



Societas Presbyterorum
Sacratissimi Cordis Jesu
BETHARRAM

SACRED HEART & ST CATHERINE OF ALEXANDRIA

208 Worcester Road, Droitwich Spa,
WR9 8AZ, Tel: 01905 773258
Email: sacredheartdroitwich@hotmail.co.uk
Web: www.sacredheartdroitwich.org.uk



Today's Mass Readings

2 Samuel 5: 1-3;

Psalm 121;

Colossians 1: 12-20;

Luke 23: 35-43

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

This Week 20th November – 27th November (Psalter Week 2)	Holy Mass & Services	Other Events
Sunday 20th November Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe Year C Retiring Collection for the Catholic Youth Service	8.30 am Kevin McCorry RIP (M.M) 10.30 am Private Intention (BW) 6.00 pm Peter & Carmel Duffy (JD)	National Youth Sunday After 8.30 am Mass: Tea and Coffee in the Hall During 10.30 am Mass: Children's Liturgy
Monday 21st November Memorial of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary	8.55 am Morning Prayer 9.15 am Tony Gilroy RIP	
Tuesday 22nd November Memorial of St. Cecilia, Virgin, Martyr	8.55 am Morning Prayer 9.15 am Deceased Members of the Clapham Family (MB)	
Wednesday 23rd November Feria in Ordinary Time	8.55 am Morning Prayer 9.15 am Siwan Smith RIP (G & CP)	10.00 am until 6.00 pm: Adoration
Thursday 24th November Memorial of St. Andrew Dung-Lac, Priest, & Companions, Martyrs	8.55 am Morning Prayer 9.15 am Bob Grant RIP (EK)	
Friday 25th November Feast of St. Catherine of Alexandria	8.55 am Morning Prayer 9.15 am Anthony Ringer RIP (PR)	9.45am: Novena to the Sacred Heart (soon after Mass) 6.30 pm: Youth Group
Saturday 26th November Feria in Ordinary Time	11.00 am Michael Donovan Anniversary (BD)	10.15 am - 10.45 am: Confessions
Sunday 27th November First Sunday of Advent Year A Retiring Collection for Droitwich SVP	8.30 am Deceased Members of the Baldry Family (MB) 10.30 am Private Intention (G & CP) 6.00 pm Denis O'Hara RIP	After 8.30 am Mass: Tea and Coffee in the Hall During 10.30 am Mass: Children's Liturgy

"Today, in a world that is globalized and interconnected, the clash between two cultures appears even more evident: the culture of consumerism and waste...and then the culture of care, on the other hand. And we must choose: there is no other way of going forward! Today we are not permitted to remain neutral. A choice is imposed, because the cry of the earth and the cry of the poor demand responsibility." (Pope Francis, 14th November 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

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

HEAD TEACHER

Mrs. Cath Bryan

PARISH SECRETARY

Kate Dalglish

Tel.: 01905 773258

Email:
sacredheart.droitwich@
rcaob.org.uk

PARISH SAFEGUARDING REPRESENTATIVES

Gerry Ceclich

Kate Dalglish

Clare Tomlinson

Email:
sg.sacredheart.droitwich
@rcaob.org.uk

**Archdiocese of
Birmingham
Safeguarding Team**

Tel.: 0121 230 6240

Email: safeguarding
@rcaob.org.uk

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

8.30 am & 10.30 am: I rejoiced when I heard them say: "Let us go to God's house."

6.00 pm: I rejoiced when I heard them say: Let us follow the path to the house of the Lord. I rejoiced when I heard them say: Let us follow the path to the mountain of God.

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, 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.

RECENTLY DECEASED

Your prayers are asked for **Bob Grant** and **Frances Bourne** who died recently. May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace. The Requiem Mass for Bob Grant will be at 11.00 am on Saturday 26th November at St. Mary's Church, Harvington, followed by a burial at St. Mary's Cemetery. The Requiem Mass for Frances Bourne will take place at 10.30 am on Monday 5th December at the Sacred Heart Church, followed by a burial at St. Mary's Churchyard. Please keep their families and friends in your kind thoughts and prayers.

CHRISTMAS FAYRE

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, like bric-a-brac, toiletries, books and children's toys etc. Items in good condition can now be brought to the Romero Room. Homemade cakes would also be gratefully received and can be brought to the hall the day before the Fayre. Raffle Tickets are still on sale from the Parish Hall after each Sunday Mass. If you have already bought the raffle tickets and have not yet paid, could you please pay ASAP and please bring the counterfoil tickets well before the Fayre. If you are willing to help on the day, please speak to Fr. George or contact the Parish Office.

JOB VACANCIES

Blessed Edward Oldcorne Catholic College are currently recruiting for three job vacancies: Art Design Technology Technician, Admin Assistant and Teacher of Computing and Second in Department. Please visit <https://www.blessededward.co.uk/about-us/vacancies/> for full details. The closing date is 10.00 am on Friday 2nd December.

LIVE SIMPLY CHRISTMAS

Have you started your Christmas shopping yet? THEN STOP AND THINK. We all need to save money and energy, as well as living simply. Prepare for Christmas by sharing ideas on our Eco Christmas tree in the entrance. Write your idea/promise on a Christmas bauble and put it on the tree. Reduce your Christmas footprint. For example: buy second hand items, choose organic certified clothing, when buying presents choose less but better (pick one quality item that lasts, this means less to landfill), buy gifts with no or little packaging or at least that can be recycled, do a family Secret Santa with just one present each, make a gift, buy zero waste items (portable cup, biodegradable lunchbox, wax food wraps), give an experience e.g. Wildlife Trust membership, don't take the children Christmas shopping, include essentials in your children's presents, give a gift of a better future e.g. support World Wildlife Fund by choosing an animal adoption.

ONLINE ADVENT RETREAT 2022

The last few weeks before Christmas can be so hectic, so stressful. Why not take 20 minutes each day for peaceful prayer on your own at home, or wherever you may be? You may well find that the rest of the day goes better than expected. On the website <https://www.onlineprayer.net/advent-retreat/> The Ignatian Spirituality Centre in Glasgow has for each day of Advent, a piece of Scripture, a picture, a short reflection and a piece of music – you can use any or all of this for your prayer, as you choose. The website also has helpful suggestions of different ways of praying with these resources. If you might be interested, please contact Max and Cecilia Jourdiier at mandcjourdiier@gmail.com

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY GIVING TREE

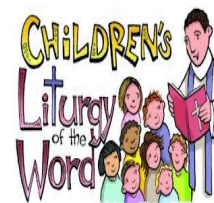
For many years we have collected Christmas gifts for Father Hudson's Homes and our local families that are supported by SVP. Due to Covid this was replaced by a cash collection but we have been asked by Father Hudson's Homes to revert back to collecting gifts this year. We will be collecting gifts from Sunday 27th November until Sunday 11th December as Father Hudson's Homes staff will collect the gifts on Wednesday 14th December to allow them time to distribute gifts to their families. Any late presents will go to local families supported by SVP. Your support for this project will be very much appreciated. Any queries can be directed to SVP at DroitwichReferrals@svp.org.uk or 0777 292 7535.

REFUGEE COLLECTIONS

Thank you so much once again, for the vast quantity of exquisite knitted baby items, scarves, hats, adult cardigans and crocheted blankets. A massive thank you too, for the pre loved hats, scarves, gloves and other items of warm clothing. Please continue knitting as it is hoped to send more consignments before the end of the year. We would be grateful if you could keep the items at home until needed because of storage problems. Wool, patterns and buttons are available in the cupboard at the back of church to help defray your costs. Donations of the same will be gratefully accepted.

MARY'S MEALS: DOUBLE THE LOVE

Donations made to Mary's Meals until Tuesday 31st January 2023 will be doubled by a group of generous supporters, up to £1.5million. Today, we face some of our greatest challenges yet in a world devastated by conflict, food insecurity and the cost of living crisis, which we know is affecting people here in the UK as well as in the countries where we work. With Double the Love, your donation will be matched and your kindness will go even further. There are many ways to get involved, find out more at marysmeals.org.uk



CHILDREN'S LITURGY

There will be Children's Liturgy today and on the following Sundays during the 10.30 am Mass: 27th November, 4th & 11th December.

YOUTH GROUP

PARISH YOUTH GROUP

The youth group is currently running on Friday evenings from 6.30 pm for children aged 9-14 years. All young people are welcome to attend.

COMMUNITY MEAL

The next Community Meal is the Christmas Lunch on Monday 12th December at 12.30 pm in the Parish Hall.

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

Main Collection:

£312.43

Gift Aid last Sunday:

£111.50

**Thank you for
supporting your
Parish.**

**Mass attendance
last Sunday: 189**

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.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

If you would like some company, a drink, chat and cake then please come and join us on Sunday 11th December 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.



Next Sunday's Mass

Readings

Isaiah 2: 1-5;

Psalms 121;

Romans 13: 11-14;

Matthew 24: 37-44

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.

The Feast of Christ the King was instituted by Pope Pius the XI in 1925. This is the period between two world wars. The world was witnessing the rise of dictators and autocrats, because of whose greed, treachery, pride and self-will, thousands were left wounded, homeless, hungry and poor. It is in this socio-economic and political scenario, Pope decided to propose to the world a model leader - Jesus Christ the King of the Universe.

What is special about Jesus that He should be called as the King of the Universe? While all the other kings born in palaces, He was born in a manger. While all the other kings grow up in the comfort and security, He had had to flee to Egypt for his safety. While all the other kings had servants to carry out orders, He was a servant of all washing the feet of his disciples. While all the other kings felt fear in the company of others, He was feeling at home with the poor, ejected and the marginalised. While all the other kings used their sword and weapons to extend their territory, this King used Love as a weapon to win the hearts of the humanity. He conquered the whole world not through wars and violence but by offering Himself as a ransom for many. Mark Link, the author, would describe the Kingship of Jesus in two ways. Firstly, Jesus is King because who He is. Secondly, because what He did. Jesus was king because of who he was. For example, when Magnus Carlsen defeated the reigning world champion Viswanathan Anand in 2013 the people called Carlsen the chess king. Similarly, we call the lion the king of the jungle because of its power and strength and the mango is called the king of all fruits because of its nutrients. So, anybody or anything that is extraordinarily special we call King. Jesus can be called King because he was the best human being that ever lived here on earth. Centuries have passed and there has been no other person as popular, as admirable and as taught about, studied about and written about as Jesus Christ. Therefore, in every sense He can be called as the King of all kings. The second reason why Jesus can be called as king, is because of what He did. In April 1865, when the slain body of Abraham Lincoln the 16th president of Americas was laying on a stage, a long line of people came to pay their respects. There was also a poor mother and her young child in the queue. When they reached the body, the mother lifted her son and said to him, "Son, take a long, long look, because this man died for you". Yes dear friends, what that poor mother said to her son should resound by all the mothers looking at the Cross of Christ saying, "This Man gave up His life for you and for me, to rise us up from the slavery of sin and death". In the book of prophet Isaiah we read, "He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities and by His wound we are healed" (Isaiah 53:5).

So dear friend, what is our takeaway from this feast of Christ the King? First of all, let us try to know Christ, the Eternal King of humanity whose Kingdom is based on righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Spirit that which lasts for ever. When in our daily life we have to face with selfish and greedy rulers and governments, anarchy and lawlessness and wars in the world, we should not be discouraged because no human kings and kingdoms have lasted for eternity, they all have been forgotten behind the wheel of time. If we take a walk in the city of Rome we can see the Colosseum, Chico Massimo, the Roman Forum and Largo Argentina. They all tell the story of great kings and empires, but what remain today are just ruins. The French leader Napoleon Bonaparte, after being defeated in the Battle of Waterloo in 1815, and banished into the island of St. Helena, seems to have said in his loneliness before his death, "No kingdoms of this earth has lasted, except that of the Nazarene". When we think about what Jesus had done for us we need to be loyal to Him and to His Kingdom and be part of His Kingdom. Fr. George Mathew SCJ