



Societas Presbyterorum  
Sacratissimi Cordis Jesu  
BETHARRAM

## SACRED HEART & ST CATHERINE OF ALEXANDRIA

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### Today's Mass Readings

*Acts 6: 1-7;*  
*Psalm 32;*  
*1 Peter 2: 4-9;*  
*John 14: 1-12*

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

This Week 7th May – 14th May (Psalter Week 1)	Holy Mass & Services	Other Events
<b>Sunday 7th May</b> <b>Fifth Sunday of Easter</b> <b>Year A</b> Retiring Collection for Kate Dalglish	8.30 am Joan Graham RIP (MMcC) 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
<b>Monday 8th May</b> Easter Feria	10.00 am Jason and Carla Tucker 10th Wedding Anniversary (C)	
<b>Tuesday 9th May</b> Easter Feria	8.55 am Morning Prayer <b>9.15 am Holy Communion Service</b>	
<b>Wednesday 10th May</b> Easter Feria	8.55 am Morning Prayer <b>9.15 am Holy Communion Service</b>	10.00 am until 6.00 pm: Adoration
<b>Thursday 11th May</b> Easter Feria	8.55 am Morning Prayer 9.15 am For Peace in the World	
<b>Friday 12th May</b> Easter Feria	8.55 am Morning Prayer 9.15 am Private Intention (G & CP)	6.30 pm: Youth Group Soon After Mass: Novena to the Sacred Heart
<b>Saturday 13th May</b> Easter Feria	11.00 am Alan Remedios RIP	<b>10.15 am - 10.45 am: Confession</b>
<b>Sunday 14th May</b> <b>Sixth Sunday of Easter</b> <b>Year A</b> Retiring Collection for Empowering Vulnerable Children (EVC) Uganda	8.30 am People of the Parish 10.30 am Holy Mass 6.00 pm Dennis O'Hara RIP (BO'H)	After 8.30 am & 10.30 am Mass: Tea and Coffee in the Hall During 10.30 am Mass: Children's Liturgy 2.30 pm: SVP Afternoon

*“Saint Joseph teaches us that, in the midst of life's tempests, we must never be afraid to let the Lord steer our course.”*

(Pope Francis, 1st May 2023, via Twitter)

**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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Primary School,  
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**HEAD TEACHER**

Mrs. Cath Bryan

**PARISH SECRETARY**

Kate Dalglish

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**PARISH SAFEGUARDING  
REPRESENTATIVES**

Gerry Ceclich

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Birmingham  
Safeguarding Team**

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**RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

**8.30 am & 10.30 am:** May all your love be upon us, O Lord, as  
we place all our hope in you.

**6.00 pm:** Ring out your joy give glory to God. Lift up your  
heart and sing. Let all creation tell of his name.  
Praise him for evermore! (203 Light Blue)

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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, Frank Fawcett, 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 Dalglish. Please note that the newsletter is also  
placed on the parish website. Thank you for your understanding.**

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**SACRED HEART CHURCH: JOB VACANCY**

After serving in the parish for over 8 years, Kate Dalglish 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. The last date for applications is Friday  
19th May. 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.

**EMPOWERING VULNERABLE CHILDREN (EVC) UGANDA**

There will be an appeal by EVC to support the education of children in the  
Kyansi RC Parish of central Uganda on Sunday 14th May. This is an  
extremely impoverished parish in the Diocese of Masaka. The charity is  
engaged in providing assistance to destitute families such that their  
children can attend school. We are also involved in the construction of a  
much-needed local primary school. For more information, please visit our  
website on [www.evcuruganda.org](http://www.evcuruganda.org).

**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](mailto:DroitwichReferrals@svp.org.uk) or 0777  
292 7535.

## SECOND COLLECTION ON SUNDAY 7<sup>TH</sup> MAY

As Kate Dalgleish, our parish secretary, will be leaving us for good on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> May, on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> May we will be having a second collection for her and the money we raise will be given 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 a 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.**

### REFUGEE KNITTING

If you have any items for the above collection please bring them to church by Sunday 14th May. Many thanks for your continued 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.

### RETRouvaille: 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? Retrouvaille 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 'Retrouvaille' 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 [retrouvailleukinfo@gmail.com](mailto:retrouvailleukinfo@gmail.com) - or visit [www.retrouvaille.org.uk](http://www.retrouvaille.org.uk)

### COMMUNITY MEAL

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



### CHILDREN'S LITURGY

There is no Children's Liturgy today

# YOUTH GROUP

### 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:**  
**£277.32**

**Gift Aid: £107.10**

**Thank you for  
supporting your  
Parish.**

**Mass attendance  
last Sunday: 238**

**The retiring  
collection for  
the Clergy Training  
Fund raised:  
£220.37**

**Gift Aid: £60.00**

**Thank you for your  
generosity.**

**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](mailto:DroitwichReferrals@svp.org.uk) or on 07772 927535 or on Facebook, SVP Sacred Heart Droitwich.



**Next Sunday's Mass**

**Readings**

*Acts 8: 5-8, 14-17;*

*Psalms 65;*

*1 Peter 3: 15-18;*

*John 14: 15-21*

*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.*

'LET NOT YOUR HEARTS BE TROUBLED. BELIEVE IN GOD, BELIEVE ALSO IN ME' says the Risen Lord in today's gospel. My dear friends in Christ Jesus, what have I to fear when my God is near, what a comforting and consoling assurance from Jesus our Risen Lord! God reached out to us with His love which endured even through the most difficult moments, and He patiently cared for us all and He still loved us despite of our frequent stubborn attitude and rebelliousness, which had often hampered us in the path towards salvation and true grace in God.

In the first reading, the apostles, learning from their lack of belief in Jesus, have now become good and effective community leaders. As the number of Christian communities expanded, troubles and challenges also increased. But the apostles gave immediate attention to it and were able to handle it. The apostles asked the community to pick seven men of good reputation filled with spirit and wisdom and decided to appoint those holy and devout men as the first Deacons of the Church. Instituting therefore the Order of Deacons, whose role is to assist the Apostles and their successors in the management and the daily running of the Church in its various ministries. Am I a person with good reputation and good character that the Lord can entrust me with some responsibility to carry out ministry for Him? In the second reading, St. Peter encourages us to be positive and hope filled when we are rejected by world, for God will never abandon or forsake us. In the eyes of God, we will become the cornerstones provided we trust and believe in Him. St. Peter further reminds us that we are the chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for His own possession, to move from darkness into His marvellous light. Am I a person who prefers to live in darkness or light?

Coming to the gospel of the day, the Risen Lord, Jesus tells His disciples, let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God and believe in me. Jesus tells his disciples that the time of his return to the Father is imminent. On knowing this the disciples of Jesus are troubled and disturbed, therefore Jesus consoles and reassures his disciples that He is going to prepare a place for them in His Father's house. There are moments in our lives, my dear friends, when we, like the disciples are disturbed and discouraged. We lose hope and begin to experience darkness and despair. Our hearts begin to trouble, and we begin to stumble, trying to wrestle with life situations. At such moments we need to take courage and bounce back trusting and believing in the Lord. He is with us, watching and assuring us of His mighty presence. NO problem is bigger than our God. Jesus is the way, the truth, and the Life. We are exhorted to follow the way of Jesus, for He is the truth and the Life. Our life can be empowered and strengthened when we give up our way and embrace his way that will enable us to the fullness of life. As we come, getting closer to the celebration of the Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord a week from now, we are all reminded that God is still there with us, protecting and guiding us throughout our journey. May He continue to guide us in our life journey.

Fr. George Mathew SCJ