



Societas Presbyterorum
Sacratissimi Cordis Jesu
BETHARRAM

SACRED HEART & ST CATHERINE OF ALEXANDRIA

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Today's Mass Readings

Isaiah 55:10-11;

Psalm 64;

Romans 8:18-23;

Matthew 13:1-23

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

This Week: 16th July– 22th July (Psalter Week 3)	Holy Mass & Services	Other Events
Sunday 16th July Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A	8:30 am Mary and Graham Fieldsend 10:30 am Sr. Karithas AC 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 17th July Feria	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Fr. Brian Boyle	
Tuesday 18th July Feria	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Bernadette Violet Duffy R.I.P. Anniversary of Wedding	
Wednesday 19th July Feria	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Holy Mass	10:00 am until 6:00 pm: Adoration
Thursday 20th July Feria	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Arthur Leason RIP (MB)	
Friday 21st July Feria	8.55 am Morning Prayer 9.15 am Fr. Alex Rebello (AR)	After Mass: Novena to the Sacred Heart 6.30-8.00 pm Youth Group
Saturday 22nd July Feast of St Mary Magdalene	11:00 am Gladys Remedios RIP	10:15 am - 10:45 am: Confes- sion
Sunday 23rd July Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A	8:30 am Holy Mass 10:30 am People of the Parish 6:00 pm In fond memories of Betty Parry & Shiela Manion	After 8:30 am Mass: Tea and Coffee in the Hall

*"This is Christian prophecy: responding to evil with good, to hatred with love, to division with reconciliation.
Faith transforms reality from within."*

Pope Francis via Twitter 1st 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

Bogusia Koniszewska-
Fijolek

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**PARISH SAFEGUARDING
REPRESENTATIVES**

Gerry Ceclich

Clare Tomlinson

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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

Some seed fell into rich soil and produced its crop.

6:00 pm

Let the Lord enter in, he is the king of glory. Let the
Lord enter! Let the Lord enter! Enter into your
heart!

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..

GOOD NEWS FROM ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY (SVP)

SVP launched the Droitwich Bereavement Cafe on Tuesday 11th July. It was held at Rotary House and attended by 21 people including three men. People arrived early and had to be encourage to leave as the hall booking time was up. We had a wonderful atmosphere and those attending were very appreciative of the opportunity to meet with people in a similar situation to themselves. For more information about this project see the posters at the bank of church or contact us on 0777 292 7535 or droitwichreferrals@svp.org.uk.

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.

COLUM MACCOURT: LONDON MARATHON FUNDRAISER

Many thanks to everyone who donated to Mikey's fundraising efforts for Brain Research UK in memory of his grandad Colum. The current total stands at £2,500 and we are very grateful for your support and prayers. Thank you all.

UNIVERSE CATHOLIC WEEKLY

I am happy to inform you all that the Universe Catholic Weekly has resumed print copies for its readers and is now available to purchase from the narthex. If you would like to place an order for a personal copy posted to your address, please contact: Michelle Jones, Circulation Sales Manager, Universe Catholic Weekly, Universe Catholic Weekly Limited, PO Box 585, Sale, Manchester M33 0JH. Email: michelle.jones@universecatholicweekly.co.uk

Website: www.universecatholicweekly.co.uk

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:
£267.96(cash) and
£285(envelopes)
Second collection for
Apostleship of the
Sea £341.61

Thank you for
supporting your
Parish.

Mass attendance
last Sunday: 234



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 20th August 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

Wisdom 12:13.16-19;

Psalms 85;

Romans 8:26-27;

Matthew 13:24-43

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.

On this Fifteenth Sunday in ordinary time Evangelist Matthew speaks about the Kingdom of God and its characteristics. Among the other synoptic Gospels, Matthew's Gospel gives special emphasis on this topic. What is Kingdom of God? How can we define Kingdom of God? A simple definition Kingdom of God can be, "Where God is in charge of everything and the subjects of His kingdom accepts His sovereignty and worship Him as their Lord and God; and the subjects live their life according to the commandments and live in their daily life the kingdom's values which are righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Spirit". Matthew chapter five, six and seven speaks about the values of the kingdom of God and how one should live in the kingdom of God and especially the Sermon on the Mountain reaffirms this message. One interesting thing about the Kingdom of God is that the mysteries of the Kingdom of God is being revealed to mere children. Here children mean, the one who surrender himself/herself and accepts God's kingdom and its values with humility.

Today's Gospel speaks about the Parable of the Sower. This is the first parable that Jesus used to explain the Kingdom of God. Here, the Sower saw the seed in an open field. With only one intention of a hundred-fold produce. But the seeds fall into four specific areas in the field such as, on the path, among thorn bushes, on the rocky ground and on a good soil. From this parable we learn that the conditions must be right for God's Word to produce a harvest in our lives. The paths were packed down hard because of all the people walking on them. They were so hard that the seed being sown was unable to penetrate the soil and so they remained on top of the ground as easy picking for hungry birds. Jesus is referring to people whose hearts are so hard that the truth of His word cannot penetrate their lives. But a clever farmer can remedy this problem by ploughing them. The plow breaks up the hard ground so seeds will be able penetrate the soil. Just like those farmers some of us need to plough the soil of our hearts so that God's word can enter in. The next type of soil is the rocky ground, a shallow layer of soil on top of solid rock. It is important to understand that the real reason the plant dies is not because of the trial of the scorching sun, but because it doesn't have deep enough roots to deal with the trial. The seed has a natural capacity to resist the heat of the sun if they are rooted rightly. Therefore, the evil in the world is not the reason for our failure but our shallow root in God is inefficient to fight the evil. Just as sun is necessary for the growth of the plants, the challenges are necessary for our life. The one who deeply rooted in Christ, can withstand any challenges. The third type of soil that Jesus spoke of was thorny or weedy soil. The thorns grow up quickly and they choke out the plants. The weeds consume the water and nutrients that should be used for the plants nourishment and so they die. These thorns represent the cares of life and the desire for wealth and pleasures of the which choke the Word of God out of the lives of many people. The pursuit of worldly wealth consumes the energy that should be used in the pursuit of spiritual wealth, and we die spiritually.

If you truly want to live a spiritually productive life then plow the soil and prepare your heart to receive God's word, put down roots and persevere through the trials of life, and pull the weeds of worldly wealth and pursue spiritual riches instead. If you do these things, then you will have good soil and the seed of God's word will produce a bountiful harvest in your life. That will make you a suitable subject of the Kingdom of God.

Fr. George Mathew SCJ