



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:

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

This Week: 13th – 20th Sep 2026 Psalter Week 4	Holy Mass & Services		Other Events
Sunday 13th September Twenty Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A Second collection for Catholic Education	8:30am 10:30am 6:00pm (MM)	Peggy Weaver RIP (PS) People of the Parish John & Ruby Martin RIP	After 8:30am Mass, tea & coffee in the Parish Hall Children's Liturgy during 10:30am Mass 2.30pm SVP Afternoon
Monday 14th September Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross	8:55am 9:15am	Morning Prayer Elsmma Mathew	
Tuesday 15th September Memorial of Our Lady of Sorrows	8:55am 9:15am	Morning Prayer Peggy Weaver RIP (BB)	3:00pm Rosary of the Seven Sorrows of our Lady.
Wednesday 16th September Memorial of Ss Cornelius, Pope, Cyprian, Bishop, Martyrs	8:55am 9:15am	Morning Prayer Healing for Lucy (C&G)	After Mass, Adoration till 6pm
Thursday 17th September Feria	8:55am 9:15am	Morning Prayer Holy Mass	After Mass, Church cleaning
Friday 18th September Feria	8:55am 9:15am	Morning Prayer Anthony Pinnell RIP & Blessing on Maureen (C&G)	After Mass, Novena to the Sacred Heart
Saturday 19th September Feria	11:00am	Gladys Remedios RIP (AK)	10:15-10:45am Confession 1:00pm SCJ Sponsored Walk
Sunday 20th September Twenty Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A Second collection for Catholic Evangelisation	8:30am 10:30am 6:00pm	Thanksgiving (CH) People of the Parish Holy Mass	After 8:30am Mass, tea & coffee in the Parish Hall Children's Liturgy during 10:30am Mass

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 & 10:30am

**The Lord is compassionate and gracious,
slow to anger and rich in mercy.**

6:00pm

My soul gives thanks to the Lord.

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.

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). The first session will start on **Monday the 12th of October at 7pm** in the Parish Hall. 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!

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. **We will meet and start at Sacred Heart Church at 1pm.**

SAVE THE DATE

Following the success of our family-oriented summer fayre, planning has now started for the Christmas fayre. This will be on Saturday 28th November and will be a similar format. A plant stall is planned. Hopefully this gives any gardeners time to prepare suitable plants we can sell. The summer raffle was even more successful than usual, so we are looking again for cash donations, to be consolidated into significant prizes. We are also hoping to produce a programme for the fayre, with the opportunity for local businesses to advertise, for a small donation. If you are interested in contributing prizes or sponsorship, please speak with Fr George or email volunteers.sacredheart.droitwich@rcaob.org.uk
More details to follow soon.

POPE'S WEEKLY MESSAGE

"Without faith, each person might feel alone and become suspicious of others, seeing them as strangers and enemies. By grace, however, we are brothers and sisters who can live in harmony: meeting one another, forgiving one another and listening to one another in the Lord." Pope Leo XIV via Twitter 6th 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.

EDUCATION SUNDAY: AN INVITATION FROM ARCHBISHOP LONGLEY

Today we give thanks for the gift of Catholic education. Our schools have a mission to form Christ-centred pilgrims of hope, with kind hearts, questioning minds, a thirst for knowledge and a hunger for justice. There is a real need for more foundation directors and governors to help guide our schools and keep Christ at the heart of their mission. This is not simply an administrative role; it is a true vocation and a practical way to serve Christ and His Church. If you are a practising Catholic, committed to our mission, and willing to share your time, skills and faith, you can make a lasting difference for thousands of children and young people. No prior experience is required, as full training and support are provided. God's unconditional love and readiness to forgive our sins remind us that service is not always easy, but it is always fruitful when rooted in love. Please speak to your parish priest or visit the Diocesan Education Service website for further details and to complete an online application form.: <https://www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/news/could-you-be-a-foundation-governor-or-director-at-your-local-catholic-school> and <https://www.bdes.org.uk/governor-online-application-forms.html>.

REFUGEE KNITTING

Thank you so very much for the numerous scarves so beautifully presented and the vast quantity of exquisite, knitted cardigans and jumpers. Also, the variety of clothing items and miniature toiletries. All will bring such delight to the recipients. There is also a vast quantity of wool in the church entrance to help with your costs. I will collect again over the next two weeks. Once again thank you so much for your continual support.

HOME MISSION SUNDAY

On Sunday 20 September, we will celebrate Home Mission Sunday, a day for us as the Catholic community in England and Wales to celebrate our faith in these lands and our shared commitment to communicate the beauty and the joy of knowing Jesus Christ. Celebrating the Holy Father's first encyclical, the theme for this year is "Magnifica Humanitas" as the heart of mission. We can celebrate together the call the Holy Father has placed before us to live out our authentic humanity which finds its fullness in Christ. More details about this can be found on the Bishops' Conference website: <https://cbcew.org.uk/home-mission-sunday>

The Second Collection on this weekend is to support the work carried out by the Bishops' Conference Mission Directorate. Through the Mission Directorate, we support our Church in a wide field of service and mission here in England and Wales. Please hold this important work in your prayers and give as generously as you can. Thank you.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY

There will be Children's Liturgy during 10.30am Mass on **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:

£360.61

Gift Aid: £201.20

**Thank you for
supporting your
Parish.**

**Mass attendance
last Sunday: 309**

**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**

Isaiah 55:6-9;

Psalms 145(144);

Philippians

1:20c-24,27a;

Matthew 20:1-16

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ: In today's Gospel, when speaking about forgiveness, Jesus tells Peter, "I do not say to you seven times, but seventy times seven." This powerful teaching reminds us of the limitless and unconditional love of God. Through His mercy, we are offered forgiveness when we repent, and we are called in turn to be instruments of God's love, grace, forgiveness and peace. Today, on Education Sunday, we celebrate the wonderful gift of Catholic education in our Archdiocese. In our Catholic schools, we strive to help young people grow in these virtues, forming communities where faith, compassion and reconciliation can flourish. As Pope Leo XIV reminds us in the Encyclical Letter *Magnifica Humanitas*: "Schools are not called to follow the pace of the digital world, but to offer that which the digital sphere by itself cannot provide, namely a shared time for learning and developing trustworthy relationships." This call to relationship is reflected in our diocesan mission: "To form Christ-centred pilgrims of hope with kind hearts, questioning minds, a thirst for knowledge and a hunger for justice."

Today, I invite you to help bring this mission to life in Catholic education, so that our children, young people and school communities may continue to experience the joy and wonder of our faith. I am most grateful for the wonderful response to last year's Education Sunday appeal when I asked parishioners to consider becoming Foundation Directors and Foundation Governors for our academies and schools. As a result of the appeal, we filled over 140 vacancies – a significant and humbling achievement. Being a governor at a school or a director of a Catholic multi-academy trust board is a true vocation and a practical way to serve Christ and His Church. By giving your time, skills and faith, you can help shape the present and future of Catholic education for thousands of children and young people. It is a generous expression of Christian service and a practical witness to God's love. Every day, in our 236 flourishing Catholic state schools and academies and 5 excellent Catholic independent schools, children and young people are invited to encounter Christ and to grow as pilgrims of hope. Through prayer, learning and service, our schools nurture both faith and excellence, helping each child to recognise their God-given dignity and potential. I would like to offer my sincere thanks to our school leaders, priest, deacon and lay chaplains, directors, governors, teachers and support staff whose commitment, generosity and witness make this mission possible. Their faithful service supports not only the education of our young people but also the mission of the Church, and I am profoundly grateful for all that they do. Many of our schools are part of Catholic multi-academy trusts, each led by a Board of Directors and supported by local and, in the case of our largest academy trusts, regional governing bodies serving individual schools and communities. Our voluntary-aided schools are supported by dedicated Boards of Governors, who also play a vital role in the life of the school. In every case, foundation directors and foundation governors, appointed by the Archdiocese on my behalf, help to ensure that the Catholic mission and identity of the school remain at its heart. I am deeply grateful for their generous service, leadership and vocation.

God's limitless love and merciful forgiveness offer us a powerful example. By volunteering as a director or governor, you would be responding to the Lord's call to share what you have received, allowing His mercy to shape your service and helping our schools to be places of compassion, forgiveness and hope. We welcome those with experience in Catholic life and mission, education, finance, law, HR, estates management, or any field that could strengthen our schools. You will receive full training and support to help you flourish in the role. If you are a practising Catholic, demonstrated through regular Sunday Mass attendance, and your parish priest supports your application, I would ask you to consider this calling. Through your service, you can help our schools to flourish, ensuring they remain Christ-centred communities of learning, compassion, reconciliation and hope. As we see in today's Gospel, forgiveness is rooted in acts of love. I therefore ask you prayerfully to consider whether the Lord may be calling you to offer your time, gifts and experience in loving service of the young people and staff in our schools. If you feel prompted to respond, please speak to your parish priest, who has also shared details of the application process in the parish newsletter. For information, directors and governors typically spend around 10 hours each month undertaking their duties. May the Lord bless you for considering this opportunity and may the example of Christ inspire you to respond generously to this invitation. **Yours devotedly in Christ, Archbishop Bernard Longley.**