



Societas Presbyterorum
Sacratissimi Cordis Jesu
BETHARRAM

SACRED HEART & ST CATHERINE OF ALEXANDRIA

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Today's Mass Readings

Zechariah 9:9-10;
Psalms 145(144);
Romans 8:9, 11-13;
Matthew 11:25-30

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

This Week: 5th Jun - 12th Jul 2026 Psalter Week 2	Holy Mass & Services	Other Events
Sunday 5th July Fourteenth Sunday In Ordinary Time, Year A	8:30 am Shane Healy (MM) 10:30 am Brian Byrne (M&LR) 6:00 pm Jo Gylee RIP (FL)	After 8:30am Mass - Tea & coffee in the Parish Hall Children Liturgy during 10:30am Mass
Monday 6th July Feria	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Mariyakutty Francis RIP (MF)	
Tuesday 7th July Feria	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Harry Remedios RIP (AK)	10.30 am Private Church Tour
Wednesday 8th July Feria	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Jo Gylee RIP (G&JP)	After Mass, Adoration till 6pm
Thursday 9th July Feria	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Mary Leason RIP (MB)	After Mass, church cleaning
Friday 10th July Feria	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Reagan Jose RIP	After Mass, Novena to the Sacred Heart 11:30 am Requiem Mass for Stella Turner
Saturday 11th July Feast of St Benedict, Abbot, Patron of Europe	10:30 am For the altar servers of the Deanery	12:00-5:00 pm Visitor Centre in the Romero Room, Parish Hall 2:30 pm Children's Workshop Tour NLHF
Sunday 12th July Fifteenth Sunday In Ordinary Time, Year A Second collection for Apostleship of the Sea	8:30 am Milbrough Blizzard RIP (RB) 10:30 am Family of Domerecki Rea (BS) 6:00 pm People of the Parish	After 8:30 am Mass - Tea & coffee in the Parish Hall Children Liturgy during 10:30 am Mass 2.30 pm SVP Afternoon

***"Let us pray together for the respect and protection
of human life in all its stages, recognizing it as a gift from God."***

Pope Leo XIV via Twitter 2nd July 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
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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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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

I will bless your name for ever, my God and King.

6:00pm

The promises of the Lord are true.

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, Michael James, Frances Varney, Ernst Vonzatovski, Michael McCorry and Shane Healy.

RECENTLY DECEASED

Of your charity please pray for Stella Turner and Josephine Gylee who have recently died. Please also keep their families in your prayers.

The Requiem Mass for Stella will take place on Friday 10th July at 11.30 am.

The Requiem Mass for Josephine will take place on Friday 17th July at 10.30 am.

May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

SACRED HEART SUMMER FAYRE

The summer fayre is taking place on Saturday 1st August 12pm to 3pm. Raffle Tickets are available to buy after each Mass. Please do buy some tickets for yourself and for your friends and family.

1st Prize: £500 cash,

2nd Prize: £300 cash,

3rd Prize: £150 cash. Many more prizes.

If you have not already volunteered and would like to join the summer fayre team, please add your name to list at the back of church during this coming week. After that, we will know which stalls will be running and individual stallholders will be able to plan their stalls. We will then be able to start advertising and preparing for the day.

APOSTLESHIP OF THE SEA/ STELLA MARIS

Seafarers and fishers play a vital role in all of our lives, but they often work in difficult, hazardous conditions. Sea Sunday is 12th July. It is when Church prays for all those who live and work at sea. Your support will make a big difference to seafarers and fishers in need. You can donate in church, by visiting www.stellamaris.org.uk/donate, or by texting 'SEA' to 70460 to donate £5. This collection is vital to enable Stella Maris to continue its work, so please give generously.

MARRIAGE IN A RUT?

Or need help with deeper issues? Retrouvaille has helped thousands of couples find hope and healing in their marriage. Next dates: 2nd - 4th Oct. www.retrouvaille.org.uk/info Tel: 0788 7296983

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 here at the Sacred Heart Parish Hall. 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.

WEBELIEVE - FESTIVAL OF CATHOIC LIFE

Friday 24 – Monday 27 July 2026 | St Mary's College, Oscott, Birmingham. WeBelieve Festival aims to bring the Church in England & Wales together. It's an unmissable opportunity to connect with other Catholics, 100's of contributors, and has something for every age and stage of the faith journey. Join us in July with a 33% discount on day tickets using the code 'BIRMINGHAM-DISCOUNT' at checkout. Book your tickets at www.webelievefestival.com

LIBRARY

Following a recent Fire Risk Assessment, it has been decided to clear the Choir Loft of as much flammable material as possible. The library at the Choir Loft is to be disposed of. If anyone would like any of the books or literature that is in the library, please take it (free of charge), over the next week.

HARVINGTON HISTORY FESTIVAL (22-26 JULY)

The Harvington History Festival in Worcestershire returns from 22–26 July with a fascinating programme of talks, tours, and events exploring history at Harvington Hall, the Archdiocese's historic moated manor house well known for its priest hides. For more information and to book, please visit: harvingtonhall.co.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

There will be Children's Liturgy during 10.30 am

mass on

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 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:

£241.07

Gift Aid: £102.00

**Second collection
for Peter's Pence:**

£76.89

**Thank you for
supporting your
Parish.**

**Mass attendance
last Sunday: 219**

**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 12th July

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

Isaiah 55:10-11;

Psalms 65(64);

Romans 8:18-23;

Matthew 13:1-23

If we turn the pages of our history, we will come across the rise and fall of many kings and rulers. Some were loved and admired by their subjects. Others ruled them with an iron fist and demanded absolute submission, where their subjects obeyed out of fear not love. When such a ruler died, his kingdom fell into chaos. Fear builds no loyalty. The prophet Isaiah speaks about the story of a king who was riding on a lonely donkey. He does not bring more weapons to the city. But he banishes the chariot from Ephraim; he removes the war horses from Jerusalem; he destroys the bow of the battle. This king wins victory by ending the war. He establishes dominion not through violence but through peace.

I remember going on a sponsored walk with a group of young people to raise funds for our SCJ mission on a warm summer day, which involved a bit of trekking too. Wanting to be prepared, I carried three bottles of water in my rucksack. It seemed like a wise decision at the start. But as the climb became steeper, I realized that the extra weight was slowing me down. Every step became harder. Finally, I had to let go of the extra bottles if I wanted to continue the journey. Sometimes life is like that. We carry burdens that we think we need, only to discover that they keep us from moving forward. We carry burdens that God never asked us to carry. In today's Gospel, Jesus's prayer highlights the distinction between the wise and little children. At first, His prayer sounds paradoxical. Why would God hide the truth from the wise? Jesus is not reproving intelligence or learning. Rather, He is speaking about those who are so confident in their own knowledge that they leave no room for God. They are the ones who think they have everything figured out in life. The little children on the other hand are those who approach God with humility, openness and trust. Jesus's prayer also reveals the deep and intimate relationship between the Father and the Son. To know Jesus is to know the Father. Through Him we discover a God who is loving, merciful and always seeking a relationship with His children. Jesus then extends one of the most beautiful invitations in the Gospel today. "Come to Me, all who labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take My yoke upon you, and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For My yoke is easy, and My burden is light."

Have you ever encountered moments in your life when you found yourselves constantly wanting to do more and achieve more and eventually found yourselves tired and drained and said, 'did God really want this of me?' Sometimes we realize that much of our burden did not come from God's mission but from our own desire to prove ourselves and to feel valued through our work and to seek appreciation from others. Those expectations became a heavy yoke that we placed upon ourselves. A yoke, as you would know, is a wooden beam that joins two oxen together so that they walk in the same direction. In the gospel, Jesus offers a different yoke. When we take on the yoke of Jesus, we allow Him to walk beside us. His yoke is light, not because discipleship is easy but because we are no longer alone. We stop trying to control everything and begin trusting His grace. Some of us carry the burden of always having to be successful. Some carry the burden of pretending everything is fine. Some carry resentment of something that happened years ago and are never able to be reconciled with those experiences and persons. These burdens are far heavier than the yoke Christ asks us to bear. This Gospel invites us to ask ourselves "What burden am I carrying that Jesus never asked me to carry?" Perhaps it is the wish to be always successful or the memory of hurtful or painful experiences. When we surrender our self-made burdens and walk with Christ, we discover the most important thing that our hearts have been searching for all along. The king who rides on a donkey is not asking us to prove ourselves. He simply says, "Come to me". If we dare to let go of the burdens we have chosen for ourselves, we will discover that His yoke is lighter than ours and that the rest He promises is real.

Fr. George Mathew SCJ