



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**  
*Sirach 35:15b-17, 20-22b*  
*Psalms 34(33);*  
*2Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18*  
*Luke 18:9-14*

| <b>This Week:</b><br><b>26th Oct-2nd Nov 2025</b><br><b>Psalter Week 2</b>    | <b>Holy Mass &amp; Services</b>                                                                                                                    | <b>Other Events</b>                                                                                                                      |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Sunday 26th October<br>Thirtieth Sunday<br>in Ordinary Time Year C            | 8:30 am Margaret, John & Paul<br>Harding RIP(MM)<br>10.30 am Private intention (C&PI)<br>6.00 pm Estiban Alo Orano RIP (LH)                        | After 8.30 am Mass: Tea & coffee in<br>the Hall                                                                                          |
| <b>Monday 27th October</b><br>Feria                                           | 8:55 am Morning Prayer<br>9:15 am Georgina & Brian Fox RIP                                                                                         | 7.00 pm Journey in Faith                                                                                                                 |
| <b>Tuesday 28th October</b><br>Feast of Ss Simon and Jude,<br>Apostles        | 8:55 am Morning Prayer<br>9:15 am Thomas Marangattupurathu<br>RIP (DD)                                                                             |                                                                                                                                          |
| <b>Wednesday 29th October</b><br>Feria                                        | 8:55 am Morning Prayer<br>9:15 am Manuel Bermejo RIP (RB)                                                                                          | Adoration after Mass till 6.00pm.                                                                                                        |
| <b>Thursday 30th October</b><br>Feria                                         | 8:55 am Morning Prayer<br>9:15 am Vibha Thomas (JT)                                                                                                |                                                                                                                                          |
| <b>Friday 31st October</b><br>Feria                                           | 8:55 am Morning Prayer<br>9:15 am Alice Noely Ricardo RIP (AM)                                                                                     | Novena to the Sacred Heart after<br>Mass                                                                                                 |
| <b>Saturday 1st November</b><br>Feria                                         | 11.00 am John & Ruby Martin RIP<br>(MM)                                                                                                            | 9.30 am Confirmation session in the<br>Hall<br>10.15-10.45 Confession<br>12:00-5:00 pm Visitor Centre in the<br>Romero Room, Parish Hall |
| <b>Sunday 2nd November</b><br><b>Solemnity of all Saints</b><br><b>Year C</b> | 8:30 am Deceased relations and<br>friends of the Whaley & Peters families<br>(AP)<br>10.30 am Maurice Meehan RIP(MC)<br>6.00 pm Kevin Down RIP(JD) | After 8.30 am Mass: Tea & coffee in<br>the Hall                                                                                          |

**"On the paths of the heart, the Risen One walks with us and for us.**

**Jesus bears witness to the defeat of death and affirms the victory of life,  
despite the darkness of Calvary. Our lived history still has much goodness in which to hope."**

Pope Leo XIV via Twitter 22nd October 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 and 10.30 am    The lowly one called, and the Lord heard him.**  
**6.00 pm                    Because the Lord is my shepherd.**

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## **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.

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## **RECENTLY DECEASED**

Your prayers are asked for Michele Russo who died recently. May his soul  
and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in  
peace. Please keep his family and friends in your prayers.

## **FR. GEORGE MATHEW SCJ**

Fr. George will be away for a Mission Talk this Sunday morning. We thank Fr.  
Austin SCJ from Olton Friary for celebrating morning Masses in his absence.

## **JOURNEY IN FAITH (RCIA)**

The next Journey in Faith will take place on 27th October at 7.00 pm and the  
topic will be 'Getting to know God: The Creed 2'.

## **CHRISTMAS FAIR 29TH NOVEMBER**

The Parish Fair is a time when we can all come together as a Parish Family,  
apart from liturgical services, to meet and greet our fellow parishioners,  
twice a year. Although small, it is one way of raising some additional funds  
for the parish to cope with the massive increases in energy costs during the  
last three years, though this winter is likely to be better than the last couple  
of winters. The Christmas Fair this year will be on Saturday 29th November  
from 11.00am till 2.00pm. Please keep this date in your diary. There is a  
clipboard at the back of the church. If you would like to sponsor a Raffle  
Prize, please write down your name and the prize you would like to  
sponsor.

## **CHRISTMAS CARDS**

Soon it will be Christmas: This year we are planning to make some Christmas  
Cards with the picture of the Mosaic which we aim to make available for you  
to buy from November. So, if you have plans to buy Christmas Cards from  
the town, please wait. We will have beautiful Christmas cards for you.

## **MISSIO RED BOX COLLECTIONS**

Thank you for your donation to the World Mission Sunday appeal. If you are  
a holder of a Missio Red box please can you bring it to the Church to be  
emptied and counted between now and the 7th December. If you are a new  
box-holder, before you hand it in do make sure that your name is on the  
label at the bottom of the box. Please do not leave a box with money in it at  
the back of the Church. Either give it in at the Presbytery, or hand it to Father  
George or Brother Patrick for safe keeping. (If you attend the 08.30 Mass on  
Sundays - Maddie will also be happy to accept it!) The empty boxes will be  
returned to you, hopefully by the next weekend. They will left at the back of  
the church for collection.

## **NOVEMBER 2ND ALL SOULS**

All Souls' Day , also called The Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed, is a day of prayer and remembrance for the faithful departed through prayer, intercessions, alms and visits to commentaries. On Monday, 3rd November, after the Mass there will be blessing of graves around the church. If your loved ones are buried or their ashes interred in the graveyard, please place some flowers at the grave if you can.

## **REFUGEE KNITTING**

There is a vast collection of wool in the cupboards in the church porch. Please help yourselves to defray your costs. Thank you for the items left last week. If you want to read more about where the items go, please look at the GAIN website ...<https://globalaidnetwork.org.uk> Please bring any articles you have to church by Sunday November 2nd for despatch to GAIN. I can also take any articles of clothing, toiletries and small soft toys (no batteries). Thank you as ever for your continual support.

## **CONFIRMATION**

Next Confirmation class will be on Saturday 1st November at 9.30am in the Romero Room in the Parish Hall. The children should be accompanied by a parent.

## **DEANERY DAY OF PRAY FOR VOCATIONS**

The Kidderminster and Worcester Deanery keep a day of pray for the Vocation to Priesthood, Religious Life and Diaconate ministries on Wednesday the 5th November 2025. We are privileged to host the day here at Sacred Heart Church. The day will begin with the Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament in Our Lady's chapel as we usually do on Wednesdays from 10 am till 6pm. We conclude the day with Holy Mass at 6pm. There is no Mass in the morning. We invite all of you to join us for the Adoration at least an hour during the day and the Holy Mass in the evening. People from various parishes in the deanery will join us on that day.

## **THANK YOU EVENING FRIDAY 5TH DECEMBER**

To thank all of you and the parish volunteers who are involved in different areas of parish life both spiritual and temporal, this year the Thank You Evening will be on Friday 5th December. The Evening will start with Holy Mass at 6pm followed by a meal and entertainment in the Parish Hall. Please keep this date in your diary. Please help the catering team by letting us know if you would like to join the meal and social in the Parish Hall after Mass.

## **NATIONAL LOTTERY PROJECT – PUBLIC TOURS & CHILDREN'S WORKSHOPS**

The next public church tours (with a café) will take place on:

Saturday 22nd November @ 2pm

The next public children's workshops (mini church tour & mosaic-making session) will take place on: Saturday 8th November @ 12:30 & 2:30pm

In December (due to other bookings for the church & parish hall) there will be one, family-oriented event to include a church tour aimed at children, carol singing, a mini mosaic-making session (for the children) and free festive refreshments (tea, coffee, hot chocolate, mince pies...). This will take place on Saturday 6th December @ 3:30pm. All of these events can be booked on Eventbrite, links can be found on the parish website. Or by contacting the Hall Booking Secretary.

## **CHILDREN'S LITURGY**

Children's Liturgy will resume after half term.

## **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](mailto:sg.sacredheart.droitwich@rcaob.org.uk) or alternatively the Diocesan Safeguarding team can be contacted on 0121 230 6240/[safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk) if you have any concerns.

## Main Collection:

**£290.44**

**Gift Aid: £153.10**

## Second Collection

**For Missio**

**155.56**

**Thank you for  
supporting your  
Parish.**

**Mass attendance  
last Sunday: 271**

## **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

**9th November** 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**

Revelation

7:2-4,9-14

*Psalms 24(23);*

*John 3:1-3*

*Matthew 5:1-12a*

My dear friends in Jesus Christ. Today's readings remind us that God listens not to the proud, but to the humble. The first reading is taken from the Book of Sirach which was written during the Second Temple period, a time in Jewish history around 200 BC when Jewish society was significantly influenced by Hellenistic culture and ideas, and many Jews wondered how to remain faithful to God. It was a time when many people believed that wealth and offerings could win God's favour. The author of the Book of Sirach wanted to offer practical wisdom, long rooted in Israel's tradition, showing people that God is impartial and not influenced by wealth or power. Ben Sira, a Hellenistic Jewish scribe, boldly proclaimed that God cannot be bribed. He is a God of justice, one who listens especially to the poor, the orphan and the widow. When we cry out to Him in pain, confusion or loneliness, He listens. He may seem silent for a while, but Sirach assures us that God "will not delay". Justice may take time, but it will come.

Have you ever found yourself saying or doing something that felt so out of place, so deeply wrong that you knew that you might regret it for a lifetime? You might begin to ask yourself, "My God, why did I say that?" But, despite this awful feeling, I think we must thank God that our conscience is still capable of arousing that feeling of self-reproach. It's a mirror revealing to us our inner self which offers a glimpse into who we truly are deep within us and who we are called to become. In the Gospel of Luke chapter 18, Jesus is presenting before us a Pharisee and a publican. The Pharisee is confident in himself, in his righteous deeds, fasting, tithing and a sense of superiority that he had. The tax collector on the other hand, broken and humble, cries out, "God, be merciful to me as a sinner". At the end of the parable Jesus says, "The humble tax collector went home justified, reconciled and peaceful, but not the Pharisee". The key point of the parable is that we are made right before God not by our works alone, but by relying on his mercy. Fasting, tithing, these are all good deeds; we ought to do them. But at the end of the day what wins God's favour is loving trust in Him.

What does it mean by trusting in God? And how can we place our trust in God and find peace at the end of the day? Trusting in God means knowledge, faith and trust. Our knowledge of God leads to faith, faith leads to trust and ultimately trust results in inner peace. Putting our trust in God is to have the right knowledge of God. This does not mean that we should know everything about God, but the knowledge of Him, which He permits us to have, is that which is essential for our salvation. First of all, He is all powerful, all good and He is all loving. This knowledge is important for us to be able to believe in Him. Secondly He is all good. There is no shadow of darkness in Him. Thirdly, God loves us unconditionally. Finally, He is all wise. He knows what is best for us. This is not merely an intellectual knowledge but is revealed through the scriptures and particularly by Jesus Christ. If we seek this knowledge diligently through prayer, study, reflection, then it will provide for us the foundation for our faith in Him which is the core of our being that could finally lead us to trust in God. Trust is the active reliance and personal commitment that grows from faith. Trust is the practical outworking of faith. It is a decision to rely on God. The publican's simple prayer was, "God, be merciful to me a sinner". That presupposes all these four pillars. Faith in God's power, his goodness, his love and wisdom. His inner self was aligned with God. He made this act of trust by saying, "God be merciful to me a sinner", and with this he was able to go down to his house comforted. When we come to God, my dear brothers and sisters, we must come with this confidence, the God to whom we are going is powerful, is good, loving and wise. It is enough just to say, "Lord, I trust in You". Commit yourself in all humility to Him. You will find peace.

Fr. George Mathew SCJ