



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

Numbers 21:4b-9

Psalms 78(77);

Philippians 2:6-11

John 3:13-17

This Week: 14th-21st Sep 2025 Psalter Week 4	Holy Mass & Services	Other Events
Sunday 14th September Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross, Year C Second collection for Catholic Education	8:30 am Katherine - Duchess of Kent RIP (BB) 10.30 am People of the Parish 6.00 pm Iain Martin RIP (MM)	After 8.30 am Mass: Tea & coffee in the Hall Children's Liturgy during 10.30 am Mass 2.30 pm SVP Afternoon
Monday 15th September Memorial of Our Lady of Sorrows	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Fr. Paul Johnson RIP (C&PI)	2.30 pm Private Church Tour
Tuesday 16th September Memorial of Ss Cornelius, Pope, and Cyprian, Bishop, Martyrs	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Holy Mass	
Wednesday 17th September Feria	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Fr. Anthony Rowan RIP (C&PI)	After Mass– Adoration till 6.00 pm.
Thursday 18th September Feria	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Elamma Madathikunnel RIP	
Friday 19th September Feria	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Erick and Family (S)	Sacred Heart Novena after 9:15am Mass
Saturday 20th September Memorial of St Andrew Kim Tae-gon, Priest, Paul Chong Ha-sang, and Companions, Martyrs	11.00 am For the sick and the house bound 11.00 Anointing Mass	10.15-10.45am Confession 12:00-5:00 pm Visitor Centre in the Romero Room, Parish Hall
Sunday 21st September Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C Second collection for Catholic Evangelisation	8:30 am Kathleen Burns RIP (SW) 10.30 am Holy Mass 12.00 noon Baptism 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

**"Let us pray together for the children of Ukraine, Gaza, and other regions of the world affected by war.
May we entrust children suffering today to the protection of Mary, Queen of Peace."**

Pope Leo XIV via Twitter 11th September 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 & 6.00 pm

Never forget the deeds of the Lord!

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.

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.

DEMENTIA AWARENESS TRAINING SESSION

Age UK Wyvern are delivering an engaging, interactive session on dementia
awareness friendly community on Wednesday 24th September 2025 at 6.30
pm to 8.30 pm in The Old Library Centre. For more information, please see
the poster at the back of the church

NET MINISTRIES- VIBHA THOMAS

Thank you so much to all those who supported me in fundraising for my
mission year with NET ministries! The total money raised from my parish
appeal for my mission year with NET ministries was £1352. Your support will
go towards youth encountering Christ's love! I am so grateful for your
generosity. My mission year has started, and my month-long training is
almost over. I will be sent out with my team mid-September to start serving
and evangelising youth through retreats! Please keep me in prayers over the
next year and know that you are all in my prayers as well! God Bless! - Vibha
Thomas.



DROITWICH SPA FOODBANK

Droitwich Spa Foodbank Harvest appeal poster is on the noticeboard.

EDUCATION SUNDAY—FEAST OF THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS

An Invitation from Archbishop Bernard Longley: Today we give thanks for the gift of Catholic education. Our schools have a mission to form Christ-centred pilgrims of hope, with kind hearts, questioning minds, a thirst for knowledge and a hunger for justice. We urgently need more Foundation Directors and Governors to help guide our schools and keep Christ at the heart of their mission. This is not simply an administrative role, it is a true vocation and a way to serve Christ and His Church. If you are a practising Catholic, committed to our mission, and willing to share your time, skills, and faith, you can make a lasting difference for thousands of children and young people. No prior experience is required as full training and support are given. The Holy Cross teaches us that service is not always easy, but it is always fruitful when rooted in love.

Please speak to your Parish Priest or visit the Diocesan Education Service's website for further details: <https://www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/news/could-you-be-a-foundation-governor-or-director-at-your-local-catholic-school> and <https://www.bdes.org.uk/governor-online-application-forms.html> to complete an online application form.

CONFIRMATION PROGRAMME 2025

Children who are in Year 6 or above in September and are not at St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School can be prepared to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation in 2025. If you would like your child to be part of the parish preparation group please could you contact Fr. George or the parish office by the end of September. Confirmation sessions will start second week in October.

GUILD OF SAINT STEPHEN

The annual Altar Server Mass of Thanksgiving will be offered at St. Chad's Cathedral on Saturday 4th October at 12.00 noon. All servers are encouraged to attend; families are welcome to accompany them and refreshments are provided after Mass. If you would like to attend, please let Fr. George or Kevin know by **15th September**.

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

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.droit](mailto:sg.sacredheart.droitwich@rcaob.org.uk)

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.

Pastoral Letter of Archbishop Bernard Longley on Education Sunday 2025

Main Collection:

£345.33

Gift Aid: £222.00

**Thank you for
supporting your
Parish.**

**Mass attendance
last Sunday: 289**

**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 DroitwichReferral
s@svp.org.uk or on
07772 927535 or on
Facebook, SVP
Sacred Heart
Droitwich.



**Next Sunday's
Mass Readings**

Amos 8:4-7

Psalm 113(112);

1 Timothy 2:1-8

Luke 16:1-13

Today, on Education Sunday, we celebrate the gift of Catholic education in our Archdiocese. This year, our celebration falls on the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross. The physical Cross reminds us that Our Lord Jesus Christ transforms suffering into hope, weakness into strength, and death into life. In our Catholic schools, the Cross stands at the heart of our mission, shaping young lives in faith, knowledge and service. The mission of our Diocesan Education Service is "To form Christ-centred pilgrims of hope with kind hearts, questioning minds, a thirst for knowledge and a hunger for justice". This mission flows directly from the Cross, which is the greatest sign of God's love and the foundation of our hope. As we hear in today's Gospel: "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life". Every day, in our 236 flourishing Catholic state schools and academies, and in our 5 excellent Catholic independent schools, children encounter this love through prayer, learning, and acts of service. Today I want to express my deep gratitude to our school leaders, teachers, and support staff for the dedication and love they bring to their vocation. Their commitment to our young people not only in nurturing their minds but also in guiding their hearts towards Christ is a living witness to the hope and joy of the Gospel. Their service is a vital part of the Church's mission, and I thank them sincerely for all that they do. Alongside this daily dedication, our schools also rely on the service of volunteers who guide and support them in their mission. Many of our schools are part of multi-academy companies, each led by a Board of Directors, with local governing bodies serving individual schools. Our voluntary-aided schools have Boards of Governors that also play a vital role. In each case, Foundation Directors and Governors, appointed by the Archdiocese on my behalf, ensure that the Catholic mission of the school remains at its heart. I am deeply grateful for their vocation and leadership.

I wish now to appeal to you directly: we need more Foundation Directors and Governors. This is not simply an administrative duty – it is a true vocation and a practical way to serve Christ and His Church. By giving your time and skills, and by sharing your faith, you can help shape the present and future of Catholic education for thousands of children and young people. The Holy Cross shows us that in Christ, God has made an everlasting promise to us – one that opens the door to a fresh beginning. This gift is pure grace: not something we could earn but freely given by God's mercy. We receive this grace most profoundly in the Blessed Sacrament, and indeed in all the sacraments of the Church. Having received so much ourselves, the Lord calls us to share what we have been given, letting His mercy shape our relationships and offering others the same forgiveness and the compassion that Christ has shown to us. What matters most is a commitment to our Catholic mission and a willingness to serve. We welcome those with experience in Catholic life and mission, education, finance, law, human resources, estates management, or any field that could strengthen our schools. You will receive full training and support to help you flourish in the role. If you are a practising Catholic, demonstrated through regular Sunday Mass attendance, and your Parish Priest supports your application, I would ask you to consider this calling. Through your service, you can help our schools become the very best they can be, ensuring they remain Christ-centred communities of learning, compassion, and hope. Directors and governors typically spend around 10 hours each month undertaking their duties. As Our Lord says in today's Gospel: "Just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, so that everyone who believes in Him may have eternal life." The Cross teaches us that service is not always easy, but it is always fruitful when it is rooted in love. Therefore, I ask you prayerfully to consider offering your gifts to Catholic education. If you feel prompted to respond, please speak to your Parish Priest whom I have asked to share details of the application process in the parish newsletter. May the Lord bless you for considering this opportunity – may the Cross of Christ inspire you to respond generously to this invitation – and may the prayers of the great educator, St John Henry Newman, soon to be named a Doctor of the Church, encourage and inspire us all.

Yours devotedly in Christ, Bernard Longley, Archbishop of Birmingham