



Societas Presbyterorum
Sacratissimi Cordis Jesu
BETHARRAM

SACRED HEART & ST CATHERINE OF ALEXANDRIA

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Today's Mass Readings

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

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

This Week: 9th July– 15th July (Psalter Week 2)	Holy Mass & Services	Other Events
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 Thomas Kynaston RIP (MS) 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 2.30-4.30 SVP Afternoon
Monday 10th July Feria	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Milenda Da Silva (IR)	
Tuesday 11th July Feast of St Benedict, Abbot, Patron of Europe	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am For the people turned away from God	
Wednesday 12th July Feria	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Milbrough Blizards RIP (RB)	10:00 am until 6:00 pm: Adoration
Thursday 13th July Feria	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Stella McDermott RIP	
Friday 14th July Feria	8.55 am Morning Prayer 9.15 am Holy Mass	After Mass: Novena to the Sacred Heart 6.30-8.00 pm Youth Group
Saturday 15th July Memorial of St Bonaventire, Bishop, Doctor of the Church	11:00 am Alan Remedios RIP	10:15 am - 10:45 am: Confes- sion
Sunday 16th July Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A	8:30 am Mary and Graham Fieldsend 10:30 am People of the Parish 6:00 pm Holy Mass	After 8:30 am Mass: Tea and Coffee in the Hall During 10:30 mass Children's Liturgy

"Let us Pray Together that Catholics place at the centre of their lives the Eucharistic Celebration, which transforms human relationships and opens up an encounter with god and their brothers and sisters."

Pope Francis via Twitter 3rd July 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

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**PARISH SAFEGUARDING
REPRESENTATIVES**

Gerry Ceclich
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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
6:00 pm

I will bless you name for ever. O God my King.

The promises of the Lord are true and loving are all his deeds. I will give you glory O God my king and praise your name forever, and praise your name for ever.

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.

CONFIRMATION PROGRAM 2023

Children who will be in Year 6 or above in September and are not at St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School can be prepared to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation in December 2023. If you would like your child to be part of the parish preparation group please could you contact Fr. George or the parish office by end of July. Confirmation classes will begin in September 2023.

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. If you would like to bring some flower plants to the garden party, now is the time to start preparations . Please bring items for Tombola and toiletries. Thank you.

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..

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

This Sunday we are serving strawberry and cream scones at our afternoon tea and chat session. The Bereavement Café will be open to all in Droitwich Spa on 11th July 2023 10am-12 noon at Rotary House, Corbett Avenue. If you wish to donate specifically to support this SVP project you can do so via <http://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/svpdroitwichbereavementcafe>

We are continuing to collect complete jigsaw puzzles and colouring books for prisoners. Thank you for all the wonderful donations so far. They have all been passed to the Chaplaincy at Long Lartin to be made available to the 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.

REFUGEE KNITTING

Could you please bring any knitting to Church by Sunday July 23rd for the next shipment. Wool, patterns, buttons and needles are available in the cupboard at the church entrance to help towards costs and donations of the same would be gratefully accepted. Feel free to knit or crochet anything you feel would benefit the refugees in the various camps. Thank you so much for your continual support of this collection, which sadly is more needed than ever these days!

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

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.

APOSTLESHIP OF THE SEA

Seafarers and fishers play a vital role in all of our lives, but they often work in difficult, hazardous conditions. In the last year, more crews have been abandoned by their employers than ever before. Many are still being denied the right to leave their ships for even a short break away from the relentless noise and pressure onboard. Many are reporting more stress and poorer mental health. Sea Sunday is Sunday 9th July. It is when the Church prays for all those who live and work at sea. Your support will make a big difference to seafarers and fishers in need. You can donate in church, by visiting www.stellamaris.org.uk/donate, or by texting 'SEA' to 70460 to donate £5. This collection is vital to enable Stella Maris (formerly called Apostleship of the Sea) to continue its important work - so please give generously. Thank you.

JOB VACANCIES AT BLESSED EDWARD OldCORNE CATHOLIC COLLEGE:

Careers, Aspirations and Work Experience Assistant – required for

September 2023. **Closing date: 10.00am Thursday 13 July 2023**. Please see the Blessed Edward Oldcorne website for details and an application form.

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:
£291.70(cash) and
£220(envelopes)

Second collection for
the Peter Pence
£210.84

Thank you for
supporting your
Parish.

Mass attendance
last Sunday: 254



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

Isaiah 55:10-11;

Psalms 64;

Romans 8:18-23;

Matthew 13:1-23

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.

Amid turmoil and adversity of this modern day, the readings of this Sunday bring us a message of hope, trust, and reliance on God's strength. The prophet Zechariah speaks of an eschatological future where Jesus the king who will come to restore the kingdom, bringing justice and peace. The promise of a new beginning and the restoration of their homeland must have been difficult to believe in the face of despair and uncertainty. Yet, through Zechariah's words, God's promise shines as a beacon of hope, reminding the people that even in the darkest moments, God remains faithful and has a plan for their restoration.

Through the Gospel reading of today, Jesus invites us to find rest and solace in Him. He acknowledges the burdens we carry, the struggles we face, and He offers to share our yoke, to lighten our load. Jesus assures us that the demands of God are not beyond our strength. He invites us to turn to Him, to place our trust in Him, and to seek His help when life becomes overwhelming. This message is profoundly relevant in our own lives. We too encounter moments when we feel overwhelmed, burdened by the challenges and trials, both spiritual and material that come our way. We may face personal struggles, societal unrest, or the weight of expectations and responsibilities. In those moments, it is easy to rely solely on our own strength, to become consumed by worry and doubt. But the readings remind us that we are not alone. Jesus understands our burdens because He carried the weight of the world upon His own shoulders. He invites us to come to Him, to surrender our anxieties, and to find solace in His gentle and compassionate presence. Turning to Jesus in our times of need requires humility, faith, and a willingness to let go of our self-reliance. It means acknowledging that we cannot navigate life's challenges alone, we are not supposed to; and that we need the help of our loving Saviour. It involves surrendering our burdens and allowing Him to navigate us along the path of righteousness, justice, and peace.

Jesus is the revelation of God. However, to fully grasp that revelation we must approach him in humility, openness and lowliness. That is why Jesus' message was received by outcasts, sinners, publicans and others rejected by society. These are the little ones Jesus talks about. Their acceptance of Jesus was not compromised by status, pride, a know-it-all attitude or being judgmental of others. They knew who they were and who they were not. The passage urges believers to live according to the Spirit and put to death the deeds of the flesh, for those who live according to the flesh will not inherit eternal life. Throughout the Church's history, this contrast between the flesh and the spirit has led to many distorted ideas about holiness. One such thought was that, to grow in holiness meant to reject not only the flesh, but everything material. In the first chapter of Genesis, we hear that "God looked at everything He had made and found it very good" [Gn 1:31]. Material things cannot be made evil. Only persons and their actions can be evil, by putting last things first. Material things are among the last that matter in life, is this song turned off because they will not last. Knowing this truth and ordering one's choices according to it foster humility, disposing oneself to abiding more fully in God.

Fr. George Mathew SCJ