



Societas Presbyterorum
Sacratissimi Cordis Jesu
BETHARRAM

SACRED HEART & ST CATHERINE OF ALEXANDRIA

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Today's Mass Readings

1 Kings 3:5.7-12;
Psalms 118;
Romans 8:28-30;
Matthew 13:44-52

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

This Week: 30th July - 5th Aug (Psalter Week 1)	Holy Mass & Services	Other Events
Sunday 30th July Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A	8:30 am Betty Parry RIP (AK) 10:30 am Edward Sykes, Katherine & Michael Sekowski RIP (BS) 6:00 pm John & Mary Ryan (DR)	After 8:30 am Mass: Tea and Coffee in the Hall
Monday 31st July Memorial of St Ignatius of Loyola	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Mary Joseph, Varkey Rose, Andrew & Juliet RIP (IR)	
Tuesday 1st August Memorial of St Alphonsus Mary de'Liguori, Bishop, Doctor of the Church	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Leelama Sebastian RIP	
Wednesday 2nd August Feria	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Mary Mason (PW)	10:00 am until 6:00 pm: Adoration
Thursday 3rd August Feria	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Chris Dennis (MD)	
Friday 4th August Memorial of St John Vianney, Priest	8.55 am Morning Prayer 9.15 am Fr. Alex Rebello (AR)	After Mass: Novena to the Sacred Heart
Saturday 5th August Feria	11:00 am Mr. Clark RIP	10:15 - 10:45 am: Confession
Sunday 6th August Feast of the Transfiguration of the Lord, Year A	8:30 am Patrick Cussen RIP (JC) 10:30 am Holy Mass 6:00 pm For the people of the Parish	After 8:30 am Mass: Tea and Coffee in the Hall

Pope's Prayer Intention for August, for World Youth Day:

"We pray the World Youth Day in Lisbon will help young people to live and witness the Gospel in their own lives."

**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**

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Birmingham**

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RESPONSORIAL PSALM

8.30 am, 10.30 am

6:00 pm

Lord, how I love your law!

The word of God is more desired than gold; the word of God is sweeter than honey. Light to our eyes the Lord's command is clear; greater than gold the message of eternal life. 11 AK (Ps 18)

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 PROGRAMME 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 the end of July. Confirmation classes will begin in September 2023.

SUMMER GARDEN PARTY

The Parish Summer Garden Party takes place on Saturday 19th August at 12 noon until 3pm, in the Parish Hall, with afternoon teas available (including a complementary glass of Pimms). In addition there will be a healthy selection of toiletries, toys, plants and cakes available to buy and take away. And for your entertainment, there will be a tombola stall during the afternoon with the draw of the Summer Raffle taking place towards the end of the event. Donations for any of the above are still gratefully received, though cakes and plants, obviously, not until the day itself! Please make sure to keep the date free and come along with your family and friends.

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.

SVP BUNK BED APPEAL:

The Sacred Heart SVP is looking for a set of bunk beds for one of their clients, if anyone has usable bunk beds to give away, please contact the SVP on 07772927535 or droitwichreferrals@svp.org.uk

JOB VACANCY AT BLESSED EDWARD OLDCCORNE CATHOLIC COLLEGE

Midday Supervisor – required for October 2023 Closing date: 10.00am Tuesday 5 September 2023

Business Manager – required for Autumn 2023 Closing date: 10.00am Tuesday 5 September 2023

Please see the Blessed Edward Oldcorne website for details and an application form; <https://www.blessededward.co.uk/about-us/vacancies/>

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.

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

REFUGEE KNITTING

Thank you once again for your continual support of this worthy cause, particularly for the variety of exquisite sets so thoughtfully packaged.

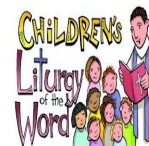
Thank you also for the vast quantity of baby girl clothes and the other miscellaneous items, which will bring such joy to the recipients.

Please continue knitting and store items at home until requested because of storage problems.

Donations of wool would be gratefully accepted to help defray costs and can be placed in the cupboard at the back of the church.

COMMUNITY MEAL

The next Community Meal is on Monday 21st August at 12.30 pm in the Parish Hall.



CHILDREN'S LITURGY

There will be no Children's Liturgy 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:
£316.71 (cash) and
£158.00 (envelopes).

Thank you for
supporting your
Parish.

Mass attendance
last Sunday: 232



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

Daniel 7:9-10.13-14;

Psalms 96;

2 Peter 1:16-19;

Matthew 17:1-9

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.

"The experience of God's kingdom, taking flesh in our world, demands from us a bold, decisive and single-minded response." Dear brothers and sisters in Christ, imagine, if you were given a Cash Award of £20,000, for an extraordinary achievement, how would it make you feel? Of course, excited and happy! How are you going to spend it? Remember, you have full freedom to use it the way it pleases you. Perhaps, you could be puzzled, the way King Solomon was when God offered him an unlimited offer – to ask for anything he could dream of and it would be granted instantly. Solomon, inspired by the Spirit, sought wisdom to serve his people on the path of righteousness and justice. He asked the Lord, "Give therefore your servant wisdom and understanding" so that he will be able to discern good from evil. Yes friends, wealth did not attract him; power did not pursue him; fame did not fascinate him: it was his desire to serve, that powered Solomon to ask for wisdom and understanding. God said, "You have not asked Me for anything material, but I give you wealth and fame more than than you can imagine." In fact, history tells us that he was the wisest and the richest king that ever lived. In this incident, we realise that it was a perfect prayer on the part of Solomon. Solomon himself recognised that he was a child, he was unable to do anything just by himself and so he surrendered himself to God. At this attitude, at this disposition of Solomon, God decided to grant him all that he asked for. My dear friends, many a time we complain that we do not know how to pray, or our prayers are not answered. At this juncture, we remember what St. Paul wrote in his letter to the Romans. "It is the spirit who intercede for us, we do not know how we ought to pray. But it is the spirit who prays in us and through us".

In the second reading, St. Paul, again in his letter to the Romans, presents to us the plan of God, namely, justification and salvation, accomplished in the person of Jesus. God has called us, and those whom He has called, He has predestined to be transformed in the likeness of His son Jesus and to be glorified. Paul was absolutely certain of this divine plan. He emphatically states that no power, no force on earth, sin, suffering and death, can alter this. This fact gives us a sense of joy, a sense of hope, a sense of confidence. It is this attitude, it is this disposition, it is this approach that should be reflected in our day-to-day life. Because we have a reason to be happy, we have a reason to be joyful, we have a reason to be hopeful.

In the Gospel, we have three parables referring to the kingdom of God. In the first parable we have a treasure that a farmer finds, and he sacrifices everything to possess that treasure. We have a pearl of great value. The merchant sells all to purchase that pearl because he realises the greatness of the value of that pearl. Dear friends, what is our treasure? What is that great pearl of great value to us? It is nothing other than Jesus Himself. Jesus, His Gospel, His values are the Kingdom. These are values are that we want to possess, we want to cherish, we want to live by. And therefore, today we ask the Lord to help us to appreciate this great treasure, this great pearl of great value, so that they may become real treasures that we look for. May God bless all of us.

Fr. George Mathew SCJ