



Societas Presbyterorum
Sacratissimi Cordis Jesu
BETHARRAM

SACRED HEART & ST CATHERINE OF ALEXANDRIA

208 Worcester Road, Droitwich Spa,
WR9 8AZ, Tel: 01905 773258
Email: sacredheart.droitwich@rcaob.org.uk
Web: www.sacredheartdroitwich.org.uk



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

Today's Mass Readings
Deuteronomy 8:2-3, 14b16a;
Psalms 147;
1 Corinthians 10:16-17;
John 6:51-58

This Week: 7th - 14th Jun 2026 Psalter Week 1	Holy Mass & Services	Other Events
Sunday 7th June Solemnity of Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ Year A Second collection for a Missionary Sister	8:30 am Isabella & Kevin Read RIP (MM) 10:30 am People of the Parish 6:00 pm PS and family (JD)	After 8:30am Mass - Tea & coffee in the Parish Hall 2.30pm Private Church Tour
Monday 8th June Feria	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Stella Turner RIP (C&PI)	After Mass, Sacred Heart Novena
Tuesday 9th June Feria	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Holy Mass	After Mass, Sacred Heart Novena
Wednesday 10th June Feria	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Gwyn Turner RIP (C&PI)	After Mass, Sacred Heart Novena After Novena, Adoration till 6pm
Thursday 11th June Memorial of St Barnabas, Apostle	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Teresa Ingram (C&PI)	After Mass, Sacred Heart Novena After Novena, Church cleaning
Friday 12th June Solemnity of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus	No Morning Mass 6:00 pm Holy Mass	11:00 am Private Church Tour
Saturday 13th June	11:00 am FHC Mass	12:00-5:00pm Visitor Centre in the Romero Room, Parish Hall 2:00 pm Private Church Tour
Sunday 14th June Eleventh Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A	8:30 am Mary Josephine McCorry RIP (MM)) 10:30 am Siobahn Cronin RIP (GF) 6:00 pm People of the Parish	After 8:30am Mass - Tea & coffee in the Parish Hall Children Liturgy during 10:30am Mass 2:30 pm SVP Afternoon

"In the Eucharist, we find a visible manifestation of the reality that we are the Church of Christ, His members, His body. We are brothers and sisters in Him. And in Christ, though many and diverse, we are one: " In Illo uno unum".

Pope Leo XIV via Twitter 4th June 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

O Jerusalem, glorify the Lord!

6:00pm

O praise the Lord Jerusalem.

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, Michael McCorry and Shane Healy.

RECENTLY DECEASED

Of your charity please pray for Stella Turner, Philip Duffy and Dr Jesmond Xuereb who have recently died. Please also keep their families in your prayers. The Requiem Mass for Philip will take place on 16th June at 12.00am. His body will be brought to the Church on the evening before at 5pm. May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

JOURNEY IN FAITH (RCIA)

The next Journey in Faith session will take place on Monday 15th June at 6pm. The topic will be 'Catholic Worship and Devotions'.

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 have begun the Novena to the Sacred Heart after morning Mass. All those who can, please do join us for the Novena. Can all choir members please join the combined choir. We are also looking for volunteers to assist setting up the Hall on Friday morning.

**** SACRED HEART SUMMER FAYRE - POSTPONED ****

Due to unforeseen and unfortunate circumstances the Sacred Heart Fayre has had to be postponed until August. The most likely new date is Saturday 1st August but this will be confirmed in due course.

MISSIONARY SISTERS OF ST. PETER CLAVER

We welcome Sr Priscilla Maring of The Missionary Sisters of St. Peter Claver with us here today to make an appeal on behalf of the Sisters Missions Committee of England and Wales. The Sisters work in solidarity with missionaries around the world, especially in regions where the Church is poor and resources are limited. Through prayer and practical support, they help sustain missionary work in pastoral ministry, education and healthcare. We thank you for your generosity and ask to keep the missionaries and their work in your prayers.

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. Lunch will be provided. We request all the altar servers to attend this day.

REFUGEE KNITTING

Thank you for the delightful knitted items donated so far. Just a reminder that next Sunday is the final collection date for this consignment. Thank you also for the new underwear (still so desperately needed), soaps and miscellaneous items of used clothing. There is a vast quantity of wool in the cupboard at the back of church, please help yourselves to help defray your costs. As ever thank you so much for your continual support.

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

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 11th July @ 2:30pm

Saturday 8th August @ 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 or alternatively the Diocesan Safeguarding team can be contacted on 0121 230 6240 or safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk if you have any concerns.

Main collection:

£370.24

Gift Aid: £228.30

**Thank you for
supporting your
Parish.**

**Mass attendance
last Sunday: 340**



**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 19:2-6a;

Psalms 100(99);

Romans 5:6-11;

Matthew 9:36-10:8

“Truly, truly, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you”. (John 6:53). My dear friends, today we celebrate the Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ also known as Corpus Christi. Once I was talking to a group of children preparing for their first Holy Communion, and one of them asked me, “If we eat the body of Jesus, does that mean we’re cannibals?” I thought it was a good question! What Jesus teaches us about the Eucharist is not easy to understand. In the Gospel, Jesus’s teaching provokes arguments and even causes some of His disciples to leave Him. But He doesn’t back down. The Catholic Church, I’m happy to say, has also never backed down from the faith that the Eucharist is the Body and Blood of Jesus. It’s not a prop in a play. It is not a mere symbolic reminder. When we eat the Body of Christ in the sacrament, we are eating His sacramental body, not His natural body with flesh and blood. We truly and substantially consume the actual Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity of Jesus Christ under the appearance of bread and wine. This miraculous transformation is known as transubstantiation.

What happens in the Eucharist? “During the Eucharist, the body of Jesus Christ Himself is truly eaten and His blood truly drunk. The bread becomes His actual body, and the wine His actual blood. The process of this change is called *transubstantiation*: By the consecration of the bread and wine there takes place a change of the whole substance of the bread into the substance of the body of Christ our Lord and of the whole substance of the wine into the substance of His blood. This change the holy Catholic Church has fittingly and properly called transubstantiation” (CCC, 1376). To explain this phenomenon, Catholic theology presses Aristotelian philosophy into service. A distinction is made between *substance* and *accidents*. The substance of a thing is what that thing actually is, while accidents refer to incidental features like colour, taste and smell that may have a certain appearance but can be withdrawn without altering the substance. During the Eucharist, then, the *substance* of the bread and wine are changed into the **Body and Blood of Christ**, while the *accidents* remain the same. The bread and wine become the body and blood of Christ, it is claimed, but maintain the appearance, texture, smell, and taste of bread and wine. The Catholic Church does not claim that this is a magical transformation, but that it is instead a sacramental mystery that is administered by those who have received the sacrament of Holy Order.

The true identity of the consecrated gifts is Jesus Himself. We believe in “*transubstantiation*”, not “*transaccidentation*”. That’s good news for us, because, if we believe that the bread and the wine can truly be transformed into an incarnation of Love, into *Corpus Christi*, then we can have the confidence that we ourselves can be transformed into love incarnate, into sons and daughters of God. Who we are at our very core – dare I say, our *substance* – is meant to be transformed. Our fundamental identity as a wife, husband, mother, as a father, as a friend, and ultimately, as a Christian is meant to be “transubstantiated”. It seems that in the early centuries of the Church, preachers were much more keen on telling their congregations that they would be transformed. St. Augustine emphasised this so strongly that some of his listeners seemed to think they were going to mutate or something! To soften their concerns, Augustine cautioned, “Don’t be offended! You are not being told not to be human... but you are among those to whom He has given the power to become sons and daughters of God”. How long does the Real Presence remain in the Consecrated Bread? “The Eucharistic presence of Christ begins at the moment of the consecration and endures as long as the Eucharistic species subsist (the appearances of bread and wine). After we consume Holy Communion, the Real Presence remains for about 15 minutes, or until the digestive process has consumed the host’s appearance. If the host is dissolved in water or fully digested, the Real Presence ceases, as the species of bread no longer exists. This indicates to us that Jesus gave Himself to be eaten and drunk not for any other reason. Every time we respond “Amen” to the Body of Christ, we are stating our belief that the Eucharist is truly Him, and we are committing to being His living presence in the world. As you leave church today, ask yourself: *How will I share this love with someone who is struggling or lonely this week?* Let us make the Eucharist the true centre of our lives.

Fr. George Mathew SCJ