



Societas Presbyterorum  
Sacratissimi Cordis Jesu  
BETHARRAM

## SACRED HEART & ST CATHERINE OF ALEXANDRIA

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### Today's Mass Readings

*Acts 2:42-47;*  
*Psalms 118(117);*  
*1 Peter 1:3-9;*  
*John 20:19-31*

**Welcome to this House  
of God:**  
**Talk to God before Mass**  
**Listen to God during Mass**  
**Talk to others after Mass**

<b>This Week: 12th– 19th Apr 2026</b>	<b>Holy Mass &amp; Services</b>	<b>Other Events</b>
<b>Sunday 12th April Second Sunday of Easter Year A</b>	8:30 am Mira Felsztynska RIP (SL) 10:30 am Patricia Fahy & Celia Teirney RIP ( GF) 6:00 pm Private intention (JD)	After 8:30am Mass - Tea & coffee in the Parish Hall Children's Liturgy during 10.30am Mass 2:30pm SVP Afternoon
<b>Monday 13th April Easter Feria</b>	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Kathleen Westwood (KW)	
<b>Tuesday 14th April Easter Feria</b>	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Mario Sidoli (GS)	1.30pm Private Church Tour
<b>Wednesday 15th April Easter Feria</b>	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Denise Grant RIP(AM)	5:30pm Reception of the Body
<b>Thursday 16th April Easter Feria</b>	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Judith Cuseen RIP(J&GP)	11:00am The Requiem Mass of Judith Cussen 2.30 pm Private Church Tour
<b>Friday 17th April Easter Feria</b>	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Lucy Dodd RIP(BB)	After Mass, Sacred Heart Novena 2.00 pm Private Church Tour
<b>Saturday 18th April Easter Feria</b>	11:00 am Gladys Remedios RIP (KA) 11.00 am Anointing Mass	10:15-10:45am Confessions 12:00-5:00pm Visitor Centre in the Romero Room, Parish Hall 2:30pm Children's Workshop Tour NLHF
<b>Sunday 19th April Third Sunday of Easter Year A</b>	8:30 am Alisha O'Grady RIP (P&AC) 10:30 am Sean Glynn RIP (BD) 6:00 pm Tim Cree RIP(J&GP)	After 8:30am Mass - Tea & coffee in the Parish Hall Children's Liturgy during 10.30am Mass

*"I urge everyone to accompany this moment of delicate diplomacy with prayer,  
in hope that a willingness to dialogue may become the means  
to resolve other conflict situations in the world as well."*

Pope Leo XIV via Twitter 9th April 2026

**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**

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Primary School,  
Droitwich

Tel: 01905 773572

Email:  
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**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**

**8:30am, 10:30 am & 6:00pm**

**Give praise to the Lord, for He is good,  
His mercy endures for ever.**

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**PRAY FOR OUR SICK PARISHIONERS**

Please pray for all our parishioners, and/or their friends and relatives, who are unwell: 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, Francis Varney and Michael McCorry.

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**RECENTLY DECEASED**

In your charity, please pray for Judith Cussen and Dennis Grant who have recently died. Please also keep their families in your prayers. The Requiem Mass of Judith will take place on Thursday 16th April at 11:00 am followed by burial at 12.30 pm.

Her body will be brought to the Church on the evening before at 5.30pm. May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

**THANK YOU FOR ALL HELP SUPPORT**

We take this opportunity to thank you all for your continued help and support in the church. Especially the parish volunteers who are always ready and willing to help both pastoral and temporal aspects of the parish life. A big thank you to all the Choir members, Readers and the Eucharistic ministers, altar servers and all the others who helped and arranged the Holy Week Services. We wish and pray that you all have a Blessed Easter season.

**JOURNEY IN FAITH (RCIA)**

The next Journey in Faith session will take place on Monday 27th April at 7pm. The topic will be 'Saints our Companions: Living with the Saints'.

**WEDNESDAY ADORATION**

Wednesday Adorations will resume after Easter on Wednesday 22nd of April.

**PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**

Minutes of the latest Parish Council Meeting are available at the back of the Church on the notice board.

## EASTER CHOCOLATES COMPETITION

Easter Chocolates competition. Thanks to everyone who entered the competition £72 was raised for the Youth section of the Parish. The correct number of chocolates - 274 was not suggested, so the nearest guess of 275 has been declared the winner!

## INVITATION TO JOIN THE DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO WALSINGHAM

Fr Philip Griffin, Pilgrimage Organiser, has written to parishes across the Archdiocese inviting them to take part in this year's day pilgrimage to Walsingham, Norfolk. For more information please see the poster in the back of the Church.

## MARRIAGE SUPPORT:

From relationships that are 'Just in a Rut', needing some refreshment or more serious issues - If you are open to try again – Retrouvaille could be the solution. We have helped thousands of couples get their relationship back on track as they rediscovered hope and trust in the marriage. To find out more:

[www.retrouvaille.org.uk](http://www.retrouvaille.org.uk) +44 797 338 0443

## JOBS VACANCY

Blessed Edward Oldcorne Catholic College are currently advertising for a number of position. Please see the school website for details - <https://www.blessededward.co.uk/about-us/vacancies/>

## MARCH FOR LIFE

Calling men of all ages and states of life: book your place at 'Commissioned', the National Men's Pro-life Conference, on April 18th at Birmingham Christian College. Through compelling talks on fatherhood, marriage, post-abortion healing, spiritual welfare and sexual responsibility learn to live out your vocation with humility, courage and integrity. For more info including speakers or to book your place contact [info@marchforlife.co.uk](mailto:info@marchforlife.co.uk) or go to

<https://www.marchforlife.co.uk/commissioned-pro-life-mens-conference/>

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

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

**Saturday 25th April @ 2pm & 3.30pm** (*The 2pm tours are fully booked so extra tour have been added*) & **Saturday 23rd May @ 2pm.**

The next monthly public children's workshops (mini church tour & mosaic-making session) will take place on: **Saturday 18th April & Saturday 9th May @ 2:30pm.** 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

There will be Children's Liturgy during 10.30 am mass on **19th , 26th April, 3rd, 10th, 17th May, 7th, 14th, 21st, 28th June 5th and 12th July.**

## PARISH YOUTH GROUP

Hopefully this will resume as soon as possible and run 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 or [safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk) if you have any concerns.

**Good Friday**

**Holy Places  
collection  
raised**

**£69.00**

**Thank you for  
your generosity.**



**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 12th April**  
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](mailto:DroitwichReferrals@svp.org.uk) or  
on 07772 927535

or on  
Facebook, SVP  
Sacred Heart  
Droitwich.



**Next Sunday's  
Mass Readings**

**Acts 2:14,22-33;**  
**Psalm 16(15);**  
**1 Peter 1:17-21;**  
**Luke 24:13-35**

Fyodor Dostoevsky a Russian philosopher and novelist who had become involved with the *Petrashchevsky Circle*, a group of intellectuals who discussed forbidden books, anti-government ideas and utopian socialism, was arrested and sentenced to death. December 22, 1849, in St. Petersburg, Russia, was a decisive day for the 27-year-old author. As the execution was about to take place, a messenger arrived announcing that his sentence had been commuted. This experience marked him deeply and it profoundly influenced his later masterpieces, including *"Crime and Punishment"*, which so powerfully explored sin, suffering, forgiveness and the mercy of God. He knew personally what it meant to be given a chance to be spared when one least deserved it. This is precisely the experience that lies at the heart of what we celebrate today as Divine Mercy Sunday, a feast established by Pope John Paul II on 30th April 2000, inspired by the revelation given to St. Faustina Kowalska. The message of this feast is both simple and very profound, that God's mercy is greater than our sin. And the risen Christ comes not to condemn us but to forgive us, restore us and send us forth as witnesses of His love.

Pope Benedict said, 'the message of divine mercy is the nucleus of the Gospel'. It is not just some secondary Christian devotion but it's an integral part of Christian life and prayer. The Bible tells us, unless we repent and ask for forgiveness, we cannot enter the Kingdom of God. What happened with Adam and Eve in the garden of Eden was not so much that they disobeyed God. But, instead of seeking God's mercy, they blamed each other. What is the only way we get to heaven? It is by God's grace. But Jesus told St. Faustina, "Trust is the vessel by which all grace is received". When God pours out His grace on us but we don't have a vessel in which to collect it, it's just going to spill all over. So what is trust? Trust is simply accepting the help that God offers us. What help did Jesus offer us while He was on this earth? He left us the gift of His Church (Matthew 16:18) and the gift of His mother from the cross. The Divine Mercy devotion is opposed to all those heresies which are Anti-Mercy, such as Pelagianism, which claimed that individuals can achieve salvation and sinless perfection by prioritized moral effort and human capability over reliance on God's grace. This led to its condemnation at the Council of Ephesus in year 431. In the same category was 18th century Jansenism, which held that God's grace was the only way to salvation and that human free will had no role, because God is a punishing God. Contrary to these false ideologies, Jesus said to St. Faustina: *"My daughter, tell the whole world about My inconceivable mercy. I desire that the Feast of Mercy be a refuge and shelter for all souls, and especially for poor sinners. On that day the very depths of My tender mercy are open. I pour out a whole ocean of graces upon those souls who approach the Fount of My Mercy"* (Diary 699). This is the proclamation of God's immense and unfathomable Divine Mercy for all humanity, particularly sinners, and the necessity of trusting in Jesus.

How often have we doubted the Lord like Thomas? How often have we hidden in fear, unable to bear the shame of our mistakes and failures? What sins have we painfully buried in our hearts rather than exposing them to the healing light of God's mercy? Have we failed to confess and seek reconciliation for sins of the flesh, violence, hatred or participation in an abortion? Have we hardened our hearts, giving ourselves over to envy, greed or dishonesty? No sin is unforgivable, and no sinner is beyond redemption. We have all failed and we are all in need of God's mercy. It is for this very reason that Christ suffered, died and rose again. Christ came to offer us His infinite love and mercy, and we can receive it in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. When we enter the confessional and seek God's forgiveness, in a way Christ breathes on us as He did the disciples, wiping away our sins and offering us His peace. We don't need to hide in fear or shame. Christ's mercy is freely given to a repentant heart. He will reveal to us the saving wounds of His hands and feet. He will take away our pain and replace it with His peace. And as we receive the gift of His Divine Mercy, may our hearts cry out with the joyful words of Thomas, "My Lord and my God!". Key Actions for Divine Mercy Sunday: **Confession:** Prepare by going to confession around this day. **Holy Communion:** Receive Communion on this day. **Venerate the Image:** Focus on the Divine Mercy image. **Trust:** Actively pray, "Jesus, I trust in You".

Fr. George Mathew SCJ