



Societas Presbyterorum  
Sacratissimi Cordis Jesu  
BETHARRAM

## 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



### Today's Mass Readings

Wisdom 12:13.16-19;  
Psalm 85;  
Romans 8:26-27;  
Matthew 13:24-43

**Welcome to this House  
of God:  
Talk to God before Mass  
Listen to God during Mass  
Talk to others after Mass**

This Week: 23rd July– 29th July (Psalter Week 4)	Holy Mass & Services	Other Events
<b>Sunday 23rd July</b> Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A	8:30 am Jean Grieves (L.D) 10:30 am Dary Bridget Dartin (D F) 6:00 pm In fond memories of Betty Parry & Shiela Manion	After 8:30 am Mass: Tea and Coffee in the Hall
<b>Monday 24th July</b> Feria	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Mary M	
<b>Tuesday 25th July</b> Feast of St James, Apostle	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Rayan and Jackie	
<b>Wednesday 26th July</b> Memorial of St Joachim & Anne, Par- ents of the Blessed Virgin Mary	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Robert Donnellan (DF)	10:00 am until 6:00 pm: Adoration
<b>Thursday 27th July</b> Feria	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Fr. Alex Rebello (AR)	
<b>Friday 28th July</b> Feast of Our Lady of Betharram	8.55 am Morning Prayer 9.15 am Sacred Heart Fathers and Brothers	After Mass: Novena to the Sacred Heart
<b>Saturday 29th July</b> Memorial of Ss Martha, Mary and Lazarus	11:00 am Nick Lynam	10:15 am - 10:45 am: Confes- sion
<b>Sunday 30th July</b> Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A	8:30 am Betty Parry RIP (AK) 10:30 am Edward Syks, Katherine & Michael Sekowski RIP (BS) 6:00 pm John & Mary Ryan (DR)	After 8:30 am Mass: Tea and Coffee in the Hall

*“Let us imagine a seed: it is tiny, barely visible, but it makes plants grow that bear fruit. The Word of God is thus: think of the gospel, a small book, simple and within reach of all, that produces new life in those who receive it.” Pope Francis via Twitter 16th July 2023*

**SACRED HEART  
COMMUNITY**

Fr. George Mathew SCJ  
(Parish Priest)

fr.george.mathew@  
rcaob.org.uk

**In an emergency, please  
contact: 07448 042484**

Fr. Brian Boyle SCJ  
(Retired Priest)

Fr. Tom Kelly SCJ  
(Retired Priest)

Bro. Patrick Leighton SCJ

**PARISH SCHOOL**

St. Joseph's Catholic  
Primary School,  
Droitwich

Tel: 01905 773572

Email: office@st-josephs-  
droitwich.worcs.sch.uk

**HEAD TEACHER**

Mrs. Cath Bryan

**PARISH SECRETARY**

Bogusia Koniszewska-  
Fijolek

Tel.: 01905 773258

Email:

sacredheart.droitwich@  
rcaob.org.uk

**PARISH SAFEGUARDING  
REPRESENTATIVES**

Gerry Ceclich

Clare Tomlinson

Email:

sg.sacredheart.droitwich  
@rcaob.org.uk

**Archdiocese of  
Birmingham  
Safeguarding Team**

Tel.: 0121 230 6240

Email: safeguarding  
@rcaob.org.uk

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

8.30 am, 10.30 am

Lord, how I love your law!

6:00 pm

Show to us your love and mercy, give us your saving  
help.

**PRAY FOR OUR SICK PARISHIONERS**

Please pray for all our parishioners, and/or their friends and relatives, who  
are unwell:

Barbara Conway, Finbarr Cronin, Eileen Dalton, Frank Fawcett, Bev  
Griffiths, Beryl Hill, Alan Hurst, John Jennings, Sally McCool, Andrew  
McDermott, Jackie McLean, Michael Sheridan, Jacky Smith, Paul Smith,  
Margaret Steward, Breda Wightman, Mark Wightman, Richard Wightman  
& Msgr. Graham Wilkinson

**Due to the new data regulations (GDPR), the Archdiocese have  
requested that we do not list names unless we have the consent of the  
individual. If you would like your name to be included in this list please  
contact Fr. George SCJ or the Parish Office Please note that the newsletter  
is also placed on the parish website. Thank you for your understanding.**

**CONFIRMATION PROGRAMME 2023**

Children who will be in Year 6 or above in September and are not at  
St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School can be prepared to receive the  
Sacrament of Confirmation in December 2023. If you would like your  
child to be part of the parish preparation group please could you  
contact Fr. George or the parish office by end of July. Confirmation  
classes will begin in September 2023.

**SUMMER FAIR**

The Parish Summer fair (Garden party) will be on Saturday 19th August  
from 12noon till 3pm. As part of the Garden party, we will be organizing a  
Raffle. If you would like to sponsor a raffle prize, please give your name to  
Terry Poulten as soon as possible (or write your name on the clipboard in  
the narthex). Raffle tickets will be available on this Sunday. If you would  
like to bring some flower plants to the garden party, now is the time to  
start preparations . Please bring items for Tombola and toiletries. Thank  
you.

**LOOP SYSTEM**

Using the Loop System in Church. It has been found that the pillars can  
reduce the signal. We recommend that you sit between the pillars,  
adjacent to the arches to get the best signal.

## **SVP BUNK BED APPEAL:**

The Sacred Heart SVP is looking for Bunk Beds for one of the clints, if anyone of you have usable bunk beds to give away, please contact Gina Pilley.

## **JOB VACANCY AT BLESSED EDWARD OLDCCORNE CATHOLIC COLLEGE:**

**Midday Supervisor** – required for October 2023 Closing date: 10.00am Tuesday 5 September 2023

**Business Manager** – required for Autumn 2023 Closing date: 10.00am Tuesday 5 September 2023

Please see the Blessed Edward Oldcorne website for details and an application form; <https://www.blessededward.co.uk/about-us/vacancies/>

## **JOURNEY IN FAITH**

Are you looking to explore the Catholic faith? Are you wondering about your relationship with God and not sure where to start? Join us on a journey and see if the Catholic Church can help your relationship grow. This may be the right path for you. It may even help you take the next steps towards coming into the Church. The parish will be organising a Journey in Faith programme from September onwards. If you are already a Catholic and would like to learn more about your faith, or if you want to become a Catholic, now is the time to start exploring your faith. More updates about the programme to follow.

## **UNIVERSE CATHOLIC WEEKLY**

I am happy to inform you all that the Universe Catholic Weekly has resumed print copies for its readers and is now available to purchase from the narthex. If you would like to place an order for a personal copy posted to your address, please contact: Michelle Jones, Circulation Sales Manager, Universe Catholic Weekly, Universe Catholic Weekly Limited, PO Box 585, Sale, Manchester M33 0JH. Email: [michelle.jones@universecatholicweekly.co.uk](mailto:michelle.jones@universecatholicweekly.co.uk)

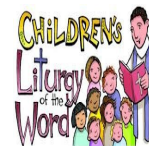
Website: [www.universecatholicweekly.co.uk](http://www.universecatholicweekly.co.uk)

## **FR. GEORGE MATHEW**

Fr. George will be away for a Mission Talk this Sunday, so masses will be cover by Fr. Enrico.

## **COMMUNITY MEAL**

The next Community Meal is on Monday 24th July at 12.30 pm in the Parish Hall.



## **CHILDREN'S LITURGY**

There will be no Children's Liturgy during the 10:30 am mass

# **YOUTH GROUP**

## **PARISH YOUTH GROUP**

The youth group runs during term time on Friday evenings from 6.30 pm for children aged 9-14 years. All young people are welcome to attend.

## **PARISH HALL BOOKINGS**

Please contact Sally at volunteers.

[sacredheart.droitwich@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:sacredheart.droitwich@rcaob.org.uk) or 07891144870

*Registered as a Charity, Birmingham Roman Catholic Diocesan Trustees: Registered Charity Number 234216.*

**Main Collection:**  
**£325.58(cash) and**  
**£149(envelopes).**

**Thank you for**  
**supporting your**  
**Parish.**

**Mass attendance**  
**last Sunday: 232**



**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 20th August from 2.30 pm to 4.30 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](mailto:DroitwichReferrals@svp.org.uk) or on 07772 927535 or on Facebook, SVP Sacred Heart Droitwich.



**Next Sunday's Mass**  
**Readings**

*1 Kings 3:5.7-12;*

*Psalms 118;*

*Romans 8:28-30;*

*Matthew 13:44-52*

*Welcome to everyone at Mass today, especially if you are new to our church or haven't been to Mass for some time. If you are of another Christian denomination or non-Christian you are warmly invited to approach the priest or minister and ask or signify your wish for a blessing.*

On this Sunday, the liturgical readings once again speak about the Kingdom of God through two parables from Matthew's Gospel: the parable of the Weeds among the Wheat and the parable of the Mustard Seed. These parables highlight the diversity of God's Kingdom and the Church's goal of not seeking perfection in people. The first parable teaches us not to judge prematurely and harm the wheat by removing the weeds. Instead, we should trust God as the ultimate judge and focus on planting and watering. The second parable emphasizes the significance of small acts of faith, like the mustard seed which can have far-reaching effects.

Jesus presents the reality that in this world, both the children of the Kingdom of God and the children of this world will coexist until the final judgment, highlighting the presence of evil and the challenges faced by believers in a fragile world. The parable depicts the ongoing spiritual battle between good and evil, illustrating the strategies of the enemy to sow deception and hinder the growth of God's Kingdom. It also emphasizes God's patience and long-suffering, as He allows both the wheat and the tares to grow together until the harvest, symbolizing the delay of final judgment and the opportunity for repentance.

The parable portrays God's ultimate sovereignty and authority over the final judgment, when the wheat (righteous) will be gathered into His kingdom, and the tares (wicked) will be cast into eternal punishment. It highlights the importance of spiritual growth and fruitfulness in the lives of each one of us, as represented by the wheat, emphasizing the need for genuine faith and righteous living. Jesus teaches that the Kingdom of God will expand and grow, starting small but eventually encompassing many people, cultures, and nations, reflecting God's plan for the expansion of His kingdom. Offer insights into the power of God's Kingdom in our lives. These parables challenge us to reflect on our hearts, choices, and the potential hidden within seemingly small aspects of our existence. They invite us to acknowledge our imperfections, nurture the good within us, and strive for spiritual growth. By embracing self-reflection, trust in God's work, and the influence we have on others, we create space for God's grace to transform us and bring forth abundant fruits of love, mercy, and compassion.

Fr. George Mathew SCJ