



Societas Presbyterorum
Sacratissimi Cordis Jesu
BETHARRAM

SACRED HEART & ST CATHERINE OF ALEXANDRIA

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Today's Mass Readings

Acts 2: 14, 36-41;
Psalm 22;
1 Peter 2: 20-25;
John 10: 1-10

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

This Week 30th April – 7th May (Psalter Week 4)	Holy Mass & Services	Other Events
Sunday 30th April Fourth Sunday of Easter Year A Retiring Collection for the Clergy Training Fund	8.30 am Brian Maguire RIP (MD) 10.30 am Vocation to Priesthood and Religious Life 6.00 pm John Ellis RIP (BO'H)	World Day of Prayer for Vocations After 8.30 am & 10.30 am Mass: Tea and Coffee in the Hall
Monday 1st May Easter Feria	10.00 am Dn. Joseph Pakiaraj SCJ	
Tuesday 2nd May Memorial of St. Athanasius, Bishop, Doctor of the Church	8.55 am Morning Prayer 9.15 am Bishop David McGough RIP	
Wednesday 3rd May Feast of Ss. Philip & James, Apostles	8.55 am Morning Prayer 9.15 am Neil Rawlings (S & SR)	10.00 am until 6.00 pm: Adoration 7.00 pm: Diocesan Vision Meeting
Thursday 4th May Feast of the English Martyrs	8.55 am Morning Prayer 9.15 am For the Sick and Housebound	
Friday 5th May Easter Feria	8.55 am Morning Prayer 9.15 am King Charles III	6.30 pm: Youth Group Soon After Mass: Novena to the Sacred Heart
Saturday 6th May Easter Feria	11.00 am Harry Remedios RIP	10.15 am - 10.45 am: Confession
Sunday 7th May Fifth Sunday of Easter Year A Retiring Collection for Kate Dagleish	8.30 am Holy Mass 10.30 am Patrick Bluett (JB) 6.00 pm Dennis O'Hara RIP (BO'H)	After 8.30 am & 10.30 am Mass: Tea and Coffee in the Hall

“We can begin today, to dedicate this evening a moment of prayer during which we ask ourselves: how was my day? What were its joys, what were its sorrows, what were its mundanities, what happened? What were the pearls of the day, possibly hidden, to be thankful for? Was there a little love in what I did? And what are the falls, the sadness, the doubts and fears to bring to Jesus so that He can open new ways to me, to lift me up and encourage me?” (Pope Francis, 23rd April)

**SACRED HEART
COMMUNITY**

Fr. George Mathew SCJ
(Parish Priest)
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**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,
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HEAD TEACHER

Mrs. Cath Bryan

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**PARISH SAFEGUARDING
REPRESENTATIVES**

Gerry Ceclich

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Clare Tomlinson

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Birmingham
Safeguarding Team**

Tel.: 0121 230 6240

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RESPONSORIAL PSALM

**8.30 am & 10.30 am: The Lord is my Shepherd; there is
nothing I shall want.**

**6.00 pm: You are my shepherd, you are my friend. I want to
follow you always, just to follow my friend.
(948 Laudate)**

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, 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 & Msgr. 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.**

SPECIAL MASS FOR KING CHARLES III

On Friday 5th May at 9.15 am we will be having a special Mass to celebrate
King Charles III. All are welcome to come to Mass and pray for His Majesty.

THE DIOCESAN VISION: UNFOLDING GOD'S PLAN FOR THE PARISH

As part of Unfolding God's Plan for our Diocese and the Parish with the
Diocesan Vision, sessions have been designed to help more parishioners,
parish leaders and small groups to engage with the Vision and think about
how we can take practical steps to renew the mission and ministries within
the parish. We invite parishioners and parish groups to come along in a
friendly manner to reflect and discuss about our parish life in line with the
Diocesan Vision. The remaining session will take place on Wednesday 3rd
May. This will start with an opening prayer, excerpt from the Diocesan
Vision document, short reflection, questions/activities and conclusion. The
sessions will be 90 minutes each.

SACRED HEART CHURCH: JOB VACANCY

After serving in the parish for over 8 years, Kate Dalgleish is leaving us. So,
we are seeking a Parish Secretary to assist in the parish office with finance
administration, maintaining parish databases, updating the parish website,
answering queries and providing general support to the parish priest and
parishioners as required. The normal working hours will be 12 hours a
week. Any applicants should have an adequate knowledge about
computing and use of information technology. There will be an interview
with the applicants and the date of the interview will be announce in due
course. For further information and an informal chat about the role, please
contact Fr. George on 01905 773258. We take this opportunity to thank
Kate for her dedicated service in the parish and wish her all the very best
for her new job.

SECOND COLLECTION ON SUNDAY 7TH MAY

As Kate Dagleish, our parish secretary, will be leaving us for good on Friday 12th May, on Sunday 7th May we will be having a second collection for her and the money we raise will be giving to Kate as token of our gratitude for her dedicated service to the parish. We wish her all the very best for her new job.

YOUTH GROUP

The Youth Group will be putting an full update insert into the Newsletter in the next month or so. However, in the meantime we wished to make an appeal for new volunteers to help with the group. We now have around 18 young people attending each Friday evening. It is likely we could get more. We may have to limit the numbers if we can't get more volunteers. If you can give one Friday evening a month to the Youth Group it would make a great difference to the important work of developing the Group and the future of our Church. If you are interested please speak to Fr. George. Please note that this is a role that requires a DBS check. Thank you, Parish Youth Committee.

GIFT AID - UPDATE

The new gift aid envelopes for the tax year commencing 6th April 2023 are available for collection at the back of church. Please consider donating via Gift Aid so that the church can claim the tax back from the Government on your donations. Gift Aid forms are available from the parish office, or you can select the Gift Aid option when donating via the cashless device in the Narthex. **Making a gift aid declaration will not cost you anymore than you donate.**

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

If you have any complete but unwanted jigsaw puzzles the prisoners at Long Lartin prison would love to have them along with the puzzle and colouring books. Donations can be left in the box at the back of church. Thank you all for your support. Contact for SVP is DroitwichReferrals@svp.org.uk or 0777 292 7535.

REFUGEE KNITTING

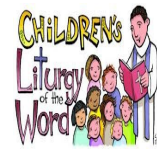
If you have any items for the above collection please bring them to church by Sunday 14th May . Many thanks for your continual support, which is more vital than ever these days! Wool, needles, patterns and buttons are available at the church entrance and donations of the same will be gratefully appreciated. For anyone new to the parish we knit and crochet various sized blankets, soft toys and children's and adult's hats, scarves, gloves, jumpers and cardigans. If you have any other items that you feel would benefit the refugees I will take them also. Again thank you all for your generosity.

RETROUVILLE: A PROGRAMME FOR COUPLES STRUGGLING IN THEIR MARRIAGES

Help Your Marriage – Do you feel alone? Are you frustrated or angry with each other? Do you argue ... or have you just stopped talking to each other? Does talking about it only make it worse? Retrouville is a programme to support couples who have difficulties in their marriage. It brings a positive focus, new hope and helps nourish and grow your marriage. There is no group therapy or group work. For confidential information about 'Retrouville' or to register for the next programme commencing with a Virtual weekend on 6 - 9 July 2023 or a Face to Face weekend in Welwyn Garden City on 13-15 October 2023, call or text 07887 296983 or 07973 380443 or email retrouvilleukinfo@gmail.com - or visit www.retrouville.org.uk

COMMUNITY MEAL

The next Community Meal is on Monday 22nd May at 12.30 pm in the Parish Hall.



CHILDREN'S LITURGY

Children's Liturgy will resume today during the 10.30 am Mass.



PARISH YOUTH GROUP

The youth group runs during term time on Friday evenings from 6.30 pm for children aged 9-14 years. All young people are welcome to attend.

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

Main Collection:
314.00

Gift Aid: £140.00

Thank you for
supporting your
Parish.

Mass attendance
last Sunday: 230



ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY: TEA & COFFEE AFTERNOON

If you would like some company, a drink, chat and cake then please come and join us on Sunday 14th May 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 or on Facebook, SVP Sacred Heart Droitwich.



Next Sunday's Mass

Readings

Acts 6: 1-7;

Psalm 32;

1 Peter 2: 4-9;

John 14: 1-12

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.

What is a Vocation?: Vocation in a religious context is how God calls a Christian to serve Him in the world. God calls us through Baptism and Confirmation to serve Him in a specific way of life. One can follow God's call as a single person, married person, ordained priest or a vowed religious. It is important to first determine which way of life God is calling you to. This process of determining God's call for our life is known as discernment.

How do I know what my vocation is? The best way to discern my vocation is in prayer. Prayer, simply put, is having a real conversation with God. Spend quiet time with God reflecting on His call for your life. Don't look for an earth-shattering message that says, "**This is what you are to do!**" God generally does not communicate like that. Set aside time each day to speak with God about His plan for you. You can pray in your parish church or in a private place. You may choose to read the Scriptures or write in a journal as an aid to this process. God wants to speak to you, but you must take time to listen His quiet voice. Don't be afraid to ask. God will answer. Another aspect of discernment is to talk to others who are living the life you feel called to. If you think you are being called to married life, speak to a couple you respect about their vocation and how they live that vocation every day. If you are being called to the single life, ask a single person about that state in life. The same holds true if you think God may be calling you to the priesthood or vowed religious life. Speaking to God and speaking to those who have been living a particular vocation are ways to understand how God might be calling you.

I'm concerned about how my family and friends will react if I tell them I'm interested in the priesthood or religious life. Parents, family and friends may surprise you and react positively. In some situations, however, they may be disappointed or even angry. If someone responds in this way, be patient - with a bit of time they may come to see the positive value of your calling. If people are upset, remember, accepting God's invitation is very rewarding even if other people do not understand. **I think God is calling me to the priesthood, or religious life but I am also attracted to married life.** Great! That's exactly how a healthy priestly or religious vocation manifests itself. An attraction to marriage and the desire for a family is a normal, healthy part of every young person's life. A true calling to the priesthood or religious life should always come in addition to a desire for family life, not instead of it. It is a common misconception that men become priests and women become nuns because they don't want to get married or because they don't like women or men. This is untrue! All good priests would also make good husbands and fathers. All good nuns would also make good wife and a mother. And more importantly, all good priests, nuns have some level of desire for married life. If they didn't, then the promise to live an unmarried, celibate life would be meaningless, because it would involve no sacrifice.

How can I find out more about the priesthood, religious life without being obligated to join? Once you have discerned that God may be inviting you to be an ordained priest or vowed religious or a nun speak to a vocation director from either the diocesan vocation office or the Religious Community you may be interested in. Contacting these individuals is all part of the discernment process. You do not need to be certain of God's call before you speak with a vocation director.