



SACRED HEART & ST CATHERINE OF ALEXANDRIA

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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

Malachi 4:1-2a;
Psalms 98(97);
2 Thessalonians 3:7-12;
Luke 21:5-19

This Week: 16th-23rd Nov 2025 Psalter Week 1	Holy Mass & Services	Other Events
Sunday 16th November Thirty - Third Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C	8:30 am Deceased Members of the Van der Heijden Family (MB) 10:30 am Jose and Mini 12.00 noon Baptism 6.00 pm Hannah Heaney (ML)	After 8.30 am Mass: Tea & coffee in the Hall Children's Liturgy during 10.30 am Mass
Monday 17th November Feria	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Private Intention (A&J)	
Tuesday 18th November Feria	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Ursula Matthews RIP(MB)	11.30 am Funeral service for Michele Russo
Wednesday 19th November Feria	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Private Intention (A&J)	Adoration after Mass till 6.00pm.
Thursday 20th November Feria	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Private Intention (A&J)	Church cleaning after Mass
Friday 21st November Memorial of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Fr Giles Goward RIP(MB)	Novena to the Sacred Heart after Mass
Saturday 22nd November Memorial of St Cecilia, Virgin, Martyr	11:00 am Harry Remedios RIP(AK)	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 2:00 pm Public Church Tour
Sunday 23rd November Solemnity of our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe Second collection for Catholic Youth Service	8:30 am Kevin McCorry RIP (MM) 10:30 am Maureen Weaver RIP(CL) 6.00 pm Deceased members of the Martin & Quigley families (MM)	After 8.30 am Mass: Tea & coffee in the Hall Children's Liturgy during 10.30 am Mass

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 Lord comes to judge the peoples with fairness.

6.00 pm Sing a new song to the Lord: sing to the Lord all the earth!

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.

FR. GEORGE ON HOLIDAY

Fr. George will be away for his holiday and missing his family from 10th November till 26th November. In his absence Fr. Andrew SCJ who will be with us for his parish experience will be covering most of the Masses during the week and Fr. Justin from Oscott College will also help weekend Masses. Any emergency funerals please contact Canon John at St. George's Worcester.

JOURNEY IN FAITH (RCIA)

The next Journey in Faith will take place on 24th November at 7.00 pm and the topic will be 'Mary Mother of God and Marian Devotion'.

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.

KNITTED CHRISTMAS ANGELS

Are you interested in knitting Christmas Angels? At this Christmas season the Churches together in Droitwich organising a Knitted Christmas Angels to spread the message of Christ at this Christmas. The knitted Christmas Angels will be placed in various parts of the town with a message on it for people to take home. There are for different patterns of angels at the back of the church. Please take those patterns home, knit the angels and use the label sheet with Christmas message, make a hole with a hole-punch and attach one to each angel with string/ribbon. We'll gather the angels together and meet on Saturday December 20th, 7.30am at CVS office, for stealth distribution around town. There's still plenty of time to make lots more angels!

REFUGEE COLLECTION

Thank you so much for the beautiful knitted ladies' and children's jumpers and cardigans left last week. One can easily imagine the joy they will bring. I will arrange another collection after Christmas, so in the meantime please keep knitting, but store the articles at home because of storage. There is plenty of wool at the church entrance, so do use it to help with your costs. If anyone has buttons they can donate, that would also help defray costs. Thank you also for the various items of clothing. All will have been dispatched as you read this. Once again a huge thank you for your continual support.

GIVING TO OTHERS THIS CHRISTMAS

Christmas Giving Tree: SVP will be putting up a Christmas Giving Tree for parishioners to donate gifts for children. Fr Hudson Care have asked that donated gifts change this year, according to the ages of the children: **11- 15 yrs: Amazon Gift vouchers.** These should be put in an envelope with the amount written IN PENCIL on the front. The envelopes can be decorated. **7-10 Yrs:** gifts as usual but placed in **GIFT BAGS not wrapped**, with ages written on the angel tags. **0-6 yrs:** Gifts for this age group **are not needed** as another Parish and a corporate are taking care of this age group. The Tree will be ready on **30th November** for you to take an Angel tag, an envelope, or both. Please put the age range on the tag. Gifts can be left under the tree. Please leave your gift bags and envelopes under the tree on Sundays. They will be put in a safe place after each Mass. Fr Hudson Care will be collecting the gifts on **December 15th.**

Christmas Cards for Prisoners Christmas Cards for Prisoners in Long Larten will be available at all Masses on 23rd and 30th November. If you wish to write a card, DO NOT put any money in the card and DO NOT add your name. "From Sacred Heart Parish" is acceptable. Leave the envelope open as all mail has to be checked at the Prison. Leave your card in the appropriate box at the back of the Church. A 50p donation towards the cost of the card would be appreciated.

CHRISTMAS CARDS

The Christmas card will be available to buy from the Parish Hall. A pack of 8 cards costs you only £5. Please consider buying some cards for this Christmas.

SAVE THE DATE - 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.

SAVE THE DATE - Saturday 31st January 2026 The SVP Family Fun Quiz

This is a FREE event for everyone in our parish. It will take place early evening on Sat 31st January and teams will be made of no more than six people. There will be a variety of questions including special ones for children, and the Mini Vinnies will be there. This has now become an annual fixture, and we are sure it will be just as much fun as the previous ones.

PUT THE DATE IN YOUR DIARY AND LOOK FORWARD TO A GREAT NIGHT OUT.

NATIONAL LOTTERY PROJECT – PUBLIC TOURS & CHILDREN'S WORKSHOPS

The last public church tour of 2025 (with a café) will take place on: **Saturday 22nd November @ 2pm**, though it is currently 'sold out'. 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**. The monthly public church tours (with a café) will resume in January and take place on: **Saturday 24th January @ 2pm & Saturday 28th February @ 2pm**. The monthly public children's workshops (mini church tour & mosaic-making session) will also resume in 2026 and take place on: **Saturday 11th January @ 2:30pm & Saturday 14th February @ 2:30p**. All of these events can be booked on Eventbrite, links can be found on the parish website. Or by contacting the Hall Booking Secretary.

SAVE THE DATE

Christmas Fair

29th November

Thank you Evening

5th December

CHILDREN'S LITURGY

There will be Children's Liturgy during 10.30 am mass on **16th, 23rd, 30th November and on 7th, 14th December.**

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:

£284.74

Gift Aid: £213.00

**Thank you for
supporting your
Parish.**

**Mass attendance
last Sunday: 264**



**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 December 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 Samuel 5:1-3;

Psalm 122(121);

Colossians 1:12-20;

Luke 23:35-43

Welcome to everyone at Mass today, especially if you are new to our church or haven't been to Mass for some time. If you are of another Christian denomination or non-Christian you are warmly invited to approach the priest or minister and ask or signify your wish for a blessing.

Dear sisters and brothers in Christ, in today's first reading, Malachi speaks of the day of the Lord. He employs two pictures to describe this. First, he speaks of the fate of the Evil One, and then, second, the triumph of the righteous who endures till the end. This reading serves as an encouragement to help us continue patiently doing good works. The prophet ends with a promise of victory: "But for you who fear my name, the sun of righteousness will shine out with healing in its rays". This is our hope and the reward.

In the second reading St. Paul similarly encourages us to keep working hard for the Kingdom of God. This is in order to earn our earthly and heavenly living. Christ's message does not in any way promote laziness or idleness. Hence, He teaches us that sloth, the reluctance to work, is one of the seven capital sins. Saint Thomas Aquinas wrote, "Sloth is the sluggishness of the mind which neglects to begin well. It is evil in its effect. It oppresses man to draw him away entirely from good deeds" (Summa Theologia 2, 35, art. 1). Hard work yields good and enduring fruits. Hard work makes a good Christian. It abhors laziness and idleness. Sadly, many Christians today no longer appreciate hard work and endurance; we always expect instant result. In order to make fast and cheap money some engage in all sorts of evil ways and means to achieve their goals. This is what Paul means by: "Now we hear that some of you are living in idleness, doing no work themselves but interfering with anyone else's". A lazy Christian yields easily to all sorts of vices.

In the Gospel Christ prophesied the end of a time in the history of Israel. He also spoke of the imminent hardships and persecution before, during and after this time. However, He concludes with these encouraging words: "Your endurance will win you your lives". Hence, the Lord encourages us to persevere in righteousness and endure difficult moments. By warning that the Temple of Jerusalem would be destroyed despite its elegance and greatness, Christ also reminds us that nothing in this world will last forever, no matter how precious it is to us. The only thing that will endure is our faith in Christ. Finally, today in our families, offices, businesses, careers and in our world at large, we face difficulties that at times question our faith. However, if we endure all these patiently as Christ tells us, we shall have enough reasons to smile at the end, and of course, "the sun of righteousness will shine on us with healing in its rays". May God bless us with the grace of patience and the gift of endurance.

Fr. George Mathew SCJ