



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

Revelation 7:2-4,9-14

Psalms 24(23);

John 3:1-3

Matthew 5:1-12a

This Week: 2nd-9th Nov 2025 Psalter Week 1	Holy Mass & Services	Other Events
Sunday 2nd November Solemnity of all Saints Year C Second collection for the Johnson Association	8:30 am Deceased relations and friends of the Whaley & Peters families (AP) 10.30 am Maurice Meehan RIP(MC) 6.00 pm Kevin Down RIP(JD)	After 8.30 am Mass: Tea & coffee in the Hall
Monday 3rd November The Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Deceased Members of the Leason family (MB)	7.00 pm Journey in Faith
Tuesday 4th November Memorial of St Charles Borromeo	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Edward Sykes RIP (BS)	
Wednesday 5th November Feria	10.00 am Exposition of the Blessed Sacraments 6.00 pm For Vocation to the Priesthood, Religious life and Diaconate	Adoration after Mass till 6.00pm.
Thursday 6th November Feria	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Private Intention (JS)	Church cleaning after Mass.
Friday 7th November Feria	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Deceased Members of the Brush family (MB)	Novena to the Sacred Heart after Mass
Saturday 8th November Feria	11.00 am Katherine & Michael Sekowski RIP (BS)	9.30 am Confirmation session in the Hall 10.15-10.45 Confession 12:00-5:00 pm Visitor Centre in the Romero Room, Parish Hall 12:30 - 3:00 Children's Mosaics Church Tour and workshop
Sunday 9th November Feast of the Dedication of the Lateral Basilica Year C	8:30 am Christopher Fitzpatrick RIP (SC) 10.30 am Maurice Meehan RIP(LB) 12.00 noon Baptism 6.00 pm People of the Parish	After 8.30 am Mass: Tea & coffee in the Hall 2.30 pm SVP afternoon

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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Roman Catholic
Diocesan Trustees:
Registered Charity
Number 234216.*

PARISH SCHOOL

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Primary School,
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Email:
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com

PRINCIPAL

Mr A Carry

PARISH SECRETARY

Bogusia Koniszewska-
Fijolek

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PARISH HALL BOOKINGS

Please contact Sally at
volunteers.

sacredheart.droitwich
@rcaob.org.uk or
07891144870

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

8.30 am and 10.30 am Such are the people who seek your face, O Lord.
6.00 pm Because the Lord is my shepherd.

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 Michele Russo who died recently. May his soul
and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in
peace. The funeral of Mr Russo will held on 18th November at 11.30 am.
Please keep his family and friends in your prayers.

JOURNEY IN FAITH (RCIA)

The next Journey in Faith will take place on 3rd November at 7.00 pm and
the topic will be 'Word of God: The Bible'.

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. Raffle tickets are available to buy from the parish hall after each
Mass.

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.

CONFIRMATION

Next Confirmation class will be on Saturday 8th November at 9.30am in the
Romero Room in the Parish Hall. The children should be accompanied by a
parent.

MISSIO RED BOX COLLECTIONS

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

Firstly I must apologise for not thanking the person who left the vast quantity of wool recently. This will so help the valiant band of knitters. I have distributed some the wool, but there is still plenty left in the cupboard at the church entrance. Thank you so much for the exquisite knitted items, the clothing and soft toys donated to date. The collection will close on November 2nd to enable the items to be despatched before Christmas.

NEWMAN TO BE DECLARED A DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH 1ST NOVEMBER 2025

On 1 November, the Feast of All Saints, Pope Leo will proclaim Saint John Henry Newman a Doctor of the Universal Church. He said, "I will confer the title of Doctor of the Church on Saint John Henry Newman, who gave a decisive contribution to the renewal of theology and to understanding Christian doctrine in its development, in the context of the Jubilee of the World of Education". Newman will become the 38th Doctor of the Church and only the third Englishman. Saint John Henry Newman is especially remarkable for the breadth of his teaching across many aspects of the Catholic faith. It is also of particular ecumenical significance in that his extensive body of writings, first as an Anglican and then as a Roman Catholic, has been examined and found to be a true expression of the faith of the Church.

DEANERY DAY OF PRAY FOR VOCATIONS

The Kidderminster and Worcester Deanery keep a day of prayer for Vocation to the 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.

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 10th January @ 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 or alternatively the Diocesan Safeguarding team can be contacted on 0121 230 6240/safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk if you have any concerns.

Main Collection:
£293.37

Gift Aid: £155.10

**Thank you for
supporting your
Parish.**

**Mass attendance
last Sunday: 233**

**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**

2 Maccabees

12:43-45;

Psalms 63(62);

Philippians 3:20-21;

Luke 7:11-17

From the very beginning until today, Christians have been struggling to cultivate lives centred on Christ and His teachings. In a world dominated by the popular media culture that drags people into its superficial clamour, it is necessary to find examples of Christians who spent their lives pursuing true values and to learn from their example. Jacques Maritain and his wife Raissa were prominent French Catholic intellectuals in the early 20th century. In 1901 as students grappling with the nihilism of the era's philosophies, the couple made a suicide pact that, unless they could discover by the end of the school year the true meaning of life, they would end their own lives. While they were waiting for the school year to come to an end, Jacques happened to read a statement by Leon Bloy, a French Catholic novelist, who said, "My only real sadness in life is not to become a saint", and that had a huge impact on young Jacques and Raissa's life. After entering the Catholic Church their lives were not free from trials—sickness, war and loss plagued them throughout their lives. But their faith gave these trials meaning and purpose, and so it carried them through these difficulties.

My dear sisters and brothers in Christ, today the church celebrates the Solemnity of All Saints, a feast radiant with joy and hope. It is a day to honour not only the canonized saints known to the church but also the countless holy men and women who lived faithfully, quietly and humbly in the light of Christ. Who are the saints? The Catechism of the Catholic Church tells us that "The saints are those who have practised heroic virtue and lived in fidelity to God's grace". They are ordinary human beings who allowed God's love to shape and transform them. Some were great leaders or martyrs, others were mothers, teachers, labourers and children who lived the gospel in the ordinary circumstances of daily life. They remind us that holiness is not about perfection without weakness, but about faithfulness, the humble perseverance of love and trust in God's mercy.

The Second Vatican Council's document, *Lumen Gentium*, speaks clearly: "The Lord Jesus, the divine teacher and master, has taught every one of His disciples to follow the way of holiness. Holiness therefore is not the privilege of a few chosen souls but the vocation of all. It is the goal towards which every Christian journey leads". To be holy means to live in friendship with God, to reflect His love in our relationships and to let the light of Christ shine through our lives. Holiness does not depend on great deeds or extraordinary visions. It grows in the simple and hidden acts of daily love in patience, in forgiveness, in prayer, in kindness. St. Thérèse of Lisieux called this 'the little way', doing small things with great love. In the eyes of the world, such acts may seem insignificant, but in the eyes of God, they are radiant with grace. To live a life of holiness involves being vigilant of anything unholy. There is a saying in Latin "lex orandi, lex credendi, lex vivendi" That means, what we pray or celebrate is what we believe and what we believe is what we live. If we celebrate holiness in daily life, that will become part of our lives. But if we celebrate unholiness and evil, slowly we normalise evil, which makes us unholy. In today's world, to become a saint means to live the beatitudes of Jesus. The beatitudes are not abstract ideas. They are the portrait of Christ himself. To be poor in spirit is to rely on God more than on possessions or status. To be meek is to choose gentleness over power. To hunger and thirst for righteousness is to seek truth and justice. To be merciful is to forgive. Pope Francis often speaks of the saints next door, people who live the gospel in silence, who do good without recognition, who radiate peace and love in their families and communities. These ordinary saints show us that sanctity is not about leaving the world behind but about bringing God's presence into the world. As we celebrate All Saints, their lives remind us that Heaven is our true home and that holiness is the most beautiful destiny of the human heart. May their prayers sustain us as we strive to walk the same path, living each day with faith, hope and love until the day we are united with them in the eternal joy of God's kingdom.

Fr. George Mathew SCJ