



Societas Presbyterorum
Sacratissimi Cordis Jesu
BETHARRAM

SACRED HEART & ST CATHERINE OF ALEXANDRIA

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Today's Mass Readings

Readings

Wisdom 6:12-16;

Psalm 62;

1 Thessalonians 4;13-18;

Matthew 25:1-13

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

This Week: 5th No-11th Nov (Psalter Week 4)	Holy Mass & Services	Other Events
Sunday 12th November Thirty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A Remembrance Sunday	8:30 am Deceased Members of the Baldry Family (MB) 10:30 am Sally McCool RIP 6:00 pm Robin Edwards RIP (JD)	After 8:30 am Mass: Tea and Coffee in the Hall 10.30am Children Liturgy
Monday 13th November Feria	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am George Hancock RIP(AM)	11:00am Requiem Mass for Bob O'Sullivan
Tuesday 14th November Feria	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Arthur Leason RIP (MB)	
Wednesday 15th November Feria	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Mil Paling RIP (MB)	10.00am until 6.00pm Adoration 7:00pm Journey in Faith
Thursday 16th November Feria	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am KD Varky RIP	
Friday 17th November Feria	8.55 am Morning Prayer 9.15 am Gladys Remedios RIP (KA)	After Mass: Novena to the Sacred Heart 6.30pm Youth Group
Saturday 18th November Feria	11:00 am Ursula Matthews RIP (MB)	10:15 - 10:45 am: Confession 11:00 am Anointing Mass
Sunday 19th November Thirty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A	8:30am Kevin Mc Corry RIP (MM) 10:30 am People of the Parish 6:00 pm Holy Mass	After 8:30 am Mass: Tea and Coffee in the Hall 10.30am Children Liturgy

“ Let's us pray together for the people suffering due to war. Yes, they're suffering a lot. Children, the sick & elderly are suffering; many young people are dying. Let's not forget Ukraine. Let's think of the people of Palestine & Israel, that the Lord might bring them a just peace.”

Pope Francis via Twitter 8th November 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 For you my soul is thirsting, O God, my God.
6.00 pm I will call on the Lord I will glorify 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 and Sally McCool who died recently. The Requiem Mass for Bob O'Sullivan will be on Monday the 13th of November at 11am followed by burial at Hampton Lovett Churchyard. May their soul and the souls of all faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace. Please keep their family and friends in your kind thoughts and prayers.

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY 12TH NOVEMBER

White poppies were first worn in the aftermath of the First World War, to hold on to the key message of Remembrance Day, "Never Again". They stand for three things: 1.Remembrance of all victims of war, including people killed in wars happening now, as well as those who are often excluded such as civilians and refugees. 2.Challenging militarism, as well as any attempt to glorify or celebrate war. 3.A commitment to peace and to seeking nonviolent solutions to conflict today. We invite you all to come wearing a white poppy on Remembrance Sunday. The White Poppies are available to buy from the back of the church for £1.

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 in the Parish Hall, with afternoon Tea/Coffee and cakes available to buy and take away. In addition, there will be stalls such as Bricker-brac, toiletries, toys and books. Please start bringing items for these stalls. 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 will be gratefully received though cakes, obviously, not until the day itself! Please make sure to keep the date free and come along. Thanks for all the prizes donated. Raffle tickets are available to collect after each Mass from the Parish Hall.

NOVEMBER: MONTH OF THE HOLY SOULS

In November we remember and pray especially for those who have died. At the back of the church there are "In Remembrance" sheets. If you would like to remember in this special way loved ones who have died, write down their names, place the sheet in one of the envelopes provided and put it in the Holy Souls Box (**do not put any money in the envelope**). The Holy Souls Box will be placed near the altar at each Mass in November. It is a good time to offer the sacrifice of Mass for a loved one in November and also someone you know who is in need or close to you. There are Mass Intention Request envelopes available in the Narthex if you wish to have Mass offered for deceased relatives and friends.

THANK YOU 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 following by meal and entertainments in the parish hall. Please keep this day in your diary.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

For many years we have collected Christmas gifts for Father Hudson's Homes and our local families that are supported by SVP. We will be collecting gifts from 26th November until 17th December as Father Hudson's Homes staff will collect the gifts on 18th December to allow them time to distribute gifts to their families. Any late presents will go to local families supported by SVP. Your support for this project will be very much appreciated. We also arrange for parishioners to send Christmas cards to Long Lartin high security prison. These will be available at the back of church on 26th November for you to take and write a suitable message and please return ASAP. We have to post these to the prison no later than 10th December. Please to not sign your name, give your address or enclose anything in the envelopes. The cards must be returned to us in the envelope but do not seal as the prison officers need to vet each card before it can be given out to the prisoners. These cards make a real difference to the prisoners. Thank you for your support. Any queries can be directed to SVP at DroitwichReferrals@svp.org.uk or 0777 292 7535.

THE WORCESTER CIRCLE OF THE NEWMAN ASSOCIATION

Next meeting on Thursday 23 November at 7.30pm in St George's RC Parish Hall, WR1 1UT . Yoga, Zen and Christian Faith, talk by The Rev. Ian Spencer.

REFUGEE KNITTING

The final collection for this year will be on November 26th, so if you have any items please bring them to Church by this date. Donations of wool can also be left in the cupboard at the back of the church. Thank you to everyone who continues to knit for this most needy cause.

JOURNEY IN FAITH– 15TH NOVEMBER

On this day we will be discussing the topic: Jesus of Nazareth; Who is Jesus for me?

SAVE THE DATE

Friday 24th November
Thankyou Evening
16th December
Christmas Fair

COMMUNITY MEAL

Monday 11th
December at 12.30
pm in the Parish Hall.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY

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

PARISH YOUTH GROUP

Runs during term time
on Friday evenings from
6.30 pm for children
aged 9-14 years.

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 or
alternatively the
Diocesan
Safeguarding team
can be contacted on
0121 230
6240/safeguarding@
rcaob.org.uk if you
have any concerns.

Main Collection:
£353.59

Gift Aid: £193.00

**Second collection for
Johnson Association:**
£280.24

Gift Aid: £115.26

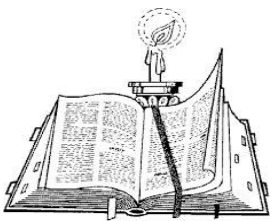
**Thank you for
supporting your
Parish.**

**Mass attendance
last Sunday: 222**

**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 3rd December 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

Proverbs 31:10-13.19-20.30-31;

Psalms 127;

1 Thessalonians 5:1-6;

Matthew 25:14-30

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 first reading today is taken from the Book of Wisdom. This Book is so called because it deals with the excellence of Wisdom. Unfortunately, wisdom in today's world is quite out of fashion. Because we have a lot more information at our fingertips than we ever had. We are living in an age of Artificial Intelligence that we are more superior than we have ever been. However, are we wiser today than we were in the past? Not quite sure of that. The reading, therefore, reminds us: that the pursuit of wisdom is not only noble, but very necessary. What is important is a desire to learn and to have love for her. As we get closer to the end of liturgical year the liturgy shifts our attention to Eschatological issues. Eschatology is a branch of theology that focuses on last things, death, judgement, heaven and hell. In the creed we profess that Jesus "will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead". The Church reminds us of the reality of second coming of Jesus through the liturgical readings. Human history unfolds with the creation of man and woman in God's image and likeness and ends with the Last Judgement of Christ.

The Gospel reading taken from the gospel of Matthew 25:1-13 shows Jesus giving us a parable of the 10 virgins. In this parable Jesus shows us the need for endless vigilance. The foolish virgins did not prepare adequately. They took many things for granted by not making provision for extra oil. The wise virgins however made the necessary preparations. This preparation mostly referring to spiritual preparation and readiness. This does not just happen. They come as a result of intentional habits built into one's life. That means, one cannot depend on a Sunday service to provide all our spiritual needs. One cannot just depend on being a member of a Christian fellowship to provide us with all the spiritual development. These things come through routine, mundane attention to ordinary spiritual disciplines — making sure we have enough oil: spiritual fuel. They come when we habitually take time for prayer and being alone with God. They come through reading God's Word; living a sacramental life; performing acts of service for others; being morally faithful; obeying God with love, and spending time with other Christians for mutual prayer, study, and encouragement. These are the things which, along with the normal difficulties of life, enable a person to grow in Christ and to be prepared for Christ's coming.

Reflecting on the readings today, as Bishop Robert Barron says, "our lamp of faith should be well stocked up spiritually by leading prayerful, Godly lives and by putting our faith into action. The lamp which is lit at our baptism, nourished through the sacraments — Eucharist and reconciliation, help us to meet the Lord with bright lamp". No one can make that spiritual preparation for us. It is a decision we need to make ourselves for being prepared and for staying awake. The lesson which we can take from this parable is to prepare now while we still have time, for those who do not prepare are not allowed to enter the wedding banquet. As the Lord says, "Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming".

So be Wise, so that we shall not miss the opportunity to dine with our Lord.

Fr. George Mathew SCJ