



Societas Presbyterorum
Sacratissimi Cordis Jesu
BETHARRAM

SACRED HEART & ST CATHERINE OF ALEXANDRIA

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Web: www.sacredheartdroitwich.org.uk



Today's Mass Readings

Acts

1:15-17.20-26;

Psalm 102;

1 John 4:11-16;

John 17:11-19

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

This Week: 12th-19th May 2024 Psalter Week 3	Holy Mass & Services	Other Events
Sunday 12th May Seventh Sunday of Easter Year B Second collection for Catholic Communication	8:30 am People of the Parish 10:30 am Bernadette Violet Duffy RIP (PD) 6:00 pm Dennis O'Hara RIP	After 8:30 am Mass: Tea & Coffee in the Hall 10:30 am FHC Commitment Mass Children's Liturgy during 10:30 am Mass 2.30 pm SVP Afternoon
Monday 13th May Easter Feria	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Fr. Brian Boyle (D)	
Tuesday 14th May Feast of St Matthias, Apostle	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Holy Mass	
Wednesday 15th May Easter Feria	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Donald. (S)	10:00am until 6:00pm Adoration
Thursday 16th May Easter Feria	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Holy Mass	
Friday 17th May Easter Feria	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Elsamma Matthew	After Mass: Novena to the Sacred Heart 6.30 pm Youth Group
Saturday 18th May Easter Feria	11:00 am Harry Remedios RIP (AK)	9:30 am FHC Meeting in the Hall 10:15 am-10:45 am Confession 11:00 am Anointing Mass
Sunday 19th May Solemnity of Pentecost Year B	8:30 am People of the Parish 10:30 am The Children's Liturgy (SY) 6:00 pm Holy Mass	After 8:30 am Mass: Tea & Coffee in the Hall Children's Liturgy during 10:30 am Mass

"The Ascension Of The Lord tells us that Jesus is alive among us in a new way. He is now present in every place and time, and is close to each of us. We are never alone: we have an Advocate who guides us, waits for us, and defends us." Pope Francis via Twitter 9th May 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

The Lord has set his sway in heaven.

6.00pm

My soul give thanks to the Lord,
all my being bless His holy name. AK 31

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 Rex Langford who died recently. May his soul
and the souls of all the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in
peace. Please keep the family and friends of Rex Langford in your prayers.

SACRED HEART SUMMER FAIR 29TH JUNE 2024

We are hoping and praying for delightful sunny weather for our Summer
Fair! We are also hoping to have a BBQ, Indian Food Stall, Beer or Wine
Tasting, Games organised by the Youth Group and much more. We just
need you!! Could you please offer to organise one of these attractions or a
different event just for this one occasion? Get together with a couple of
friends or family to help us out! Please see Fr George to share your talents
and skills.

To add colour to its social aspect, we have the Summer Raffle. If you would
like to sponsor a raffle prize, please give your name to Terry Poulton as soon
as possible or write your name on the clipboard in the narthex.

MARCH FOR LIFE BAKE SALE ON 19th MAY

Jesus Youth UK will be organising a March for Life Bake Sale on Sunday 19th
May after morning Mass to raise funds for the March for Life movement.
The fundraiser is organised by Vibha Thomas and the donations from which
will go to the March for Life organisation in the UK.

WORCESTER CIRCLE NEWMAN ASSOCIATION

It is beautiful to be old: a Catholic perspective on ageing and the church.
Prof. Peter Kevern will explore the beauties and challenges of ageing in
Catholic teaching. All ages welcome! Held at St. Georges RC Church Hall,
Worcester on Thursday 23rd May at 7:30 pm.

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.

SACRED HEART FEAST

The Feast of the Sacred Heart is the family celebration of our parish where all of us come together to celebrate this family feast. This year the Solemnity of the Sacred Heart of Jesus is on Friday 7th June. We will have a concelebrated Solemn Mass at 6pm followed by a shared meal. Please come along with your family and friends to celebrate this family day. Could you bring some food to be shared during the meal after the Mass? Coffee/tea and soft drinks will be provided. Please mark this day in your diary.

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. The parish will be organizing a Journey in Faith programme from September onwards. If you are already a Catholic and would like to explore more about your faith, or if you want to become a Catholic, now is the time to start exploring your faith. More updates about the programme to follow.

REFUGEE KNITTING

Thank you as ever for your continual support. The next collection will be on Tuesday 28th May. Donations of wool and other related items would be gratefully accepted to help defray the costs of the wonderful band of knitters.

Thank you also for the new clothes items left since the last collection. They have been safely delivered to the organisers. Storage is a problem at church, but if you wish to leave new or good quality items that will benefit the refugees during the above period that will be fine.

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 23rd May soon after morning Mass.

COMMUNITY MEAL

Monday 20th May at
12.30 pm in the
Parish Hall.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY

There will be
Children's Liturgy
during 10.30 am mass
on 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.sacredheartdroitwi
ch@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

£309.01

Gift Aid: £181.00

Second collection for CAFOD Urgent Sudan Appeal

£398.35

Additional donation for Clergy Training Fund

Gif Aid: £20.00

**Thank you for
supporting your
Parish.**

**Mass attendance
last Sunday: 268**

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 this Sunday 12th May 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 2:1-11;

Psalms 103;

Galatians 5:16-25;

John 15:26-27;16:12-15

All of us watch films and TV serials. Sometimes the characters in them appear to be so realistic that we want a happy ending; that they lived happily ever after. Don't we sometimes approach the Gospels in a similar way? It can be tempting to view Jesus' story like a 'telenovela' that comes to a happy ending with the resurrection and ascension of Jesus. Death is conquered, the Risen One sits at the right hand of God, and all is well. That's not quite the way that the story plays out in the Scriptures, however. For the early community of disciples, the resurrection and ascension of Jesus represented not so much the closing of Jesus' story, but the beginning of a new chapter.

Today's reading from the Gospel of John presents Jesus' high priestly prayer. The disciples who were gathered with Jesus and all of us who hear these words today are more than listeners to this deeply heartfelt prayer of Jesus to His Abba. These words are intended for our ears too. They express His vision for where, and how, his followers will carry on, following His death and resurrection. This is the moment for which Jesus has been preparing His disciples during their journeys together, the time for sending them into the world. Jesus Himself experienced hostility and recognised that the disciples too would be hated by the world. Yet in His prayer, Jesus clearly indicates that His followers are to live out their calling in the world. Though they live in the world, they "do not belong to the world" (Jn 17:14) yet are called to carry out God's saving mission in the world, just as Jesus did. Yes, the world can be a hostile place, but Jesus, earlier in the Gospel, declared to Nicodemus that "God so loved the world that he gave His only Son... that the world might be saved through Him" (3:16-17). Like Jesus and those first disciples, we are called to bear witness to God's deep love for the world.

The first reading, from the Acts of the Apostles, provides another view of the transition that followed the resurrection and ascension of Jesus. After the Ascension of Jesus, the disciples are once again hunkered down in the upper room, but this time, as the risen Lord instructed them, preparing for the gift of the Holy Spirit. During this time of waiting, the community embraces its new reality by choosing a replacement among the Twelve for the betrayer Judas Iscariot. This story shows how the developing community of disciples, much like church communities today, must deal with the mundane tasks of organisations in prayer, trusting God to guide them in the right direction. The story of the risen Christ goes on even today. Like the early community of disciples, we are called to give witness to the risen Lord, often in mundane and ordinary activities. The sixteenth-century Spanish mystic, Teresa of Ávila, described our part in the ongoing story as follows: "Christ has no body now but yours. No hands, no feet on earth but yours. Yours are the eyes through which he looks compassion on this world. Yours are the feet with which he walks to do good. Yours are the hands through which he blesses all the world. Yours are the hands, yours are the feet, yours are the eyes, you are his body. Christ has no body now on earth but yours." On this Sunday let us pray, that we become the hands and feet, eyes and ears of Christ in the world.

Fr. George Mathew SCJ