



Societas Presbyterorum  
Sacratissimi Cordis Jesu  
BETHARRAM

## SACRED HEART & ST CATHERINE OF ALEXANDRIA

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Web: www.sacredheartdroitwich.org.uk



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

### Today's Mass Readings

*Readings*  
*Isaiah 45:1.4-6;*  
*Psalm 95;*  
*1 Thessalonians 1:1-5;*  
*Matthew 22:15-21*

This Week: 22nd Oct– 28th Oct (Psalter Week 1)	Holy Mass & Services	Other Events
<b>Sunday 22nd October</b> Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A Second collection for World Mission Day	8:30 am Evie Johnson for speedy recovery (GS) 10:30 am Alan Remedios RIP (KA) 6:00 pm Maggie Sunderland RIP (JL)	After 8:30 am Mass: Tea and Coffee in the Hall 10.30 Children Liturgy
<b>Monday 23rd October</b> Feria	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Emma J for speedy recovery (GS)	
<b>Tuesday 24th October</b> Feria	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Ninetta Adorisio for speedy recovery (GS)	
<b>Wednesday 25th October</b> Feria	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Gladys Remedios RIP (KA)	10.00am until 6.00pm Adoration
<b>Thursday 26th October</b> Feria	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Jane O'Hara RIP (LM)	
<b>Friday 27th October</b> Feria	8.55 am Morning Prayer 9.15 am Fr. Alex Rebello (AR)	After Mass: Novena to the Sacred Heart 6.30-8pm Youth Group
<b>Saturday 28th October</b> Feast of Ss Simon and Jude, Apostles	11:00 am Margaret Harding (MM)	10:15 - 10:45 am: Confession 11:00 am Anointing Mass
<b>Sunday 29th October</b> Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A	8:30 am For the people of the Parish 10:30 am Holy Mass 6:00 pm Holy Mass	After 8:30 am Mass: Tea and Coffee in the Hall 2:00 pm Indian Mass

*“ I have decided to declare Friday, 27th October, a day of fasting, penance and prayer for peace. I invite the various Christian confessions, members of other religions, and all who hold the cause of peace in the world at heart to participate. ”*

**Pope Francis via Twitter 18th October 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

*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

Give the Lord glory and power.

6.00 pm

Sing a new song to the Lord; sing to the Lord all the  
earth! Sing a new song to, sing a new song to the  
Lord: bless his name.

## 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.**

## RECENTLY DECEASED

Your prayers are asked for Bob O'Sullivan who died recently. May his soul  
and the souls of all faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in  
peace. Please keep his family and friends in your kind thoughts and prayers.

## CHRISTMAS FAIR

Parish Fair is the time we all can come together as a Parish Family apart  
from liturgical services to meet and greet our fellow parishioners twice a  
year. Also, though small, yet it is one way of raising some additional fund  
for the parish to cope with the massive increase of gas and electricity bill in  
this winter. The Christmas Fair this year will be on Saturday 16th December  
from 12noon till 3pm. To add colour to its social aspect, we have Christmas  
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. Please keep this day in your diary.

## SPECIAL ADORATION AND PRAYER FOR PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST

On this Wednesday the 25th we observe as a Parish Day of Prayer for peace  
in the Middle East. Please observe this day as a Day of Prayer by spending  
sometime in personal prayer at home or visiting the Blessed Sacrament in  
the church. There will be a special Adoration from 5pm to 6pm. The  
Morning mass at 9.15 on this day will be offered for peace in the Middle  
East.

## THANKYOU EVENING

To thank all the band of Parish Volunteers who involve in different areas of  
parish life, this year the Thankyou Evening will be on Friday the 24th of  
November. The Evening will start with Holy Mass at 6pm flowered by meal  
and entertainments in the parish hall. Please keep this day in your diary.

## TODAY IS WORLD MISSION SUNDAY

World Mission Sunday is being celebrated in every Catholic parish around the world today! It supports missionaries who work alongside communities that are poor or in need, regardless of their background or belief. By supporting Missio, the Pope's charity for world mission, you will help missionaries like Sr Mary who has given her whole life to bring the love and hope of Jesus to situations of extreme poverty and injustice. Please pray for mission of the Church throughout the world and give what you can to this very important collection which will sustain the future of our Church. Please call 02078219755 (office hours) or visit Missio's website to give a single gift, set up a Direct Debit and Gift Aid your donation if possible: [missio.org.uk](http://missio.org.uk)

### GIFT AID

Thank you to all parishioners who gift aid their donations. The parish has just received a tax rebate of £11,262.24. Your support is greatly appreciated.

### JOB VACANCY

Father Hudson's Care is a Catholic charity serving the needs of vulnerable people, without discrimination, within the large Archdiocese of Birmingham. It is motivated by Gospel values and Catholic Social Teaching and takes Christ's command to "Love one another" as its inspiration. We are seeking a new CEO to play a full part in shaping and delivering future developments for the charity. For more information visit [fatherhudsons.org.uk/vacancies](http://fatherhudsons.org.uk/vacancies) **Closing date: 12pm Friday 27th October 2023. Interview date: Tuesday 28th November 2023**

### REFUGEE KNITTING

Thank you for the two exquisite, large Crochet blankets and the baby knitting left this week. They alongside the previous items will be dispatched to the camps during the week. The next collection at church will take place in November, so please continue knitting and crocheting with this in mind. As ever please retain the items at home until requested because of storage problems. Donations of wool will be gratefully accepted to help defray costs and can be placed in the cupboard at the church entrance. Once again thank you so much for your continual support, which is so appreciated both by the organisers and recipients.

### 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. 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. **The first Session of Journey in Faith will start on Thursday the 9th of November at 7pm in the Parish Hall.**

### CHURCH CLEANING

As you are all aware that we have beautiful church which is a gem in the town and in the country people of all faith and no faith admire its atmosphere of prayer and beauty. To preserve this richness of our church, 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. Thanks to all those who came on last Thursday to clean the church. We need a few more hands. Would you like to help? That will be greatly appreciated. Next cleaning day is on Thursday the 26th of October soon after morning Mass

## 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, Clare Tomlinson and Carla Tucker. They can be contacted on 01299 851188 or email: [sg.sacredheartdroitwich@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:sg.sacredheartdroitwich@rcaob.org.uk) or alternatively the Diocesan Safeguarding team can be contacted on 0121 230 6240/[safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk) if you have any concerns.

**Main Collection:**  
**£278.57**

**Gift Aid: £150.50**

**Second collection for**  
**SVP: £388.61**

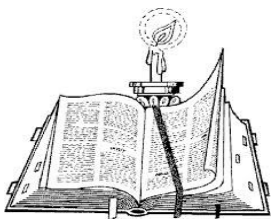
**Late collection for**  
**CAFOD: £15.48**

**Thank you for**  
**supporting your**  
**Parish.**

**Mass attendance**  
**last Sunday: 226**

**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 12th November 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](mailto:DroitwichReferrals@svp.org.uk) or on 07772 927535 or on Facebook, SVP Sacred Heart Droitwich.



**Next Sunday's Mass**  
**Readings**

*Exodus 22:20-26;*

*Psalms 17;*

*1 Thessalonians*  
*1:5-10;*

*Matthew 22:34-40*

*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 World Mission Sunday, the readings point us the direction how to become a good citizen and a genuine disciple of Christ. "I am the Lord, there is no other." The prophet Isaiah tells us in simple, evocative words. God's power is universal, loving, and mysterious. All earthly powers come from God, as Isaiah reminds the Israelites. The context for the first reading is the Babylonian exile, which began in 587 B.C. when Jerusalem fell into the hands of Babylonians and forced the Jewish people into exile in Babylon. Many years later, in 539 B.C., Babylon fell to Cyrus of Persia, whose policies would prove that Cyrus will be Yahweh's instrument to set the Israelites free. It is interesting to note, that this is the only occasion in the Old Testament where Yahweh anoints a non-Jew. Being an invincible ruler of the ancient world, Cyrus did not worship Yahweh, yet he became instrumental to free the Jewish exiles and rebuilding of the Temple Jerusalem. This shows that God's plan of salvation is for the entire humanity, not just Israelites. Unless they know Yahweh, the humanity cannot be saved. Therefore, Yahweh chooses Cyrus as a way of revealing himself to people of all nations.

God's power has a profound meaning for our personal life. For when we trust that God is the source of all power, we place ourselves in the merciful hands of God, with confident faith and humble thanksgiving. It is this Christian attitude of thanksgiving and deep trust in God that Paul praises in today's second reading that the Thessalonians as an early Christian community whose faith, hope and love of Jesus Christ radiated from their words and actions. This was the path of Christian discipleship then and it remains the essence of every follower of Jesus today. The challenge of Sunday's Gospel lies in finding the balance between being disciples of Jesus Christ and being good citizens of society and the world. Jesus offers the religious leaders of his day an answer to this perennial task by answering their question with a question by saying, "Give to God what belongs to God." and "Give to Caesar what belongs to Caesar". Jesus confronts them, and us, with a fundamental question; do we give to God what rightfully belongs to our creator with our entire heart, mind and soul? Jesus's answer cuts right through the false dilemma of the Jewish leaders, to show that the Christian life is not an either/or situation. A disciple of Jesus strives to be both a law-abiding citizen and a person of faith who loves God and neighbour. Christian faith requires that we are good citizens, for Christians live in this world, but not of it. Followers of Jesus are often faced with difficult decisions. There are so many "Caesars" competing for our allegiance. As we give to "Caesar," God's word reminds us that we may never stop giving to God what belongs to God who is the origin and end, the meaning and purpose of existence. Doing our civil and social duties and duties to our family and friends, they are all considered to be the right way of giving what belongs to Caesar. At the same time, when we find a qualitative time for exercising our Christian charity through our daily actions and more importantly setting aside our prime time for personal prayer and reception of the sacraments and participation of the sacramental services of the church, we are giving what belong to God. The question I need to ask myself today is, "How does I respond to the challenge of Jesus, to be a good citizen and a good disciple of Christ at the same time?"

Fr. George Mathew SCJ