



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:

Jeremiah 20:7-9;
Psalms 63(62);
Romans 12:1-2;
Matthew 16:21-27

This Week: 6 th – 13 th Sep 2026 Psalter Week 3	Holy Mass & Services		Other Events
Sunday 6th September Twenty Third Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A	8:30am	John Dorgan RIP (SD)	After 8:30am Mass, tea & coffee in the Parish Hall
	10:30am	For the sick and housebound parishioners	Children's Liturgy during 10:30am Mass
	6:00pm	People of the Parish	12:00noon Baptism
Monday 7th September Feria	8:55am	Morning Prayer	11:30am The Funeral Service of Attracta Ann Weaver (Peggy)
	9:15am	Lilian Holl RIP (RC)	
Tuesday 8th September Feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary	8:55am	Morning Prayer	12:00 noon Private Church Tour
	9:15am	Dn Wilfred Rodrigues SCJ	
Wednesday 9th September Feria	8:55am	Morning Prayer	After Mass, Adoration till 6pm
	9:15am	Marie Marlow & Greene RIP (C&G)	
Thursday 10th September Memorial of St Egwin, Bishop	8:55am	Morning Prayer	
	9:15am	Breda Wightman RIP (RW)	
Friday 11th September Feria	8:55am	Morning Prayer	After Mass, Novena to the Sacred Heart
	9:15am	Alan Remedios RIP (AK)	
Saturday 12th September Feria	11:00am	Fabian & Clementine who are being married today (KL)	10:15-10:45am Confession 12:00-5:00pm Heritage Open Day NLHF
Sunday 13th September Twenty Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A Second collection for Catholic Education	8:30am	Holy Mass	After 8:30am Mass, tea & coffee in the Parish Hall
	10:30am	People of the Parish	Children's Liturgy during 10:30am Mass
	6:00pm	Holy Mass	2.30pm SVP Afternoon

**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@emmausma
c.com

PRINCIPAL

Mrs Emma Brocklesby

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 & 6:00pm

**O that today you would listen to His voice!
'Harden not your hearts.'**

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 Attracta Edna Ann Weaver (Peggy) who have recently died. Please also keep her families in your prayers. The Funeral service for Edna (Peggy) will take place on Monday 7th September at 11:30am. May her soul and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

JOURNEY IN FAITH

Are you looking to explore the Catholic faith? Are you wondering about your relationship with God but are not sure where to start? The Catholic Church of the Sacred Heart and St Catherine of Alexandria welcomes everyone to come and visit us or worship with us. You do not need to be a baptised Catholic to walk through the doors of our church or to stay and pray during Mass. We are very happy that you have come to visit us. If you are interested in becoming a Catholic or would like to find out more about the Catholic faith, we invite you to join us on a journey of discovery and see how the Catholic Church can help your relationship with God to grow. This may be the right path for you. There is a period of instruction and preparation before a person is received into the Catholic Church. This is called the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA). We will begin our RCIA sessions at the end of September. If you would like to explore the RCIA process or find out more, please speak to Fr George Mathew, the Parish Priest. We look forward to welcoming you!

NATIONAL LOTTERY PROJECT

The project will officially end on Saturday 12th September. This will be two years since we were awarded the grant. On the day we will again participate in the national Heritage Open Day and this will be followed by a social 'thank you' event for everyone who has volunteered in any way on the project.

Once the project has finished there will be a permanent information board for visitors in the Narthex. This will replace the Visitor Centre in the Parish Hall.

SCJ SPONSORED WALK 2026

This year's Sacred Heart Sponsored Walk will take place on **Saturday, 19th September, at 1pm, along the Droitwich Canal Walk.** The SCJ Sponsored Walk aims to raise funds to support the formation of young SCJ seminarians in India and Vietnam. Your generous support would be greatly appreciated. If you would like to sponsor the walk, please write your name on the clipboard at the back of the church. If you would like to take part in the walk, you are most welcome to join the Sacred Heart Fathers and Brothers: please collect a sponsorship form from Br Patrick at the back of the church. Further information about the walk will be provided in due course.

POPE'S WEEKLY MESSAGE

"Let us pray together for a just and sustainable management of water, a vital resource, so that everyone may have access to it." Pope Leo XIV via Twitter 1st September 2026

SEVEN SORROWS OF MARY

The Seven Sorrows of our Blessed Lady, as foretold by Simeon at the Presentation of the Infant Jesus, are especially remembered on September 15th and, on that day, the Rosary of the Seven Sorrows, along with appropriate meditations, will be said here in church at 3pm. It is of great spiritual benefit to associate with our Lady in her sorrows by way of this ancient devotion.

ANNUAL ALTAR SERVERS' MASS

Registration is now open for the Annual Mass of Thanksgiving for the Guild of Saint Stephen. It will be held at St Chad's Cathedral, 12noon on Saturday 3rd October, celebrated by Bishop Timothy Menezes. Altar servers and their families are invited to join this year's celebration, which is hosted by the Diocesan Vocations Office. Please keep this date on your diary. More information to follow in due course.

LOOKING FOR NEW VOLUNTEERS TO HELP CHILDREN'S LITURGY

Children's Liturgy is a wonderful way of helping children to understand and grow in their faith when they come to Mass. Our dedicated team does a tremendous job in making the liturgy meaningful, engaging, and child-friendly. We are currently in great need of a few more volunteers to help with the Children's Liturgy. Even if you do not have much experience of working with children, you are very welcome to join the team, and appropriate training will be provided before you begin. If you would like to help or would like more information, please speak to Fr George.

KNITTING – REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

Calling all knitters and crocheters. The flower group would like to arrange some crafted poppies along with flowers for Remembrance Sunday (8th November). If you would like to make some poppies for our display, your help would be much appreciated. There are some patterns at the back of church and many more poppy patterns for knitting or crocheting available online.

REFUGEE KNITTING

Please bring any items you have to church by September 20th. I can also take any other goods you feel would help the displaced people of all ages. Many thanks in anticipation of your usual generosity.

SAFEGUARDING JOBS VACANCY- SAFEGUARDING ADVISOR

Permanent/Full-time: (35 hours per week), *Closing date:* Monday 21 September

The Birmingham Diocesan Trust (BDT) is seeking to appoint an experienced safeguarding professional to join its Safeguarding Team. The successful candidate will have a background in social work, policing, LADO, probation, or another relevant field, together with demonstrable multi-agency safeguarding experience. More information on the noticeboard in the back of the Church or on the Diocese website <https://www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/Pages/FAQs/Category/jobs>

NHS BLOOD DONATION CAMP

NHS Blood are holding blood donation sessions on one Monday a month here at the Parish Hall. The next NHS Blood donation camp is 7th September.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY

There will be Children's Liturgy during 10.30am Mass on **6th, 13th, 20th, 27th September** and on **4th, 11th October**

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 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:

£327.20

Gift Aid: £110.00

**Thank you for
supporting your
Parish.**

**Mass attendance
last Sunday: 289**

**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 **13th
September** 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**
Sirach 27:30-28:7;
Psalms 103(102);
Romans 14:7-9;
Matthew 18:2-35

Dear brothers and sisters, today the readings focus on our Christian responsibility, fraternal correction, and love as the fulfilment of the law. In the First Reading we see that the prophet Ezekiel lived during a painful period in Israel's history. Jerusalem was under threat from Babylon, and many Israelites had already been taken into exile. In this situation God gives Ezekiel a particular mission: "I have appointed you as watchman for the house of Israel". A watchman watches carefully for danger and warns the people when danger is approaching. He does not warn them because he hates them, but because he cares about their lives. This image of the watchman speaks powerfully to us today. Through Baptism we too become members of the family of God. We are not isolated individuals; we belong to one another. Therefore, we have a responsibility to care for one another, especially when someone is struggling, going in the wrong direction, or being harmed by something in their life we should try to correct. What we need to keep in mind is that Christian correction is not about defeating another person or proving that we are right. Jesus says, *"If he listens to you, you have won back your brother"*. What a beautiful expression: *"you have won back your brother"*. The goal is not to win an argument or prove that I am right; the goal is to win back a person and restore the relationship.

This connects with the Second Reading. St Paul tells us: *"Owe no one anything, except to love one another"*. Our greatest debt is the debt of love. We will not always agree with one another. We may misunderstand one another, and sometimes we will hurt one another. This happens in families, at our workplaces, in public settings and even parish communities because we are human beings. But beneath everything there must be love. So, when we need to correct someone, we should ask ourselves: Am I doing this because I love this person, or because I am angry? Am I trying to restore the relationship, or simply to prove that I am right? Am I seeking reconciliation, or am I seeking victory? These are important questions for every Christian.

The Gospel also reminds us that we should not ignore serious problems and allow resentment to grow. There are times when we need the courage to speak. Christian correction requires humility, prayer and charity. Perhaps there is someone with whom we have a difficult relationship. Perhaps there has been a misunderstanding, an old hurt or an unresolved disagreement. Jesus may be inviting us today to take the first step towards reconciliation. Not with anger, not with judgement, not with pride, but with love. And we must also be willing to listen. Reconciliation requires not only speaking but listening with patience and an open heart. Jesus then gives us a beautiful promise: *"Where two or three are gathered in my name, I shall be there with them"*. Christ is present whenever people come together in His name and seek peace and reconciliation. When in a family husband and wife overcome their pride and reconcile, Christ is there. When family members forgive one another, Christ is there. When parishioners overcome disagreements and work together in love, Christ is there. When political leaders sit around the table and discuss their disputes in a peaceful manner, Christ is there. And, when we gather around this table of love despite our weaknesses and differences, Christ is in our midst. My dear brothers and sisters, today's readings invite us to become people who speak the truth with love, listen with humility, forgive generously and seek reconciliation. Perhaps this week let us think of one person with whom we have a difficulty - someone we have avoided, someone we need to forgive, or perhaps someone from whom we need to ask forgiveness. Let us not always wait for the other person to make the first move. With humility and prayer perhaps we can take the first step. Christian love is not simply saying, "I love God". Christian love means being able to say to another person: "I care about you. I want what is good for you. Let us put things right". May Christ be truly present in our families, our parish, our friendships and all our relationships. May He give us the courage to speak, the humility to listen, the wisdom to correct with love and the grace to forgive.

Fr. George Mathew SCJ