



Societas Presbyterorum  
Sacratissimi Cordis Jesu  
BETHARRAM

## SACRED HEART & ST CATHERINE OF ALEXANDRIA

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### Today's Mass Readings

*Acts 2:1-11;*  
*Psalms 104(103);*  
*1 Corinthians 12:3-7,12-13*  
*John 20:19-23*

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

<b>This Week: 24th - 31st May 2026</b>	<b>Holy Mass &amp; Services</b>	<b>Other Events</b>
Sunday 24th May Solemnity of Pentecost Year A	8:30 am Mark Smallwood RIP (RS) 10:30 am Philip Duffy RIP 6:00 pm People of the Parish	After 8:30am Mass - Tea & coffee in the Parish Hall
<b>Monday 25th May</b> Memorial of Mary, Mother of the Church	<u>10:00 am</u> David Veale RIP (AM)	
<b>Tuesday 26th May</b> Memorial of St Philip Neri, Priest	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Iain Martin RIP (MM)	2:30pm Private Church Tour
<b>Wednesday 27th May</b> Feast of St Augustine of Canterbury, Bishop	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Claire Langston RIP (MM)	After Mass, Adoration till 6pm
<b>Thursday 28th May</b> Feast of Our Lord Jesus Christ, Eternal High Priest	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Rene Johnson & Alicante Judges (KW)	After Mass, Church cleaning
<b>Friday 29th May</b> Feria	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Holy Mass	After Mass, Sacred Heart Novena
<b>Saturday 30th May</b> Feast of Ven. Auguste Etchecopar SCJ	11:00 am Joseph John RIP	10:15-10:45am Confessions 12:00-5:00pm Visitor Centre in the Romero Room, Parish Hall 2:00pm Public Church Tour NLHF 3:30pm Private Church Tour
<b>Sunday 31st May</b> <b>Solemnity of Most Holy Trinity</b> Year A	8:30 am People of the Parish 10:30 am Holy Mass 6:00 pm Dr Jesmond Xuereb RIP (GK)	After 8:30am Mass - Tea & coffee in the Parish Hall

*“The Constitution of the sacred liturgy, Sacrosanctum Concilium,  
leads the Church to contemplate the mystery of Christ. The liturgy touches  
the very heart of this mystery. It is at once the space, the time,  
and the context in which the Church receives her very life from Christ.”*

Pope Leo XIV via Twitter 21st 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

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

8:30am & 10:30 am

Send forth your spirit, O Lord, and renew the face of the Earth.

6:00pm

Send forth your spirit O Lord, that the face of the earth be renewed.

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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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## RECENTLY DECEASED

Of your charity please pray for Philip Duffy who has recently died. Please also keep his families in your prayers. The Requiem Mass for Philip will take place on 16th June at 11.30am. May his soul and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

## SAVE THE DATE: SACRED HEART SUMMER FAYRE 4TH JULY 2025

This year, summer fayre in July is going to have different stalls and activities from previous years. Therefore, we are not asking for donations of toys, books or bric-a-brac this time. Please save for a future fayre.

## SOLEMNITY OF THE SACRED HEART OF JESUS

As every year, we celebrate the Solemnity of the Sacred Heart of Jesus as our Parish Feast. On Friday 12th of June we as a parish community solemnly celebrate the feast with Holy Mass at 6pm, followed by Festive Meal in the Parish Hall. We cordially invite you all for the Solemn Mass and the meal afterwards. Please do come with your family and friends to celebrate our Parish Feast. As part of the spiritual preparation for the feast, we begin the Novena to the Sacred Heart after Mass, starting on Thursday the 4th of June. All those who can, please do join us for the novena.

## ARE YOU CARING AND COMPASSIONATE?

Droitwich Bereavement Project are looking for new volunteers to join our fabulous team.

As part of our third anniversary celebration we are holding an event to thank our wonderful volunteers and to meet those who are interested in finding out more about how to get involved.

Join us to find out more on Tuesday 14th July at 7pm at Rotary House, Corbett Avenue, WR9 7BD.

Contact us on 07713623997 or droitwichreferrals@svp.org.uk

### **SIDE CHAPEL FLOORS**

The cleaning and repair of the floors is complete. They now need to fully dry out before the sealant is applied on Friday 29th May. Whilst the side chapels can now be accessed until then, please be mindful that the floors are in an unprotected state. They will be fully accessible and usable from Saturday 30th May.

### **REFUGEE KNITTING**

Please bring any items you have to church by June 7th. I can also take anything you feel may help the displaced people. Many thanks in anticipation of your continual support.

### **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.

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

Catechists, including Children's liturgy teams, and 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](mailto:sacredheart.droitwich@rcaob.org.uk)) to confirm your attendance by Sunday 31st of May 2026. We look forward to seeing you there!

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

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

**Saturday 27th June @ 2pm**

**Saturday 25th July @ 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**

Children's Liturgy will resume after half term time on **14th June**.

### **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.

**10/5/2026**

**Main collection:**

**£270.46**

**Gift Aid: £1172.50**

**Second collection  
for Poor Parishes:**

**£86.88**

**Gift Aid: 106.50**

**17/5/2026**

**Main collection:**

**£329.53**

**Gift Aid: 197.70**

**Second collection  
for Catholic**

**Communication:**

**£96.33**

**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 June**  
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**

Exodus 34:4b-6, 8-9;

*Dn 3;*

*2 Corinthians*

*13:11-14;*

*John 3:16-18*

Today we celebrate the Solemnity of Pentecost. As we heard in the first reading, the Holy Spirit accomplished something extraordinary in the lives of the Apostles. Following Jesus's death, they had retreated behind closed doors in fear, despair and sadness. Now they receive a new way of seeing things, an interior understanding that helps them to comprehend all that had happened and to experience intimately the presence of the Risen Lord. The Holy Spirit overcomes their fear, shatters their inner chains, heals their wounds, anoints them with strength and grants them the courage to go out to all and to proclaim God's mighty works, the resurrection of Jesus. As a result they began to speak in tongues (different languages). What do we mean by speaking in tongues? When they were with the Lord, didn't they speak in different languages? Of course they did. 'Speaking in tongues' means that the Holy Spirit empowered the Apostles to speak in known, recognizable human languages (xenolalia), enabling them to preach the Gospel to foreigners in their native tongues. Here, tongues serve as an evangelistic tool and a miraculous sign and physical evidence of the baptism in the Holy Spirit.

In the Gospel of John, we saw that the disciples are gathered behind locked doors and Jesus comes among them and He breathes on them saying, "Receive the Holy Spirit". This gesture is deeply biblical. In the book of Genesis, God breathed into Adam the "breath of life" and he became a living being (Genesis 2:7). The Greek word for Spirit is πνεῦμα (pneuma) which means breath or wind; but here it means the "breath of life" Ψυχή (psyche) which is translated as "soul". It often describes a person's individual consciousness, mind, or life essence; it also means breath and wind. When Adam sinned (disobeyed God), he became a dead being and God banished him from the Garden and kept cherubim with a flaming sword to guard the way to the tree of life. (Genesis 3:17-24). The wage of sin is death. But through His death and resurrection, Jesus broke this chain of death and restored humanity back to life. Pentecost is therefore a new creation. Humanity, wounded by sin and fear, is recreated by the breath of God. The disciples are not merely encouraged. They are recreated through the fire of the Holy Spirit. The same flaming sword that once kept humanity away from life was given back to them on this day. The holy spirit is the divine breath without which the soul suffocates.

Without the Holy Spirit Christian life becomes dry and mechanical. With the Holy Spirit faith becomes living, joyful and transformative. As St. Basil the Great beautifully said, through the Holy Spirit we are restored to paradise, ascend into the Kingdom of Heaven, and restored as the adoptive children of God. Thus Pentecost is about what God continues to do in every believer even today. Someone once asked Helen Keller, the American author and disability rights advocate, "what could be worse than being born blind"? She replied, "to have sight without vision". That is the tragedy of many Christians today. We have technology, information, entertainment and opportunities. Yet many live without inner fire, without direction, without peace and without hope. They are physically alive but spiritually breathless. Anxiety, resentment, comparison, addictions, and emptiness drain the soul. It is into such a frightened, confused, and spiritually exhausted world that the feast of Pentecost breaks powerfully. The moment when the spirit of God turns closed rooms into open missions, fear into courage, division into communion and ordinary people into living flames, that is the beginning of a new life. Pentecost reminds us that human beings cannot truly live without the breath of God. The French philosopher Blaise Pascal once wrote, "There is a God-shaped vacuum in every human heart that cannot be filled by success, pleasure or possessions. Only the Spirit of God can fill the deepest hunger of the human soul". Brothers and sisters, may the strong wind of the Spirit come upon us and within us, open the borders of our hearts, grant us the grace of encounter with God, enlarge the horizons of our love and sustain our efforts to build a world in which peace reigns.

Fr. George Mathew SCJ