



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

1 Kings 19:4-8;  
Psalm 33;  
Ephesians 4:30-5:2;  
John 6:41-51

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

This Week: 11th-18th Aug 2024 Psalter Week 3	Holy Mass & Services	Other Events
<b>Sunday 11th August</b> <b>Nineteenth Sunday</b> <b>in Ordinary Time, Year B</b> Second collection for Survive-Miva	8:30 am Bernadette Violet Duffy RIP (PD) 10:30 am Stuart Hake (NH) 6:00 pm People of the Parish	After 8:30 am Mass: Tea & Coffee in the Hall
<b>Monday 12th August</b> Feria	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Samuel & VidyaThomas (JT)	
<b>Tuesday 13th August</b> Feria	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am K.V. Joseph Kuruppasery RIP (TS)	
<b>Wednesday 14th August</b> Memorial of St Maximilian Mary Kolbe, Priest, Martyr	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Francis Ouseph RIP (MF)	10:00 am until 6:00 pm Adoration
<b>Thursday 15th August</b> Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Mathew Devasyia RIP (CT) 7.00 pm Holy Mass	After Mass-Church cleaning
<b>Friday 16th August</b> Feria	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Bridget and Raymond Pringle RIP (MB)	After Mass– Novena to the Sacred Heart 1.00 pm Requiem Mass for Eileen Morgan
<b>Saturday 17th August</b> Feria	11.00 am Gladys Remedios RIP(AK)	10.15 am –10.45 am Confessions 11.00 am Anointing Mass
<b>Sunday 18th August</b> <b>Twentieth Sunday</b> <b>in Ordinary Time, Year B</b>	8:30 am Bernadette Violet Duffy RIP (PD) 10:30 am Peter & Franciszek Gruszka RIP (BS) 6:00 pm People of the Parish	After 8:30 am Mass: Tea & Coffee in the Hall 2.30 pm SVP Afternoon

*“ ‘This is my Son, the Beloved, listen to Him!’ (Mt 17:5). The secret to life lies in listening to Jesus. Take the Gospels, read, and listen to what Jesus is saying to your heart. He has the world of eternal life.”*

**Pope Francis via Twitter 6th August 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

Taste and see that the Lord is good.

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### 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.**

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### RECENTLY DECEASED

Your prayers are asked for Eileen Morgan who died recently. May her souls and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Please keep the family and friends of Eileen in your prayers. The Requiem Mass for Eileen Morgan will take place on Friday 16th August at 1pm.

### '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 centred 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](mailto: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](mailto:vidyann14@gmail.com).

### PARISH HALL - APPEAL FOR KEYHOLDERS

We have managed to secure some new regular bookings for the Parish Hall, which will make a significant contribution to the finances, starting in September. We need keyholders to open and close for these events. There is a meeting of current keyholders on 13th August at 7pm. If anyone else is able to help then please come along to the meeting or contact the Parish Office.

### SAVE THE DATE

The work of the SVP is needed now more than ever and thanks to your help and support we have been able to help even more families this year. As a thank you to you all you are invited to an afternoon tea on Saturday 31st August between 2.30 and 4.00pm. So please come along and enjoy a cuppa and a piece of cake while finding out what we have been up to. Thanks

### **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.

### **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 is used. The total cost will be £960 including book of the Gospel. Thank you to all who have sponsored the Lectionary for the Church. The standard edition of the new Sunday missal for the people's use can be ordered. Hard back missals cost £19.95 but there is 10% reduction for preorders.

### **SURVIVE-MIVA APPEAL 11TH AUGUST 2024**

SURVIVE-MIVA (UK Registered Charity No. 268745) is a Catholic lay Association, based in Liverpool and founded in 1974, which provides grants to fund essential transport for health outreach work in isolated rural areas, and for the Church's pastoral care in places of difficult access, across Africa, Asia and Latin America. Find out more at: [www.survive-miva.org](http://www.survive-miva.org)

### **MARCH FOR LIFE UK**

March for Life UK is happening in London on Saturday 7th September. The theme for this year is "Abortion isn't Healthcare". Join thousands at this family-friendly event. There is a coach leaving from St George's Church, 1 Sansome Pl. Worcester WR1 1UG at 8am (departs London at 5pm). Cost is £25 per seat, payable in advance. To book a seat contact Isabel on 07773501721. Find out more about the day at [marchforlife.co.uk](http://marchforlife.co.uk)

### **RESPONDING TO THE CALL OF CREATION**

August's Responding to the Call of Creation newsletter is at the back of the Church.

### **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 explore more about your faith, or if you want to become a Catholic, now is the time to start exploring your faith. The first Session of Journey in Faith will start on Wednesday 18th September at 7pm in the Parish Hall.

### **COMMUNITY MEAL**

Monday **19th August**  
at 12.30 pm in the  
Parish Hall.

### **CHILDREN'S LITURGY**

The Children's Liturgy  
will resume in  
September.

### **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](mailto:sg.sacredheart.droitwich@rcaob.org.uk)  
or alternatively the  
Diocesan  
Safeguarding team  
can be contacted on  
0121 230  
6240/[safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk) if you  
have any concerns.

**Main collection**

**£348.18**

**Gift Aid: £268.20**

**Thank you for  
supporting your  
Parish.**

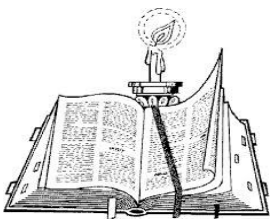
**Mass attendance  
last Sunday: 247**



**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 18th 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**

*Proverbs 9:1-6;*

*Psalms 33;*

*Ephesians 5:15-20;*

*John 6:51-58*

On this Sunday, we continue to read from the "Bread of Life discourse" found in the sixth chapter of John's Gospel. Recall that we have been reading from this chapter for the past two weeks and will continue to read from it for another two. In the first reading we see how God's invisible hand always at work in our life especially in time when we feel we are done. Elijah's experience here is so raw. We're told that after fleeing to the desert, he wished and prayed for his life to end. Like Elijah we give up, we give in, and we accept defeat when the road ahead gets tough and the going steep. When trials come our way, we prefer to regard them as hindrances and obstacles rather than as opportunities. One of the reasons why this happens is because we do not trust ourselves and God enough. We set limits on what God can and cannot do. We decide in advance the form that his manifestation will take and, when this does not happen, we conclude that he is not present. So many people in our world today struggle with feelings of abandonment, or extreme poverty, or circumstances that lead them to despair. This passage shows that God understands and encourages us to be open enough to share that with him. Here we notice how easily the angel of the Lord slips into the narrative; the unseen aspect of creation is just as real and tangible in the biblical worldview as the seen. How does that challenge us? God's compassionate care for his people reaches into the darkest of circumstances, there is always hope. God does not give up on us and He believes in us.

In the Gospel we see Jesus speaking about the bread of life. The bread that the angel gave sustained Elijah and enables him to continue on his way along the path that he has chosen and reassured that this bread that will give him the strength that he requires to persevere in what God wants him to do. Elijah accepts the bread and is able to go on. This bread, however, pales in comparison to the bread that Jesus gives to anyone who is willing to believe. However, the people in the Gospel text of today were not willing to do so. They had made up their minds that God could not come to them in the ordinary and mundane form of bread. They had decided that God would only come in glory, power, and might and, that when he came, he would rule and not serve. They were confident that God could come only in the spectacular, the extra-ordinary, and the miraculous. This is why they simply cannot believe that Jesus could be the Messiah. They thought they knew Him so He cannot be the Messiah. They, too, like Elijah, set limits on what God could do.

However, unlike Elijah, the crowd who listened to Jesus did not relent and so remained in their scepticism. This is what St. Paul in the second reading of today, exhorts not to grieve the Holy Spirit. The sin against the Holy Spirit is to disbelieve and refuse to accept the fact that Jesus has been offered up to God, that he even offered himself up, so that others might have life in all its fullness. Since believers have been transformed into Christ, they must live that new life. At the same time, they must be actively engaged in strengthening what they already are. This is why when we, like Elijah, are tempted to say "enough" because we have had more than our share of trials and tribulations and when we, like the crowd who encountered Jesus, are tempted to disbelieve because we cannot see as we think we must, he keeps reminding us that he is there and will be our bread for the journey. He keeps reminding us that, with him in us, we need never fear, we need never give up and, we need never despair. It is a message that will keep resonating in our hearts when we partake of the bread that he gives. It is a message that will resonate in our hearts when we dare, in our own way, to become bread for others.

Fr. George Mathew SCJ