



Societas Presbyterorum
Sacratissimi Cordis Jesu
BETHARRAM

SACRED HEART & ST CATHERINE OF ALEXANDRIA

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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

Genesis 18:20-32;

Psalms 138(137);

Colossians 2:12-14;

Luke 11:1-13

This Week: 27th July-3rd Aug 2025 Psalter Week 1	Holy Mass & Services	Other Events
Sunday 27th July Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year C	8:30 am People of the Parish 10.30 am Kevin D'Flaherty RIP (CL) 12.00 noon Baptism 6.00 pm John and Mary Ryan (DR)	After 8.30 am Mass: Tea & coffee in the Hall
Monday 28th July Feria	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Holy Mass	
Tuesday 29th July Feast of Our Lady of Betharram	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Chris Dennis RIP (MD)	
Wednesday 30th July Feria	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Mary Joseph (TS)	After Mass– Adoration till 6.00 pm.
Thursday 31st July Memorial of St Ignatius of Loyola	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am KJ Mathew RIP (B&J)	Church cleaning after Mass
Friday 1st August Memorial of St Alphonsus Mary de' Liguori, Bishop, Doctor of the Church	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Doreen Smith (GS)	Sacred Heart Novena after Mass 2.00 pm Private Church Tour
Saturday 2nd August Feria	10.30 am Rosary 11.00 am Alan Remedios RIP(AK)	10.15-10.45 am Confessions 12:00-5:00 pm Visitor Centre in the Romero Room, Parish Hall
Sunday 3rd August Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year C	8:30 am People of the Parish 10.30 am Eddie Hand RIP (BS) 12.00 noon Baptism 6.00 pm Private intention (JD)	After 8.30 am Mass: Tea & coffee in the Hall

“ Every true encounter is free and cannot be bought: whether it is with God, with others, or with nature. We must simply become guests: make space and also ask for it; welcome and allow ourselves to be welcomed. We are called not only to give, but also to received.”

Pope Leo XIV via Twitter 20th July 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
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Diocesan Trustees:
Registered Charity
Number 234216.*

PARISH SCHOOL

St. Joseph's Catholic
Primary School,
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Tel: 01905 773572

Email:

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com

PRINCIPAL

Mr A Carry

PARISH SECRETARY

Bogusia Koniszewska-
Fijolek

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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

On the day I called, you answered me, O Lord.

6.00 pm I thank you Yahweh with all my heart. I thank you Yahweh my God.

Each time I call for help you hear and answer me.

I thank you Yahweh my God.

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, Josephine Gylee & Michael James.

RECENTLY DECEASED

Your prayers are asked for Father Antony Rohan, Parish Priest of Our Lady of
Mount Carmel, Redditch who died recently. May his soul and the souls of all
faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace. Please keep his
family and friends in your kind thoughts and prayers.

SACRED HEART SUMMER FAIR

Thank you to all those who supported the Summer Fair, either by making
cakes, advertising the event, helping set up the stalls, being a stall holder,
selling raffle tickets, helping with the games, providing refreshments,
clearing up afterwards, donating items, attending on the day and supporting
the event. The total money raised for the parish was £2860.41. A big Thank
You to all of you for your participation and support.

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 organising 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.



SAVE THE DATE

The work of the SVP is needed now more than ever, and thanks to your help and support we have been able to help even more families this year. As a thank you to you all, you are invited to an afternoon tea on Saturday 30th August between 2.30 and 4.00pm. So please come along and enjoy a cuppa and a piece of cake while finding out what we have been up to. There will be SVP raffle tickets on sale, the proceeds of which go to Droitwich SVP Conference and SVP Head Office. We look forward to seeing you there.

DROITWICH CATENIANS

The Catenian Association is founded on Faith, Family and Friendship. The Droitwich and District Circle is currently recruiting new members and is holding a presentation, followed by cheese and wine, in the Elgar Room of the parish hall on Monday 28th July at 7.30pm. Interested men of the parish and their wives who wish to find out more will be most welcome and can expect to enjoy a convivial evening.

NEW VOTIVE CANDLE STAND

As we have almost reached the final stage of the cleaning and restoration of the mosaics, it is important that we preserve its beauty and elegance for another fifty years from dust and dirt. One of the recommendations suggested by the Mosaic Restoration Company is that we use smokeless votive candles. So, for the next four weeks we will be trialling the St Killians Votive Burning System, which claims to be the safest, cleanest, most environmentally friendly votive burning system in the world. The candles in the system are completely smoke free, which will help preserve our newly cleaned mosaics. Their system is endorsed for its safety by the largest insurer to the Catholic Church in the world. The system does not use any plastic or aluminium. All the candle wax from the system is recycled. The system is a lot cleaner than our current votive system, and wax spillage on the floors, stands and surrounding areas will be greatly reduced. We also hope the beauty of the system enhances your experience of lighting votive candles. We look forward to your feedback.

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

Children's Liturgy will resume after Summer.

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.

13/07/25

Main Collection:

£273.01

Gift Aid: £150

**Second collection for
Apostleship of the Sea:**

£261.26

20/07/2025

Main collection:

£354.51

Gif Aid: £154

**Second collection for
Br. Patrick:**

£262.10

**Thank you for
supporting your
Parish.**

**Mass attendance
last Sunday: 274**

**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**

September 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

Ecclesiastes

1;2:21-23;

Psalms 90(89);

Colossians 3:1-5;9-11;

Luke 12:13-21

The Gospel taken from Luke sheds light on what prayer truly means. Jesus' disciples ask him, "Lord, teach us to pray". In response he gives them the Lord's Prayer, words that remind us God is a loving Father who wants us to trust Him with our needs, our sins and our fears. Prayer is not just about getting what we want; it's about building a relationship with God, who knows what is best for us. "The Lord's Prayer is truly the summary of the whole Gospel" (St. Tertullian). Prayer is a linking channel between us and God. It gives joy to the soul and calms its emotions. Therefore, prayer is a desire for God, an indescribable devotion, not given by man but brought about by God's grace. While the words of the 'Our Father' are precious, it is also important to look at the underlying structure implicit in the prayer so as to learn "how to pray". Jesus is illustrating by these words what ought to be going on in us interiorly, in our mind and heart as we pray: Here is what the mind and heart of a person of prayer is like. Let's consider then, five basic disciplines, taught by Jesus in the 'Our Father' that form a kind of pattern or structure for prayer.

First, **Relate: "Our Father who art in heaven"** These words relate us to the Father with intimacy, affection, reverence and love. We are not merely praying to the "the deity" or the "Godhead". We are praying to our Father who loves us, who provides for us and who sent his only Son to die for us and save us. When Jesus lives His life in us and His Spirit dwells in us, we begin to experience God as our Abba, (Father). Second, **Rejoice: "Hallowed be Thy name!"** This is our act of praise because He is the giver of every good and perfect gift, and to Him our praise is due. Third, **Receive: "Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven"**. At the heart of this petition is an openness to God's will, to His word of instruction, to His plan for us and for this world. This invites us to have an openness to God's teachings through the Church and Scriptures. Fourth, **Request: "Give us today our daily bread"**. "Bread" is the symbol of all our needs. Our greatest need of course is to be fed by God, and thus bread also points to the faithful reception of the Eucharist. Lastly, **Repentance: "and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us, and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil"**. Sin disconnects us from God and from others. Therefore, reconciliation is an essential element in this twofold relationship. It reconnects us with God and our neighbour once again. An essential part of our spiritual life is that we come to recognize the sins and deep drives of sins in our own life, and beg deliverance from them as well as mercy.

So today let us make up our minds once and for all that we need to aspire to become contemplative souls, in the street, in the midst of our work, by maintaining a constant conversation with our God and not breaking it off at any time of the day. If we really want to be loyal followers of our Master, this is the only way. Many years ago, as I reflected upon Our Lord's way of doing things, I concluded that the apostolate, of whatever kind it be, must be an overflow of the interior life. This is why the passage which relates how Christ decided to choose the first twelve seems to me to be so natural and at the same time so supernatural. St Luke tells us that, 'before choosing his disciples, Jesus spent the whole night in prayer'. Think also of the events at Bethany. Before he raises Lazarus from the dead, after having wept over his friend, he lifts his eyes to heaven and says, 'Father, I thank you for hearing my prayer'. This is his message for us: if we wish to help others, if we really wish to encourage them to discover the true meaning of their life on earth, we must base everything on prayer.

Fr. George Mathew SCJ