



Societas Presbyterorum  
Sacratissimi Cordis Jesu  
BETHARRAM

## SACRED HEART & ST CATHERINE OF ALEXANDRIA

208 Worcester Road, Droitwich Spa,  
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Web: www.sacredheartdroitwich.org.uk



**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

*1 Kings 17:10-16;  
Psalm 145;  
Hebrews 9:24-28;  
Mark 12:38-44*

| This Week:<br>10th-17th Nov 2024<br>Psalter Week 4  | Holy Mass & Services  | Other Events   |
|---|---|--|
| <b>Sunday 10th November</b><br><b>Thirty Second Sunday</b><br><b>in Ordinary Time, Year B</b><br><br><b>Remembrance Day</b> | 8:30 am Deceased Members of<br>Clapham Family (MB)<br>10:30 am Bridgets Davis & Family (BD)<br>6:00 pm Deceased relations, Friends of<br>Peter & Whaley family (AP) | After 8:30 am Mass: Tea & Coffee in<br>the Hall<br>During 10:30 am Mass: Children's<br>Liturgy<br>2:30 - 4:30 pm SVP Tea & Coffee<br>Afternoon in the Hall |
| <b>Monday 11th November</b><br>Memorial of St Martin of Tours,<br>Bishop  | 8:55 am Morning Prayer<br>9:15 am KVJoseph, Andrew, Sherly,<br>Juliet & KVPeter   |  |
| <b>Tuesday 12th November</b><br>Memorial of St Josaphat, Bishop,<br>Martyr  | 8:55 am Morning Prayer<br>9:15 am Deceased members of Martin<br>& Quigley families (MM)   |  |
| <b>Wednesday 13th November</b><br>Feria   | 8:55 am Morning Prayer<br>9:15 am <b>Communion Service</b>  | 10:00 am - 6:00 pm Adoration<br>7.00 pm Journey in Faith   |
| <b>Thursday 14th November</b><br>Feria  | 8:55 am Morning Prayer<br>9:15 am Arthur Leason RIP (MB)  |  |
| <b>Friday 15th November</b><br>Feria  | 8:55 am Morning Prayer<br>9:15 am The souls of Hancock,<br>Johnson & May Family (AM)  | After mass: Novena to the Sacred<br>Heart<br>6.30 pm Youth Group   |
| <b>Saturday 16th November</b><br>Feria  | 11.00 am Alan Remedios RIP(AK)  | 10:15 - 10:45 am Confession<br>11.00 am Anointing Mass   |
| <b>Sunday 17th November</b><br><b>Thirty Third Sunday</b><br><b>in Ordinary Time, Year B</b>                                | 8:30 am Deceased Members of Brush<br>Family (MB)<br>10:30 am People of the Parish<br>6:00 pm Keith Mercer RIP(JD)   | After 8:30 am Mass: Tea & Coffee in<br>the Hall<br>During 10:30 am Mass: Children's<br>Liturgy   |

***"We cannot become Saints with a frown.***

***We must have joyful hearts that remain open to hope."***

*Pope Francis via Twitter 7th November 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:  
jod\_office@emmausmac.  
com

**PRINCIPAL**

Mr A Carry

**PARISH SECRETARY**

Bogusia Koniszewska-  
Fijolek

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Email:  
sacredheart.droitwich@  
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**PARISH HALL  
BOOKINGS**

Please contact Sally at  
volunteers.

sacredheart.droitwich  
@rcaob.org.uk or  
07891144870

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

8.00am, 10.30am My soul, give praise to the Lord.

6.00 pm Come lord and save us, come Lord and save us.

Maranatha! Come into our world. X2

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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, Michael Sheridan, Jacky Smith, Paul Smith, Margaret Steward, Breda Wightman, Richard Wightman, Msgr. Graham Wilkinson, Fr. Brian Boyle and Mrs. Roma.

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**RECENTLY DECEASED**

Your prayers are asked for Jackie McLean who died recently. May her soul and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Please keep the family and friends of Jackie in your prayers.

**CHRISTMAS FAIR 30TH NOVEMBER**

The Parish Fair is a time when we can all come together as a Parish Family, apart from liturgical services, to meet and greet our fellow parishioners, twice a year. Also, though small, it is one way of raising some additional funds for the parish to cope with the recent massive increases in energy costs, though this winter is likely to be better than the last couple of winters. The Christmas Fair this year will be on Saturday 30th November from 11.00am until 2pm. To add colour to the social aspect, we will have the Christmas 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. 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. In addition, there will be stalls such as cakes, bric-a-brac, tombola, toiletries, toys and books. Please start bringing items for these stalls, especially items for tombola and toiletries. There will be tea, coffee & cake available too. We are looking for volunteers to help with the Christmas Fair, if you can help, please contact Fr. George. Please keep this date in your diary.

**NOVEMBER: MONTH OF THE HOLY SOULS**

In November we remember and pray especially for those who have died. At the back of the church there are "In Remembrance" sheets. If you would like to remember your loved ones who have died, write down their names, place the sheet in one of the envelopes provided and put it in the Holy Souls Box (do not put any money in the envelope). The 'Holy Souls Box' will be placed at the altar during each Mass in November. It is a special time of the year to offer a Holy Mass for the repose of a loved one or someone close to you who needs our prayers. There are Mass Intention Request envelopes available in the Narthex if you wish to have Mass offered for deceased relatives and friends.

**NEW SUNDAY MISSAL**

For all those who have ordered the New Sunday Missal, they are available to collect after each Mass. The cost is £18.00

## **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.

## **GIVING TO OTHERS THIS CHRISTMAS**

SVP will be putting up a Christmas Giving Tree for parishioners to donate gifts for children. Fr Hudson's will distribute these gifts. The Tree will be ready on 24th November for you to take an Angel tag. Please put the age range on the tag. Wrapped and tagged gifts can be left under the tree. There will be instructions alongside the tree. Fr Hudson's will be collecting the gifts on December 9th.

Christmas Cards for Prisoners in Long Lartin will be available at all Masses on 1st December. If you wish to write a card, DO NOT put any money in the card and DO NOT add your name, "From Sacred Heart Parish" is acceptable. Leave the envelope open as all mail has to be checked at the Prison. Leave your card in the appropriate box at the back of the Church. A 50p donation towards the cost of the card would be appreciated.

## **SAVE THE DATE**

The SVP annual Family Quiz will take place in the Parish Hall on the evening of Saturday 1st Feb 2025. This will be a free evening for everyone to come together for some friendly competition and have fun. Further details near the time.

## **THANK YOU EVENING FRIDAY 6TH DECEMBER**

To thank all of you and the parish volunteers who are involved in different areas of parish life both spiritual and temporal, this year the Thank You Evening will be on Friday 6th December. The Evening will start with Holy Mass at 6pm followed by a meal and entertainment in the parish hall. Please keep this date in your diary. Please help the catering team by letting us know if you would like to join the meal and social in the parish hall after Mass.

## **JOURNEY IN FAITH (RCIA)**

The next Journey in Faith (RCIA) session will be on Wednesday 13th November at 7pm in the Elgar Room. The topic for discussion will be 'Word of God: The Bible'.

## **CHRISTMAS CAROL CONCERT SATURDAY 14TH DECEMBER 3:00 P.M.**

We are delighted to welcome Quinborne Choir to our church for a Carol Concert on Saturday 14th December at 3:00 p.m. The choir will sing a variety of carols and music for winter, including Elgar's The Snow, and there will be communal carols for us all to enjoy singing. After the concert at approximately 4:15 p.m. tea, coffee and seasonal treats will be served in the Parish Hall. What better way to start your Christmas Season? Tickets £10, under 18s free, will be available after all Masses on Sunday 17th December or by contacting Jenny and Peter Leonard 07970 824102 peterleonard4@aol.com Demand is expected to be high, so book your tickets soon!

## **NEWMAN ASSOCIATION**

### **Young People and the Church's Mission by Yemisi Wisoba ,Parish Development Worker, Kenelm Youth Trust.**

The next meeting of the Worcester Circle Newman Association is on Wednesday 13th November at St George's RC Church Parish Hall, Sansome Place Worcester, WR1 1UG (Car park postcode WR1 1UT)

## **COMMUNITY MEAL**

Monday **18th November** at 12.30 pm in the Parish Hall.

## **CHILDREN'S LITURGY**

There will be Children's Liturgy during 10.30 am mass on **10th, 17th, 24th November & on 1st, 8th & 15th December**

## **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**

**£243.20**

**Gift Aid: £149.50**

**Second collection for  
Jonson Association**

**£39.93**

**Gift Aid: £74.50**

**Thank you for  
supporting your  
Parish.**

**Mass attendance  
last Sunday: 253**

**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 **10th**

**November** 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**

*Daniel 12:1-3;*

*Psalms 15;*

*Hebrews 10:11-14.18;*

*Mark 13:24-32*

*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.*

The readings of today speak of people who reveal a profound trust and self-sacrifice, urging us to consider what we, too, might be called to give in our relationship with God. In the First Reading, we meet the widow of Zarephath. She is gathering sticks during a drought and famine to prepare the final meal for herself and her son before they die of hunger. When Elijah asks her for food, her reply reveals the depth of her poverty: she has only "a handful of flour in a jar and a little oil in a jug" (1 Kings 17:12). Yet Elijah encourages her to trust God, promising that her jar of flour and jug of oil will not run out until the rain returns. She gives her last meal and, in doing so, God sustains her and her son throughout the drought. This story teaches us the power of surrender and trust in God. In our lives we may face situations where we feel stretched to our limits, wondering if we have enough to get through our own "droughts." But this passage reassures us that God sees our needs and that, when we step out in faith, He provides.

As St. Paul writes in Philippians 4:19, "My God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus." Just as the widow trusted Elijah's words, we are invited to trust that God will not abandon us, no matter how desperate our situation may seem. St. Paul encourages us in the second reading (Romans 12:1), "Offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship". Just as Jesus gave Himself for us, we are called to live lives of self-giving love in response.

In the Gospel Jesus contrasts the extravagance of the scribes with the humble offering of a poor widow. Her story shows us that God values the heart behind our giving. As I reflected over this passage, I was deeply moved by this image of the widow giving her only source of sustenance to God. I couldn't really understand; how could she do that? This made me reflect on our relationship with God. Just as we have a give and take relationship with a shopkeeper - I give money and the shopkeeper gives me a product, we quite often treat God as a shopkeeper, don't we? I'll say these prayers and He should grant me my wishes, or I will make this donation and God should answer this prayer of mine. I asked myself what does God really want? He doesn't want anything. He just wants you. We all do struggle in our lives – financial difficulties, emotional strains, strains in relationships – challenges and suffering are in abundance. Amidst all this, God doesn't want our possessions. He just wants our hearts. Like the widow of Zarephath, let's trust that God will provide for us, even when resources seem scarce. If there is an area where we feel anxious about our needs, lift it up to God, asking Him to take care of it and supply what is necessary. Offer our Life in gratitude. Try to find a way to give back to God this week—through prayer, service or acts of kindness. Let this be a response to the love and forgiveness we have received from Him. Give with a humble heart. The widow's gift in the temple shows us that God values even the smallest offering given with sincerity. Consider a small act of generosity you can do for someone in need, whether it's giving time, resources or even just encouragement. Remember, it's not the size of the gift but the love with which it is given that matters most. God bless you all.

Fr. George Mathew SCJ