



Societas Presbyterorum
Sacratissimi Cordis Jesu
BETHARRAM

SACRED HEART & ST CATHERINE OF ALEXANDRIA

208 Worcester Road, Droitwich Spa,
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**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

Acts 14:21-27;

Psalms 145(144);

Apocalypse 21:1-5;

John 13:31-35

This Week: 18th-25th May 2025 Psalter week 1	Holy Mass & Services	Other Events
Sunday 18th May Fifth Sunday of Easter Year C Second collection for Vincentians	8:30 am Thomas Hickey RIP (MT) 10:30 am Br. Steven Rodriguez SCJ 6.00 pm People of the Parish	After 8.30 am Mass: Tea & coffee in the Hall 10.30 am Mass Children Liturgy
Monday 19th May Easter Feria	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Fr. Paul Johnson for speedy recovery	10.15-1.15 pm School Church Tour
Tuesday 20th May Easter Feria	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Fr. Ronald James Cosslett RIP	
Wednesday 21st May Feast of St Matthias, apostle	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am David Veale RIP (MD)	After Mass– Adoration till 6.00 pm.
Thursday 22nd May Easter Feria	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Peace in the Middle East	After Mass– Church cleaning
Friday 23rd May Easter Feria	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Holy Mass	6.30-8.00 pm Youth Group
Saturday 24th May Easter Feria	10.30 am Rosary 11.00 am Gladys Remedios RIP (AK)	10.15-10.45 am Confessions 12:00-5:00 pm Visitor Centre in the Romero Room, Parish Hall 2.00pm Public Church Tour
Sunday 25th May Sixth Sunday of Easter Year C	8:30 am Holy Mass 10:30 am People of the Parish 6.00 pm Holy Mass	After 8.30 am Mass: Tea & coffee in the Hall

“ Christ’s peace is not the silence of the tomb after a conflict, and it is not the result of subjugation. Peace is a gift that gazes at others and renews their lives. Let us pray for the peace, which is reconciliation, forgiveness, and courage to turn the page and start again.”

Pope Leo IV via Twitter 14th May 2025

SACRED HEART COMMUNITY

Fr. George Mathew SCJ
(Parish Priest)

fr.george.mathew@
rcaob.org.uk

**In an emergency, please
contact: 07448 042484**

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:
jod_office@emmausmac.
com

PRINCIPAL

Mr A 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

8.30 am & 10.30 am I will bless your name for ever, my God and king.

6.00 pm The promises of the Lord are true and loving are all his deeds.

I will give you glory O God my king

and praise your name forever, and praise your name forever.

PRAY FOR OUR SICK PARISHIONERS

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

Beryl Hill, Alan Hurst, John Jennings, Andrew McDermott, Michael Sheridan,
Jacky Smith, Paul Smith, Margaret Steward, Richard Wightman, Mrs. Roma,
Judy Lynam Pyper, Peggy Garvey and Josephine Gylee.

RECENTLY DECEASED

Your prayers are asked for Liam Christopher Kinnally and Ingrid Pasteur
who died recently. May they soul and the souls of all faithful departed
through the mercy of God rest in peace.

The Requiem Mass for Ingrid will be on Thursday 22nd May at 11.00 am at
Our Lady & St. Joseph Catholic Church, 1 St. Joseph's Street, Darley Dale,
Matlock DE4 2FT.

The Requiem Mass of Liam will be on Friday 6th June at 11.00 am. His body
will be brought to the Church on the evening before at 5.30 pm.

Please keep their family and friends in your kind thoughts and prayers.

SACRED HEART SUMMER FAIR 19TH JULY 2025

The Parish Summer Fair will be on Saturday 19th July. As part of the Summer
Fair we will be organizing a 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).

VINCENTIANS— ANNUAL MISSION APPEAL 18TH MAY

Our name is "Congregation of the Mission". The name shows our vocation:
we are missionaries. In the Common Rules XI, 10, we read, "The name
Missionaries, or Priests of the Mission, clearly indicates that the work of the
missions is the first and most important of all ministries to the people." St.
Vincent de Paul was convinced that the Society is called, in the depths of its
being, to continue the mission of Jesus. Christ, the Evangelizer of the poor,
was for him the foundation of who we are, of what we do and how we do it.
The words of the Lord: "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me ... to bring glad
tidings to the poor ... He has sent me" (Lk 4, 18), were repeatedly on
Vincent's lips: "So, are we not very fortunate to belong to the Mission for
the same purpose that caused God to become man? And if someone were
to question a Missioner, wouldn't it be a great honour for him to be able to
say with Our Lord, Misit me evangelizare pauperibus? I'm here to catechize,
instruct, hear confessions, and assist persons who are poor." CCD 11, 98-99.

SVP MINNIE VINNIES THANK YOU

A big thank you for the wonderful support from you all to help us make our special garden at school. When it is completed we will let you know so that you can come and sit to enjoy the peaceful atmosphere that we will create. The special collection of just over £500 will help us to get a nice statue and other lovely things for our garden. God Bless you all . St Joseph's Minnie Vinnies.

PUBLIC NATIONAL LOTTERY HERITAGE FUND CHURCH TOUR AND POPUP CAFE

The next National Lottery Heritage Fund church tour is on Saturday 24th May. The Popup cafe will be running from 1pm to 5 pm. This is open to all and will be serving hot and cold drinks and a selection of homemade cakes. All proceeds go towards the parish hall. Do come along and support us. **Please note- cash only.** For more details, please visit our Facebook page: Friends of Sacred Heart Droitwich Spa

'MISSIO' THE POPE'S CHARITY IN ENGLAND AND WALES FOR WORLD MISSION

As you know every year there is a second collection for 'Missio' usually in October. However, some Parishioners contribute throughout the year by using a Red Box to save small change, or regular Direct debits to donate to the charity. In 2024 our Parish raised £267.41 through these means. A big Thank-you to all of them! If you would like to contribute through the Red Box scheme or take out a Direct debit please leave your name with Fr.George, Bro.Patrick or the Parish secretary for further information.

WORCESTER CIRCLE NEWMAN ASSOCIATION

The talk scheduled for 21st May on the Council of Nicaea has had to be postponed as the speaker is now not able to make it. However, we do have a summer outing planned for Saturday June 28th to Harvington Hall. If you are interested please get in touch with John Duddington at duddingtonjohn@gmail.com

NEW KEYHOLDERS

Are you free one morning or afternoon to open and close the Parish Hall? If you are working during the day, would you be free one evening?

Opening and closing the Parish Hall is a simple routine that doesn't require much of your time. If you are able to help, please contact the parish secretary 01905773258 or email to sacredheart.droitwich@rcaob.org.uk

PUBLIC CHURCH TOUR

As part of our National Lottery Heritage Fund project we continue to run activities for the local community. Church tours will be conducted on one Saturday each month. To book, visit the website:

<http://www.sacredheartdroitwich.org.uk/the-church/church-tours/>

One Saturday a month children's mosaic workshops and mini tours will run. To book, visit the website:

<http://www.sacredheartdroitwich.org.uk/news-and-events/upcoming-events/>

Thanks to all our volunteers who continue to make this work possible.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY

There will be Children's Liturgy during 10.30 am mass on **18th 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 Clare Tomlinson, Carla Tucker and Bogusia Koniszewska-Fijolek. They can be contacted by email: sg.sacredheart.droitwich@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:

£334.22

Gift Aid: £207.00

Second collection for

Minnie Vinnies

£361.45

Additional donation

for Clergy Training:

Gift Aid: £65.20

**Thank you for
supporting your
Parish.**

**Mass attendance
last Sunday: 351**

**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 **8th June** from 2.30 pm to 4.00 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 15:1-2;

Psalms 67(66);

Apocalypse 21:10-14;

John 14:23-29

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ, "Where there is love, there is God." These simple but profound words from the great mystic, St. John of the Cross, lead us directly into the heart of today's liturgy. Wherever love is truly present, sacrificial, faithful, selfless love, God is there. And this is the love Jesus speaks of in today's Gospel when He says: "A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another" (John 13:34). What is new about this commandment? There was already this commandment as early as in the book of Leviticus where it says, "you shall love your neighbour as yourself". So, the newness is the second part, "Just as I have loved you, you must love one another". The Lord is giving us a criterion on how to love. My sisters and brothers, Jesus not only told us to love but also showed us how to love. This is not love when it is convenient. It is not love that is reciprocated. The love which Jesus showed us is seen in His kneeling and washing the feet of Judas, who was about to betray Him. This love is seen again in His allowing His body to be torn apart and scourged by soldiers. This love is seen again in His forgiving those who nailed Him to the cross. This love is shown by His calling the disciples His friends. Therefore, this is the most difficult commandment in the whole Bible.

Christianity is not a set of doctrines and moral ethics. It is purely an encounter with Christ, who loves us selflessly and then bids us share that love with others. That is the summary of Christianity. So, Jesus is inviting all of us to love one another as He loved us. Where do we see this love? When a parent embraces his son or daughter after having been hurt by their rebellious and disobedient behaviour, he welcomes them back with an embrace and forgives them. When someone continues to associate with him and address him as a friend, there is another situation where we find true love. I came across this beautiful story of a young boy who never experienced his father's love and never saw his father smiling. One day the boy met with a tragic accident and was hospitalized. The doctors almost gave up, believing that there was not much hope. On that same night, when the boy miraculously regained consciousness, he saw his father kneeling by his bed lifting his hands to heaven praying earnestly. Tears ran down his cheeks. Though he was in a subconscious state, yet he heard everything that his father was praying. That was breakthrough moment in that boy's life. He experienced his dad's true love that night. That love was not feigned or insincere, but genuine.

Jesus concludes this passage by saying, "Let the world know that you are my disciples by the love you have for one another". What does this mean? Jesus would say, "I don't want you to be known as my disciples by the degrees you have, the wealth you possess, the influence you have in society; but by the love you have for one another. What if we all take this commandment seriously, then our homes will be transformed, our communities will be changed, our parishes will be converted, and we will all become a school of love. This is the real challenge of our Christian life. Can I love as Christ loved? St. Teresa of Kolkata gives us this beautiful incentive. She said, "Do small things with great love". Let us begin this campaign of love today, not wait for someone else to begin. This new commandment is not just a moral guideline, it's a mission, as St Paul and his companion showed in our first reading. It calls us to reflect Christ in our relationships, in our families, in our parishes and even in our workplaces. Let us ask the Holy Spirit to renew our hearts and help us live out this commandment every day. Then the world will truly see that we are disciples of Jesus, not just because we speak of Him, but because we love like Him. As we continue this Easter season, let us take this commandment personally. Let every act of love, great or small, be our way of saying to the world, just as St. John of the Cross said, "God is here, because love is here." "Where there is love, there is God".

Fr. George Mathew SCJ