



Societas Presbyterorum
Sacratissimi Cordis Jesu
BETHARRAM

SACRED HEART & ST CATHERINE OF ALEXANDRIA

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Today's Mass Readings

1 Kings 19:9.11-13;
Psalm 84;
Romans 9:1-5;
Matthew 14:22-33

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

This Week: 13th - 19th Aug (Psalter Week 3)	Holy Mass & Services	Other Events
Sunday 13th August Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A	8:30 am Bob Grant RIP (D.G) 10:30 am Christopher Feetenby RIP (BOH) 6:00 pm For the full & speed recovery of Nick Lynam	After 8:30 am Mass: Tea and Coffee in the Hall
Monday 14th August Memorial of St Maximilian Mary Kol- be, Priest, Martyr	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Mary Mason	
Tuesday 15th August Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am For peace in the World 7 pm Holy Mass	
Wednesday 16th August Feria	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Bridget and Raymond Pringle RIP (MB)	10:00 am until 6:00 pm: Adoration
Thursday 17th August Feria	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Mary Rayan	
Friday 18th August Feria	8.55 am Morning Prayer 9.15 am Franciszek Gruszka RIP (BS)	After Mass: Novena to the Sacred Heart
Saturday 19th August Feria	11:00 am For the Sick and the House bound	10:15 - 10:45 am: Confession 12-2 pm Summer Fair
Sunday 20th August Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A	8:30 am Jean Grieves (LD) 10:30 am Franciszk Gruszka & the Family members. RIP (BS) 6:00 pm For the people of the Parish	After 8:30 am Mass: Tea and Coffee in the Hall 2.30-4.30 pm SVP Afternoon

“While in Ukraine and other places in the world there is fighting, WYD showed everyone that another world is possible, a world of brothers and sisters, where the flags of all peoples fly together, without hatred, without fear, without closure, without weapons! “

Pope Francis via Twitter 9th August 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

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RESPONSORIAL PSALM

**8.30 am, 10.30 am 6:00 pm Let us see, O Lord, your mercy and give us
your saving help.**

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, 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.**

HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION:

Tuesday the 15th of August is the Solemnity of the Assumption of the
Blessed Virgin Mary. It is a Holy Day of Obligation when the faithful are
recommended to attend Mass. For the convenient of the people especially
who must work during the day, we have Mass at 9.15 am and 7pm. Please
make sure to attend one of the Masses on this day.

SUMMER FAIR

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! A big Thank you
to all those who have already bought a raffle ticket and sponsored raffle
prizes; if you have promised a raffle prize, could you please bring them as
soon as possible so that we can organise the prizes in advance. The Raffle
tickets are still available to buy from the parish hall after each Masses on
Sundays.

PAPER PLATES

Paper plates will be given out after each mass (this coming Sunday). Please
fill with home made cakes or bought cakes for the Summer fair on 19th
August.

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.

WORCESTER CIRCLE NEWMAN ASSOCIATION-SECRETARY/TREASURE

The Worcester Circle of the Newman Association urgently needs a secretary/treasurer. Duties include booking the hall, contracting speakers, dealing with enquiries from prospective members and head office and maintaining simple accounts. The duties are not actually too onerous and the tasks can be very rewarding. The Circle has been a part of Catholic life in this area for the last 50 years and meetings attract good numbers but without someone to fill this office we cannot continue. It would be possible to split these two roles and all assistance will be given to whoever takes this on.

If you are at all interested please contact John Duddington at duddingtonjohn@gmail.com

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:
£254.69 (cash) and
£225 (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

Isaiah 56:1.6-7;

Psalms 66;

Romans 11:13-15.29-32;

Matthew 15:21-28

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.

My dear brothers and sisters in Christ, today's readings continue to speak about listening as we did last week. It is not easy to hear the call of God that in can get lost in all the noise and activity of our daily lives. Then if we do hear His call, will we have the courage to respond, the courage as Peter did, to step out of the boat? The Gospel takes us on a journey across the turbulent waters of the Sea of Galilee, where we witness an extraordinary event of Jesus calming the storm. This miracle serves as a powerful reminder of God's presence in our lives, especially during the storms and trials we face.

First, let us accept the fact that the STORMS of Life are a reality of life: Life often throws us into tumultuous waters, just like these disciples in the boat. We encounter storms of various kinds – physical, emotional, spiritual and psychological. It's in these moments that we need to remember that we are not alone in our struggles. Jesus is present, even in the darkest and most turbulent times of our lives. In the first reading of today we heard that Elijah experienced that same assurance of God's power and presence on Mount Horeb. Secondly, the BOAT symbolizes our faith. It may seem small and fragile amidst the vastness of life's challenges, but it is in this boat that we find refuge, hope and strength. I have encountered two types of Christians in my priestly ministry. The first category of people are the one with great faith in God and they are very enthusiastic to live that faith with a feeling of content with all the graces God granted them. But suddenly when an unexpected tragedy occurs to them or to the family, they are shattered. That's when they begin to complain to God and even starts to doubt about Him. Just like St. Peter did. No sooner he realised that it was the Lord, than he jumped into the water. But his enthusiasm only lasted until he realised, he was in the deep waters. The second category are the people who got an unshakable faith that even amidst of all odds, sadness and uncertainties of life they are still strong in their faith. In fact, it is their faith that enable them to sail through the rough waters of life just as Thomas said, "Lord we will go with you wherever you are going." That means, whatever may be the life ahead, if the Lord is with us, we are not frightened. Therefore, it is essential to nurture and strengthen our faith through prayer, Scripture, and participation in the sacraments.

Thirdly, Jesus invites us to WALK on the Stormy Waters of our lives: He invites us to walk with Him overtaking our FEAR with our FOCUS on Jesus. Peter's bold request to walk on water was an act of faith, but fear got the better of him. As he took his eyes off Jesus and focused on the storm, he began to sink. Fear often causes us to lose sight of our faith and become paralyzed. Just as Jesus reached out to save Peter, He does also for us when fear threatens to overwhelm us. We must learn to keep our eyes fixed on to Jesus during life's storms. Do not be Afraid, Quit; Today these words are addressed to each one of us. Christ's power to calm the storms of life was not limited to those who lived during His earthly ministry; the same POWER extends to us today. So, my dear friends, today's Gospel reminds us that storms are inevitable in life, but fear should never paralyze us. Like Peter, we may falter, but let us not lose faith. Instead, let us call out to Jesus amid our struggles, "Lord, save me", and He will reach out to us, calming the storms within us and around us. May we find the courage to step out of our comfort zones, walk on the waters of life with Christ unwavering faith in Him.

Fr. George Mathew SCJ