



Societas Presbyterorum
Sacratissimi Cordis Jesu
BETHARRAM

SACRED HEART & ST CATHERINE OF ALEXANDRIA

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Today's Mass Readings

Isaiah 55:10-11;
Psalms 65(64);
Romans 8:18-23;
Matthew 13:1-23

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

This Week: 12th - 19th Jul 2026 Psalter Week 3	Holy Mass & Services	Other Events
Sunday 12th July Fifteenth Sunday In Ordinary Time, Year A Second collection for Apostleship of the Sea	8:30 am Milbrough Blizard 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
Monday 13th July Feria	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Jo Gylee RIP	
Tuesday 14th July Feria	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Stella Turner RIP	10am to 6pm Photographer visit
Wednesday 15th July Memorial of St Bonaventure, Bishop, Doctor of the Church	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Mathew Karukappally RIP	After Mass, Adoration till 6pm
Thursday 16th July Feria	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Thresiyama Poullose RIP	10am to 6pm Photographer visit
Friday 17th July Memorial of St Kenelm, Prince of Mercia	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Jo Gylee RIP	After Mass, Novena to the Sacred Heart 10:30 am Requiem Mass for Josephine Gylee
Saturday 18th July Feria	11:00 am Alan Remedios RIP (AK) 11:00 am Anointing Mass	10:15-10.45 am Confession 12:00-5:00 pm Visitor Centre in the Romero Room, Parish Hall
Sunday 19th July Sixteenth Sunday In Ordinary Time, Year A Second collection for Day for Life.	8:30 am Nora Abott RIP (MM) 10:30 am People of the Parish 6:00 pm Holy Mass	After 8:30 am Mass - Tea & coffee in the Parish Hall

***"Dear young people, never doubt the goodness of God,
and do not be afraid of the plan the Lord has for each of your lives."***

Pope Leo XIV via Twitter 9th 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:
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com

PRINCIPAL

Mr A Carry

PARISH SECRETARY

Bogusia Koniszewska-
Fijolek

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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

Some seed fell into good soil and yielded its fruit.

6:00pm

Let the Lord enter in, He is the King of glory.

Let the Lord enter! Let the Lord enter!

Enter into your heart!

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, Shane Healy and Liam Ryan.

RECENTLY DECEASED

Of your charity please pray for Josephine Gylee who have recently died. Please also keep her families in your prayers.

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

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

SACRED HEART SUMMER FAIR

The summer fair 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.

There will be a short meeting for all who have kindly volunteered to help at the summer fair after 8.30 Mass on Sunday 12th July in the Parish Hall. Please come along if you can.

SUMMER FAIR PLANT STALL

We are looking for donations of plants and garden related items. These can be brought to the Parish Hall after midday on Friday 31st July.

PHOTOGRAPER VISIT

On 14th & 16th July, there will be photographer in the Church from 10am to 6pm. These two days will therefore not be the most suitable for visiting the Church to view the mosaics. We apologise for any inconvenience this may cause.

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

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.

WEBELIEVE - FESTIVAL OF CATHOLIC 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.webeliefefestival.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 25th July @ 2pm

Saturday 22nd August @ 2pm.

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

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 **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:

£319.27

Gift Aid: £266.50

**Thank you for
supporting your
Parish.**

**Mass attendance
last Sunday: 262**



**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

Wisdom

12:13,16-19;

Psalms 86(85);

Romans 8:26-27

Matthew 13:24-43

On this Sunday, the readings invite us to reflect on how God's word works in our lives. Each reading uses simple images from the world around us. Rain, seeds, soil and harvest all illustrate how God's word brings life and hope. These readings remind us that God always works with purpose. In Isaiah, we hear that God's word is like the rain that makes the earth fruitful. In Romans, St. Paul tells us that creation itself longs for freedom and shares in our hope. In the Gospel, Jesus uses the parable of the sower to teach us that our hearts must be ready to receive God's word. We are created to become fertile soil where God's life can flourish.

There is a beautiful story told about an elderly farmer who had spent more than fifty years cultivating his land. One spring morning, a young agricultural student visited his farm. The student noticed something unusual. The farmer was scattering seeds everywhere—even on rocky ground, among bramble patches, and on seemingly barren land. The young man laughed and said, "Sir, you are wasting precious seed. Modern farming teaches precision. You only sow where a successful harvest is guaranteed". The old farmer smiled and replied, "My son, I have learned something from both nature and God. God never gives up on the ground. Sometimes today's rocky ground becomes tomorrow's vineyard. Sometimes the bramble patch becomes fertile land after a season of care and hard work. If God keeps believing in the soil, who am I to stop sowing?" Years later, the student returned. Those barren places had become productive farmland. The farmer had patiently removed stones, uprooted weeds and brambles, and watered the earth. The problem had never been the seed; it had always been the soil.

That is precisely the message Jesus wishes to teach us today. The Gospel opens with a striking image: "**A sower went out to sow**". At first glance, it seems like an ordinary scene from village life, but Jesus uses it to reveal the very heart of God. The sower does something that no prudent farmer would normally do. He scatters his seed everywhere—on the path, among the rocks, into the brambles and on fertile soil—without calculating the risk or holding anything back. From a purely human perspective, this appears wasteful. Yet Jesus intentionally presents God as a sower whose generosity knows no limits. God does not reserve His love only for those who seem worthy or promising. He continues to sow His grace into every human heart, even those hardened by sin, wounded by failure, or entangled in worldly distractions. He never grows weary of loving, never tires of forgiving and never ceases calling His children back to himself. Even those who have ignored His voice for years remain the recipients of His patient and persistent grace. St. John Chrysostom beautifully observed, "**The fault is neither with the sower nor with the seed, but with those who refuse to become good soil**". Sisters and brothers, God never discriminates. His grace falls upon saints and sinners alike. The rain falls on every field. The sun shines upon every house. The Gospel is preached to every nation. This is the astonishing generosity of divine love.

The first reading from Isaiah deepens this truth: "As the rain and the snow come down from heaven... so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty". Some seeds germinate immediately. Others remain hidden for months. Still others wait for years. Likewise, God's word often works invisibly. Many parents pray for children who seem far from God. Teachers wonder whether their efforts matter. Missionaries labour without seeing visible success. Yet Isaiah assures us that God's word never fails. It may work silently. It may work slowly. But it always works. St. John Henry Newman beautifully expressed this confidence: "God has created me to do Him some definite service. He has committed some work to me which He has not committed to another." Our task is simply to remain faithful. The results belong to God alone.

Fr. George Mathew SCJ