



Societas Presbyterorum  
Sacratissimi Cordis Jesu  
BETHARRAM

## SACRED HEART & ST CATHERINE OF ALEXANDRIA

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### Today's Mass Readings

*Acts 8:5-8,14-17;*  
*Psalms 66(65);*  
*1 Peter 3:15-18;*  
*John 14:15-21*

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

<b>This Week:</b> 10th - 17th May 2026 Psalter Week 2	<b>Holy Mass &amp; Services</b>	<b>Other Events</b>
<b>Sunday 10th May</b> <b>Sixth Sunday of Easter</b> <b>Year A</b> Second collection for Poor Parishes	8:30 am Christopher Fitzpatrick RIP(SC) 10:30 am For all taking GCSEs (BKF) 6:00 pm Ian Minogue (MM)	After 8:30am Mass - Tea & coffee in the Parish Hall Children's Liturgy during 10.30am Mass 2:30pm SVP afternoon
<b>Monday 11th May</b> Easter Feria	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am KD Mathew RIP (Fr.G)	6:00pm Journey in Faith
<b>Tuesday 12th May</b> Easter Feria	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Eric Whaley (PA)	
<b>Wednesday 13th May</b> Easter Feria	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Holy Mass	After Mass, Adoration till 6pm
<b>Thursday 14th May</b> Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord (Holyday of Obligation)	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am David Jones RIP (GS) 7:00pm For the Peace in the World	After Mass, Church cleaning 2:00pm Private Church Tour 5.45pm Private Church Tour
<b>Friday 15th May</b> Solemnity of St. Michael Garicoits	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Manu & Riji 10th Wedding Anniversary	After Mass, Sacred Heart Novena
<b>Saturday 16th May</b> Easter Feria	11:00 am Chinnama Thekkemury RIP 11:00 am Anointing Mass	10:15-10:45am Confessions 12:00-5:00pm Visitor Centre in the Romero Room, Parish Hall
<b>Sunday 17th May</b> <b>Seventh Sunday of Easter</b> <b>Year A</b> Second collection for Catholic Communications	8:30 am Denise Grant RIP 10:30 am Elizabeth Ann Letts RIP 6:00 pm People of the Parish	After 8:30am Mass - Tea & coffee in the Parish Hall Children's Liturgy during 10.30am Mass

***"The Church interprets history through the lens of the Gospel and speaks decisively  
against all evil, as the pilgrim People of God. At the same time, she acknowledges the  
need for continual conversion so she may properly fulfil her mission.***

***As members of the same Body, we are called to renewal."***

Pope Leo XIV via Twitter 7th May 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**

St. Joseph's Catholic  
Primary School,  
Droitwich

Tel: 01905 773572

Email:  
jod\_office@emmausmac.  
com

**PRINCIPAL**

Mr A Carry

**PARISH SECRETARY**

Bogusia Koniszewska-  
Fijolek

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sacredheart.droitwich@  
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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**

**Cry out with joy to God, all the earth.**

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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, Frances Varney, Ernst Vonzatovski and Michael McCorry.

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**JOURNEY IN FAITH (RCIA)**

The next Journey in Faith session will take place on Monday 11th May at 6pm. The topic will be '**The Christian Perspective of Death, Judgment and Internal Life**'.

**CATECHIST FORMATION SESSION: "HOW JESUS CATECHISED"**

Catechists including Children's liturgy teams, sacramental preparation teams from the Kidderminster and Worcester Deanery are invited to join us for a morning of reflection and discussion on how Jesus taught and catechised. This session will offer valuable insights for our ministry in our respective parishes in the Deanery.

Date: Saturday, 6th June 2026 Time: 9:30 am – 12:15 pm Venue: St George's Parish Centre, Worcester

Formator: Dr. Christine Dodd. RSVP: Please contact Sacred Heart Parish Office (sacredheart.droitwich@rcaob.org.uk) to confirm your attendance by Sunday 31st of May 2026 . We look forward to seeing you there!

**SACRED HEART SUMMER FAIR 4TH JULY 2025**

The Parish Summer Fair will be on Saturday 4th July. As part of the Summer Fair we will be organizing a Raffle. If you would like to sponsor a raffle prize, please give your name to Caroline Healy, Sally Spink or Steve Rawlings as soon as possible (or write your name on the clipboard in the Narthex).

## **FIVE MINUTES TO HELP SHAPE MARYVALE'S 2027/28 PROGRAMMES**

'Dear all,

Under the guidance of the Archbishop of Birmingham Maryvale Institute is planning its Further Education offer for the 2027/28 academic year, and we want the programme to be responsive to the needs of the clergy and laity. To do so we would like to hear your thoughts.

Would you take five minutes to fill in this short survey? The survey is open to responses until 20th May.

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScxXOP8eRujX0\\_PclChG8d-IOWqzjEFadaOkPsrxhvi5oHbcg/viewform](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScxXOP8eRujX0_PclChG8d-IOWqzjEFadaOkPsrxhvi5oHbcg/viewform)

Thank you.

The Maryvale Team'

If you would like to send the link by email, please contact parish secretary at [sacredheart.droitwich@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:sacredheart.droitwich@rcaob.org.uk)

## **DEANERY ALTAR SERVERS DAY: 11TH JULY 2026**

The Kidderminster and Worcester Deanery is organising the Annual Altar Servers Day on Saturday 11th of July from 10.30am till 2.00pm. The day will begin with Mass, followed by the gathering of all altar servers and conclude with Adoration and Benediction. The lunch will be provided. We request all the altar servers to attend this day.

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

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

**Saturday 23rd May @ 2pm**

**Saturday 27th June @ 2pm.**

The next monthly public children's workshops (mini church tour & mosaic-making session) will take place on:

**Saturday 6th June @ 2:30pm**

**Saturday 11th July @ 2.30 pm**

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 10th, 17th May, 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.

**Main collection:**

**£306.14**

**Gift Aid: £417.50**

**Thank you for  
supporting your  
Parish.**



**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 10th May**  
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**

Acts 1:12-14;  
*Psalms* 27(26);  
1 Peter 4:13-16;  
*John* 17:1-11a

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ, In two weeks' time we will celebrate Pentecost, the beginning of the church. There is a saying "absence speaks louder than words". A chair at the dining table remains empty. A message sent is seen but not answered. A voice that once filled the house slowly fades into silence. Nothing traumatic happens and yet something within us feels lost. And in those silent moments a question gently rises, am I alone? It is into this very human experience that Jesus speaks in today's Gospel, "I will not leave you as orphans". What a comforting assurance: Jesus, our true friend, promising us His constant companionship. To feel like orphans we need not lose our loved ones. It is about feeling abandoned, forgotten or left to face life alone, as if God has abandoned us. Have you ever felt like that? I have. Many people carry this feeling silently: a parent waiting for the lost teenager to come back; a child of a broken marriage, longing for true love and tender care of the parents; a young person searching for meaning and purpose in life. We can be surrounded by many people and still feel deeply alone.

At the farewell discourse, when the disciples felt they were on the verge of losing everything, Jesus gently assures them that His presence will not end with His departure. He does not promise a life free from pain, suffering or disappointments. Instead, He offers something far greater, His abiding presence. He promises the Holy Spirit and then makes it deeply personal. "You are in me and I am in you". This changes everything. God is not a distant reality. He does not remain outside our lives. He comes close. So close that He makes His home within us. And this presence is not abstract or unreachable. Jesus chooses to be present in simple yet profound ways. Through the bread that is broken and shared, through a gentle voice that speaks within the heart like a gentle breeze that quietly reveals the nearness of God and a true friend who works alongside us. In these hidden ways He continues to stay with us.

The first reading, from the Acts of the Apostles, shows this promise coming alive. Philip went to Samaria, a place where Jews and Samaritans had long-standing hostility, and boldly preached Christ. Surprisingly, the people listened to Philip and accepted Jesus. As a result the entire city was filled with "great joy". Those who were once left out are now embraced. God goes where people feel unwanted and turns that place into a home.

The second reading, from the first letter of Peter, reminds us that Jesus Himself experienced suffering and rejection. He knows what it means to feel abandoned. Yet through that suffering He brings us close to God. This means that, even in our painful moments, we are not alone. God is present there too. So today the scripture reveals to us a profound truth that the Father holds us, the Son walks with us and the Holy Spirit lives in us. We are never abandoned. But this promise also becomes a call. If God does not leave us as orphans, then we too cannot leave Him either or others feeling that way. Around us are people who need someone to notice them, to listen and to care. Sometimes a simple gesture, a kind word, a friendly visit to them can bring light into someone's loneliness and pain, like gentle waves touching the seashore to make the wet sand stronger. Through these little actions of love we become a sign of God's presence in the life of someone. We manifest Christ in their lives and become the embodiment of His promise that "You are not alone". Today Jesus reminds us that, even when life feels empty or silent, God is close to us, abiding within us. And, when we begin to live with that awareness, we begin to carry that same presence into the lives of other people, because, where Christ's love remains, no one is left an orphan. In the end it is not how many people walk into our lives that matters, but who chooses to stay and how we allow others to stay, just as Jesus assures us, 'I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you'.

Fr. George Mathew SCJ