



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

Job 7:1-4.6-7;
Psalms 146;
1 Corinthians
9:16-19.22-23;
Mark 1:29-39

| This Week: 4th Feb-11th Feb 2024 (Psalter Week 1) | Holy Mass & Services | Other Events |
|---|---|---|
| Sunday 4th February Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B | 8.30am Lucy- Special Birthday (MB) 10.30am Tony Sawyer RIP (CT) 6.00pm Margaret Allen RIP & Family (SVP) | After 8.30am Mass : Tea & Coffee in the Hall During 10.30am Mass: Children's Liturgy |
| Monday 5th February Memorial of St Agatha, virgin, Martyr | 8.55am Morning Prayer 9.15am Communion Service | |
| Tuesday 6th February Memorial of St Paul Miki, and Companions, Martyrs | 8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Communion Service | |
| Wednesday 7th February Feria | 8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Communion Service | 10.00am until 6.00pm Adoration |
| Thursday 8th February Feria | 8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Communion Service | |
| Friday 9th February Feria | 11.45 am Midday Prayer 12-noon Chris Dennis RIP(AM) | After Mass: Novena to the Sacred Heart. 6.30pm Youth Group |
| Saturday 10th February Memorial of St Scholastica | 11:00 am Harry Remedios RIP(AK) | Confession- After Mass |
| Sunday 11th February Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B Second collection for the LIFE Charity | 8.30am Jack Callaghan RIP (MT) 10.30am People of the Parish 6.00pm John Ryan (DR) | After 8.30am Mass : Tea & Coffee in the Hall 2.30-4.30pm SVP Afternoon |

" Let us Pray Together for the many civilians who have fallen victim to wars that unfortunately still cause bloodshed in the world, such as those in the Middle East and Ukraine. May their cry of pain touch the hearts of world leaders and give rise to projects for Peace."

Pope Francis via Twitter 31st January 2024

**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

8.30am & 10.30am & 6.00pm

Praise the Lord who heals the broken-hearted .

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, Beryl Hill, Alan Hurst, John Jennings, 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 Margaret Mary Allen who died recently. May her soul and the souls of all the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace. The Requiem Mass for Margaret Mary Allen will be on Thursday, the 15th of February at 1.15pm here at Sacred Heart and followed by cremation at Worcester Crematorium. Please keep the family and friends of Margaret in your prayers.

FR. GEORGE ON HOLIDAY

Fr. George will be away for his holiday and visiting his parents from 22nd January till 12th February. While Fr. George is away priests from the deanery and from Olton Friary will supply for the weekend masses. Monday to Thursday there will not be Mass but communion service will be available at 9.15 am. Wednesday adorations will continue as usual after communion service and on Fridays Mass will be at 12am noon followed by Novena to the Sacred Heart. Saturday priest will be available to hear the confession soon after Mass. Any emergency sick visit or funerals please contact Fr. Tomas at St. Peter's Bromsgrove.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PROGRAMME 2024

If your child is in Year 3 or above and doesn't go to a Catholic school and you wish for your child to be prepared to receive the Sacrament of First Holy Communion this summer, please would you contact Fr. George SCJ or the Parish Office by Sunday 25th February. There will be a meeting with the parents on **Sunday 10th March after 10.30 Mass** in the parish hall. We expect all parents whose children are to be prepare for FHC to attend this meeting. The first session will start on Saturday 16th of March at 9.30 in the parish hall. This year the First Holy Communion Mass will be on Saturday 15th June at 11.00 am.

JOURNEY IN FAITH– 21ST JANUARY AT 7PM

On this day we will be discussing the topic: Prayer, Getting to Know God.

GIFT AID

If you are a taxpayer please consider signing a Gift Aid Form (blanks are at the back of the Church). The Church can receive the tax back on your donation. This is a very important part of the funding of the Parish.

DEACON TRAINEE

Andrew Forster from St. George's Worcester will be with us this weekend and for a few Sundays in February and March to have some experience in the parish as part of his training as a deacon. He will be ordained deacon in July. We hope and pray that he will have a great experience in the parish.

HOUSE MASS DURING LENT

As part of Lenten Journey, on every Thursday at 7pm during Lent Fr. George would like to visit your home and celebrate house Masses. If you would like to host a house Mass at your home during Lent, please give your names to Fr. George.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

On every Friday during Lent, there will be Stations of the Cross at 9.00am followed by Holy Mass. There will not be Novena to the Sacred Heart on Fridays during Lent.

WALK WITH ME BOOKLET

"A very warm welcome to this Lenten edition of "Walk With Me". With the Jubilee 2025 on the horizon our focus is very much on prayer and specifically the Our Father. The Our Father is a key theme for the Holy Year preparation this year. The disciples dared to say, 'Lord, teach us to pray', and so we dare to pray, 'Abba, Father.'" Bernard Longley, Archbishop of Birmingham.

The "Walk With Me" booklet for the Lenten journey are available to collect from the back of the church. Please consider taking a copy home. The booklets are free, but any donation would be much appreciated and will be given to the Sacred Heart Mission.

ONLINE LENTEN RETREAT

This coming Lent the Ignatian Spirituality Centre (ISC) will again be offering a free online Lenten Retreat. It will be called "Through Lent with Pope Francis". Details will be on the ISC Glasgow website fairly soon. If you think you might be interested, please contact Cecilia and Max Jourdier on mandcjourdier@gmail.com or 01886 812259

DAY OF RECOLLECTION-BELMONT ABBEY

Please see the poster on the noticeboard

CRIB DONATIONS

Friends of the Holy Land would like to thank all parishioners who raised £169.83 through their crib offerings, for Christians in the Holy Land. Conditions continue to be extremely challenging. Please continue to remember FHL and those we support in your prayers

PILGRIMAGE TO WESTPORT, KNOCK & CO.MAYO

Escorted Tour to Westport, Knock & Co Mayo, 14th April 2024. £899.00 pps. Contact Patricia or Natali on 01268 762 278 or 07740 175557 or email knockpilgrimages@gmail.com. Please see the notice at the back of church for more information.

COMMUNITY MEAL

Monday 26th
February at 12.30 pm
in the Parish Hall.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY

There will be
Children's Liturgy
during 10.30 am
mass on
4th February.

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:

£270.16

Gift Aid: £187

**Second collection for
Racial Justice**

£22.15

Gift Aid: £68.70

**Thank you for
supporting your
Parish.**

**Mass attendance
last Sunday: 211**

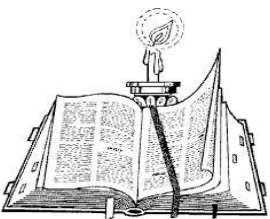
**ST. VINCENT DE
PAUL SOCIETY: TEA
& COFFEE
AFTERNOON**

If you would like some company, a drink, chat and cake then please come and join us on Sunday 11th February 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**

Leviticus 13:1-2.44-46;

Psalms 31;

1 Corinthians

10:31-11:1;

Mark 1:40-45

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 Sunday, we contemplate Jesus as the Lord who "heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds". We see this in the Responsorial Psalm. The Gospel (Mk 1:29-39) presents us how Jesus, after preaching the Word of God cured many sick people of their illnesses. Then he woke up early in the morning to pray. The Evangelist tells us the people were seeking for Him: And from there, Jesus went to the nearby villages preaching and driving out demons, for this is the reason why He came into the world: to save us, to cure us, to heal us.

As Christians, we too are called to preach, evangelise, and cure the sick of body and soul, even if most of the time, we have to go against the current brought about not only by a hostile and indifferent environment, but also by our own disordered passions. However, in spite of our failures, our defects, our limitations, and even our sins, we should remember what St. Paul said in the 2nd Reading: "woe to me if I do not preach it!" God still counts on each one of us to be an instrument of his mercy, love and salvation. What is the guiding principle for being an instrument of God? Jesus gives us the answer to this question. Before and after he went to preach and heal He often withdrew Himself to a lonely place to have a personal encounter with His father in prayer. Prayer and spirituality are not all about what we want God to do, they are about what God wants us to do. Jesus discerned the will of His father through prayer. So prayer was fundamental to His mission. Prayer draw us close to God and closeness to God makes us holy. Live in holiness in the purpose of our life. To be holy is to live united with the One who is holy, not simply to think nice thoughts about Him. Goodness and holiness are the result of love. Goodness and holiness consist in actively loving others as God loves us. One is holy because one lives with and acts with the One who is holy, Jesus Christ. It consists in actively living as He lived, in being salt and light for others. Love does not consist merely of nice sentiments. Love is realised in what we do.

Every Christian is called to strive for personal sanctification by living a holy life, but what we need to remember is that in order to be holy we must be about the task of bringing others to be a part of the One who is holy. Jesus teaches us this. In fact He commands it. St. Therese of Lisieux, the Little Flower once wrote, "I see now that true charity consists in bearing with the faults of those about us, never being surprised at their weaknesses, but edified at the least sign of virtue. I see above all that charity must not remain hidden in the bottom of our hearts: nor do men light a lamp and put it under a bushel, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house." Your love, she wrote, must be seen – not so that people may give you honor and glory but so that they may see your good works and give praise your Father in heaven. Have a blessed Sunday.

Fr. George Mathew SCJ