



Societas Presbyterorum  
Sacratissimi Cordis Jesu  
BETHARRAM

## SACRED HEART & ST CATHERINE OF ALEXANDRIA

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WR9 8AZ, Tel: 01905 773258  
Email: sacredheart.droitwich@rcaob.org.uk  
Web: www.sacredheartdroitwich.org.uk



### Today's Mass Readings

*Wisdom 2:12.17-20;*

*Psalm 53;*

*James 3:16-4:3;*

*Mark 9:30-37*

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

<b>This Week: 22nd –29th Sep 2024 Psalter Week 1</b>	<b>Holy Mass &amp; Services</b>	<b>Other Events</b>
<b>Sunday 22nd September Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B</b> Second collection for Fr. Hudson's Society	8:30 am Finbarr Cronin RIP (BB) 10:30 am Cathy Pinnell (G&JP) 6:00 pm People of the Parish	After 8:30 am Mass: Tea & Coffee in the Hall 10.30 am Children's Liturgy
<b>Monday 23rd September</b> Memorial of St Pius of Pietrelcina	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Jane O'Hara RIP (LM)	
<b>Tuesday 24th September</b> Feast of Our Lady of Walsingham	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Aley, Sarji, Sheril, Jeril (MM)	
<b>Wednesday 25th September</b> Feria	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Cathy Pinnell (GP)	10:00 am until 6:00 pm Adoration
<b>Thursday 26th September</b> Feria	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Peggy & Denis Regan RIP (BB)	Church cleaning after mass. 2.00 pm The Requiem Mass of Finbarr Cronin
<b>Friday 27th September</b> Memorial of St Vincent de Paul, Priest	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Finbarr Cronin RIP(SVP)	After Mass Novena to the Sacred Heart. 6.30 pm Youth Group
<b>Saturday 28th September</b> Feria	11.00 am Gladis Remedios RIP(AK)	10:15-10:45 Confession 1:00 pm Sponsored Walk starting at Olton
<b>Sunday 29th September Twenty-Six Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B</b>	8:30 am People of the Parish. 10:30 am Cathy Pinnell (GP) 6:00 pm Holy Mass	After 8:30 am Mass: Tea & Coffee in the Hall 10.30 am Children's Liturgy

*“What kind of world do we want to leave to those who  
come after us, to children who are now growing up?”*

*Pope Francis Encyclical Letter ‘Laudato Si’, 160*



**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

**PRINCIPAL**

Mr Andy Carry

**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 Lord upholds my life.

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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, 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 Timothy Finbarr Cronin 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 Finbarr in your prayers. The Requiem Mass of Finbarr Cronin will take place on Thursday 26th September at 2pm.

**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.

**REFUGEE COLLECTION**

Thank you one again for your response to the above collection. All the items have been despatched to the organisers and will soon be on their way to help displaced people in Bulgaria. Please continue knitting for the next collection which should take place sometime before Christmas. To recap, you can knit or Crochet anything you feel will benefit adults or children. Wool and other items are available at the back of the church to help defray costs and donations of the same would be gratefully received.



## **SEASON OF CREATION 2024- The firstfruits of hope**

Hope is an instrument enabling us to overcome the natural law of decay. Hope is given to us by God as a protection and guard against futility. Only through hope we may realize the gift of freedom in fullness. Freedom to act not only to achieve enjoyment and prosperity, but to reach the stage in which we are free and responsible. Freedom and responsibility enable us to make the world a better place. Only when we work together with Creation can the firstfruits of hope emerge.

## **NATIONAL LOTTERY HERITAGE FUND GRANT**

It is wonderful news that the Parish has won a grant of almost £190,000 as part of a £260,000 project to clean and conserve our beautiful mosaics and to repair and digitise Gabriel Pippet's 'cartoons' - life size paintings which Maurice Josey then turned into the mosaics around 100 years ago. As part of our bid to the National Lottery Heritage Fund we have agreed a community engagement programme which includes church tours, children's mosaic workshops and tours, as well as a weekly exhibition in the Parish Hall. This is a great opportunity to make the Parish more relevant to the wider community and our volunteering time is regarded as part of our financial contribution to the project. If you would like to help as part of the team we have plenty of interesting roles, with training available if required. These include being a tour guide, assistant tour guide, or helping with the exhibition, although this is not a complete list. If you would like to find out more about the project and perhaps find a volunteering role that might suit you, please contact Fr. George, Jim Spink, Peter Vella or our Parish Secretary, Bogusia t: 01905 773258 e: [sacredheart.droitwich@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:sacredheart.droitwich@rcaob.org.uk) .

## **WORCESTER CIRCLE OF THE NEWMAN ASSOCIATION**

We are starting our 2024/25 programme on Wednesday 2nd October with a talk by David McLaughlin with the intriguing title: Jesus in his own time: Religion, economics and politics. Please note two changes for this year: we shall be starting our meetings at 7pm and not 7.30 pm and all meetings are likely to be on Wednesdays and not Thursdays due to the increased availability of the hall on Wednesdays. Everyone is welcome, both regular attenders and especially new members. All meetings are at St. George's RC Church Hall, Worcester and finish around 8.30 pm.

## **CONFIRMATION PROGRAMME 2024**

Children who are in Year 6 or above in September and are not at St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School can be prepared to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation in 26th November 2024. If you would like your child to be part of the parish preparation group please could you contact Fr. George or the parish office by the end of September. Confirmation classes will begin in October.

## **JOURNEY IN FAITH**

The next Journey in Faith session will be on Wednesday 2nd October at 7pm in the Elgar Room. On this day we will be discussing the topic: Who is Jesus for me? The historical Jesus of Nazareth, the Messiah, the Christ .

## **OPEN MORNING AT ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL**

Open Morning and Afternoon at St. Joseph's Catholic School will take place on Thursday 10th October at 9am and 4pm.

## **COMMUNITY MEAL**

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

## **CHILDREN'S LITURGY**

There will be  
Children's Liturgy  
during the 10.30 am  
mass on 22nd, 29th  
September; 6th &  
13th October.

## **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:**

**£323.35**

**Gif Aid: £151.50**

**Second collection for  
Catholic Evangelisation**

**£24**

**Gift Aid: £85**

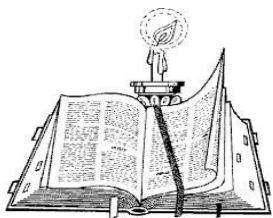
**Thank you for  
supporting your  
Parish.**

**Mass attendance  
last Sunday: 278**

**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 13th October 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**

*Numbers 11:25-29;*

*Psalms 18;*

*James 5:1-6;*

*Mark 9:38-43.45.47-48*

## **PASTORAL LETTER OF THE MOST REVEREND BERNARD LONGLEY**

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ, In today's Gospel the apostles show how human they are - yet there is something to be admired in aspiring to greatness. Every human being is called to be great. But Jesus describes greatness as God sees it. It is in service, sacrifice, welcoming the most vulnerable. Paul is urging the people of Corinth (and us) to aspire to greatness - but he warns that this doesn't come with the eloquence of angels or even with a faith that can move mountains but rather in love. He uses a particular word for love. In Latin it is Caritas - and Agape in Greek. It is the love that we show in service, in putting others before ourselves. All over the Archdiocese there are individuals and parishes who express this Caritas - sacrificial love - by welcoming the vulnerable - opening their doors to people who are lonely, bereaved, people with dementia, disabilities or special needs, others suffering with food poverty, by visiting the sick, prisoners and helping people with addictions.

In his first letter to the faithful, Pope Benedict chose to write about Caritas. Here he describes the Church's rich history of care for those in need: The exercise of charity became established as one of her essential activities, along with the administration of the sacraments and the proclamation of the word: love for widows, orphans, prisoners, the sick and needy of every kind, is as essential to her as the ministry of the sacraments and preaching of the Gospel. The Church cannot neglect the service of charity any more than she can neglect the Sacraments and the Word. Pope Benedict also wrote: As a community, the Church must practise love. Love thus needs to be organized if it is to be an ordered service to the community. In the Archdiocese we are blessed to have an agency that does precisely that. All its resources are dedicated to the service of people who are homeless, asylum seekers and refugees, people with disabilities and special needs, care of the elderly and vulnerable young people. We see this work going on in projects all over the Archdiocese. I am, of course, referring to Father Hudson's Care, which is always looking for ways to do more. But this can only be done with the prayers and support of every parish. Father Hudson's is a key agency of Caritas but every Christian and every parish is coresponsible for this. Every parish church is surrounded by people crying out for this love. Sometimes it is hard to respond - maybe we don't know how or we feel we don't have the resources. This partly explains why the Archdiocese and Father Hudson's have decided to entrust the development of Caritas to the care of Father Hudson's. Father Hudson's has the experience and networks to help every parish to develop this ministry as part of our diocesan vision. We have been blessed with generous financial support from our schools to fund a post which will focus on supporting parishes. This work will involve sharing ideas and good practise, helping to recruit parish volunteers and offer training, while working in partnership with other churches and charities - so that we can develop our care for those in need. So, from now on, Father Hudson's name will reflect all this as Father Hudson's Caritas. Changing a name and employing a worker will only bear fruit when our parishes respond to the words of the Gospel. I am grateful that in many parishes there are already SVP, Justice and Peace and other social action groups undertaking this work. But with the Jubilee Year approaching - with its focus on Luke chapter 4 where Jesus says he has come to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to set the oppressed free - I invite every parish to look towards developing one new project to help people in need. Today, please help Father Hudson's Caritas with your prayers and through your generous financial support. Pray especially that all our parishes will see how we can meet the needs of disadvantaged people in our communities. May he bless you as you reach out with his love.

Yours devotedly in Christ Bernard Longley Archbishop of Birmingham.