



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

Acts 12:1-11;

Psalm 33;

2 Timothy 4:6-8;

Matthew 16:13-19

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

This Week: 30th June-7th July 2024 Psalter Week 1	Holy Mass & Services	Other Events
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 Peter Hudson (JD)	After 8:30 am Mass: Tea & Coffee in the Hall 10.30 am Children's Liturgy
Monday 1st July Feria in Ordinary Time	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Mathew Devasiya and Family (AM)	
Tuesday 2nd July Feria in Ordinary Time	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Iain Martin RIP (C&PI)	
Wednesday 3rd July Feast of St Thomas, Apostle	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Stanislaw Fraczek RIP (BKF)	10:00 am until 6:00 pm Adoration
Thursday 4th July Feria in Ordinary Time	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Brenda O'Keeffe's Birthday (JCH)	After Mass—Church Cleaning
Friday 5th July Feria in Ordinary Time	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Harry Remedios RIP(AK)	After mass— Novena to the Sacred Heart 6.30pm Youth Group
Saturday 6th July Feria in Ordinary Time	11.00 am Mariyakutty Francis RIP (MF)	10.15 am –10.45 am Confession
Sunday 7th July Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B	8:30 am Iain Martin RIP (PW) 10:30 am Joel Jose (MF) 6:00 pm Harry Remedios RIP(AK)	After 8:30 am Mass: Tea & Coffee in the Hall 10.30 am Children's Liturgy

“I invite you to “Hope and Act with Creation” in view of the upcoming World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation. May our lives become an opportunity to sing our love for God and care for our common home.”

Pope Francis via Twitter 27th 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 The angel of the Lord rescues those who revere him.

6.00pm I will bless the Lord at all times, his praise always on my lips.

**In the Lord my soul shall make its boast;
the humble shall hear and be glad. 17 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.**

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.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY DROITWICH

A big thank you for the continued donations of jigsaw puzzles, colouring and
quiz books. They are making a difference to the lives of prisoners. Please
also remember that we are still collecting foreign, old and unwanted money to
convert coins4cash for SVP funds. We much appreciate your support.

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.

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

Thank you to all those who supported the Summer Fair, either by making cakes, advertising the event, helping set up the stalls, being a stall holder, selling raffle tickets, helping with the games, providing refreshments, clearing up afterwards, donating items, attending on the day and supporting the event. The total raised for the parish will be announced in due course. The Summer Fair this year was a great success. A big Thank you to all of you for your participation and support.

NEW LECTIONARY

The Lectionary, which is the book that contains the scripture readings for Mass and the Sacraments, is changing as part of the continuing process of revising liturgical translations. The process began with the Roman Missal in 2011 and has continued with all the other liturgical texts. The new Lectionary will use both the English Standard Version Catholic Edition of the Bible and the Abbey Psalter for the psalms. The changes are intended to make the biblical translations more faithful to the original languages, to reflect current biblical scholarship, and to provide a text for use in liturgical setting that is more proclaimable and, where appropriate, more inclusive. All through the year a set of 4 volumes used the total cost will be £960 including book of the Gospel. If you would like to sponsor a volume or more in remembrance of your loved one or to mark a significant event like anniversaries of Jubilees etc your name will be inscribed on the Donor Bookplate in the Lectionary. A single volume cost £192. Please let us know if you can sponsor a Lectionary for the church. The standard edition of the new Sunday missal for the people's use can be ordered. Hard back missal cost 19.95 there is 15% reduction for preorders.

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.

MARYVALE INSTITUTE

We are delighted to share with you exciting new developments at Maryvale Institute. In a new venture agreed between the Archdiocese and St Mary's University, Twickenham, (SMU) three of Maryvale's programmes (recently validated by the Open University and Liverpool Hope University) will move to a new 'Maryvale at St Mary's'. Maryvale Higher Institute of Religious Sciences (HIRS), the first of its kind in the English-speaking world, will remain, serving the Archdiocese and the wider Church. Two flourishing Maryvale programmes, the Bachelor of Divinity and Licence in Catechetics degrees are recruiting for the academic year 2024-25. Demand for all Maryvale programmes has been strong and ahead of expectations. Maryvale HIRS is also developing a closer relationship with St Mary's College, Oscott, the inter-diocesan Seminary based within the Archdiocese. Current plans envisage sharing Oscott's IT platform and facilities and holding face-to-face teaching there, as well as exams and graduations.

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 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

£330.33

Gift Aid: 162.00

Additional collection
for Day for Life

Gift Aid: £5.00

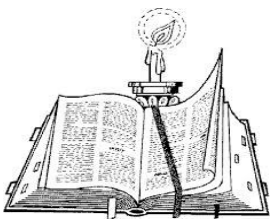
Thank you for
supporting your
Parish.

Mass attendance
last Sunday: 235



**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

Ezekiel 2:2-5;

Psalms 122;

2 Corinthians 12:7-10;

Mark 6:1-6

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.

Today we celebrate the solemnity of Peter and Paul, the two great pillars of the Church. The confession of St. Peter comes at the very centre of the Gospel of Matthew. The story of Peter and Paul tell us that it's possible to change our ways for Christ. Paul was a staunch Jew and pharisee who persecuted Christians, but then he had a conversion. Peter had denied Jesus three times, yet he repented and became the first Vicar of Christ.

The scene of today's Gospel set on Caesarea Philippi a pagan city where number of Greek and pagan gods were worshiped and a shrine dedicated to Pan and related deities on the southwestern slope of Mount Hermon the site of an ancient spring in northern Israel. The Romans later conquered the area and Herod Philip rebuilt the city, naming it after himself and Caesar.

Why did Jesus bring his disciples to this pagan city? Firstly, Jesus took them away from Jewish city, that he wants his disciples to answer his question without the fear of Jews. Secondly, he brought them to this pagan city where several deities were worshiped, that Jesus wanted to know what disciples think about him, if he is just one among those pagan gods or somebody different. The first question he asked them was "who do people say I am". Since it was not a difficult question, disciples answered brilliantly. Then comes the second question; "who do 'You' say I am"? After a very long pause, Peter said, "You are the Christ, the son of the living God". It was Peter's true profession of faith, came straight from his personal experience of Jesus. He makes this profession of faith in front of several lifeless deities made of metal and stone. This question changed the course of their life. Just like the disciples, the answer to this question determines our understanding of Jesus. After two thousand years, still the same question resounds in our ears "who do 'You' say I am"? what we believe that influence our entire life. It is not enough to believe something here and there. But a right understanding of Christ is indispensable for true Christian way of life. "Therefore, believing and preaching the true faith in Jesus is very important. St. Paul says, "If anyone is preaching to you a gospel contrary to the one you received, let him be accursed" (Galatians 1:9)

What is that True Faith professed by Peter? 1: You are 'The Son of the living God'. Not a lifeless deity who cannot have influence on us. but 'a Living God' who is fully alive in us, a God who knows us completely, the one who interferes in our problems. 2: You are 'The Son of God': God from God, light from light, true God from true God, begotten not made, consubstantial with the Father, through him all things were made. 3: You are 'The Christ': Christ means 'Messiah or Anointed one', the one whom the humanity waited for centuries. This is the perfect utterance and core of Christian Faith. This should be our faith too nothing else. For Jesus says, "For you will die in your sins unless you believe that I am He" (John 8: 24) In this story we hear Jesus giving Peter a second chance. Jesus asks him, 'Do you love me?' And three times Peter assures him he does. He joins Paul in Rome. They both devote the rest of their lives to telling people who Jesus was and so it was that the Catholic Church took root in Europe. From Europe, it spread to every continent of the world. We're here today, celebrating the Eucharist, because they had the courage to tell people who Jesus was. By dying in the heroic way they did, they gave the most powerful witness to their belief in Christ.

Fr. George Mathew SCJ