



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 5:1-7;
Psalms 80(79);
Philippians 4:6-9;
Matthew 21:33-43

This Week: 4 th – 11 th Oct 2026 Psalter Week 3	Holy Mass & Services		Other Events
Sunday 4th October Twenty Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A Second collection for CAFOD Harvest Fast	8:30am (SC)	Christopher Fitzpatrick RIP	After 8:30am Mass, tea & coffee in the Parish Hall
	10:30am	Susan Nuttie RIP (AC)	
	6:00pm	Eric Whaley RIP (AP)	
Monday 5th October Feria	8:55am	Morning Prayer	
	9:15am	Liam Ryan RIP (BB)	
Tuesday 6th October Feria	8:55am	Morning Prayer	2:00pm Private Church Tour
	9:15am	Communion Service	
Wednesday 7th October Memorial of Our Lady of the Rosary	8:55am	Morning Prayer	
	9:15am	Communion Service	
Thursday 8th October Feria	8:55am	Morning Prayer	
	9:15am	Communion Service	
Friday 9th October Feast of Sain John Henry Newman, Priest	8:55am	Morning Prayer	After Mass, Novena to the Sacred Heart
	9:15am	Communion Service	
Saturday 10th October Feria	11:00am	Veronica Rooney (JY)	10:15-10:45am Confession
Sunday 11th October Twenty Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A	8:30am	Arthur Blizzard RIP (RB)	After 8:30am Mass, tea & coffee in the Parish Hall Children's Liturgy during 10:30am Mass 2:30pm SVP Afternoon
	10:30am	People of the Parish	
	6:00pm	Mary Ryan (DR)	

**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 & 6:00pm

The vineyard of the Lord is the house of Israel.

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.

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 19th October at 12:00 noon.

The Requiem Mass for Jackie will take place on Thursday 22nd October at 1:30pm.

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 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!

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

"I would like to share some thoughts on my recent Apostolic Journey to France with the motto 'That the world may have life' (cf. Jn 6:51). God alone, through His grace, can restore the Church and renew humanity, and this is precisely what is occurring in Paris, Lourdes and Metz."

Pope Leo XIV via Twitter 30th September 2026

OCTOBER: THE MONTH OF THE ROSARY

Throughout October, the Rosary will be prayed in St. Catherine's Chapel after the morning Mass or Communion Service each weekday. On Saturdays, please join us for the Rosary at 10.30 am in the main body of the church. All are welcome to join us in prayer, seeking the intercession of Our Lady.

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. You can help a child have enough to eat and safe water to drink at school, giving them the chance to learn and pursue their dreams. Help children keep learning. 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 or call 03033033030.

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.

We are planning to print the raffle tickets as soon as possible. If you would like to donate a raffle prize, please write your name on the clipboard at the back of the church.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY

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

£334.41

Gift Aid: £179.00

**Second collection
for Fr. Hudson's
Society: £171.29**

**Thank you for
supporting your
Parish.**

**Mass attendance
last Sunday: 263**

**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 25:6-10a;

Psalms 23(22);

Philippians

4:12-14, 196-20;

Matthew 22:1-14

Dear brothers and sisters, anyone who has cared for a garden knows that growing something takes patience. You prepare the soil, remove the weeds, water the plants and protect them. Then you wait, hoping that your care will bear fruit. Today's readings present God as the owner of a vineyard. He prepares the ground, plants carefully selected vine, and provides protection. The vineyard reveals his generosity. Before he asks for anything, he gives everything necessary for growth. This is where our reflection must begin: with what God has given us. Our life, our faith, our abilities and the people who love us are gifts. Even the opportunities we have to begin again are signs of His mercy. We do not have complete control over our lives, but we have responsibility for how we live them.

In the Gospel we see, the owner's careful tending of the vineyard leads to a rich harvest, but the tenants refuse to give him his rightful share. These images reveal the tragedy of receiving God's generosity while refusing to respond to His love. We are stewards of God's gifts. The tenants in the Gospel forget this fundamental truth. They begin to treat the vineyard as their own possession. When the owner sends his servants to collect his rightful share of the harvest, the tenants turn on them with violence. Their misconduct takes root in an unrealistic and selfish attitude: "This vineyard is ours; we owe nothing to anyone." The same attitude can quietly take root in our own hearts too. We can become possessive about our time, our money, our positions or even the people we love and care. We can forget that every gift carries an invitation to love and serve. So today we might ask ourselves: how am I caring for what God has entrusted to me? What fruit does God expect from me? Does being fruitful mean having a successful career, a thriving ministry or a family without problems? If someone is unemployed, sick or elderly, does that person have less to offer God? Certainly not. God looks for the fruit of love, which can grow in every circumstance. A parent patiently listening to a child, bears good fruit. An employee who chooses honesty, even under pressure, bears good fruit. Someone caring for a sick relative, forgiving someone who hurts or welcoming a lonely neighbour, bears good fruit. Even someone unable to leave their bed can bear good fruit through prayer, kindness and gratefully receiving the care of others. Our circumstances may limit what we can do, but they can never diminish our dignity or our capacity to love.

What helps us bear good fruit? Today's readings offer three answers: *First, we must recognise that we are stewards, not owners.* Our lives, talents, relationships and responsibilities are gifts entrusted to us by God. We receive them gratefully and use them responsibly. The people closest to us are persons to love and care, never a possession to dominate. Like the tenants in the Gospel, we can forget this when ambition overshadows others' needs or we treat blessings as entitlements. Faithful stewardship asks: how am I caring for what God has entrusted to me? God patiently calls us back, finally sending His Son to reveal His love. *Second, faith must bear fruit.* Prayer and worship should shape our daily conduct. God seeks justice, compassion, and righteousness in our homes, workplaces, parish, and neighbourhood. Do we treat people fairly, listen to those who feel forgotten and bring reconciliation? Saint Paul encourages us to cultivate goodness through ordinary, faithful choices. *Third, fruitfulness requires courage and humility:* Courage helps us choose what is right, even when it costs us. Humility reminds us that we need God's grace. Saint Paul invites us to bring our worries to God with thanksgiving, trusting His peace to guard our hearts. This week, let us try to repair a broken relationship, help someone in need, complete a neglected responsibility or make time for prayer. Jesus, the rejected stone who becomes the cornerstone, can rebuild what our failures have damaged. Rooted in Him, may we bear fruits of love and justice, bringing joy to the Lord of the harvest through our lives.

Fr. George Mathew SCJ