



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

*Genesis 2:18-24;*  
*Psalm 127;*  
*Hebrews 2:9-11;*  
*Mark 10:2-16*

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

<b>This Week:</b> <b>6th-13th Oct 2024</b> Psalter Week 3	<b>Holy Mass &amp; Services</b>	<b>Other Events</b>
<b>Sunday 6th October</b> <b>Twenty-Seventh Sunday</b> <b>in Ordinary Time, Year B</b> Second collection for CAFOD Harvest Day	8:30 am Arthur Blizzard RIP(RB) 10:30 am Finbarr Cronin RIP (M&LR) 6:00 pm People of the Parish	After 8:30 am Mass: Tea & Coffee in the Hall 10.30 am Children's Liturgy
<b>Monday 7th October</b> Memorial of Our Lady of the Rosary	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Cathy Pinnell (GP)	<b>A day of Prayer and Fasting for Peace.</b>
<b>Tuesday 8th October</b> Feria	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Communion Service	
<b>Wednesday 9th October</b> Feast of Saint John Henry Newman, Priest	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Communion Service	
<b>Thursday 10th October</b> Feria	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Communion Service	After Communion Service– Church cleaning
<b>Friday 11th October</b> Feria	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Communion Service	After Communion Service Novena to the Sacred Heart. 6.30 pm Youth Group
<b>Saturday 12th October</b> Feria	11.00 am K. Devasiya RIP	10:15-10:45 Confession
<b>Sunday 13th October</b> <b>Twenty-Eight Sunday</b> <b>in Ordinary Time, Year B</b> Second collection for SVP	8:30 am James Megan RIP (BB) 10:30 am Margaret & Michael Cronin RIP ( GF) 6:00 pm Mary Ryan (DR)	After 8:30 am Mass: Tea & Coffee in the Hall 10.30 am Children's Liturgy 2.30 pm SVP Afternoon

***"The environment in which we live is a gift from heaven. Amid the trials of history and life, it reminds us of the beauty of our earthly dwelling. It must be safeguarded from the greed of money and speculation, which jeopardises our future."***

*Pope Francis via Twitter 3rd October 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

### PRINCIPAL

Mr Andy Carry

### 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

8.00am, 10.30am May the Lord bless us all the days life.

6.00 pm O blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways. No. 58

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### PRAY FOR OUR SICK PARISHIONERS

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

Barbara Conway, 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.**

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### 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 30th November from  
11.00am till 3pm. To add colour to its social aspect, we have Christmas  
Raffle. If you would like to sponsor a raffle prize, please give your name to  
Terry Poulten as soon as possible or write your name on the clipboard in the  
narthex. Please keep this day in your diary.

### YOUTH GROUP RETREAT

The Parish Youth Group will be going on a weekend retreat to Alton Castle  
from 8th - 10th November. The weekend will be an opportunity for our  
young people to explore their faith more deeply and take part in a range of  
fun indoor and outdoor activities. The cost is £50 and if your child would like  
to attend please contact Matthew Hartley on 07483237225 to book their  
place. Additionally if you have the means and want to support the trip  
financially by offering subsidies to those who will otherwise struggle to  
attend please contact Matthew.

### JOURNEY IN FAITH

The next Journey in Faith session will be on Wednesday 16th October at 7pm  
in the Elgar Room. On this day we will be discussing the topic: Getting to  
know God: The Creed.

### SAFEGUARDING TRAINING FOR PARISH VOLUNTEERS

Safeguarding is everyone's business. All parishioners, and particularly those  
who volunteer within the parish, need to be aware of Safeguarding issues.  
Free, online training is available for everyone who has a voluntary role in our  
parish. All volunteers are encouraged to complete Level 1 Safeguarding  
Training via the CSSA (Catholic Safeguarding Standards Authority) website.  
Level 1 is in fact a short leaflet to read and should only take about 30  
minutes. Please see the link below. Thank you.

<https://training.catholicsafeguarding.org.uk/course/safeguarding-in-the-catholic-church-l1>

## **SVP APPEAL**

There will be a second collection at all Masses on 13th October for Sacred Heart SVP. There will be SVP members at the back of church after each Mass if you wish to find out more about what they do and how you can help.

## **“UNDERSTANDING THE MASS—A PERSONAL JOURNEY”**

"Understanding the Mass -a Personal Journey" organised by the Droitwich & District Catenians will held on Wednesday 16th October in the Sacred Heart Church, Droitwich at 7pm to 8.30 pm, and is open to all Parishioners in the Deanery

## **YOUTH GROUP VOLUNTEERS**

We are looking for additional volunteers to be added to a rota to help support our Parish Youth Group. The Youth Group meets on Friday evenings in term time and is a fun space for our young people to grow in faith, build friendships, and engage in meaningful activities. If you can spare some time on a Friday evening and would like to be added to the volunteer rota please contact Matthew Hartley on 07483237225.

## **COMMUNION SERVICE**

Since Fr. George will be away for his annual retreat from Tuesday to Friday this week, there will be no Holy Mass in the church while he is away. Instead, Holy Communion Service will be there at 9.15 am from Tuesday to Friday.

## **DAY OF PRAYER AND FASTING**

The Holy Father asks that Monday 7 October, the memorial of Our Lady of the Rosary, should be a day of fasting and prayer for peace in the world. In addition, the Holy Father will recite the Holy Rosary on Sunday at the Basilica of Sta Maria Maggiore. Joining with the Holy Father, this Sunday at the end of the Mass we will recite a decade of Rosary invoking Our Lady Queen of Peace and uniting our prayer with that of the Holy Father.

## **SPONSORED WALK**

The Sacred Heart Sponsored Walk was successful. A big thank you to all those who contributed to the success of the Walk by sponsoring and all those who offered spiritual support for the walk. The money we raised will be send for the formation of Seminarians in two SCJ Seminaries in India.

## **WORLD MISSION SUNDAY**

“Go and invite everyone to the banquet” is the theme chosen by Pope Francis for this year’s World Mission Sunday which is October 20th. This is the day that all Catholics, throughout the world, are invited by the Holy Father to support his charity through a special collection. In England and Wales this charity is called: Missio. Every single Catholic parish in the world is asked to play their part through their prayers and offerings, and by giving what they can will be sending a powerful message of faith, hope and love through those prayers and donations. In 2023 Malawi contributed £15,762 to the World Mission Sunday collection, whilst Malta contributed £246.720. Here, in England and Wales, £595,648 was raised to support the work of missionaries and local faith communities who requested our help in order to share the Gospel in areas of great poverty, conflict, and turmoil. There will be a special second collection on October 20th.

## **COMMUNITY MEAL**

Monday **21st October**  
at 12.30 pm in the  
Parish Hall.

## **CHILDREN’S LITURGY**

There will be  
Children’s Liturgy  
during the 10.30 am  
mass 6th & 13th  
October.

## **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.sacredheart.droit  
wich@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.

**Thank you for  
supporting your  
Parish.**

**Mass attendance  
last Sunday: 270**



**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 13th October 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](mailto:DroitwichReferrals@svp.org.uk) or on 07772 927535 or on Facebook, SVP Sacred Heart Droitwich.



**Next Sunday's Mass  
Readings**

*Wisdom 7:7-11;*

*Psalms 89;*

*Hebrews 4:12-13;*

*Mark 10:17-30*

**Homily of Pope Frances on opening of the ordinary general assembly of the  
Synod of Bishops.**

Today we celebrate the liturgical Memorial of the Holy Guardian Angels, and we re-open the Plenary Session of the Synod of Bishops. After listening to the Word of God, let us take three images as starting points for our consideration: voice, refuge and a child.

First, the voice. On the way to the Promised Land, God advises the people to listen to the "voice of the angel" whom he had sent (cf. Ex 23:20-22). It is an image that is relevant to us. As we walk down the path of this Synod, the Lord places in our hands the history, dreams and hopes of a great people. They are our sisters and brothers scattered throughout the world, inspired by the same faith, moved by the same desire for holiness. With them and for them, let us strive to understand the path we must follow to reach the destination the Lord desires for us. But how can we listen to the "voice of the angel"? One way is to receive all the contributions collected during these three years with respect and attention, in prayer and in the light of the Word of God. With the help of the Holy Spirit, we must listen to and understand these voices—that is, the ideas, the expectations, the proposals—to discern together the voice of God speaking to the Church. As we have repeatedly stressed, ours is not a parliamentary assembly, but rather a place of listening in communion. We must free ourselves from everything that prevents the "charity of the Spirit" from creating harmony in diversity in us and among us. We do not have the solutions to the problems we face, but the Lord does (cf. Jn 14:6). So, let us therefore listen to the voice of God and of his angel so that we may go safely on our way, rising above our limitations and difficulties (cf. Ps 23:4).

This brings us to the next image: refuge, which can be symbolized by wings that protect us – "under his wings you will find refuge" (Ps 91:4). Wings represent great strength, it can also be lowered in order to gather, becoming a shield and a welcoming nest for the young birds who are in need of warmth and protection. This is a symbol of what God does for us, and it is also a model for us to follow, especially as we gather together these days. Among us, there are many strong, well-prepared people, capable of rising to the heights with the intense movements of reflection and with brilliant insights. All this is a great advantage to us. The Church needs "peaceful and open places" to be created first of all in our hearts, where each person feels welcomed, like an infant in a mother's arms (cf. Is 49:15; 66:13) and as a child lifted up to a father's cheek (cf. Hos 11:4; Ps 103:13).

The third image: a child. It is Jesus himself who, in the Gospel, "put a child in the midst His disciples, inviting them to convert and become small like him and encouraging them to become small like a child. This paradox is essential for us. Given the importance of a Synod, in a certain sense we must try to be "great" in spirit, in heart, in outlook, because the issues that we must deal with are "great" and delicate, and the situations are broad and universal. But it is precisely for this reason that we must not lose sight of the child, whom Jesus continues to place at the centre of our meetings and worktables. The greatest in the Church is the one who bends down the lowest. Brothers and sisters, we begin anew our synodal path with an eye toward the world, since the Christian community is always at the service of humanity to announce the joy of the Gospel. In such a dramatic time in our history, when the winds of war and the flames of violence continue to devastate entire peoples and nations, there is need for this message. To invoke the intercession of Mary Most Holy for the gift of peace, on 7 October, I ask everyone to participate in a day of prayer and fasting for peace in the world. Let us walk together. Let us listen to the Lord and allow him to guide us by the "breath" of the Spirit.