



Societas Presbyterorum  
Sacratissimi Cordis Jesu  
BETHARRAM

## SACRED HEART & ST CATHERINE OF ALEXANDRIA

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### Today's Mass Readings

*Habakkuk 1: 2-3, 2: 2-4;*

*Psalm 94;*

*2 Timothy 1: 6-8, 13-14;*

*Luke 17: 5-10*

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

This Week 2nd October – 9th October (Psalter Week 3)	Holy Mass & Services	Other Events
<b>Sunday 2nd October</b> <b>Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time</b> <b>Year C</b>	8.30 am Fr. Giles Goward RIP (MB) 10.30 am Anthony Pinnell RIP (C & GP) 6.00 pm Mrs. Elizabeth Twomey RIP (JD)	After 8.30 am Mass: Tea and Coffee in the Hall During 10.30 am Mass: Children's Liturgy
<b>Monday 3rd October</b> Feria in Ordinary Time	8.55 am Morning Prayer 9.15 am John Edwards RIP	12.30 pm: Community Meal
<b>Tuesday 4th October</b> Memorial of St. Francis of Assisi	8.55 am Morning Prayer 9.15 am Stella and Hugh McDermott RIP (GM)	
<b>Wednesday 5th October</b> Feria in Ordinary Time	8.55 am Morning Prayer 9.15 am Peter Raw RIP (MG)	10.00 am until 7.00 pm: Adoration
<b>Thursday 6th October</b> Feria in Ordinary Time	8.55 am Morning Prayer 9.15 am The Read Family (NR)	
<b>Friday 7th October</b> Memorial of Our Lady of the Rosary	8.55 am Morning Prayer 9.15 am Rufino Mulena RIP (C & GP)	9.45am: Novena to the Sacred Heart (soon after Mass) CAFOD Harvest Fast Day
<b>Saturday 8th October</b> Feria in Ordinary Time	11.00 am Rose & Don Brooks RIP (PW)	<b>10.15 am - 10.45 am: Confessions</b>
<b>Sunday 9th October</b> <b>Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time</b> <b>Year C</b> Retiring Collection for CAFOD	8.30 am Ronald Cutler RIP (EK) 10.30 am John Edwards RIP (AM) 6.00 pm Mary Ryan RIP (DR)	After 8.30 am Mass: Tea and Coffee in the Hall During 10.30 am Mass: Children's Liturgy 2.30 pm: SVP Afternoon

*“Let us renew our commitment to building the future in accordance with God's plan: a future in which every person may find his or her place and be respected; in which migrants, refugees, displaced persons and the victims of human trafficking may live in peace and with dignity. So that the Kingdom of God is realized with them, without exclusion.”*

Pope Francis, 25th September 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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**Archdiocese of  
Birmingham  
Safeguarding Team**

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**RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

8.30 am, 10.30 am & 6.00 pm:

**O that today you would listen to his voice! Harden not your hearts.**

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**PRAY FOR OUR SICK PARISHIONERS**

Please pray for all our parishioners, and/or their friends and relatives, who are unwell:

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 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 **John Edwards** who died recently. May his soul and the souls of all the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace. Please keep his family and friends in your kind thoughts and prayers.

**CAFOD FAMILY FAST DAY - WORLD FOOD CRISIS APPEAL**

Millions of families are facing a food crisis that could be the worst in living memory. As each day goes by, the situation worsens. As people of faith we must act. Your donations can help CAFOD's local experts to provide emergency food supplies to families in the worst affected countries in East Africa and support communities around the world working hard to put food on the table. Please give today or start a monthly gift to CAFOD. Use the envelope for our parish collection or go to [cafod.org.uk/fastday](http://cafod.org.uk/fastday).

**CHRISTMAS FAIR 2022**

**SATURDAY 17TH DECEMBER - 12 NOON UNTIL 3.00 PM**

The Christmas Fair will take place on Saturday 17th December from 12 noon until 3.00 pm. A big event like this needs the involvement of everyone in the parish so please put the date in your diary. Please could you look for any items that would be suitable to sell at our Christmas Fair. Toys and books in good condition can be brought to the Romero Room from the first week in November. Raffle Tickets are now on sale from the Parish Hall after each Sunday Mass. If you are willing to help on the day, please speak to Fr. George or contact the Parish Office.

**PARISH THANK YOU EVENING**

Fr. George SCJ is hosting a Thank You Evening in the Parish Hall on Saturday 22nd October to thank the many volunteers who give their time to the Sacred Heart Parish. Mass will be at 6.00 pm followed by a meal at 7.00 pm. Please RSVP by Friday 14th October to confirm attendance. 2

## **GIFT AID CLAIM: 2021 - 2022 TAX YEAR**

The parish received £11,778.82 from the Gift Aid Scheme on regular donations and an additional £1995.00 via the Gift Aid Small Donation Scheme. Thank you to all parishioners to giving so generously to the parish. If you are taxpayer and interested in donating via Gift Aid please contact the parish office or speak to Gerry Ceclich.

### **CHILDREN'S LITURGY**

If your child is 4 years old or older, they are welcome to attend at the 10.30 am Mass. It is an opportunity for your child to learn about our faith, liturgy of the day and Jesus in a friendly way. We need volunteers to help to run the children's liturgy. If you would like to help the children's liturgy it will be great help for the faith formation of our children. Thank you to all volunteers for all your continued help.

### **MISSION RED BOXES**

Would Red Box holders please note that it is now time for counting and banking of contents. If your box can be left in the sacristy, it will be dealt with as promptly as possible. Thank you.

Job vacancy. Parish Red Box Secretary. If there is anyone out there, who is younger and more able than I am and, perhaps, willing to take on this very worthwhile task, I would happily introduce them to its few simple rules. kevin.elizabeth@btinternet.com

### **REFUGEE KNITTING/DONATIONS**

If anyone has any knitting stored at home could you please bring it to church for collection by Monday 17th October, as there is an urgent need for warm winter items. Pre-loved scarves, hats and gloves would also be most welcome. Many thanks for your continual support of this worthy cause.

### **UNIVERSE CATHOLIC WEEKLY**

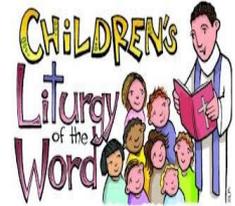
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### **FOODBANK: HARVEST FESTIVAL**



Foodbank are collecting for the Harvest Festival. There is a wish list of items on the noticeboard and the parish website. If you would like to support the Foodbank Harvest Appeal then items can be left in the box at the back of church and would be gratefully received.

Last year Droitwich Foodbank provided food to 1798 adults and 1422 children in our local community. This required over 32 tonnes to provide these people with emergency support. With demand growing year on year in the food bank, increasing by 20% in the last six months alone, your help and assistance will be invaluable in providing support to people that need it.



### **CHILDREN'S LITURGY**

There will be Children's Liturgy today.

### **COMMUNITY MEAL**

The next Community Meal is on Monday 3rd October 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 9th October from 2.30 pm to 4.30 pm in the Parish Hall. Please see the notice at the back of church for more information. You can contact us at DroitwichReferrals@svp.org.uk or on 07772 927535.

**Main Collection**  
**£291.33**  
**Gift Aid last Sunday:**  
**£163.20**

**Thank you for**  
**supporting your**  
**Parish.**

**Mass attendance**  
**last Sunday: 212**

**The retiring**  
**collection for**  
**Fr. Hudson's Care**  
**raised: £390.00**

**Additional Gift Aid**  
**donation for**  
**Evangelii Gaudium**  
**£5.00**

**Thank you for your**  
**generosity.**



**Next Sunday's Mass**

**Readings**

*2 Kings 5: 14-17;*

*Psalms 97;*

*2 Timothy 2: 8-13;*

*Luke 17: 11-19*

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

*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.*

Have you heard the phrase, "never doubt in the darkness what you knew was true in the light?" Do you find yourself intellectually convinced that our faith makes sense but in times of difficulty, struggle to assent to those truths? The Gospel today speaks about the virtue of faith and how we must engage not only our intellect but also our will to live out the fullness of our Christian beliefs.

What is faith? Is it merely a feeling of the heart? Is it intellectual acceptance of a reality that we cannot see but believe its existence? Or is it a personal relationship or a means to communicate with that unseen existence which we called God? Faith in God, in Our Lord Jesus Christ, and all that God has revealed through His Son and His Church, is necessary for salvation. But let us keep in mind that Faith is more than just an intellectual acceptance of a body of doctrine or professing a religion, observing some doctrinal, moral and liturgical norms on the one hand, and on the other hand, far greater than a mere acceptance of Jesus as Our Saviour. One should not confuse faith with sentiments it is not a matter of sentiments.

Our Christian faith, above all, calls for a continuous response to God's never-ending call, to an intimate and loving relationship with the Person of Our Lord Jesus Christ. It is the very purpose of God's creation of humankind - to be with him and to be like him. This relationship is made possible through our human efforts of constant desire to know Him and love Him more through prayer, Sacraments, interior struggle so as to be able to love Him more and imitate His life. Thus, authentic Christian faith is called to grow and reach its culmination in the identification of the Christian with Christ, through the action of the Holy Spirit and man's daily correspondence with God's grace. This might sound a bit of an anthropocentric idea, but according to scripture it is true. Therefore Faith is a way of life, and thus, it should not be consigned to the private sphere of man's life, nor be reduced to mere ideas or sentiments. Rather, we need to be courageous in living our faith coherently in every moment and circumstance of our daily life.

We must not allow ourselves to be swallowed by a worldly, godless society. We must not be contented to be mere Sunday Christians. Nor should we be Dr. Jekyll on the one hand, and Mr. Hyde on the other. Rather, our condition as Catholics, as baptised Christians, should be made manifest in all that we do and wherever we are: coherent Christians! In order to live our Catholic faith with courage and coherence, we need God's grace. This is the reason why it is necessary to ask Our Lord frequently for the gift of faith, which only grows when God infuses this divine virtue in our soul. This we see in today's Gospel when the Apostles pleaded Our Lord: Increase our faith! Furthermore, a man who really believes in God, in Jesus and in His Church; who fully trusts in God's Will and Wisdom and truly abandons himself into God's Hands, has an unshakeable optimism and firm serenity especially when he finds himself in difficult circumstances, for faith in God makes us omnipotent as well! This is the reason why Our Lord said: "If you have faith the size of a mustard seed, you would say to this mulberry tree, 'Be uprooted and planted in the sea,' and it would obey you." During this Eucharist celebration we shall pray for the gift of faith and the grace to nurture it. Fr. George Mathew SCJ