



Societas Presbyterorum
Sacratissimi Cordis Jesu
BETHARRAM

SACRED HEART & ST CATHERINE OF ALEXANDRIA

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Today's Mass Readings

Genesis 9:8-15;

Psalms 24;

1 Peter 3:18-22;

Mark 1:12-15

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

This Week: 18th Feb-25th Feb 2024 (Psalter Week 1)	Holy Mass & Services	Other Events
Sunday 18th February First Sunday of Lent Year B	8:30 am Frank & Joan Patterson RIP(MJ) 10:30 am Bridget Bullock (EK) 6:00 pm George Conway RIP (BC)	After 8:30am Mass : Tea & Coffee in the Hall
Monday 19th February Lent Feria	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Colum McCourt RIP	
Tuesday 20th February Lent Feria	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Colin Mason RIP (KG)	
Wednesday 21st February Lent Feria	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am For Students preparing for the exams	10:00am until 6:00pm Adoration 7.00pm Journey in Faith
Thursday 22nd February Feast of the Chair of St Peter, Apostle	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Holy Mass	
Friday 23rd February Lent Feria	9:15 am For peace in the world.	9:00 am Station of the Cross 6.30pm Youth Group
Saturday 24th February Lent Feria	11:00 am Patricia Fahy	10:15-10:45 am: Confession
Sunday 25th February Second Sunday of Lent Year B Second collection for CAFOD Lent Fast	8:30 am Margaret Harding RIP (MM) 10:30 am People of the Parish 6:00 pm Margaret Allen RIP (P&P G)	After 8:30am Mass : Tea & Coffee in the Hall

*"Prayer is not an escape from our duties. It helps us accomplish the good we are required to do,
here and now."*

Pope Francis via Twitter 12th February 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 Your ways, Lord, are faithfulness and love
for those who keep your covenant.

6.00 pm In your love remember me, in your love remember me,
in your great goodness O Lord remember me. (15 AK).

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,
Pamela Wojciechowski

**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.**

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.

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.

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.

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.

JOURNEY IN FAITH– 21ST FEBRUARY AT 7PM

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

MESSAGE FROM MAGGS DAY CENTER

We're a Worcestershire based charity that supports the homeless and vulnerable that has been in operation for almost 40 years. We're hosting our first open day at our Worcester Day Centre on Saturday 18th May 2024 and we would love to invite you and your church community to come along! Address: St Albans, Deansway, Worcester, WR1 2JD. Entry is completely free and you can book your tickets here:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/maggs-worcester-day-centre-open-day-tickets-823689105287>

If you or anyone has any questions or would like more information, please don't hesitate to contact me directly: mblewitt@maggsdaycentre.co.uk

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

WORCESTER CIRCLE OF THE NEWMAN ASSOCIATION

The next meeting is on Wednesday February 21st and the topic is: Fairness, Morality and Justice: Fair taxation as a way of showing love, caring for creation, and bringing about a fairer, more just society. Sarah K Edwards, Executive Director 'Just Money Movement' Ecumenical Council for Corporate Responsibility Everyone is welcome. All meetings are at St. George's RC Church Hall, Worcester, and start at 7.30 pm. The meeting will be preceded by the AGM of the Circle at 7.15 pm at which a secretary/ treasurer and committee members will be sought. So please think about this.

CATHOLIC HERALD MAGAZINE

Catholic Herald Magazine has resumed its monthly subscription. If you would like to purchase a copy, these are available at the back of the Church at a cost £5.

COMMUNITY MEAL

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

CHILDREN'S LITURGY

After the half term the Children's Liturgy will resume on Sunday
3rd March.

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:

£201.60

Gift Aid: £139

**Second collection
for Pro Life**

£48.70

Gift Aid: £80.50

**Additional donation
for Racial Justice**

Gift Aid: £5.00

**Thank you for
supporting your
Parish.**

**Mass attendance
last Sunday: 217**

**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 17th March 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

Genesis

22:1-2.9-13.15-18;

Psalms 115;

Romans 8:31-34;

Mark 9:2-10

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.

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ Jesus, We are on the first Sunday of Lent. Lent brings to our mind the forty days of fasting and prayer undertaken by Jesus before embarking on his public ministry. Lent calls to mind the humanity's transgressions which caused ineffable pain to the Creator and invites everyone to repent and to believe in the Gospel. Lent is also a special time in the life of every Christian to intensify his or her commitment to live as a true disciple of Christ. Just few days back we have witnessed ourselves by putting the ash on our forehead a reminder for us to return to Jesus to repent of our sin and to renew our lives on this first Sunday of lent. God wants to build this Covenant with us we see in the first reading of today especially in the Book of Genesis God is making this relationship with Noah. The flood has gone by, the destruction has taken place and yet God is telling Noah that He want to build a covenant with His people. My brothers and sisters when we look deeper into the Book of Genesis, we see that God is always on the move of making this Covenant and maybe during this season of lent as we look into our own life. There could be a lot of destruction, pain or turmoil. Maybe we are on the crossroads of our own life, maybe there is a lot of destruction that has taken place, but God is reminding each one of us as we read in the Book of Genesis that He wants to build this Covenant with us. In the second reading reminding each one of us of our own baptism, that we are baptized with Christ a reminder that we all belong to God.

My brothers and sisters each one of us will be already making Lenten programs, Lenten plans or what to do ahead how to live these 40 days, how can I make these 40 days more enriching more fruitful. Jesus invites us today in a very special way when we look through the gospel God the Father tells Jesus "you are my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased". We see soon after the baptism of Jesus the spirit takes him into the Wilderness for 40 days. Every year lent comes and goes every time we enter this season of lent. But unlike the years gone by, what difference can I make in my life during this lent? Lent is a time of new life, new beginning. It is the time that we recharge our spiritual energy. To recharge our spiritual energy, we need to discipline our body by bodily fasting, abstinence, prayer and by works of charity. Why is it important to discipline our body to recharge our spirit? A human person is the totality of both body and spirit. The soundness these two aspects makes the wellbeing of the whole person. It is instinct to our body to seek physical comfort that which gives pleasure to the body. Some of these comforts can be harmful to the whole person, for example certain addictions. Even though they give comfort and pleasure to the body, it can be harmful. This instinct does not have the capacity to look for spiritual aspect. Only our mind and our intellect have the faculty to look into the spiritual aspect of our human life. Therefore, it is important to discipline our body by abstaining from certain kinds of food, habits or bodily behaviours that would help us to concentrate on the wellbeing of both body and spirit. So let us make this season of lent a time of new life.

Fr. George Mathew SCJ