



Societas Presbyterorum
Sacratissimi Cordis Jesu
BETHARRAM

SACRED HEART & ST CATHERINE OF ALEXANDRIA

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

Today's Mass Readings

*2 Kings 4:8-11.14-16;
Psalm 88;
Romans 6:3-4.8-11;
Matthew 10:37-42*

This Week: 2nd July– 8th July (Psalter Week 1)	Holy Mass & Services	Other Events
Sunday 2nd July Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A Second collection for Peter's Pence	8:30 am Mary and Graham Fieldsend 10:30 am Stanislawa Fraczek RIP 6:00 pm People of the Parish	After 8:30 am Mass: Tea and Coffee in the Hall During 10:30 mass Children's Liturgy
Monday 3rd July Feast of St Thomas, Apostle	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Elyamma Matthew	
Tuesday 4th July Feria	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Mr Peter Bullock –30th Birthday	
Wednesday 5th July Feria	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Thanksgiving: NHS' platinum Jubilee (BB)	10:00 am until 6:00 pm: Adoration
Thursday 6th July Feria	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Mariyakutty Francis RIP (J&M)	
Friday 7th July Feria	8.55 am Morning Prayer 9.15 am Harry Remedios RIP	After Mass: Novena to the Sacred Heart 6.30-8.00 pm Youth Group
Saturday 8th July Feria	11:00 am Donald Brooks RIP (PW)	10:15 am - 10:45 am: Confes- sion
Sunday 9th July Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A Second collection for Apostleship of the Sea	8:30 am Mary Leason RIP (MB) 10:30 am Holy Mass 6:00 pm Holy Mass	After 8:30 am Mass: Tea and Coffee in the Hall During 10:30 mass Children's Liturgy 2.30-4.30pm SVP Afternoon

"God looks with joy upon all those who serve the needy. This is how goodness grows: in the simplicity of hands and hearts stretched out to others and in the courage of the small steps that approach those who are most vulnerable in the name of Jesus." Pope Francis via Twitter 27th June 2023

**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

Bogusia Koniszewska-
Fijolek
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**PARISH SAFEGUARDING
REPRESENTATIVES**

Gerry Ceclich
Clare Tomlinson
Email:
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**Archdiocese of
Birmingham**

Safeguarding Team

Tel.: 0121 230 6240
Email: safeguarding
@rcaob.org.uk

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

8.30 am, 10.30 am I will sing for ever of your love, O Lord.
6:00 pm I will bless the Lord at all times, his praise always on
my lips. In the Lord my soul shall make its boast; the
humble shall hear and be glad.

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.**

**JOB VACANCIES AT BLESSED EDWARD OldCORNE CATHOLIC
COLLEGE:**

**Senior Midday Supervisor - required asap. Closing date: 10.00am
Friday 7 July 2023.** Early applications are encouraged as we reserve the
right to close the vacancy early if a suitable candidate is found.
**Midday Supervisor - required for September 2023. Closing date: 10.00am
Friday 7 July 2023.** Early applications are encouraged as we reserve the
right to close the vacancy early if a suitable candidate is found.

Please see the Blessed Edward Oldcorne website for details and an
application form. Applications should be emailed to
ktaylor@blessededward.co.uk before the closing date.

SUMMER FAIR

The Parish Summer fair (Garden party) will be on Saturday 19th August
from 12noon till 3pm. As part of the Garden party, we will be organizing a
Raffle. If you would like to sponsor a raffle prize, please give your name to
Terry Poulten as soon as possible (or write your name on the clipboard in
the narthex). Raffle tickets will be available on this Sunday the 2nd July. If
you would like to bring some flower plants to the garden party, now is the
time to start preparations.

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of the latest Parish Council Meeting on 20th June are available at
the back of church on the notice board. If you would like a copy of these
minutes, please contact Jenny Leonard on jennyleonard4@aol.com

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

The Bereavement Café will be open to all in Droitwich Spa on 11th July 2023 10am-12noon at Rotary House, Corbett Avenue. If you want to find out more you might like to listen to the podcast from Radio Maria, Catholic radio station or make contact with us. We are continuing to collect complete jigsaw puzzles and colouring books for prisoners. If you know of anyone in need please do not hesitate to contact us on: droitwichreferrals@svp.org.uk or 07772 927 535. Thank you for your support.

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 - or visit www.retrouvaille.org.uk

ASK YOUR MP TO STOP ABORTION UP TO BIRTH

The abortion lobby is running a campaign to fully 'decriminalise' abortion, which would introduce abortion up to birth!

Right To Life UK has launched an easy-to-use tool on its website which makes it simple for you to send an email to your MP asking them to oppose the introduction of abortion up to birth.

Please visit www.righttolife.org.uk/noabortionuptobirth to contact your MP now. It only takes 30 seconds..

RETIRING COLLECTION FOR PETER'S PENCE

In the second collection today, we are supporting Pope Francis in his charitable works. The Peter's Pence Collection is taken up worldwide to support our brothers and sisters on the margins of society, including victims of war, oppression, and natural disasters. This collection is an opportunity to join with Pope Francis and be a witness of charity to our suffering brothers and sisters. Please be generous in today's collection.

LOOP SYSTEM

Using the Loop System in Church. It has been found that the pillars can reduce the signal. We recommend that you sit between the pillars, adjacent to the arches to get the best signal.

COMMUNITY MEAL

The next Community Meal is on Monday 24th July 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.

PARISH HALL BOOKINGS

Please contact Sally at volunteers.

sacredheart.droitwich@rcaob.org.uk

or 07891144870

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

Main Collection:
£267.72(cash) and
£242(envelopes)
Second collection for
the Day for Life £27
Thank you for
supporting your
Parish.

Mass attendance
last Sunday: 228



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 9th July 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

Zechariah 9:9-10;
Psalms 144;
Romans 8:9.11-13;
Matthew 11:25-30

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.

Today's reading presents a catechesis on discipleship, with two steps. In the first step, Jesus defines the disciple's path: the disciple must be able to make Jesus his fundamental choice and follow his teacher on the path of love and dying to oneself. In the second step, Jesus promises a reward to those who generously and lovingly welcome the missionary-disciples of the "Kingdom." This second step reflects itself in the first reading where the generous hospitality that Elisha finds in the home of a Shunammite woman. This was because she recognized that Elisha was a holy man of God, through whom God acts in the world. Helping Elisha, the woman shows her adherence to God, expressing her willingness to collaborate with God in the project of salvation that God has for the world. In response to the woman's generosity, Elisha blesses her by prophesying the birth of a son.

God does not fail to reward all those who collaborate with him. This, indeed, is a way of following Jesus on the path of love as faithful disciples through baptism. As a result, the second reading recalls that the Christian is someone who, through Baptism, identified himself with Jesus and following Him on the path of love and permanently renouncing sin. Dear friends in Christ, what really have we sacrificed in following Christ? Apparently, following Jesus is not an easy task; as stated earlier, it involves a cost – a life of total surrender and preference of Jesus and a loving gesture towards our neighbour. It is a radical path, which often demands sacrifices. When it comes to choosing between Jesus and other values, what should the Christian's option be? Moreover, choosing Jesus and following Him to the cross is not a path of failure and death, but a path of life. In fact, when a man is very concerned with protecting his human security schemes and closes in on his selfishness and self-sufficiency, he ends up losing his real life; but when a man accepts to live in obedience to God's plans and to make his life a gift of love for his brothers and sisters, he finds life definitively. This is what Jesus means in verse 39: "Anyone who finds his life will lose it; anyone who loses his life for my sake will find it." Therefore, following Jesus requires dying to oneself for the glory of God and the good of others. It also entails recognizing Jesus in the lives of those who preach the Good News to us. Apparently, there are people who are called by God to leave their lands, families, cultural and social points of reference, etc., in order to dedicate their lives to the proclamation of the Gospel. They are not super-men and women, but men and women like any other, with the same needs for affection, support, solidarity, understanding. It is our responsibility to help them, not only with material means but also with understanding, solidarity, love, hospitality, prayers, etc. This loving gesture will never go unrewarded. May the good Lord continually grant us the grace to remain true and faithful missionary-disciples so as not to lose focus of Him nor prize our self-interest above our Christian calling.

Fr. George Mathew SCJ