



Societas Presbyterorum
Sacratissimi Cordis Jesu
BETHARRAM

SACRED HEART & ST CATHERINE OF ALEXANDRIA

208 Worcester Road, Droitwich Spa,
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Today's Mass Readings

Acts 3:13-15.17-19;

Psalm 4;

1 John 2:1-5;

Luke 24:35-48

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

This Week: 14th April –21st Apr 2024 Psalter Week 3	Holy Mass & Services	Other Events
Sunday 14th April Third Sunday of Easter Year B	8:30 am Gill Mardell RIP (PW) 10:30 am Private Intention (G&CP) 6:00 pm People of the Parish	After 8:30 am Mass: Tea & Coffee in the Hall 2.30 pm SVP Afternoon
Monday 15th April Easter Feria	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Susan & Phillip Maxfield 25th Wedding Anniversary (LM)	
Tuesday 16th April Easter Feria	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Holy Mass	
Wednesday 17th April Easter Feria	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Pamela Peacock 90th Birthday (LM)	10:00am until 6:00pm Adoration
Thursday 18th April Easter Feria	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Private intention (BKF)	
Friday 19th April Easter Feria	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9.15 am For the sick and the housebound	After Mass: Novena to the Sacred Heart 6.30 pm Youth Group
Saturday 20th April Easter Feria	11.00 am Gladys Remedios RIP(AK)	10:15 am-10:45 am Confession 11:00 am Anointing Mass
Sunday 21st April Fourth Sunday of Easter Year B Second collection for Clergy Training Found	8:30 am Eileen Dalton RIP (MM) 10:30 am Holy Mass 6:00 pm People of the Parish	After 8:30 am Mass: Tea & Coffee in the Hall Children's Liturgy during 10.30 am Mass

" The joy of the Resurrection is ours, because it was given to us on the day of our Baptism. May we embrace the joy of this Easter Session! Let us hasten to seek out the Risen Christ in the Eucharist, in His forgiveness, in prayer, and in charitable deeds. "

Pope Francis via Twitter 11th April 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

Lift up the light of your face on us, O Lord.

PRAY FOR OUR SICK PARISHIONERS

Please pray for all our parishioners, and/or their friends and relatives, who are unwell:

Barbara Conway, Finbarr Cronin, Beryl Hill, Alan Hurst, John Jennings, Andrew McDermott, Jackie McLean, Michael Sheridan, Jacky Smith, Paul Smith, Margaret Steward, Breda 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.

RECENTLY DECEASED

Your prayers are asked for Eileen Dalton and Rex Langford who died recently. May their soul and the souls of all the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace. Please keep the family and friends of Eileen Dalton and Rex Langford in your prayers.

JOURNEY IN FAITH– 17TH APRIL AT 7PM

On this day we will be discussing the topic: Living with the Saints

RESPONDING TO THE CALL OF CREATION APRIL 2024

Please see poster at the back of the Church

ANNUAL THANKSGIVING MASS FOR MARRIAGE

An invitation is extended to married couples, those celebrating a milestone anniversary and those preparing to marry this year, to our annual Mass for Marriage at St Chad's Cathedral on Saturday 4th May at 12 Noon, followed by light refreshments. Please visit www.vocations.org.uk/marriage-mass.

FOUNDATION GOVERNORS

ST PETER'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL BROMSGROWVE

St Peter's Catholic First School, Bromsgrove is in need of three Foundation Governors to support its Local Governing Board. (A Foundation Governor must be a practicing Catholic.) This is a voluntary role and the school welcomes applicants from all age groups, backgrounds and ethnicity. There is no requirement to have an educational background, just a passion to support and challenge the school to ensure our young children achieve the best that their abilities allow. If you are interested, please pick up a leaflet from the back of church for more detail. Thank you.

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.

GIFT AID ENVELOPES

Gift Aid envelopes for 2024-2025 are available for collection from the back of church.

If you are considering a one off charitable donation as part of your tax planning before the 5th April please be aware that donations to the church do qualify for charitable giving and would be a great help to parish funds.

FOODBANK

As a parish we have supported the local Foodbank for many years. When Covid arrived this disrupted our collections and deliveries to the Foodbank.

As poverty is still with us, we would like to relaunch this project and continue our commitment to the town. In the entrance porch is a new box, prominently labelled. This will now be emptied weekly. We hope you will leave tinned and dried goods, toiletries and pet food – but no perishable items or items past their sell by date. We can't feed 5000, but we can make a contribution. Thank you.

CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHING– FIT FOR PURPOSE?

Worcester Circle Newman Association **Thursday April 18th** at the usual venue: St. Georges RC Church Hall Worcester **but please note the earlier starting time of 7pm.** Fr. Richard Finn OP of Blackfriars Oxford and Director of the Las Casas Institute for Social Justice, at Blackfriars, Oxford Catholic Social Teaching is often described as the 'hidden secret of the church' and is of tremendous relevance to Christians today. It involves topics such as the environment, promotion of peace, human rights and the family.

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 last time to clean the church. We need a few more hands. Would you like to help? That will be great appreciated. Next cleaning day is Thursday 25th April soon after morning Mass.

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 29th April at 12.30 pm in the Parish Hall.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY

There will be Children's Liturgy during 10.30 am mass on 21st & 28 April, 5th, 12th & 19th May

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
£355.49
Gift Aid: £210.10

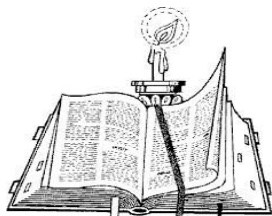
Thank you for
supporting your
Parish.

Mass attendance
last Sunday: 320



**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 14th April 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

Acts 4:8-12;

Psalms 117;

1 John 3:1-2;

John 10:11-18

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.

Today we celebrate the third Sunday of Easter. The readings take us deeper into the mystery of the resurrection of Jesus. In the first reading taken from the Acts of the Apostles, we have extracts from the speech of Peter after a crippled beggar is healed. Peter insists that it is God who has performed the miracle and not himself. By recalling the names of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, he reminds the people of the long relationship that Israel enjoyed with Yahweh and how it was God who was faithful even when the people were not. Peter points out that the people were responsible for handing Jesus over to death despite Pilate's verdict that Jesus was not guilty. Instead of the Messiah, the people demanded the release of Barabbas, a murderer.

In the gospel reading, we meet the disciples who had experience of the risen Lord on their way to a village called Emmaus; they were running away from Jerusalem, probably because of shame or fear. They had hoped that Jesus Christ would save them from their political enemies, but he was arrested and crucified; for them, all hope was gone. On their way, the Lord joined them and explained the scripture to them even though they did not recognize him. At the breaking of the bread, they recognized him, but he vanished. The two disciples returned to Jerusalem that same night to tell the brothers that they have seen the Lord. This was a wonderful experience; the two disciples were running away from Jerusalem out of frustration. When they met with the Lord, they went back to the same Jerusalem they were running away from to give testimonies.

Have you ever experienced a time so helpless and confused, unable to do anything about your situation a time be tempted to run away, but to whom shall we go? It sometimes appears too late to be helped, but with God, nothing is too late. For the two "Emmaus disciples," the time was far spent for their newfound friend (The Jesus they did not recognize) to continue his journey. When they got to the village to which they were going, Jesus made as if to go on, but they begged him to stay with them that night because it was late. Jesus went in and stayed with them; he was a guest in the house, yet he broke bread for his host. At the breaking of the bread, they recognized him. They left for Jerusalem that same evening; it was no longer late to travel. That is how God works; once you recognize the power of God around you, nothing will be too late. These two disciples had told him that it was too late to continue his journey, but it was no longer late when they recognized him as the Lord. The power of his presence renews everything; it makes even the night as bright as day. What are those things in your life you feel cannot be helped? Do you think a new beginning is impossible because of previous failures? Remember, the apostles were disappointed, may be like us. There was a time they decided to go back to fishing because the Lord was no more, and they fished all night and caught not a single fish. But when they met with the risen Lord, the catch was wonderful, (Lk.5:5). The Lord has risen; have you met with him? The disciples recognized him at the breaking of bread, and we break this same bread every day at this altar. At Mass, we meet with the risen Lord; we meet with the risen saviour who revealed himself to his disciples. This revelation is still on; he continues to reveal himself at the breaking of bread and in the breaking of his word. Let us be open to his presence in our lives; ask Jesus to open our eyes of faith to recognize him, just as he opened the eyes of his disciples on the road to Emmaus.

Fr. George Mathew SCJ