



Societas Presbyterorum  
Sacratissimi Cordis Jesu  
BETHARRAM

## SACRED HEART & ST CATHERINE OF ALEXANDRIA

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### Today's Mass Readings

Acts 1: 12-14;  
Psalm 26;  
1 Peter 4: 13-15;  
John 17: 1-11

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

| This Week: 21st May – 27th May<br>(Psalter Week 3)                                                                            | Holy Mass & Services                                                                                                         | Other Events                                                                               |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Sunday 21st May</b><br><b>Seventh Sunday of Easter</b><br><b>Year A</b><br>Retiring Collection for Catholic Communications | 8:30 am Michael Webb RIP (PW)<br>10:30 am David Veale RIP (M.D)<br>6:00 pm People of the Parish                              | After 8:30 am Mass: Tea and Coffee in the Hall<br>During 10:30 am Mass: Children's Liturgy |
| <b>Monday 22nd May</b><br>Easter Feria                                                                                        | 8:55 am Morning Prayer<br>9:15 am Gladys Remedios RIP                                                                        | 12:30 pm - 2:00pm Community Meal                                                           |
| <b>Tuesday 23rd May</b><br>Easter Feria                                                                                       | 8:55 am Morning Prayer<br>9:15 am Mr. Kavanagh RIP (MK)                                                                      |                                                                                            |
| <b>Wednesday 24th May</b><br>Easter Feria                                                                                     | 8:55 am Morning Prayer<br>9:15 am For Peace in the World                                                                     | 10:00 am until 6:00 pm: Adoration                                                          |
| <b>Thursday 25th May</b><br>Memorial of St Bede                                                                               | 8:55 am Morning Prayer<br>9:15 am Eliyamma Matthew                                                                           | After Mass: Novena to the Holy Spirit                                                      |
| <b>Friday 26th May</b><br>Memorial of St Philip Neri                                                                          | 8:55 am Morning Prayer<br>9:15 am For the sick parishioners                                                                  | After Mass: Novena to the Holy Spirit<br>6:30 pm Youth Group                               |
| <b>Saturday 27th May</b><br>Feast of St Augustine of Canterbury                                                               | 11:00 am Holy Mass                                                                                                           | 10:15 am - 10:45 am: Confession<br>After Mass: Novena to the Holy Spirit                   |
| <b>Sunday 28th May</b><br><b>Solemnity of Pentecost</b><br><b>Year A</b>                                                      | 8:30 am Private Intentions RIP (S&S)<br>10:30 am Moses Hodgetts RIP & Other Lost Babies (CH)<br>6:00 pm People of the Parish | After 8:30 am Mass: Tea and Coffee in the Hall<br>During 10:30 am Mass: Children's Liturgy |

*Did you know that Church teaching says that we should not only support those in poverty but also tackle the root causes of poverty? Pope benedict XVI said that "Love, caritas, is an extraordinary force which leads people to opt for courageous and generous engagement in the field of justice and peace." For decades CAFOD has spoken out against injustice. To find out more and get involved in tackling the root causes of poverty please go to [cafod.org.uk/latest\\_campaigns](http://cafod.org.uk/latest_campaigns)*

**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** I am sure I shall see the Lord's goodness in the  
land of the living.

**6.00 pm:** There is one thing I ask of the Lord (x2)  
For this I long, to live in the house of God each  
day of my life, each day of my life. (16 AK)

**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 the Parish Office Please note that the newsletter is also  
placed on the parish website. Thank you for your understanding.**

**FR GEORGE MATHEW**

Fr. George will be away this weekend to do a Mission Talk on behalf of  
the Sacred Heart Missions. Fr. Austin SCJ and Fr. Wilfred SCJ will be  
covering the Masses on this Sunday.

**JOB VACANCIES AT BLESSED EDWARD'S**

Business Manager (required for Sept 2023)

Closing date: 10:00am Monday 5 June 2023

Interviews: Thursday 15 June 2023

Teacher of Science – Maternity Cover (required for Sept 2023)

Closing date: 10:00am Monday 12 June 2023

Teacher of RE – Maternity Cover (required for Sept 2023)

Closing date: 10:00am Monday 12 June 2023

Teaching Assistant TA1/TA2 (required asap)

Closing date: 10:00am Thursday 22 June 2023

Casual Examination Invigilators

More details to be found on our website:

<https://www.blessededward.co.uk/about-us/vacancies/>

**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 colouring and  
puzzle books. Donations can be left in the box at the back of church.  
Thank you all for your support. Contact for SVP is 07772927535 or  
DroitwichReferrals@svp.org.uk

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

**Summer Fair:** The Parish summer fair will be on Saturday 19th August from 12noon till 3pm. Raffle tickets will be available soon.

**Sacred Heart Feast:** The Solemnity of the Sacred Heart will be celebrated on Friday 16th June. In preparation for the Feast, we will begin the novena to the Sacred Heart of Jesus from Thursday 8th June, after morning Mass.

## SCRIPTURE REFLECTION AFTERNOON AT SELLY PARK CONVENT

Keeping going. Biblical Reflections for Synodality and Journeying Together Sunday June 18th 2pm to 4pm Selly Park Convent B29 7LL

David McLoughlin (Theologian and formerly Newman University) and Fleur Dorrell (Bible Society and Bishops Conference of England and Wales) will be leading an afternoon reflection time using the scriptures to reflect on our journeying together in a synodal Church. Refreshments will be provided. To register please email: [actabhm@gmail.com](mailto:actabhm@gmail.com)

## FEAST OF PENTECOST

In preparation for the feast of Pentecost, we will have three days of Novena to the Holy Spirit starting from Thursday 25th May.

## JOURNEY IN FAITH

Are you looking to explore the Catholic faith? Are you wondering about your relationship with God and not sure where to start? Join us on a journey and see if the Catholic Church can help your relationship grow. This may be the right path for you. It may even help you take the next steps towards coming into the Church. The parish will be organising a Journey in Faith programme from September onwards. If you are already a Catholic and would like to learn more about your faith, or if you want to become a Catholic, now is the time to start exploring your faith. More updates about the programme to follow.

## FIRST HOLY COMMUNION MASS

This year the First Holy Communion mass will be on Saturday 17th June at 11am. There will be a rehearsal on Monday 12th June at 6:30pm

## REFUGEE KNITTING

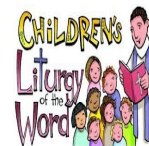
Thank you so much once again for the wonderful variety of exquisite knitted and crocheted items recently donated. Thank you also for the miscellaneous items of clothing. Your kindness certainly enriches the lives of so many displaced people.

Please continue to knit, but can you store the items at home until I am given another collection date because of storage problems?

Donations of wool to help defray costs would be gratefully received and can be left in the cupboard at the church entrance.

## 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 today during the 10:30 am mass

# 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:**  
**£330.27 (cash) and**  
**£99.00 (envelopes)**

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

**Mass attendance**  
**last Sunday: 220**

**The retiring**  
**collection for**  
**EVC Uganda raised**  
**£618.82**

**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 11th June 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 2: 1-11;*

*Psalms 103;*

*Corinthians 12: 3-7;*

*John 20: 19-23*

*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.*

We are in the middle of the Sunday after Ascension Day and the Sunday before Pentecost. Behind us is the life of Jesus, his death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension. In front of us is the unknown, the very new thing that God will do among his people. How do the disciples feel in this sort of no-man's land in time? They don't know how long they're going to be there. All they know is that in his physical form Jesus seems to have finally left them; taken up in the brilliance of the light of heaven and that he has told them to wait in Jerusalem, where God will come to them in a new way. I wonder how they're feeling? Just think: three or four years ago they were living perfectly ordinary lives, like we do, with families, friends, village or neighbourhood communities and day to day routines that they followed almost without thinking, just as we do. Then this man, Jesus, told them to follow him and they did – they just did. They followed and saw and heard and experienced things they sometimes can still hardly believe. And they loved him, they still do.

All of them, at some point or another, said they'd be willing to die for him yet all of them failed him, some more spectacularly than others. They lived through the tension, the mounting danger and the terrible execution that ended the life of their Lord in Jerusalem. They've lived with that terrible sense of loss and grief when life had no meaning or purpose, and their hearts were heavy, dreading the bleak future ahead of them. Then the light of resurrection exploded around them. Jesus was alive again, talking with them, eating with them, teaching them. His appearances were unpredictable and sometimes very brief, but after the initial shock none of them doubted the reality of his resurrection. Now he's left them again and they're living with a renewed sense of loss. Not as sharp and bitter as the first but hard to bear all the same. They don't know what's about to happen. They don't know about the Holy Spirit, who is going to breathe new life into them, transforming them into the fullest being of themselves, alive with God's life and filled with his awesome, mighty Spirit.

We've probably all experienced similar times— times that can be filled with uncertainty and anxiety. Times when we've lost someone or left something behind but aren't yet ready or able to move on into the unknown. Times between school or college and the world of work and careers. Times of waiting for a birth, or a death or a medical diagnosis; life-changing times and unplanned breaks in our way of life. Perhaps we're in one of those times now and don't know where God is going to lead us next. If we have any sense of being in one of those in-between places today, perhaps we could spend this week reflecting on that, thinking about what is "now" and "here" for us; considering what we might be needing to put to rest, what thoughts and attitudes we might be needing to give up within ourselves. We cannot move forward until we have put down the past or decided that we want or need to move on. Just as the wind and fire of Pentecost descended only when the disciples knew that Jesus' time on earth really was over, so God can only lead us forward when we've stopped trying to hang on in an unhealthy way to the past. I believe that if we give ourselves fully to "now" and "here", whatever that means for us, on the day of Pentecost, whenever that day is for us, we'll be ready to go forward again, ready to say yes to God's plan for us. He may speak in the whoosh... of a mighty wind, in the roar of tongues of flame, or in the still small voice in the depths of our being. But he will speak, of that I have become certain, and when he does it will always be for the fulfilment of his loving purpose for each one of us and it will always lead us deeper into his eternal life.

Fr. George Mathew SCJ