



Societas Presbyterorum
Sacratissimi Cordis Jesu
BETHARRAM

SACRED HEART & ST CATHERINE OF ALEXANDRIA

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

Today's Mass Readings
Deuteronomy 4:1-2.6-8;
Psalm 14;
James 1:17-18.21-22.27;
Mark 7:1-8.14-15-21-23

This Week: 1st-8th Sep 2024 Psalter Week 2	Holy Mass & Services	Other Events
Sunday 1st September Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B	8:30 am Charlotte Alcock -speedy recovery (LD) 10:30 am Cathy, Greg & Rebecca Pinnell (MM) 6:00 pm People of the Parish	After 8:30 am Mass: Tea & Coffee in the Hall
Monday 2nd September Feria	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Holy Mass	
Tuesday 3rd September Feast of St Gregory the Great, Pope, Doctor of the Church	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Holy Mass	
Wednesday 4th September Feria	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Bogusia & Arek Wedding Anniversary	10:00 am until 6:00 pm Adoration
Thursday 5th September Feria	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Holy Mass	
Friday 6th September Feria	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Maggie-speedy recovery (BKF)	
Saturday 7th September Feria	11.00 am Alan Remedios RIP(AK)	After Mass Novena to the Sacred Heart.
Sunday 8th September Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B Second collection for Catholic Education Service	8:30 am Mary & James McDonnell RIP(N&B) 10:30 am Holy Mass 6:00 pm People of the Parish	After 8:30 am Mass: Tea & Coffee in the Hall 2.30 pm SVP Afternoon

“LAUDATO SI’, mi’ Signore” – “Praise be to you, my Lord”. In the words of this beautiful canticle, Saint Francis of Assisi reminds us that our common home is like a sister with whom we share our life and a beautiful mother who opens her arms to embrace us. “Praise be to you, my Lord, through our Sister, Mother Earth, who sustains and governs us, and who produces various fruit with coloured flowers and herbs”.[1]” Pope Francis Encyclical Letter ‘Laudato Si’

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

The just will live in the presence of the Lord.

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.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY– PARENT INVOLVEMENT

The Children's Liturgy will resume from September. If your child is 4 years old and above they can join the Children's Liturgy. Parents/Guardians/Carers are very welcome to accompany their children to the Children's Liturgy for their first few sessions to ensure that they have happily settled in. After that, it is preferable if the parents don't attend unless necessary as it can be overwhelming for the leaders and distracting for the children if there are too many people present. Thank you for your co-operation in this matter. The group is always looking for new helpers so please consider if this is something you could do.

SPONSORED WALK

The Sacred Heart sponsored walk will be on Saturday 28th September. The money we raise through the walk will be used for the formation of young Seminarians for the Priesthood. Your generous support would be greatly appreciated. If you would like to sponsor the walk please write your name on the clipboard at the back of the Church. If you would like to make a donation through Gift Aid, envelopes are available at the back of the Church. If you would like to join the walk you are most welcome to join the Sacred Heart Fathers & Brothers at Olton Friary Church at 1pm.

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.

GIFT AID CLAIM: 2023-2024 TAX YEAR

The parish received £10821.13 from the Gift Aid Scheme on regular donations and an additional £1995 via Gift Aid Small Donation Scheme. Thank you to all parishioners to giving so generously to the parish.

REFUGEE KNITTING

If you have any items could you leave them at church by Sunday September 15th please. Also if anyone has any clothing they would like to donate I can forward those as well. Many thanks as ever for your continual support.



SEASON OF CREATION 2024

Season of Creation is an annual month-long season when Christian communities pray and act to protect creation. We celebrate our faith in **God Creator** and act in unity to care for our common home.

“Hope and Act with Creation” is the theme chosen for Season of Creation 2024, the ecumenical celebration we hold each year from September 1, World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation, to October 4th, the feast of St. Francis of Assisi. Your action is the firstfruits of hope, a sign of the Spirit working among us.

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. Seats are still available in the coach.

GUILD OF SAINT STEPHEN

The annual Altar Server Mass of Thanksgiving will be offered at St. Chad’s Cathedral on Saturday 5th October at 12.00 noon. All servers are encourage to attend; families are welcome to accompany them and refreshments are provided after Mass. If you would like to attend please let Fr. George or Kevin know before 16th September.

PILGRIMAGE TO ASSISI 25.5.25 – 31.5.25

A small group of parishioners from St Wulstan’s and the Malvern Cluster will be making a pilgrimage to Assisi from 25th to 31st May next year. The ideal group size will be 12-15 people and the booking deadline is 24th September. Here is the webpage <https://www.jcjournneys.com/mc-assisi> where you can download the flyer, fill in a booking form and pay online via the secure link. Any questions? Email enquiries@jcyjournneys.com

“UNDERSTANDING THE MASS—A PERSONAL JOURNEY”

“Understanding the Mass -a Personal Journey” organised by the Droitwich & District Catenians will held on Wednesday 16th October in the Sacred Heart Church, Droitwich at 7pm to 8.30 pm, and is open to all Parishioners in the Deanery

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 Elgar Room. Access is via the side door.

COMMUNITY MEAL

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

CHILDREN’S LITURGY

The Children’s Liturgy will begin on Sunday the 15th of 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 or alternatively the Diocesan Safeguarding team can be contacted on 0121 230 6240/safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk if you have any concerns.

Main collection:

£299.34

Gif Aid: £231.00

**Thank you for
supporting your
Parish.**

**Mass attendance
last Sunday: 243**



**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 8th September 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**

Isaiah 35:4-7;
Psalms 145;
James 2:1-5;
Mark 7:31-37

**Fragment of "MESSAGE OF HIS HOLINESS POPE FRANCIS FOR THE WORLD DAY
OF PRAYER FOR THE CARE OF CREATION"**

1st September 2024- Hope and Act with Creation

"Dear Brothers and Sisters!

"Hope and Act with Creation" is the theme of the World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation, to be held on 1 September 2024. The theme is drawn from Saint Paul's Letter to the Romans (8:19-25), where the Apostle explains what it means for us to live according to the Spirit and focuses on the sure hope of salvation that is born of faith, namely, newness of life in Christ.

1. Let us begin with a question, one perhaps without an immediately obvious answer. If we are truly believers, how did we come to have faith? It is not simply because we believe in something transcendent, beyond the power of reason, the unattainable mystery of a distant and remote God, invisible and unnameable. Rather, as Saint Paul tells us, it is because the Holy Spirit dwells within us. We are believers because the very love of God "has been poured into our hearts" (Rom 5:5) and the Spirit is now truly "the pledge of our inheritance" (Eph 1:14), constantly prompting us to strive for eternal goods, according to the fullness of Jesus' authentic humanity. The Spirit enables believers to be creative and pro-active in charity. He sends us forth on a great journey of spiritual freedom, yet one that does not eliminate the tension between the Spirit's way of thinking and that of the world, whose fruits are opposed to each other (cf. Gal 5:16-17). We know that the first fruit of the Spirit, which sums up all the others, is love. Led by the Holy Spirit, believers are children of God and can turn to him with the words "Abba, Father" (Rom 8:15), just as Jesus did. Moreover, they can do so with the freedom of those who no longer fall back into the fear of death, for Jesus has risen from the dead. This is our great hope: God's love has triumphed and continues to triumph over everything. Indeed, even in the face of physical death, future glory is already assured for those who live the new life of the Spirit. Nor does this hope disappoint, as was affirmed in the recent Bull of Indiction of the forthcoming Jubilee. [1]

2. The life of a Christian, then, is one of faith, active in charity and abounding in hope, as we await the Lord's return in glory. We are not troubled by the "delay" of the Parousia, Christ's second coming; for us the important question is whether, "when the Son of man comes, he will find faith on earth" (Lk 18:8). Faith is a gift, the fruit of the Spirit's presence in us, but it is also a task to be undertaken freely, in obedience to Jesus' commandment of love. Such is the blessed hope to which we must bear witness. Yet where, when, and how are we to bear that witness? Surely by caring for the flesh of suffering humanity. As people who dare to dream, we must dream with our eyes wide open, impelled by a desire for love, fraternity, friendship and justice for all. Christian salvation enters into the depths of the world's suffering, which embraces not only humanity but also the entire universe, nature itself, and the oikos, the home and living environment of humanity. Salvation embraces creation as an "earthly paradise," mother earth, which is meant to be a place of joy and a promise of happiness for all. Our Christian optimism is founded on a living hope: it realizes that everything is ordered to the glory of God, to final consummation in his peace and to bodily resurrection in righteousness, as we pass "from glory to glory." Nonetheless, in the passage of time we are not exempt from pain and suffering: the whole creation groans (cf. Rom 8:19-22), we Christians groan (cf. vv. 23-25) and the Spirit himself groans (cf. vv. 26-27). This groaning expresses apprehension and suffering, together with longing and desire. It gives voice to our trust in God and our reliance on his loving yet demanding presence in our midst, as we look forward to the fulfilment of his plan, which is joy, love and peace in the Holy Spirit."