



Societas Presbyterorum  
Sacratissimi Cordis Jesu  
BETHARRAM

## SACRED HEART & ST CATHERINE OF ALEXANDRIA

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### Today's Mass Readings

2 Kings 5: 14-17;  
Psalm 97;  
2 Timothy 2: 8-13;  
Luke 17: 11-19

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

This Week 9th October – 16th October (Psalter Week 4)	Holy Mass & Services	Other Events
<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
<b>Monday 10th October</b> Feria in Ordinary Time	8.55 am Morning Prayer 9.15 am Ma Teresa Clarete RIP (CC)	
<b>Tuesday 11th October</b> Feria in Ordinary Time	8.55 am Morning Prayer 9.15 am Stella and Hugh McDermott RIP (GM)	
<b>Wednesday 12th October</b> Feria in Ordinary Time	8.55 am Morning Prayer 9.15 am James Regan RIP (BB)	10.00 am until 7.00 pm: Adoration
<b>Thursday 13th October</b> Feria in Ordinary Time	8.55 am Morning Prayer 9.15 am Charles McGlinchey RIP	
<b>Friday 14th October</b> Feria in Ordinary Time	8.55 am Morning Prayer 9.15 am John Edwards RIP (BB)	9.45am: Novena to the Sacred Heart (soon after Mass)
<b>Saturday 15th October</b> Memorial of St. Teresa of Jesus, Virgin, Doctor of the Church	11.00 am Holy Mass (Mass with the Sacrament of Anointing)	<b>10.15 am - 10.45 am: Confessions</b>
<b>Sunday 16th October</b> <b>Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time</b> <b>Year C</b> Retiring Collection for Catholic Education	8.30 am James Sexton RIP (BB) 10.30 am Christine Herriot RIP (CL) 6.00 pm People of the Parish	After 8.30 am Mass: Tea and Coffee in the Hall During 10.30 am Mass: Children's Liturgy

*“The course of the war in Ukraine has become so serious, devastating and threatening, as to cause great concern...I am saddened by the rivers of blood and tears spilled in these months...Certain actions can never be justified, never! What is to happen next? How much blood must still flow for us to realize that war is never a solution, only destruction? In the name of God and in the name of the sense of humanity that dwells in every heart, I renew my call for an immediate ceasefire.”*

Pope Francis, 2nd October 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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**RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

**8.30 am & 10.30 am:** The Lord has shown his salvation to the  
nations.

**6.00 pm:** Hymn no. 697 Sing a new song unto the Lord

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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. The Requiem Mass will be on Tuesday 25th October at 11.30 am,  
followed by a cremation at 2.00 pm at The Vale Crematorium. Please keep  
his family and friends in your kind thoughts and prayers.

**CAFOD - 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 [tocafood.org.uk/fastday](http://tocafood.org.uk/fastday).

**CHRISTMAS FAYRE 2022**

**SATURDAY 10TH DECEMBER - 12 NOON UNTIL 3.00 PM**

The Christmas Fayre will take place on Saturday 10th 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 Fayre.  
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.

## HOLY COMMUNION SERVICES

There will be no weekday morning Masses from Tuesday 18th October until Friday 21st October. There will be Holy Communion Services on these days.

## 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

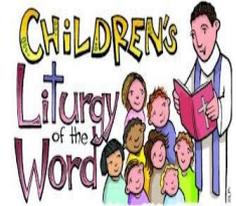
If anyone has any knitting stored at home could you please bring it to church for collection by Monday 17th October, as there is an urgent need for warm winter items. Pre-loved scarves, hats and gloves would also be most welcome. Many thanks for your continual support of this worthy cause.

## UNIVERSE CATHOLIC WEEKLY

The Universe Catholic Weekly is true to its mission of being "a light to guide the world, and a mirror to reflect it" keeping Catholics informed about their faith, and bringing them ever closer to God. In order to keep our high standard going and maintain a strong weekly Catholic voice at a time when it is much needed in the world, please consider taking out a subscription. We have an excellent website full of trustworthy articles and an online shop with all subscribers receiving a 10% discount. Order your Digital 4 weeks FREE introductory offer by contacting Michelle at michelle.jones@universecatholicweekly.co.uk or on 0743 661 7650.

## FOODBANK

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



## CHILDREN'S LITURGY

There will be Children's Liturgy today.

## COMMUNITY MEAL

The next Community Meal is on Monday 7th November 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 today 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:**

**£262.95**

**Gift Aid last Sunday:**

**£171.00**

**Thank you for  
supporting your  
Parish.**

**Mass attendance  
last Sunday: 223**



**Next Sunday's Mass**

**Readings**

*Exodus 17: 8-13;*

*Psalm 120;*

*2 Timothy 3: 14 -  
4: 2;*

*Luke 18: 1-8*

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

The grateful faith can motivate us to show gratitude for all that we receive – both good and bad. A story is told of a Christian who was lost in the forest. He describes his experience about how frightened he was and how he had even finally knelt and prayed for help. Someone asked, “Did God answer your prayer?” “Oh, no,” the man replied. “Before God had a chance, a forest guide came along and showed me the way out.” Like that man, many of us are blind to the many blessings that God daily showers upon us. We awake to see the sun shining, and do not give thanks to God. We hear the birds chirping and see beautiful flowers and trees, but we don’t give it a moment’s thought that God has given those blessings and given us the senses to enjoy them. We grumble about having to eat the same kind of food, forgetting the hunger in the world. We complain about our jobs, forgetting that many would be grateful just to have a job or even to have the bodily strength to go to work. So we spend much time recounting our woes and disappointments to the extent that we hardly recognise or appreciate the goodness of God in our lives.

In today’s readings we are reminded of the importance of showing gratitude to God. In today’s first reading, the story of Naaman the leper is a typical example of how we should express our profound gratitude to God. In today’s gospel too, we have Jesus curing ten lepers. Leprosy was a dreadful disease then. While the physical disease was horrible, the terrible social stigma in ancient Israel only added to the misery. “The Law of Moses laid down, to prevent the spread of the disease, that lepers should live away from other people and should let it be known that they were suffering from this disease” (Lev 13:45-46). This explains why they did not come right up to Jesus and his group, but instead begged his help by shouting from a distance. So Jesus curing the ten lepers was a very great act for them, like giving them new lives to live, but only one returned, who was a Samaritan. What caught the admiration of Jesus about the Samaritan was that he: “Turned back, praising God at the top of his voice, and threw himself at the feet of Jesus and thanked him.”

When was the last time we expressed this kind of gratitude to God? In this personal encounter between Jesus and the Samaritan leper there are two things we learn: first, the faith of being grateful seems to be different and even deeper than the faith that seeks help; second, miraculous healing seems to be different from salvation. The nine lepers had faith to seek help from Jesus, but the Samaritan leper had a deeper faith in expressing thanks. The nine lepers were healed; the Samaritan leper was healed and saved. These two aspects could be challenging to many of us. We might have faith that only seeks help from God. Jesus challenges us to go beyond. Let us briefly look at the two types of faith: The faith that seeks help is problem-focused. It could be an expression of being self-absorbed. We might continue to ask for the wrong things, and when we are not given them we feel sad about it. On the other hand, the grateful-faith is positive. It is an expression of going beyond our selves. The grateful faith can motivate us to show gratitude for all that we receive both good and bad. Today what we feel is not a blessing, may prove to be a blessing tomorrow. Modern day research confirms the positive effects of gratitude on general wellbeing and happiness. I suggest four ways in which we can express gratitude. 1. Can we spend quality time every day in expressing our gratitude to God. Also specifically pointing out the different situations where God came to our aid during the day. 2. Are there people who have played an important role in your life, and you have not expressed your gratitude to them explicitly? Why not write a letter of gratitude to them? Research by psychologists has found that people who wrote a gratitude letter to someone they had never properly thanked were happier than those who hadn’t. 3. Keep a gratitude journal. At the end of each day, or even once a week, think of writing three things that went well for you that day or week. Again research has proved that those who kept gratitude journals enjoyed better emotional health compared to those who didn’t. 4. Say ‘thank you’ on a regular basis during the day. THANK YOU for listening to me! God bless you all.