



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:

Isaiah 55:6-9;
Psalms 145(144);
Philippians
1:20c-24,27a;
Matthew 20:1-16

This Week: 20 th – 27 th Sep 2026 Psalter Week 1	Holy Mass & Services		Other Events
Sunday 20th September Twenty Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A Second collection for Catholic Evangelisation	8:30am	Thanksgiving (CH)	After 8:30am Mass, tea & coffee in the Parish Hall
	10:30am	Michael and Peggy Cronin RIP(G&F)	Children's Liturgy during 10:30am Mass
	6:00pm	People of the Parish	
Monday 21st September Feast of St Matthew, Apostle, Evangelist	8:55am	Morning Prayer	2:30pm Private Church Tour
	9:15am	Special Intentions (C&PI)	
Tuesday 22nd September Feria	8:55am	Morning Prayer	
	9:15am	NC Mathew RIP (BM)	
Wednesday 23rd September Memorial of St Pius of Pietrelcina	8:55am	Morning Prayer	After Mass, Adoration until 6pm
	9:15am	Thomas for his Well-being (C&G)	
Thursday 24th September Feast of Our Lady of Walsingham	8:55am	Morning Prayer	10:30am Private Church Tour
	9:15am	Speedy Recovery of Elizebeth (AK)	
Friday 25th September Feria	8:55am	Morning Prayer	After Mass, Novena to the Sacred Heart
	9:15am	Holy Mass	3:00pm-11:00pm Candlelight Concert
Saturday 26th September Feria	11:00am	Harry Remedios RIP (AK)	10:15-10:45am Confession
	11:00am	Anointing Mass	12:30pm Wedding
Sunday 27th September Twenty Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A Second collection for Fr Hudson's Society	8:30am	People of the Parish	After 8:30am Mass, tea & coffee in the Parish Hall
	10:30am	Marjorie Holiday RIP (TK)	Children's Liturgy during 10:30am Mass
	6:00pm	Holy Mass	12:00 noon Baptism

**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 close to all who call Him.

6:00pm

**The promises of the Lord are true and loving are all His deeds.
I will give You glory O God my King,
and praise Your name forever, and praise Your name forever.**

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

The Sacred Heart Sponsored Walk was successful. A big thank you to all those who contributed to the success of the Walk by sponsoring and all those who offered spiritual support for the walk. The money we raised will be sent for the formation of Seminarians in India and Vietnam.

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

"In these days, many Latin American countries celebrate their national holiday. Let us ask the Lord that, valuing the identity of our homeland, the Gospel may open our minds and hearts to recognize that we are part of a larger divine project, that we are part of the human family created by God." Pope Leo XIV via Twitter 16th September 2026

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.

There will be a talk on **Friday, 2 October at 6.00 pm in the Parish Hall** on ***Magnifica Humanitas***, the recent **Encyclical Letter of Pope Leo XIV**, reflecting on the **dignity of the human person in the light of Christian faith in this age of Artificial Intelligence**. The talk will explore some of the key themes of the document and consider how they speak to our Christian life and the challenges facing society today. Tea and coffee will be provided. Everyone is warmly invited to come along and join us for this time of reflection and discussion.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY

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

£429.84

Gift Aid: £181.29

**Second collection
for Catholic
Education: £158.56**

**Thank you for
supporting your
Parish.**

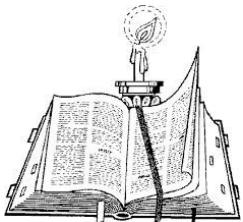
**Mass attendance
last Sunday: 267**

**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 11th

October 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**

Ezekiel 18:25-28;

Psalms 25(24);

Philippians 2:1-11;

Matthew 21:28-32

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ, if you worked the whole day while another person worked for just an hour and both of you received the same reward, would you call that fair? We all like fairness until God becomes generous with someone we think deserves less. We naturally think in terms reward and punishment, more work more reward. But the readings on this Sunday challenge this mindset and invite us to rediscover the overwhelming generosity of God. The first reading, from the Book of Isaiah, gives us the key. This part of the Book of Isaiah was written in the context of Israel's experience of exile, a time of suffering and displacement caused by turning away from God. Yet God does not abandon His people. Instead, He lovingly invites them to return to Him and experience His mercy and forgiveness. Isaiah's message carries a sense of urgency: the time to seek God is now. We often postpone prayer, forgiveness, reconciliation and conversion, thinking that we can respond later. But God's grace calls us in the present moment. True conversion involves not only changing our actions but also allowing God to transform our thoughts, attitudes and the way we see others. God is not waiting to punish those who return to Him; rather, He is generous in forgiving. His thoughts and ways are greater than ours. Faith therefore means trusting God even when we do not fully understand.

This is exactly what Jesus tells us in today's Gospel. The landowner hires workers at daybreak, at noon and even at the eleventh hour. Yet, at the end of the day, everyone receives the same wage. Those who were hired first complain, but the landowner asks, **"Are you envious because I am generous?"** The landowner was not unfair. He gave the first workers exactly what he had promised them. Their struggle was that they could not rejoice in his generosity towards others. We often face the same struggle. We may think, *"I have worked so hard. I have sacrificed so much. Why should someone else receive the same?"* But salvation is not a salary that we earn; it is a gift of grace. Think of the good thief crucified beside Jesus. Perhaps he had spent much of his life making wrong choices, taking what was not his and breaking the law. By human standards he appeared to have arrived at the very last moment with nothing to offer. Yet, hanging on the cross at the hour of his death, he simply turned to Jesus and prayed, **"Jesus, remember me when You come into Your Kingdom"**. He had no time left to work in the vineyard. He had no opportunity to make up for his past. Yet Jesus promised him, **"Today you will be with me in paradise"**.

This is the heart of divine generosity. Our good works matter, but they do not put God in our debt. Everything begins and ends with His grace, freely given to us. We see this same spirit in St Paul in the second reading. Writing from prison, Paul says, **"For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain"**. He is not counting his sacrifices or demanding a reward. His entire life has become an expression of gratitude to God. This message is deeply practical for our own lives. In our families, workplaces, parishes and ministries we can easily compare ourselves with others. Someone who came later may receive a responsibility we expected. Someone who made mistakes may be given another chance. Someone who we think deserves less may receive more. At such moments the Gospel challenges us with a difficult question: Can I rejoice in another person's blessing? God's love is not a limited resource. When God blesses someone else, He does not reduce His love for me. When He shows mercy to another person, there is no less mercy available for me. Whether someone comes to God early in life or returns to Him at the very last hour, God never says, *"You are too late"*. Instead He opens His arms and says, *"Welcome home"*. Today Jesus invites us to move from comparison to gratitude, from calculation to generosity, and from jealousy to joy. So, as we reflect on this Gospel, let us ask ourselves one simple but challenging question: **Can I truly be happy when God is generous to someone else?**

Fr. George Mathew SCJ