



Societas Presbyterorum  
Sacratissimi Cordis Jesu  
BETHARRAM

## SACRED HEART & ST CATHERINE OF ALEXANDRIA

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### Today's Mass Readings

Acts 10: 25-26, 34-35, 44-48;

Psalm 97;

1 John 4: 7-10;

John 15: 9-17

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

| This Week<br>9th May - 16th May<br>Psalter Week 2                   | Mass Intentions  | Other Events  |
|---|--|---|
| <b>Sunday 9th May</b><br><b>SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER</b><br>Year B    | 8.30 am Chris & Sylvia Padden RIP (MJ)<br>10.30 am Peter Doran RIP (SVP)<br>6.00 pm Bernadette Violet Duffy RIP (PD)             | Retiring Collection for the Clergy Training Fund                            |
| <b>Monday 10th May</b><br>Easter Feria                              | 9.15 am May Conlon RIP (JM)  |   |
| <b>Tuesday 11th May</b><br>Easter Feria                             | 9.15 am Malcolm Dunn RIP (B.B)   |   |
| <b>Wednesday 12th May</b><br>Easter Feria                           | 9.15 am Colum MacCourt RIP (PW)  | 6.00 pm: Adoration & Benediction (Live Streamed only)                       |
| <b>Thursday 13th May</b><br>Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord  | 9.15 am Private Intention (A.M)  |   |
| <b>Friday 14th May</b><br>Feast of Matthias, Apostle                | 9.15 am Deceased Members of SCJ  | 6.30 pm: Novena to the Sacred Heart (Live Streamed only)                    |
| <b>Saturday 15th May</b><br>Easter Feria                            | 11.00 am Freda Dickerson RIP (AM)  | <b>10.15 am - 10.45 am:<br/>Confessions</b>                                 |
| <b>Sunday 16th May</b><br><b>SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER</b><br>Year B | 8.30 am Steve and Sue Rawlings Anniversary - Thanksgiving<br>10.30 am Edward Whelan RIP<br>6.00 pm Sujatha Rajendran RIP (Fr. G) | World Communications Day<br>Retiring Collection for Catholic Communications |

*“ At a time when various forms of fundamentalist intolerance are damaging relationships between individuals, groups and peoples, let us be committed to living and teaching the value of respect for others, a love capable of welcoming differences, and the priority of the dignity of every human being over his or her ideas, opinions, practices and even sins. Even as forms of fanaticism, closedmindedness and social and cultural fragmentation proliferate in present-day society, a good politician will take the first step and insist that different voices be heard.”*

Pope Francis, Fratelli Tutti (paragraph 191)

**SACRED HEART  
COMMUNITY**

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(Parish Priest)

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Fr. Tom Kelly SCJ  
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**SAFEGUARDING  
REPRESENTATIVES**

Gerry Ceclich  
Kate Dalglish  
Clare Tomlinson

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

8.30 am, 10.30 am & 6.00 pm:

**The Lord has shown his salvation to the nations.**

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**PRAY FOR OUR SICK PARISHIONERS**

Please pray for all our parishioners, and/or their friends and relatives, who are unwell:

Mary Arulandhu, Barbara Conway, Eileen Dalton, Delores Delaney, Frank Fawcett, Sheila Ferriter, Alan Francis, Joan Graham, Beryl Hill, Alan Hurst, John Jennings, Sheila Manion, Sally McCool, Andrew McDermott, Stella McDermott, Jackie McLean, Michael Sheridan, Jacky Smith, Paul Smith, Margaret Steward, Angela Wardle, Breda Wightman, Mark Wightman, Richard Wightman & Monsignor Graham Wilkinson.

**Due to the new data regulations (GDPR), the Archdiocese have requested that we do not list names unless we have the consent of the individual. If you would like your name to be included in this list please contact Fr. George SCJ or Kate Dalglish. Please note that the newsletter is also placed on the parish website. Thank you for your understanding.**

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**RECENTLY DECEASED**

Your prayers are asked for **Zita McConnell** who died recently. May her soul and the souls of all the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace Please keep her family and friends in your kind thoughts and prayers.

**VOCATION TO THE PRIESTHOOD**

Today Fr. Michael Dolman, the Vocations Director from Oscott College, will be visiting our parish to speak about Vocation to Priesthood and promote this to our young people. Fr. Michael will be speaking at all Masses and this will include an appeal for the Clergy Training Fund. We appreciate that many have already given generously to the Clergy Training fund in the recent collection. Thank you for your kind donations.

**LIVE STREAMING**

Live streaming from the Sacred Heart Church has been installed. Please make use of this to participate in Mass and other events if you are unable to attend church. The live stream can now be viewed via our own website on the homepage. The front pew may be visible, if you do not want your image to be part of the live stream then please sit further back in the church. If you would like to make a donation towards the cost of the live streaming camera, it would be greatly appreciated. Thank you to those who have already made a donation.

**CHOIR: 8.30 AM MASS**

The choir for 8.30 am Sunday Mass is sadly depleted by sickness. Would anyone who enjoys singing please come upstairs and help out? We don't do anything new just now, so you will know it all. Many thanks.

**THANK YOU**

Fr. David Doran has thanked every parishioner for their prayers and Masses offered for his father Peter Doran.

## FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PROGRAMME 2021

If your child is in Year 3 or above and you wish for your child to be prepared to receive this Sacrament in the summer 2021, please would you contact Fr. George SCJ as soon as possible. The first meeting for parents and children will take place in May, date and time will be announced in due course. Due to the Covid-19 restrictions in place, this year the children being prepared by the parish will receive their First Holy Communion separately from the children at St. Joseph's. The First Holy Communion Mass for children prepared in the parish will take place sometime before the school summer holidays.

## REPORT ON THE ONLINE LENT RETREAT 2021

During Lent two groups of people met weekly online for an hour, 13 of us on Tuesday afternoons and 15 on Thursday evenings. We came from different churches, different denominations and different places – including several from Sacred Heart. The Jesuits at ISC in Glasgow sent daily emails with a Scripture reading, a short reflection, a picture and a piece of music all on the day's theme. We all prayed individually for 20 to 30 minutes each day with whatever parts of that day's material that seemed to speak to us. At the weekly online meetings, we shared what we wanted to of our felt experience during or after our prayer, though without further discussion. It was a listening group. Right from the start we were surprised how deep and open was this sharing and we all felt that that Spirit was moving strongly amongst us and there was a strong feeling of community in the groups. Again surprisingly, it seemed that doing this all on Zoom, rather than being physically present, made it easier for people to take part and to share so easily and deeply. We felt it a really blessed retreat.

## REFUGEE KNITTING

Thank you so much for the exquisite blankets, hats, scarves and baby/toddler jumpers and cardigans so beautifully crafted and packaged. Thank you also for the underwear and miscellaneous items so kindly purchased. The donations are being sent to Bosnia by Agape, a Birmingham based charity. They will let us know as and when they are shipping goods in the future. Therefore, please could you keep any items at home until we have the next date. Once again, thank you for your continual support which is so appreciated and heart warming.

## COVID-19

Mass continues to be open to the public. We would like to remind all parishioners to ensure that you fully observe the rules that are in place at the Sacred Heart Church. It is especially important that you keep your distance from those not in your household or bubble and leave promptly after Mass. We appreciate your co-operation in helping us keep those who attend Mass safe from Covid-19.

### *Act of Spiritual Communion Prayer*

*My Jesus,  
I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.  
I love You above all things,  
and I desire to receive You into my soul.  
Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally,  
come spiritually into my heart.  
I embrace You as if You were already there  
and unite myself completely to You.  
Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.*

## ICE BUCKET CHALLENGE

Bridget Bullock is completing an ice bucket challenge at 2.00 pm today in support of pro-life charities. If you would like to make a donation, please could these be left with Fr. George. Thank you for your support.

## WORCESTER CATHSOC PLUS

Are you 18-35 years old and interested in meeting like-minded Catholics? This group for Catholic young adults meets weekly to grow together in faith, prayer and fellowship. If you are interested in attending and for more details about it, please join the Worcester CathSoc Plus group on Facebook or contact Martina at 07407 114014.

## FOODBANK

There is a new wish list that is on the website. Fortnightly collections from the Sacred Heart Church resumed on Tuesday 20th April. Thank you for your generosity.

*Registered as a  
Charity, Birmingham  
Roman Catholic  
Diocesan Trustees:  
Registered Charity  
Number 234216.*

**Main Collection  
(Sunday 25th April):  
£209.64**

**Gift Aid (Sunday 2nd  
May): £305.00**

**Mass Attendance  
Last Sunday (church  
capacity with social  
distancing 1m + = 80)**

**8.30 am: 62**

**10.30 am: 58**

**6.00 pm: 39**

**Thank you for  
supporting your  
Parish.**

**The Retiring  
Collection for  
the Clergy Training  
Fund raised:**

**£19.50**

**Gift Aid: £17.00**

**Thank you for your  
generosity.**



**Next Sunday's Mass  
Readings**

*Acts 1: 15-17, 20-26;*

*Psalm 102;*

*1 John 4: 11-16;*

*John 17: 11-19*

*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.*

*Love one another as I have loved you.*

Once a man was sharing his 50 years of challenging, at the same time witnessing life experience with his wife. His wife could be the most irritating, intolerable and short-tempered person one can ever find. Sometime life with her can be a hell like experience. Then I asked him, how could he live 50 years with her. His reply was unbelievable. He said, "God has entrusted her in my care, so that I could love her as Jesus did, even though sometimes she doesn't deserve it. If I don't who else will love her and tolerate her?". What powerful words!! Love is the basis of all our relationships in life. Jesus our Lord teaches us the best way to love. Jesus gives us a commandment in today's gospel, and it is not an easy one. We are to love one another as he has loved us, this same invitation is repeated in the 2nd reading as well. St. Peter in the 1st reading is presenting a dynamic truth; he says, "that God does not have favourites."

Now loving others in general is a noble and beautiful ideal. But loving particular people can be a challenge. When someone irritates us at work or at school or in our family or our community, loving that person seems unreasonable. When someone ignores us or hurts us unjustly, loving that person can seem impossible. So, there could be a tendency to try to wriggle out of Jesus' commandment. We say to ourselves, "That person is a big pain, is very selfish or manipulative. That person does not deserve to be loved." But Jesus has anticipated our objection and shaped his commandment accordingly. He says, "Love one another as I have loved you." And how has Jesus loved us? He has loved us even though we at times are selfish and manipulative. He has loved us even though we do not deserve his love. So, Jesus gives us no room to escape from his commandment. We are to love others, even though they do not deserve to be loved.

So how do we make this seemingly impossible way of loving possible? Jesus shows us the way. In the gospel, before he gives us the command, he shows us how we can follow it. Before he tells us to give love, he tells us to RECEIVE love. The love that we are to take is the love of Jesus. He says, "Remain in my love. Then my joy will be yours, and your joy will be complete." Jesus is telling us that we must first RECEIVE his love to give love to others. Now what does it mean to remain in Jesus' love? Jesus has loved us by giving us life, by directing our abilities, and by giving us family and friends. Jesus has loved us by walking with us on those difficult days when we struggle to hope. Jesus has loved us by giving us the wisdom to make good decisions and the strength to carry them out. In all these ways and more Jesus has loved us. When we call to mind all those blessings, we remain in his love. Once we remain in his love, we can follow his commandments. Surrounded by the love that we have received from him, we are able to love others, even though they may not deserve it.

So do not despair when Jesus asks you to love someone who has hurt you or someone who annoys you. First surround yourself with his love. Draw strength from the love you have received from him, and then try to love someone who is difficult. If we try to love based on our own love, we will often not succeed. But if we draw strength from his love, we may find that it is possible to accept the people who irritate us and to forgive those who have hurt us. So come, let us be channels of God's merciful love always.