



Societas Presbyterorum
Sacratissimi Cordis Jesu
B É T H A R R A M

SACRED HEART & ST CATHERINE OF ALEXANDRIA

208 Worcester Road, Droitwich Spa,
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Email: sacredheart.droitwich@rcaob.org.uk
Web: www.sacredheartdroitwich.org.uk



Today's Mass Readings

Job 38:1.8-11;

Psalm 106;

2 Corinthians 5:14-17;

Mark 4:35-41

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

This Week: 23rd-30th June 2024 Psalter Week 4	Holy Mass & Services	Other Events
Sunday 23rd June Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B	8:30 am Fr. Terry Luxon RIP (MM) 10:30 am Jadwiga Fijolek RIP (BKF) 6:00 pm Iain Martin RIP (BO)	After 8:30 am Mass: Tea & Coffee in the Hall 10.30 am Children's Liturgy
Monday 24th June Solemnity of the Nativity of St John the Baptist	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Michael O'Grady RIP (CE)	
Tuesday 25th June Feria in Ordinary Time	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Ashley Smith RIP (VS)	11.00 am Requiem Mass of Iain Martin
Wednesday 26th June Feria in Ordinary Time	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Pat Whaley (AP)	10:00 am until 6:00 pm Adoration
Thursday 27th June Feria in Ordinary Time	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Richard & Breda Wightman 60th wedding	
Friday 28th June Memorial of St Irenaeus Bishop, Doctor of the Church, Martyr	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Vincenza Eaton RIP (MF)	After mass– Novena to the Sacred Heart
Saturday 29th June Feria in Ordinary Time	10.30 am Peter Gruszka RIP (BS)	10:00 am-10:25 am Confession 11.00 am Summer Fair
Sunday 30th June Solemnity of SS Peter & Paul, Apostles Second collection for Peter's Pence	8:30 am Iain Martin RIP (EK) 10:30 am Mel & Carmel Hughes RIP (BB) 6:00 pm People of the Parish	After 8:30 am Mass: Tea & Coffee in the Hall 10.30 am Children's Liturgy

"The faces and the eyes of Refugees beg us not to look the other way, to not deny our common humanity, but to make their stories our stories and to not forget their plight."

Pope Francis via Twitter 20th 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

O give thanks to the Lord,

For his love endures for ever.

6.00pm

Eagles' wings 208 Light blue or AK 10

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 Iain Martin who died recently. May his souls and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Please keep the family and friends of Iain in your prayers. Requiem Mass for Iain Martin will take place on Tuesday 25th June at 11 am. The Iain will be brought to the Church the evening before at 5pm.

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.

CHURCH TOURS FOR PARISHIONERS

Demand for organised tours around our beautiful church is now very high. Two church tours for parishioners are being arranged for Saturday 6th July at 12.00am and Saturday 20th July at 12.00am. These tours will last up to 90 minutes and be led by either Peter Vella or John Pilley, two of our volunteer tour guides. Each tour will be restricted to 20 people. If parishioners would like to join one of these free tours, please send an e-mail to the Parish Secretary, Bogusia Koniszewska-Fijolek with your preferred date after which a confirmation will be provided if spaces are available.

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.

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. **Paper plates are available after Mass today. Please take one and fill it with a homemade, or bought, contribution to the cake stall.** All donations will be gratefully received as the cake stall is always popular. 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. Please bring the counterfoil of the ticket by Wednesday the 26th of June. In addition, there will be stalls such as bric-a-brac, toiletries, toys and books. Please start bringing items for these stalls.

We are looking for volunteers for Summer Fair, if you can help please contact with Fr. George.

LOCAL MP NIGIEL HUDDLESTON

Local MP Nigel Huddleston is holding a "meet public" meeting in the Sacred Heart Church hall on Wednesday 26th June from 7pm-8pm. All are welcome.

60TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

Mr. Richard & Mrs. Breda Wightman celebrating their 60th wedding anniversary on this Friday the 27th June. Let us all wish them best wishes as they celebrate their Diamond Jubilee of their wedding.

IGNITE' 2024-TEENS CONFERENCE

Jesus Youth UK invites all teenagers in school years 9 to 12 (starting September 2024) to 'IGNITE' 2024, a Teens Conference centered around 2 Timothy 1:6 "I remind you to rekindle the gift of God that is within you." It will take place at Worth Abbey School in Crawley from Friday, August 23rd to Monday, August 26th, 2024 and it will be a time filled with exciting talks, various workshops, personal testimonies, and plenty of time to interact with other like-minded teenagers, eager to grow closer to the Lord. For more details or to register, please visit [https://jesusyouth.co.uk/\(News/Events\)](https://jesusyouth.co.uk/(News/Events)) or

email teensministry@jesusyouth.co.uk. If you'd like to speak to someone from the parish, please reach out to Vidya Thomas at vidyann14@gmail.com.

JOB VACANCY

Community Projects Administrative Assistant

21 Hours per week. Open to flexible working arrangements and working patterns Working days to be discussed with the successful candidate. Flexible on location. To be discussed with successful candidate. Visit www.fatherhudsons.org.uk for an application form or e-mail recruitment@fatherhudsons.org.uk quoting post reference number P1793. Please see poster in the back of the Church.

Closing Date Wednesday 1st July 2024 – Interview date TBC

COMMUNITY MEAL

Monday **22nd July** at 12.30 pm in the Parish Hall.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY

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

PARISH YOUTH GROUP

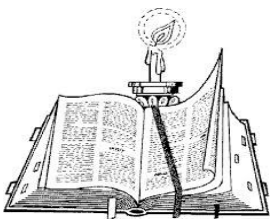
Runs during term time on Friday evenings from 6.30 pm for children aged 9-14 years.

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.droitwich@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**£332.41****Gift Aid: 165.00****Second collection for****Day for Life****£69.08****Gift Aid: £98.40****Thank you for
supporting your
Parish.****Mass attendance
last Sunday: 306****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 14th July 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***Acts 12:1-11;**Psalms 33;**2 Timothy 4:6-8;**Matthew 16:13-19*

The first reading taken from the book of Job presents before us a very puzzling narrative – dialogue between Job and God. Job as we know was an upright and pious person, who loses everything as Satan tries to prove that Job's piety has ulterior motives. In his lament, Job questions both the order of the cosmos and the existence of divine justice because he did not deserve any of the tragedies he faced. The LORD responds by questioning Job's knowledge of God's mysteries and purposes. Though we find God being described as "a divine architect of the cosmos" in ancient literature, in the book of Job, Yahweh is portrayed as a midwife, helping the sea to be born, quickly making clothes for it out of the clouds and swaddling it in the deep, beautiful colours of the night sky. While this image conveys that God has power over natural elements it also has a deeper significance.

In ancient Near Eastern literature, the sea was often pictured as a chaotic monster who threatened the stability and order of the cosmos. Therefore, the sea was something to be afraid of, something that caused chaos in life. However, Yahweh, instead of destroying the source of chaos is giving birth to it and nurturing it. Now why would God do that? Well, there is no easy way to answer this question. As a wise person once said, when we look at the food chain, one animal consumes another, from the smallest of cells to the largest of creatures. There is disorder, destruction, killing – there is chaos. Yet, it is this same chaos that is also what keeps order. So, in a way, chaos exists as a part of God's creation, not forgetting to acknowledge that there is some serious chaos in the world today that was not part of God's creation, but man made. The seeming unpredictability of life is not evil, nor is it proof of God's failures. Rather, it points to the fact that life demands change and change demands chaos. So, while God does not directly answer Job's questions, He helps him gain a new perspective in which his grief is not the ultimate reality. God's revelation to Job and us is that the universe is far bigger, stranger, and more mysterious than we can imagine and there is a big gap between divine and human knowledge. Therefore, a relationship of trust with God is more important than answers to our question of "Why?" Job's deeper need was to know that God had not abandoned him, and that God still cared for him.

In the Gospel of Mark, we see Jesus calming the storm which highlights Jesus' divine authority over the powers of nature and serves as a beautiful example of His power to bring peace also into the storms of our lives. What practical lessons can we draw from these readings of today? 1. Trust in God's Sovereignty: Just as God sets boundaries for the sea; He also sets boundaries for the challenges and difficulties we face. When we encounter personal storms—whether they are financial struggles, health issues, or relationship conflicts—we can find comfort in the knowledge that God is and has the ultimate authority over everything. 2. Live for Christ: Paul urges us to live for Christ because of Jesus' love for each of us, calls us to a higher purpose. In our daily lives, this means making decisions that reflect our commitment to Jesus. When we live with Christ at the centre, we transform not only our own lives but also the lives of those around us. 3. Find Peace in Jesus: Just as the disciples found peace when Jesus calmed the storm, we too can find peace in Jesus Christ. When anxieties, worries and fear overtake us, if we turn to Jesus in prayer, He can bring us the peace we need. His presence among us in the Eucharist reassures us that we are not alone in our struggles and that His peace is always available to us.

Fr. George Mathew SCJ