



# SACRED HEART & ST CATHERINE OF ALEXANDRIA

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**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:

*Ezekiel 18:25-28;*  
*Psalms 25(24);*  
*Philippians 2:1-11;*  
*Matthew 21:28-32*

| This Week:<br>27 <sup>th</sup> Sep – 4 <sup>th</sup> Oct 2026<br>Psalter Week 2                                                                       | Holy Mass & Services |                                     | Other Events                                                                                                                                     |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> September</b><br><b>Twenty Sixth Sunday</b><br><b>in Ordinary Time Year A</b><br>Second collection for Fr Hudson's Society  | 8:30am               | Mary Strain RIP (AP)                | After 8:30am Mass, tea & coffee in the Parish Hall<br>Children's Liturgy during 10:30am Mass<br>12:00 noon Baptism                               |
|                                                                                                                                                       | 10:30am              | Marjorie Holiday RIP (TK)           |                                                                                                                                                  |
|                                                                                                                                                       | 6:00pm               | People of the Parish                |                                                                                                                                                  |
| <b>Monday 28<sup>th</sup> September</b><br>Feria                                                                                                      | 8:55am               | Morning Prayer                      |                                                                                                                                                  |
|                                                                                                                                                       | 9:15am               | Sr. Carmel - Special intention (LM) |                                                                                                                                                  |
| <b>Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> September</b><br>Feast of Ss Michael, Gabriel and Raphael, Archangels                                                      | 8:55am               | Morning Prayer                      |                                                                                                                                                  |
|                                                                                                                                                       | 9:15am               | John Kaknamkattle RIP (C&PI)        |                                                                                                                                                  |
| <b>Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> September</b><br>Memorial of St Jerome, Priest, Doctor of the Church                                                     | 8:55am               | Morning Prayer                      | After Mass, Adoration until 6pm<br>6:00pm Wedding Rehearsal                                                                                      |
|                                                                                                                                                       | 9:15am               | Gillian Myatt RIP (RS)              |                                                                                                                                                  |
| <b>Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> October</b><br>Memorial of St Therese of Child Jesus, Virgin, Doctor of the Church                                         | 8:55am               | Morning Prayer                      | After Mass, Church cleaning<br>5.30pm Wedding Rehearsal                                                                                          |
|                                                                                                                                                       | 9:15am               | Denise Grant RIP (KT)               |                                                                                                                                                  |
| <b>Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> October</b><br>Memorial of the Holy Guardian Angels                                                                          | 8:55am               | Morning Prayer                      | After Mass, Novena to the Sacred Heart<br>10:00am Private Church Tour<br>1:00pm Wedding<br>6:00pm Talk on Magnifica Humanitas in the Parish Hall |
|                                                                                                                                                       | 9:15am               | Liam Ryan RIP                       |                                                                                                                                                  |
| <b>Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> October</b><br>Feria                                                                                                       | 11:00am              | Alan Remedios RIP (AK)              | 10:15-10:45am Confession<br>1:00pm Wedding                                                                                                       |
| <b>Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> October</b><br><b>Twenty Seventh Sunday</b><br><b>in Ordinary Time Year A</b><br>Second collection for CAFOD<br>Harvest Fast | 8:30am               | People of the Parish                | After 8:30am Mass, tea & coffee in the Parish Hall<br>Children's Liturgy during 10:30am Mass                                                     |
|                                                                                                                                                       | 10:30am              | Holy Mass                           |                                                                                                                                                  |
|                                                                                                                                                       | 6:00pm               | Eric Whaley (AP)                    |                                                                                                                                                  |

**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**

**Remember your compassion, O Lord.**

**6:00pm**

**In your love remember me, in your love remember me,  
in your great goodness O Lord remember me.**

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**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.

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**RECENTLY DECEASED**

Of your charity please pray for Liam Ryan and Jackie Sutton who have recently died.  
Please also keep their families in your prayers. The Requiem Mass for Liam will take  
place on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> October at 12.00 noon. May their souls 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). The first session will start on **Monday the 12<sup>th</sup> 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.

**CHRISTMAS CARDS & 2027 CALENDARS**

Our beautiful Christmas cards are now available to purchase.

A pack of 8 Christmas Cards:

- A6 – £5.00
- A5 – £7.00

2027 Calendar – £12.00

These make lovely gifts for family and friends, while also helping to support our parish.  
All cards and calendars are available at the back of the church.

## POPE'S WEEKLY MESSAGE

*"In order to become authentic human progress – that is, progress for the whole person and for all people -technical and scientific progress must be inspired and guided by charity. Only in this way can it always be placed at the service of human dignity and promote the living conditions of all, especially the most disadvantaged."* Pope Leo XIV via Twitter 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2026

## REFUGEE SUNDAY - 27<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER

On Sunday 27th September, the Church marks the 112th World Day of Migrants and Refugees. This year's theme, 'Even just one of these children', comes from Pope Leo XIV's message and invites us to reflect on the dignity, needs and hopes of migrant and refugee children and young people. Please see the Refugee 2026 Sunday Letter in the noticeboard.

## REFUGEE KNITTING

Thank you so much for the recent beautiful, knitted baby clothes and the exquisite, crocheted blanket. Also, thank you for the miscellaneous clothes, scarves and soaps, which will be so appreciated by the adults. Finally, thank you for the wool donations. The box is presently empty, as I have taken the contents to a parishioner who isn't well enough to attend church at the moment. More wool donations would be greafully received. Please continue knitting and store the items at home because of storage until the next collection. Once again, thank you so much for your continual support.

## TALK ON MAGNIFICA HUMANITAS

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.

## 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 28<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:volunteers.sacredheart.droitwich@rcaob.org.uk)

More details to follow soon.

## CAFOD FAMILY FAST DAY APPEAL THIS HARVEST

Please donate to our Family Fast Day parish collection. Put your faith into action and share the Lord's love by supporting our global neighbours experiencing shortages of food and safe water. Your gift can support children like Tayla in Zimbabwe to stay in school by helping communities and schools provide nourishing meals, improve access to water and grow food in school gardens. Use the CAFOD envelope in church, donate online at [cafod.org.uk/envelope](http://cafod.org.uk/envelope) or call 03033033030.

## CHILDREN'S LITURGY

There will be Children's Liturgy during 10.30am Mass on **27<sup>th</sup> September** and **11<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:sg.sacredheart.droitwich@rcaob.org.uk) or alternatively the Diocesan Safeguarding team can be contacted on 0121 230 6240 or [safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk) if you have any concerns.

**Main collection:****£215.72****Gift Aid: £245.00****Second collection  
for Catholic****Evangelisation:****£101.44****Thank you for  
supporting your  
Parish.****Mass attendance  
last Sunday: 248****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***Isaiah 5:1-7;**Psalms 80(79);**Philippians 4:6-9;**Matthew 21:33-43*

My dear brothers and sisters, today the Word of God asks us a simple but profound question: What does God really want from us? Is it enough to call ourselves Christians, come to church, pray and say the right things? Or does God expect something more? Today's readings give us a clear answer: God desires a changed heart and a faith that is expressed through our actions. In the First Reading the prophet Ezekiel speaks to the people of Israel during a difficult period in their history. They had been conquered and taken into exile in Babylon. Many believed that they were suffering because their ancestors had turned away from God and disobeyed his commandments. But God challenges this way of thinking. He reminds them that each person is responsible for his or her own choices. If someone turns away from sin and begins to live rightly, a new beginning is always possible. This message speaks powerfully to us today. Sometimes we blame our upbringing, circumstances, other people or even our past mistakes for the way we live now. But God tells us: You can change. You can turn around. You can begin again. The important question is not simply, "Who is responsible for what happened to me?" but, "What am I going to do now?" God does not want us to remain trapped in blame, guilt or hopelessness. He gives us the grace to start afresh. Our past may help to explain who we are, but it does not have to define who we become.

In the Gospel Jesus tells the story of a father who asks his two sons to work in his vineyard. The first says, "I will not", but later changes his mind and does so. The second says, "Certainly, sir", but does not do so. This parable challenges us to examine our Christian lives: Does our life correspond to what we profess? It is not enough to profess our faith with our lips; we must live it through our actions. Our faith must be visible in our relationships, choices we make, families, workplaces and communities. We cannot say, "Lord, I love you", while refusing to forgive someone. We cannot say, "Lord, I am your servant", while refusing to serve others. The first son is therefore a beautiful image of conversion. His first response was wrong, but he did not remain trapped in that decision. He changed his mind and went into the vineyard. Conversion does not mean that we have never said "No" to God. Conversion means having the humility to turn around and say, "Yes, Lord". God is not simply concerned about who we were yesterday; He is concerned about who we are becoming today.

In the Second Reading St Paul shows us what this "Yes" should look like. He tells us to avoid selfishness and pride and to consider the needs of others. He presents Jesus Himself as our model. Christ humbled Himself, became obedient and gave Himself completely for us. Therefore, working in God's vineyard means living with the mind and heart of Christ. It means humility, service, sacrifice, generosity and forgiveness. Instead of asking, "What will I get?" we ask, "How can I serve?" Instead of asking, "Who will recognise what I have done?" we ask, "Who needs my help?" And the vineyard is not simply the church. The vineyard is wherever God has placed us. For parents it is their family. For husbands and wives it is their marriage. For young people it is their school and friendships. For all of us it includes the poor, the lonely, the sick and those whom we find difficult to love. Every day God says to us, "Go and work in My vineyard today." Someone may need encouragement, forgiveness, a listening ear, our generosity or simply our presence. Perhaps we have said "No" to God in the past. That does not have to be the end of our story. If we have stopped praying, we can begin again. If we have sinned, return to God in the Sacrament of Confession. If we carry resentment, take the first step towards forgiveness. May our prayer today be: "Lord, give me the humility of Christ, the courage to repent, and the grace to turn my 'Yes' into action. Send me into Your vineyard and help me to serve You faithfully." Amen.

Fr. George Mathew SCJ