Stella Maris raised:  
£418.57  
Thank you for your  
generosity.**



**Next Sunday's Mass**

**Readings**

*Genesis 18: 20-32;*

*Psalms 137;*

*Colossians 2: 12-14;*

*Luke 11: 1-13*

*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.*

*Do I have some time to sit by the Lord?*

The 21st Century is known as the age of scientific discoveries, the age in which human beings can leap beyond the natural environment, even to the extent of going beyond space and time. As a result, lots of pressure is put on us and excessive multitasking has become common everywhere. Doing several tasks simultaneously may seem like the height of efficiency - and it would be if a person had more than one brain. Which in the real world can become a serious threat to health. So sometimes I need to tell myself - Slow Down! But I am not just able to do it. Today's Gospel challenges me to slow down, sit down and listen! "Martha, you are anxious and worried about many things." Said Jesus, who is not to be understood as encouraging laziness, nor blaming Martha for her hard work. After all, she was doing what she was doing for the Lord. But the Lord's reaction has a deeper meaning. Her problem was that she was "burdened with much serving"; she was distracted, being anxious and worried about many things. So, a question that I am invited to ask myself today is not how busy I am, but am I able to do what I am doing gracefully, without being anxious and worried.

So, Jesus reminds us that unless our hard work flows from a spirit of contemplation, it becomes burdensome causing much fretting and worrying. What is contemplation? "Mary sat beside the Lord at his feet" The posture of Mary in the gospel text of today is very crucial. It is a posture of a disciple. She has broken a taboo, a woman sitting at the feet of the Rabbi is shocking. Even Martha can't bear the sight. That could be another reason for her complaint. She reminds that the place of a woman is in the kitchen. Yet, Jesus thinks otherwise. He not only allows Mary to be his disciple, but invites Martha also to join her. Jesus invites everyone to sit beside the Lord. This is the first step in contemplation: slow down, and sit down at his feet!. "Mary sat beside the Lord ...listening to him speak. The second aspect to pay attention to in the gospel story of today is the disposition of Mary to listen to him speaking.

There are two separate movements - one sitting at his feet and the other contemplation. Our surrounding, busy nature of our life tends to influence our prayer and relationship with God in Jesus. We tend to rush with our prayers, sometimes we prefer the shortest Mass, always in a hurry to catch up with something else. The gospel story of today invites us to just sit there in prayer, listening to Him speaking. This is contemplation. We need to resist the temptation to be doing something. We just have to sit and listen. It is a patient waiting on God to deepen one's confidence in God's power and love. This attitude in prayer that builds increased confidence in God, also frees the person to love others more unconditionally and compassionately. This is what Jesus is inviting Martha to. We are not too late to begin to spend some fixed moments during the day in silent contemplation. The Martha in me is still in the process of becoming Mary. And there is a conviction growing in me though very slowly that which St Teresa of Avila, summed up: "Let nothing disturb you, nothing frightens you. All things pass. God alone does not change. Patience achieves everything." God bless you.

Fr. George Mathew SCJ