



Societas Presbyterorum
Sacratissimi Cordis Jesu
BETHARRAM

SACRED HEART & ST CATHERINE OF ALEXANDRIA

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Today's Mass Readings

Numbers 11: 25-29;

Psalm 18;

James 5: 1-6

Mark 9: 38-43, 45, 47-48

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

This Week 26th September - 3rd October (Psalter Week 2)	Mass Intentions	Other Events
Sunday 26th September Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B	8.30 am Peggy & Denis Regan RIP (BB) 10.30 am Kathleen (Cr) 6.00 pm People of the Parish	Day of Prayer of Thanksgiving for the Harvest Retiring Collection for Fr. Hudson's Care
Monday 27th September Memorial of St. Vincent de Paul, Priest	9.15 am Jon Johannys RIP	6.45 pm: Key Holders Meeting
Tuesday 28th September Feria in Ordinary Time	9.15 am Margaret Rose RIP (B.B)	
Wednesday 29th September Feast of Ss. Michael, Gabriel & Raphael, Archangels	9.15 am Marie & Frank Webb RIP (PW)	6.00 pm: Adoration & Benediction (Live Streamed only)
Thursday 30th September Memorial of St. Jerome, Priest, Doctor of the Church	9.15 am Gladys Remedios RIP (KA)	
Friday 1st October Memorial of St. Therese of the Child Jesus, Virgin, Doctor of the Church	9.15 am Tom Moran RIP (MB)	9.45am: Novena to the Sacred Heart (soon after Mass) Youth Group CAFOD Family Fast Day
Saturday 2nd October Memorial of the Guardian Angels	11.00 am Mary Dunleavy (K & AV)	10.00 am - 12 Noon: FHC Preparation - Parish Children 10.15 am - 10.45 am: Confessions
Sunday 3rd October Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B	8.30 am Rose & Don Brooks RIP (PW) 10.30 am People of the Parish 6.00 pm Holy Mass	Retiring Collection for CAFOD Harvest Fast

"Often, the more vulnerable members of society are the victims of unfair generalizations. If at times the poor and the dispossessed react with attitudes that appear antisocial, we should realize that in many cases those reactions are born of a history of scorn and social exclusion."

Pope Francis, Fratelli Tutti (paragraph 234)

**SACRED HEART
COMMUNITY**

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**In an emergency, please
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Fr. Brian Boyle SCJ
(Retired Priest)

Fr. Tom Kelly SCJ
(Retired Priest)

Bro. Patrick Leighton SCJ

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RESPONSORIAL PSALM

8.30 am & 10.30 am: The precepts of the Lord gladden the heart.

6.00 pm: The word of God is more desired than gold; the word of God is sweeter than honey. Light to our eyes, the Lord's command is clear; greater than gold the message of eternal life.

PRAY FOR OUR SICK PARISHIONERS

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

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

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 Dalgleish. Please note that the newsletter is also placed on the parish website. Thank you for your understanding.

CENTENARY CELEBRATION: PHOTOGRAPHS

We are hoping to have a display of photographs for our Centenary Celebrations. Could parishioners please look through your old photos of the church and college and see if there is anything you would like to share? Please make sure your name and address is on the back of every item! The Centenary Mass is on Saturday 9th October at 3.00 pm.

FR. HUDSON'S CARE ANNUAL PARISH COLLECTION

Today the second collection will be for Father Hudson's Care to support their mission of supporting vulnerable people across the Archdiocese of Birmingham. Father Hudson's reaches out to people of all ages who need support at times of adversity. Please Call 01675 434000 if you would like to donate outside of Mass this year. There is also a JustGiving page at Father Hudson's Care Annual Parish Collection 2020 - JustGiving. Please give generously to this worthy cause. Thank you for your generosity.

REFUGEE CLOTHING COLLECTION

Thank you to everyone who contributed clothing to this collection. There were so many wonderfully thoughtful items that will undoubtedly raise the spirits of the refugees. If more items are required in the future we will certainly inform you.

KNITTING

Thank you so very much to the band of knitters who so faithfully produce such beautiful items. Once again can you store the items at home until needed. If anyone else would like to knit; patterns, wool, buttons and needles are in a cupboard at the church entrance to help defray your costs. Donations of the same are also very welcome. Please knit anything you feel may benefit the refugees with winter approaching.

COVID 19 STEP 4 GUIDANCE

- **Sanitise** your hands at the entrance and exit.
- **Masks:** We highly recommend you to wear a mask in the church.
- **Test and Trace:** Please give your name and contact details to the stewards for Test and Trace or make use of the QR code provided at the entrance.
- **Seating:** There will not be any cordoned pews, so you can occupy any pew you wish to sit. In a pew a maximum of four people can sit, except family pews. Please leave the family pews for the families with children.
- **Holy Communion:** Holy Communion will continue to be under one kind.
- **Congregational Singing:** Indoor congregational singing is permitted. It is recommended that singing should be phased in gently as part of worship and that face coverings should be worn by members of the congregation whilst singing together, until infection levels reduce.
- **Exit:** To exit please use both the main door and the side door.
- **Capacity of the Church:** Increased to 150
- **Church visiting by the public:** The church will be open to the public for private prayer and for visiting from 8.00 am until 1.00 pm.

A big thank you to all of you for your cooperation and understanding during the time of the pandemic. We expect the same cooperation and support to continue. Always be considerate and kind towards others so that together we can defeat this pandemic.

CAFOD FAMILY FAST DAY: CLIMATE CRISIS APPEAL

FAMILY FAST DAY: 1ST OCTOBER, RETIRING COLLECTION: 3RD OCTOBER

Our local experts are helping people all over the world to adapt to climate change and protect our common home. This Family Fast Day, donate in the parish using a CAFOD envelope or online through the CAFOD website (cafod.org.uk/climatecrisis) and help communities affected by the worst impacts of the climate crisis. You can also add your voice to our online petition calling for our Prime Minister to show leadership in tackling the climate crisis, cafod.org.uk/climate. And thank you for your generosity for our emergency appeals to support our sisters and brothers in crisis in Afghanistan and Haiti. You can read more about CAFOD's response at cafod.org.uk/emergencies.

DATES FOR FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PREPARATION - PARISH CHILDREN

The FHC preparation sessions will be held on following days:

- October: Saturdays 2nd, 9th & 16th
- November: Saturdays 6th, 13th & 27th

The First Holy Communion Mass will be celebrated on Saturday 4th December at 11.00 am.

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.*

SAVE THE DATE

*Centenary
Celebration Mass:
Saturday 9th
October at
3.00 pm*

PARISH HALL KEYHOLDERS

There will be a Key Holder's meeting on Monday 27th September at 6:45 pm. Please can all Key Holders come along.

ANNUAL SPONSORED WALK

Thank you for supporting Fr. George and Brother Patrick on their sponsored walk to raise money for the Sacred Heart Fathers' Missionary work in India. Any sponsorship money can either be passed to Fr. George or Brother Patrick or given in to the Parish Office. Thank you for your generosity.

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

Main Collection:
£257.01

Gift Aid: £170.00

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

8.30 am: 58

10.30 am: 83

6.00 pm: 66

Thank you for
supporting your
Parish.

Retiring Collection
for Catholic
Evangelisation:
£43.75

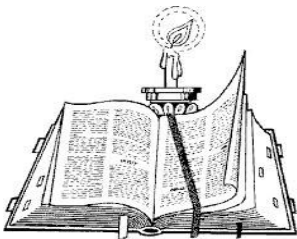
Gift Aid: £90.00

Thank you for your
generosity.



FOODBANK

There is a new wish list for Sunday 26th September that is on the website. Thank you for your generosity.



Next Sunday's Mass **Readings**

Genesis 2: 18-24;

Psalms 127;

Hebrews 2: 9-11

Mark 10: 2-16

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.

Who is not with us?

Human beings have a tendency to bind themselves in clubs and small groups of their own where they are always comfortable with one another. While this has the advantage of drawing together like-minded people, it also tends to be exclusive and an excuse for ostracising others outside of the group. One of Jesus's disciples John fell prey to that tendency today. That he saw someone else casting out devils in the name of Jesus and he tried to stop him because he was not one of them. We Christians have not changed a lot over the century for we fall into that same trap. Not just the outsiders but even our own.

Let us face it, who is not one of us? The disciples initially thought that preaching the Gospel, casting out devils etc. is exclusively for them to do. They were the ones who were with Jesus and the ones who were trained by Jesus. That is why they wanted to stop the one. As they failed to stop him, they came to Jesus and asked Him to stop the man. In the Gospel Our Lord seems to be appreciating an outsider who is casting out demons in his name. Jesus uses this as an opportunity to teach His disciples a lesson that the discipleship is not about any privilege or right but rather it is about their faith and conviction in the person of Jesus. The intention of his disciples seems to be divergent. It was not the well-being of the community or not even the success of Jesus's mission. Because we do not see at least in the Gospel that this man casting out demons in the name of Jesus is teaching or preaching anything contrary to what Jesus was teaching. The disciples seem to want to preserve and protect their position as the privileged custodian of Jesus's mission. This is what Jesus discourages.

Just as Jesus's disciples, so we too sometimes try to exclude people just because they are not one of us. Christ's message is not exclusive to us Catholics or Christians alone, but it is for all the people. We know that the number of people who are not Catholics or Christians who regularly attend our church services also who are not Catholics or Christians, but are married to one, who take responsibility of bringing up their children as Christian. I wonder whether we can honestly say that they are not one of us. So, who is not one of us? We find so many people around us who are not formally recognised as Christian but live a Christian life. What about Mahatma Gandhi? When a young barrister in South Africa he went to attend a Christian Church, to be told at the front door that coloureds were only allowed to enter the church via the side door. He walked away and never went back. Yet he believed the "beatitudes" is one of the most insightful descriptions of Jesus's teaching. So is he not one of us? Christianity, like medicine, is at its best when it has no borders. The role of a Christian is not to exclude anybody based on any realities of life but rather embrace everybody and dissolve into the society and spread the message of Christ through our words, deeds and attitudes. Just as sugar crystals dissolve in the water and lose their appearance but sweeten the whole water, every Christian needs to spread the image of Jesus wherever we are and whatever we do and become salt of the earth and light of the world.

May God bless us with this grace.