



Societas Presbyterorum
Sacratissimi Cordis Jesu
BETHARRAM

SACRED HEART & ST CATHERINE OF ALEXANDRIA

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Today's Mass Readings

Ezekiel 18:25-28;
Psalm 24;
Philippians 2:1-11;
Matthew 21:28-32

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

This Week: 1st Oct– 7th Oct (Psalter Week 2)	Holy Mass & Services	Other Events
Sunday 1st October Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A	8:30 am Jane & Peter 50th Wedding Anniversary (MB) 10:30 am Special Intentions : (M&LR) 6:00 pm For the people of the Parish	After 8:30 am Mass: Tea and Coffee in the Hall 10.30 Children Liturgy
Monday 2nd October Memorial of the Holy Guardian Angles	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am For a Special Intention.	
Tuesday 3rd October Feria	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Communion Service	
Wednesday 4th October Memorial of St Francis of Assisi	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Communion Service	
Thursday 5th October Feria	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Communion Service	
Friday 6th October Feria	8.55 am Morning Prayer 9.15 am Communion Service	6.30-8pm Youth Group
Saturday 7th October Memorial of Our Lady of the Rosary	11:00 am Paddy McLoughlin RIP (BB)	10:15 - 10:45 am: Confession
Sunday 8th October Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A Second collection for CAFOD Harvest Fast	8:30 am Rose Brooks RIP (PW) 10:30 am For the people of the Parish 6:00 pm Mary Ryan (DR)	After 8:30 am Mass: Tea and Coffee in the Hall 10.30 Children Liturgy 2.30-4.30pm SVP Afternoon

“In this Season of Creation, as followers of Christ on our shared synodal journey, let us live, work and pray that our common home will teem with life once again.”

Pope Francis via Twitter 28th September 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)

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

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

Tel.: 01905 773258

Email:

sacredheart.droitwich@
rcaob.org.uk

PARISH HALL BOOKINGS

Please contact Sally at
volunteers.

sacredheart.droitwich
@rcaob.org.uk or
07891144870

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

8.30 am, 10.30 am

Remember your mercy, Lord.

6.00 pm

In your love remember me, in your love remember
me, in your great goodness O Lord remember me.

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, Fr. Brian Boyle, Mrs. Roma.

**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.**

FR. GEORGE MATHEW SCJ

Fr. George will be away for a Mission Appeal Talk this weekend. Fr. Austin
from Olton Friary Church will cover all the Masses.

SPONSORED WALK

The Sacred Heart Sponsored walk was successful. A big thank you to all
those who contributed to the success of the Walk by sponsoring and joining
the walk and all those who offered spiritual support for the walk. The
money we raised will be send for the formation of Seminarians in two SCJ
Seminaries in India. The total money we raised from the Sponsored Walk is
£1240.

CHURCH CLEANING

We invite any parishioners of any age, skill or level of mobility, with a little
time to spare, to volunteer to join the Church cleaning group.

The first meeting for volunteers will take place on Thursday 12th October
soon after the mass.

REFUGEE KNITTING

Thank you so much for the beautiful knitted items received so far, and the
vast quantity of gorgeous baby boy clothes. This collection will end on
October 8th, but there will be a further one before Christmas.

WORLD MISSION SUNDAY.

This year World Mission Sunday will be celebrated on Sunday 22nd October. It is the one Sunday of the year when Mass is celebrated exclusively for Missionary activity. Donations collected at these worldwide Masses go in their entirety to support Churches, Hospitals, Schools and Vocations in countries where the church is new, young or poor. 'Missio' is the Pope's charity in England and Wales, and part of the International network of Pontifical societies, which oversees the distribution of resources equitably and justly on the basis of need. The money goes directly from the Bishops of England and Wales to the Bishops in the Mission Territories – Local churches directly helping Local churches!

If you are interested in the work of Missio there are a few copies of the Missio magazine: Mission Today – Impact report Summer 2023; and Mission Today - Autumn 2023 at the back of the Church.

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 October 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.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

Change for Change is an SVP initiative that will help to boost our funds locally and nationally. If you can donate your old and foreign currency to help boost our funds we would appreciate your help. We can accept all foreign coins and bank notes, any old British and Irish money even obsolete currency. Donated money will be changed for English currency. There will be a money box on the table at the back of church after each Sunday mass for donations. During the week donations can be put into the SVP box in the porch or make contact with SVP on droitwichreferrals@svp.org.uk or 0777 292 7535. Thank you for your support.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY—BEREAVEMENT JOURNEY

As a follow on to our Bereavement Café we are starting a Bereavement Journey course of two hours a week for seven weeks on Wednesday 11th October at the Old Library 5.30-7.30. This course will be delivered by volunteers who are there to support guests but not offer counselling and is designed for those who need a little more than the "light touch" friendship of the Café. It comprises two films per session and discussion within the group. There will be a limit of 8 participants per course. If you know of anyone who might like to sign up for the course or want any further information, please contact Gina on 0771 362 3997.

COMMUNITY MEAL

The next Community Meal is on Monday 23rd October at 12.30 pm in the Parish Hall.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY

There will be Children's Liturgy during the 10.30 am Mass today.

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 SAFEGUARDING

The Parish operates in accordance with Statutory Safeguarding Guidance and the National and Archdioceses policies & procedures at all times. Our Parish Safeguarding Representatives are Gerry Ceclich and Clare Tomlinson. They can be contacted on 01299 851188 or email: sg.sacredheartdroitwich@rcaob.org.uk or alternatively the Diocesan Safeguarding team can be contacted on 0121 230 6240/safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk if you have any concerns.

**Main Collection:
£203.11**

Gift Aid: £223

**Second collection for
Fr. Hudson's Society
raised: £222.40**

**Thank you for
supporting your
Parish.**

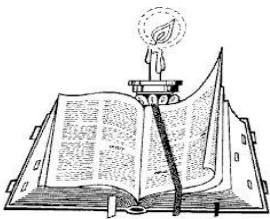
**Mass attendance
last Sunday: 208**



**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 8th October 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 5:1-7;

Psalms 79;

Philippians 4:6-9;

Matthew 21:33-43

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.

This Gospel reading speaks volumes about what it means to be faithful to God. It's one thing to speak about what you intend on doing with your faith, but it's another thing to actually follow God's call, to act. In this parable, Jesus raises a simple yet profound point: Actively following God takes more of an effort than just claiming to follow him.

This story reminds us of the need to change: "The first son changed his mind and went". Jesus said to the chief priests and elders, "John came to you...you did not change your minds and believe him". The chief priests and elders resist Jesus, not because they are Jews, as some Christians might have us believe, but because they are secure in their positions as leaders. The more secure we are in our positions, the less likely we are to be open to the change Jesus asks of us. Also, the Gospel invites us to faith that is less about changelessness than about growth. One brother says yes and then does not go. Perhaps he says yes just to please his father, or because this is what people want him to say. The Gospel story shows us the nobility of a humble change of mind. The first son "thought the better of it." He was open to change, to better thoughts. The second son was set and closed. The ability to change one's mind is essential to all healthy relationships. A mind that is closed, whether from pride, stubbornness or stupidity, tends to destroy all relationships e.g., when we refuse to admit a mistake, when we are unwilling to apologise and change our ways, when we persist in prejudice against a person or group, when we think we know it all, we are withdrawing ourselves from positive change that could have helped us in our relationship God and with our brothers and sisters. Jesus began his own earthly ministry by proclaiming, "The Kingdom of God is near. Repent and believe the good news" (Mark 1:14-15). Repenting is making an about-face, turning 180 degrees. The first son in Jesus' story made his 180-degree turn, first refusing to do what was asked, and then going to do it. The tax collectors and prostitutes Jesus referred to make this 180-degree turn in repenting of the wrongs in their way of life, and they believed. Is repenting and responding in belief something that needs to happen only when we become a Christian? How can we rightly seek the kingdom of God first, in our life, daily, unless we repent of our wrongs, and reaffirm our faith, daily?

Do we profess our faith too soon? Do we expect people to say yes before they know what Jesus asks? Do we ask people to say yes to silly things for the time being, when Jesus invites us to a whole new way of life? Do some of us drop out of church because we find that Jesus is expecting more than we have thought of? Or perhaps because we take Jesus seriously but find that few other people in the church do? This story challenges us to promise less and do more...to be more thoughtful and serious about what we do promise. May our good God bless us to do his will always.

Fr. George Mathew SCJ