



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

Genesis 3:9-15;

Psalms 129;

2 Corinthians 4:13-5:1;

Mark 3:20-35

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

This Week: 9th-16th June 2024 Psalter Week 2	Holy Mass & Services	Other Events
Sunday 9th June Tenth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B	8:30 am Isabella & Kevin Read RIP (MM) 10:30 am Bernadette Violet Duffy RIP (PD) 6:00 pm Ian Martin RIP (FCh)	After 8:30 am Mass: Tea & Coffee in the Hall 2:30 pm SVP Afternoon in the Hall
Monday 10th June Memorial of Ss Charles Lwanga and Companions, Martyrs	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Mrs. Ita Mulligan RIP (BM)	
Tuesday 11th June Memorial of St Barnabas, Apostle	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Mathew Devasiya RIP	
Wednesday 12th June Feria in Ordinary Time	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Ian Martin RIP (AM)	10:00 am until 6:00 pm Adoration
Thursday 13th June Memorial of St Anthony of Padua, Priest, Doctor of the Church	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Ian Martin RIP (S.T)	
Friday 14th June Feria in Ordinary Time	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Mr. Matthew Devasiya RIP (C&PI)	After mass– Novena to the Sacred Heart 10.30 am Funeral Service of Ruben Dominic Bridges 6.30 pm Youth Group
Saturday 15th June Feria in Ordinary Time	11:00 am Agnes May Birthday (EK)	10:15 am-10:45 am Confession 11.00 am First Holy Communion
Sunday 16th June Eleventh Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B Second collection for the Day for Life	8:30 am Mary Josephine Mc Corry RIP (MM) 10:30 am Soibhan Cronin RIP (GF) 6:00 pm People of the Parish	After 8:30 am Mass: Tea & Coffee in the Hall 10.30 am Children's Liturgy

“Let us ask Jesus to make us, through His Holy Spirit, men and women who are truly free, in order to serve others in love and joy.”

Pope Francis via Twitter 5th June 2024

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

*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: 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 HALL BOOKINGS

Please contact Sally at
volunteers.

sacredheart.droitwich
@rcaob.org.uk or
07891144870

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

8.30am & 10.30am **With the Lord there is a mercy
and fullness of redemption.**

6.00pm **Out of the depths 36 AK**

PRAY FOR OUR SICK PARISHIONERS

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

Barbara Conway, Finbarr Cronin, Beryl Hill, Alan Hurst, John Jennings,
Andrew McDermott, Jackie McLean, Michael Sheridan, Jacky Smith, Paul
Smith, Margaret Steward, Breda Wightman, Richard Wightman, Msgr.
Graham Wilkinson, Fr. Brian Boyle, Mrs. Roma & Pamela Wojciechowski

**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.**

RECENTLY DECEASED

Your prayers are asked for Ruben Dominic Bridges, a little child who died
recently. And also for Ian Martin who died last weekend. May their souls and
the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in
peace. Please keep the family and friends of Ruben and Ian in your prayers.
Funeral Service for Ruben Dominic Bridges will take place on Friday 14th
June at 10.30 am

SACRED HEART SUMMER FAIR 29TH JUNE 2024

We are hoping and praying for delightful sunny weather for our Summer
Fair! We are also hoping to have a BBQ, Indian Food Stall, Beer or Wine
Tasting, Games organised by the Youth Group and much more. We just
need you!! Could you please offer to organise one of these attractions or a
different event just for this one occasion? Get together with a couple of
friends or family to help us out! Please see Fr George to share your talents
and skills.

To add colour to its social aspect, we have the Summer Raffle. If you would
like to sponsor a raffle prize, please give your name to Terry Poulton as
soon as possible or write your name on the clipboard in the narthex. Raffle
tickets are available to buy from the parish hall after each Mass. Please buy
some tickets for yourself and for your friends and family.

COME AND SEE WEEKEND

Do you feel deep down in your heart that God is calling you to serve in His
church as a priest or a religious? If so, this is the right time to discern. The
Sacred Heart Fathers and Brothers (Betharram) invite you to a 'Come and
See Weekend' to Explore the Gift of Vocation to the Religious Life and
Priesthood from Friday 21st (Evening) until Sunday 23rd June 2024 at the
Depuis Retreat Centre, St. Paul's Convent, 94 Selly Park Road, Selly Park,
Birmingham B29 7LL

For more information please contact:

Br. Andrew Ferris SCJ : andrewferris@hotmail.co.uk

GIFT AID

If you are a taxpayer please consider signing a Gift Aid Form (blanks are at the back of the Church). The Church can receive the tax back on your donation. This is a very important part of the funding of the Parish.

YOUTH GROUP VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Our parish youth group is eagerly seeking additional volunteers who are keen to contribute towards the youth group. If you are available on Friday evenings and would be interested in having a conversation about different ways that you could help please email the parish secretary or speak to Matthew Hartley directly.

CAR PARK DEVELOPMENT

Finally, twelve years after Planning Permission was granted, most of the car park at the back of the church is being sold for housing. The building work is likely to start in the autumn. Once the houses are built there will only be 66 spaces for the use of parishioners and hall users. But, during the build, this number will be reduced, inevitably leading to issues. When further details are available, including how the issues will be managed, these will be communicated.

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 organizing a Journey in Faith programme from September onwards. If you are already a Catholic and would like to explore 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.

MESSAGE FROM FATHER HUDSON'S CARE-NEW CEO

As we say goodbye to CEO Andy Quinn and wish him all the best in his retirement, we welcome new CEO Joanne Watters who will start her new role on 1st June 2024. Joanne has been working for Father Hudson's Care for the last 9 years as Head of Community Projects, working with partners to develop new and existing projects including Tabor Living which accommodates individuals experiencing homelessness, Brushstrokes Community Project supporting refugees, asylum seekers and migrants, and others, including Young at Heart in north Staffordshire, Sophia House, Fatima House, and the refugee community sponsorship initiative. Joanne has a passion for supporting individuals and families who are marginalised and in need, in 2023 she led, together with Fr Michael White, the successful capital fundraising appeal which enabled the charity to double its homelessness provision working based at St. Catherine of Siena Church in Birmingham.

Joanne commented 'I am proud as a Catholic to be the first female CEO for such an important and longstanding charity. I am committed to continuing the mission of our founder Fr George Vincent Hudson, working in partnership with the archdiocese, parishes, schools, and supporters.'

We are pleased to have a new CEO with a background in frontline and management roles in both local and national charities.

COMMUNITY MEAL

Monday **21st July** at
12.30 pm in the
Parish Hall.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY

There will be
Children's Liturgy
during 10.30 am mass
on 16th, 23rd, 30th
June & 7th, 14th July

PARISH YOUTH GROUP

Runs 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
Gerry Ceclich, Clare
Tomlinson and Carla
Tucker. They can be
contacted on 01299
851188 or email:
sg.sacredheart.droit
wich@rcaob.org.uk
or alternatively the
Diocesan
Safeguarding team
can be contacted on
0121 230
6240/safeguarding@
rcaob.org.uk if you
have any concerns.

Main collection

£2361.52

Gift Aid: £251.00

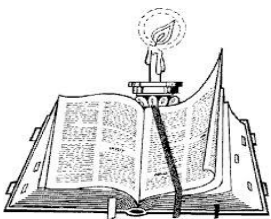
**Thank you for
supporting your
Parish.**

**Mass attendance
last Sunday: 273**



**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 9th June 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 or on 07772 927535 or on Facebook, SVP Sacred Heart Droitwich.



Next Sunday's Mass

Readings

Ezekiel 17:22-24;

Psalms 91;

2 Corinthians 5:6-10;

Mark 4:26-34

Today the liturgical readings reminds us that as humans, we all have an existential struggle against evil. However, the good news is that, we are assured that the ultimate of victory is with us because at the end of the day it is Christ, the seed of the Woman (Mary) who helps us to obtain this victory in our daily and earthly struggle against evil, because He is the one who controls everything.

Today's first reading presents a more anthropomorphic view of God; a God who is presented as having feelings or characteristics like a human being. God is closer to humans; He walks and talks with them. It's a very beautiful image to think of - a deep level of intimacy between God and humans. God seeks out humans, however, the man and woman hide themselves among the trees in the garden when they hear God approaching (Genesis 3:8b). The story of the fall of Adam and Eve reminds us of something that we inherited from them- the Original Sin, the adamic nature due to Original Sin and the consequences of disobedience. Instead of admitting their fault, they tried to justify themselves by blaming each other. While Adam indirectly blames God since it was God who had given the woman to him as a companion, Eve blames the serpent for having deceived her into eating the fruit. Interestingly, only the serpent is cursed. None of them said, I am sorry, I was wrong, it was my fault or even, please forgive me. Instead, they found excuses to exonerate themselves and, someone else must take the blame. Blame rained upon blame! Even today it repeats again and again. Excuses does not absolve faults. Rather, what helps is humbly accepting one's fault and asking for forgiveness. To get a deeper insight into this narrative we need to first keep aside the stereotype interpretations which focus on the role of the woman in the origin of sin in the world and let us turn our attention to the two questions posed by God. God's first question "Where are you?" is more than God's inquiry about their whereabouts, it is an invitation to an inward journey. "Where are you?" is a request toward self-examination and intimacy with the Divine. The second question, "Who told you that you were naked?" is a reminder that we must be very careful about whose voice we listen to. It is a question about the complex task of discerning right from wrong, an ongoing process in human existence. Contained within this narrative is also the promise of a Redeemer (Gen 3: 15). It's an insight into the divine plan of salvation, portraying Christ's victory over evil as fulfilling this ancient prophecy. Sin not only fractured the relationship between God and humans, but it also breached the relationship between humans themselves. Sin destroys relationships. Sin makes us suspicious and bitter and turns us against even those who love us.

In the Gospel today Jesus speaking about who are His real family. That those who do God's will are his family. The Jews over the century believed that because they were of the lineage of Abraham, they would automatically enter the kingdom of God (Matthew 3:7-9). Jesus' reply emphasises the point that family relationships were not a free ticket into the kingdom of God. He is not undermining the importance of family relationships; rather, He is emphasizing that having a right relationship with God by obeying His will is the most important. Every true disciple of Christ is, His brother, sister, mother and a member of his victorious family. Christ did not disrespect his own faithful mother. Rather, he teaches an important lesson today. That, through faith and obedience to God's will, we all can become members of his victorious and happy family. To become part of the victorious family of Christ is a dynamic process. It flows from a personal encounter with Christ.

Fr. George Mathew SCJ