



Societas Presbyterorum
Sacratissimi Cordis Jesu
BETHARRAM

SACRED HEART & ST CATHERINE OF ALEXANDRIA

208 Worcester Road, Droitwich Spa,
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Email: sacredheart.droitwich@rcaob.org.uk
Web: www.sacredheartdroitwich.org.uk



**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

Sirach 3:17-18,20,28-29

Psalms 68(67);

Hebrews 12:18-19,22-24a;

Luke 14:1,7-14

This Week: 31st Aug-7th Sep 2025 Psalter Week 2	Holy Mass & Services	Other Events
Sunday 31st August Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year C	8:30 am Mark Smallwood RIP (RM) 10.30 am For the Children's Liturgy 6.00 pm People of the Parish	After 8.30 am Mass: Tea & coffee in the Hall
Monday 1st September Feria	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Fr. Paul Johnson RIP	
Tuesday 2nd September Feria	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Miya Dinu (DD)	
Wednesday 3rd September Feast of St Gregory the Great, Pope, Doctor of the Church	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Gemma Daly (HD)	After Mass– Adoration till 6.00 pm.
Thursday 4th September Feria	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Holy Mass	
Friday 5th September Feria	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Alan Remedios RIP(AK)	Sacred Heart Novena after 9:15am Mass
Saturday 6th September Feria	10.30 am Rosary 11.00 am Finbarr Cronin RIP (MC)	10.15-10.45 am Confessions 12:00-5:00 pm Visitor Centre in the Romero Room, Parish Hall 12.30 pm Private Church Tour
Sunday 7th September Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year C	8:30 am Mary & James McDonnell RIP (B&N) 10.30 am Liam Kinnally RIP 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 life of Saint Augustine, and his call to servant leadership, reminds us that
we all have God-given gifts and talents. Our purpose, fulfilment
and joy come from offering them back in loving service to God and our neighbour."**

Pope Leo XIV via Twitter 28th August 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

In your goodness, O God, you provided a home for the poor.

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 Kathleen Burns and Fr. Paul Johnson who died
recently. May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed, through
the mercy of God, rest in peace. Please keep their families and friends in
your kind thoughts and prayers.

Fr. Paul Johnson used to be the parish priest at St. Joseph's Warndon.

SCJ SPONSORED WALK 2025

The Sacred Heart sponsored walk will be on Saturday 27th September. Your
generous support would be greatly appreciated. If you would like to sponsor
the walk please write your name on the clipboard at the back of church. If
you would like to join the walk you are most welcome to join the Sacred
Heart Fathers and Brothers. The walk will be held in Nottingham -the place
and time will be announced in due course.

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 first session will be on Monday 22nd September in the
Parish Hall at 7pm. 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.

DEANERY PILGRIMAGE TO EVESHAM:

On Saturday 13th September, we will have the opportunity to join other
pilgrims from our Deanery at Immaculate Conception & St. Egwin Catholic
Church, High Street, Evesham, WR11 4EJ. We will be coming together for
12 noon Mass. As it is a Deanery Pilgrimage, we encourage everybody to
join us for the Mass at Evesham. There will not be any Mass here at the
Sacred Heart on that day. We will travel in our own cars and so it will be
good to arrange car shares to take other parishioners who wish to be there
with us. If anyone need a transportation, please let us know. There will be
a light refreshment after the Mass.

ANNUAL DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO HARVINGTON HALL AND THE SHRINE OF THE ENGLISH MARTYRS:

The annual pilgrimage to Harvington Hall will be On Sunday 7th September
2025. There will be MASS at 3.00pm. Archbishop Bernard Longley will be
the Principal Celebrant. All are welcome. (See Poster on the notice board at
the back of church for more details).



PEACE WITH CREATION

SEASON OF CREATION 2025

Garden of Peace
Isaiah 32:14-18

The Season of Creation is a time to renew our relationship with our Creator and all creation through celebration, conversion and commitment together. During the Season of Creation we join our sisters and brothers in the ecumenical family in prayer and action for our common home. The season starts 1 September, the Day of Prayer for Creation, and ends 4 October, the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi, the patron saint of ecology beloved by many Christian denominations.

HERITAGE OPEN DAY

In September we are participating in the national Heritage Open Days programme, instead of running the monthly church tours and children's workshop. Therefore on 13th September from 12-5pm, there will be a church 'open-day' where we hope to have tour guides stationed in the church to welcome visitors and a café. The visitor centre will be open and we will also have a taster of the children's mosaic workshops. Anyone who would like to help on the day, or to join the volunteers at any of the community engagement activities, will be most welcome. Our commitment to the project currently extends to the end of 2026. This is the parish's contribution to the restoration of the mosaics in the church, made possible by the players of the National Lottery, through a very generous grant from The National Lottery Heritage Fund.

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.

SACRED HEART LADIES' GROUP

For very many years we had a successful and popular ladies group in the parish, which met regularly in the parish hall and enjoyed interesting talks and companionship. We think that many of the ladies in the parish would welcome the companionship of such a group, and would enjoy sharing news and advice and perhaps meeting socially from time to time. However, times have changed, and maybe a WhatsApp group would be a good starting point for such a group. If you think this could be for you, please get in touch with Bogusia at sacredheart.droitwich@rcaob.org.uk and invite some of your friends in the parish to join with you, and we'll see what happens!

CHILDREN'S LITURGY

There will be
Children's Liturgy
during 10.30 am
mass on

**7th, 14th, 21st, 28th
September
and on
5th, 12th 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
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:

£308.36

Gift Aid: £222.00

**Thank you for
supporting your
Parish.**

**Mass attendance
last Sunday: 251**



**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**

Wisdom 9:13-18

Psalms 90(89);

Philemon 9b-10,12-17

Luke 14:25-33

The focus of the Word of God this Sunday is humility. Positive psychology equates humility to modesty. What is humility or modesty? Although humility may falsely be equated with a sense of unworthiness and low self-regard, true humility is a rich, multifaceted state that entails an accurate assessment of one's characteristics, an ability to acknowledge limitations, and a "forgetting of the self". Modesty, which is related to humility, refers to the moderate estimation of one's merits or achievements.

The first reading taken from the Book of Sirach, also known as Ecclesiasticus, speaks clearly about the value of humility and the dangers of pride. The passage begins by encouraging us to do all tasks with meekness and humility, reminding us that such behaviour wins the love of those whom God accepts. Humility is presented as the true measure of greatness. It is not about putting ourselves down or feeling worthless, but about recognizing our true place before God and others. It's about honest self-awareness and knowing that everything we have comes from God. When we cultivate an attitude of humility, we open ourselves to seeing the goodness in others and in ourselves. We stop focusing on self-importance and instead become available to serve and listen, which is a sign of true wisdom. Some think being humble means we can't acknowledge the good we do. That's not true. We can be humble and acknowledge the good we do by giving credit where credit is due. This begins with acknowledging that the Lord is "the giver of every good gift". That is what we prayed in the opening prayer: "Lord, put into our hearts the love of your name, so that, by deepening our sense of reverence, you may nurture in us what is good and, by your watchful care, keep safe what you have nurtured". We are able to do good because of the gifts God has given us.

This awareness is the true wisdom that the Gospel poses to challenge within the context of a parable. In it Jesus wants his disciples to be counter-cultural, disregarding status-seeking and all ambition. They must stand out against prevailing social behaviours based on class, status, aggression and dominance. To follow Jesus, gentleness, compassion, acceptance of the other must be part of our way of life. In a society based on ambition, aggression, "going for it" regardless of consequences, being meek and humble can seem like a recipe for social disaster. But this is the point. What the Gospel presents is the direction which we must take to build a just society with room in it for all. Jesus wants his followers to live life to the full. "I came that they may have life and have it abundantly." (John 10:10). This reminds me of a great Indian philosophical thought called "Nishkama Karma" (Selfless Action) which emphasizes action performed with a pure motive, free from personal desires, fears, or selfish ambitions. Its focus is on duty (Karma). The individual's right is to the action itself, not to its outcomes, promoting a sense of duty and offering actions to the divine or a greater good. Performing actions without attachment to their fruits helps to purify the mind and develop evenness of mind in both success and failure. By renouncing attachment to the results of one's work, an individual becomes more fit to experience reason and the benefits of renunciation itself. The humility of which Jesus speaks in the Gospel is the result of this 'Selfless Action'. Therefore, real humility is not weakness but a genuine self-awareness. They are essential if we are serious about changing our world to better reflect the will of God. We may be better off than others in many ways. That doesn't make us better than anyone else. The willingness to reach out to others is what makes us better, not by comparison to anyone else, but "better than ourselves", better than we might otherwise be, as persons, as Christians. God bless us.

Fr. George Mathew SCJ