



Societas Presbyterorum
Sacratissimi Cordis Jesu
BETHARRAM

SACRED HEART & ST CATHERINE OF ALEXANDRIA

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Today's Mass Readings

Isaiah 40:1-5,9-11;

Psalms 104(103);

Titus 2:11-14, 3:4-7;

Luke 3:15-16,21-22

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

This Week: 12th—19th Jan 2025 Psalter Week	Holy Mass & Services	Other Events
Sunday 12th January Feast of the Baptism of The Lord Year C 200 Club Appeal	8:30 am Chris Dennis RIP (MD) 10:30 am Kitty Brennan RIP (SB) 6:00 pm People of the Parish	After 8:30 Mass: Tea & coffee in the Parish Hall 10:30 am Mass Children's Liturgy 2:30-4:30pm SVP afternoon
Monday 13th January Feria	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Communion Service	1.00 pm Private Church Tour
Tuesday 14th January Feria	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am John Silvi (MM)	
Wednesday 15th January Feria	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Tony Sawyer RIP (MS) 11.30 am Requiem Mass of Barbara Conway	After Mass— Adoration 10.00 am Private Church Tour 1.30 pm Private Church Tour 7pm Journey in Faith
Thursday 16th January Feria	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Harry Remedios RIP (AK)	After mass— Church cleaning
Friday 17th January Memorial of St Anthony, Abbot	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Gladys Remedios RIP(AK)	After Mass: Novena to the Sacred Heart 6:30-8:00pm Youth Group
Saturday 18th January Feria	11.00 am Vive Glossop RIP (BB) (MM) 11.00 am Anointing Mass	10:15-10.45am Confessions 12:00-5:00 pm Visitor Centre in the Romero Room, Parish Hall
Sunday 19th January Second Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C Second collection for Pax Christi	8:30 am Jackie McLean RIP(MM) 10:30 am Patricia Fahy RIP 6:00 pm People of the Parish	After 8:30 Mass: Tea & coffee in the Parish Hall 10:30 am Mass Children's Liturgy

“ A diplomacy of hope is, in the end, a diplomacy of justice, without which there can be no peace. The Jubilee year is a favourable time to practise justice, forgive debts, and commute the sentences of prisoners.”

Pope Francis via Twitter 9th January 2025

**SACRED HEART
COMMUNITY**

Fr. George Mathew SCJ
(Parish Priest)

fr.george.mathew@
rcaob.org.uk

**In an emergency, please
contact: 07448 042484**

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

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

8.30, 10.30am Bless the Lord. O my soul! My God, how great you are!

6.00 pm Bless the Lord my soul! Lord God how great you are.

PRAY FOR OUR SICK PARISHIONERS

Please pray for all our parishioners, and/or their friends and relatives, who
are unwell:

Beryl Hill, Alan Hurst, John Jennings, Andrew McDermott, Michael Sheridan,
Jacky Smith, Paul Smith, Margaret Steward, Breda Wightman, Richard
Wightman, Mrs. Roma and Judy Lynam Pyper.

RECENTLY DECEASED

Your prayers are asked for Barbara Conway who died recently. May her soul
and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in
peace. Barbara's Requiem Mass will take place on Wednesday 15th January
at 11.30am. Please keep her family and friends in your prayers.

WEDNESDAY ADORATION

Adoration will resume on Wednesday 15th January.

PILGRIMAGE TO ASSISI 25.5.25

A group of parishioners from St Wulstan's and the Malvern Cluster will be
making a pilgrimage to Assisi from 25th to 31st May (maximum 12-15
people) and there are currently a few spaces available. You can download
the flyer here: <https://www.jcjourneys.com/mc-assisi> also the booking
form, which enables the deposit to be paid online via a secure
link. Alternatively, if you would prefer this information by email, please don't
hesitate to contact carvercharlotte400@gmail.com or
bernadetteekin@gmail.com .

JOURNEY IN FAITH (RCIA)

The next Journey in Faith (RCIA) session will be on Wednesday 15th January
at 7pm in the Elgar Room. The topic for discussion will be The Sacrament of
Baptism - Gateway to Heaven.

FREE FAMILY QUIZ

The SVP are holding our annual Family Fun Quiz on Saturday 1st February in
the parish hall at 7.00pm. Teams will be of no more than 6 , but don't worry
if you are on your own. You will be able to join together with others to make
up a team. This is a free event, there will be a raffle and you need to bring
along your own refreshments, glasses, plates etc. Our recently formed
Minnie Vinnies (junior SVP) will be helping to run the quiz, so please come
along to support this event and have a great fun evening.

RESPONDING TO THE CALL OF CREATION

January's Responding to the Call of Creation Newsletter is on the notice
board

WORCESTER CIRCLE , NEWMAN ASSOCIATION

Next meeting is on Wednesday 22nd January 2025 at 7.00pm in St. George's
RC Church Hall, Worcester. 'Uses and Abuses in Religious Art and our
Faith': Fleur Dorrell. All are welcome.

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.

PUBLIC CHURCH TOUR

This Saturday was the first monthly public church tour with a café. The public tour was fully booked and it is hoped to have the café open for every public church tour. The café is from 1-5pm serving teas, coffee, squash and a lovely range of cakes. Everyone is welcome. The Visitor Centre will be open every Saturday 12noon-5pm.

ANNUAL PARISH RETURN

As part of our annual return to the Archdiocese we are required to count the number of volunteers in the parish. Please could all group leaders provide a list of person volunteering during the 2024 year to the parish office as soon as possible?

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PROGRAMME 2025

If your child is Year 3 or above and doesn't go to a Catholic school and you wish your child to be prepared to receive the Sacrament of First Holy Communion this summer, please would you contact Fr. George SCJ or the Parish office. Holy communion session will begin at the end of February on Saturdays in the Parish Hall.

BOOKING NOW OPEN FOR THIS YEAR'S DIOCESAN LOURDES PILGRIMAGE

You are most welcome to join us this Jubilee Year as we journey to Lourdes in May. The pilgrimage runs from Saturday 24 - Friday 30 May 2025 with the theme: "With Mary, Pilgrims of Hope". If you would like to travel to Lourdes but a in need of assistance, we can help. Assisted pilgrims have the support of doctors, nurses, carers and hospitaliers throughout their time on pilgrimage. You will participate fully in the pilgrimage and experience the love of God through the care, love and friendship of volunteers. Please contact the Lourdes Pilgrimage Office to discuss assistance requirements: 0121 230 6288 / admin.lourdes@rcaob.org.uk As well as applications from assisted pilgrims we're also keen to hear from doctors, nurses and carers eager to volunteer their time and experience Lourdes.

If Our Lady is calling you, please answer and give to others. We look forward to hearing from you. Find out more here:

<https://www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/lourdes-pilgrimage>

JUBILEE YEAR 2025

This year 2025, the Holy Father has announced as a Year of Jubilee for the universal church, a year to mark the 2025th anniversary of the manifestation of Our Lord. As pilgrims we know that prayer is at the very heart of our journey of faith as we allow ourselves to be drawn into the life of God through our encounter with His Son, Jesus Christ, with our personal prayer and setting up programmes for our renewal as individuals and a parish family. To help us to start this journey of hope, we have The Jubilee Companion Booklet available at the back of the church, priced at £1.50.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY

There will be Children's Liturgy during 10.30 am mass on

**12th, 19th, 26th
January, 2nd & 9th
February.**

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

£281.65

Gift Aid: £226.00

Thank you for
supporting your
Parish.

Mass attendance
last Sunday: 221

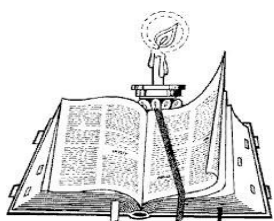


**ST. VINCENT DE
PAUL SOCIETY: TEA
& COFFEE
AFTERNOON**

If you would like some company, a drink, chat and cake then please come and join us on Sunday **12th January** 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 62:1-5;

Psalms 95;

1 Corinthians 12:4-11;

John 2:1-11

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.

Jesus's baptism by John was a crucial turning point of his life. The opening of the Heavens with the Holy Spirit descending as a dove upon Jesus, and the Voice declaring of Jesus, "This is my beloved Son, Listen to him" are God's revelation to mankind of the Mystery that He is Triune. The presence of the Triune God at this baptism reveals Jesus's true identity and mission. The Heavens' opening also indicates that this was a moment of God's powerful intervention in human history and in the life of His Son. Soon after this, Jesus began His public ministry, with the proclamation of the Kingdom of God with a call to conversion. The Baptism of each Christian should be a similar defining moment in his or her life. During the sacrament of baptism, we have a symbolic gesture of putting on a white garment, which signifies putting on the life of Christ, His purity and holiness to which each baptised are called live.

The baptism of Jesus reminds us of our identity and mission. First, it reminds us of who we are and whose we are. By Baptism we become the adoptive sons and daughters of God, brothers and sisters of Jesus, members of his Church, heirs of Heaven and temples of the Holy Spirit [CCC #1279]. Baptism washes away the stain of Original Sin. Original Sin is not an 'Act', but a 'State'. The "State of Original Sin" is simply the Loss of Sanctifying Grace and the Preternatural Gifts which resulted from the Original Sin - the First Sin committed by the Human Race. As a result we suffer, die physically, struggle with passions and desires which our wills are too weak to control and have minds which are darkened by sin requiring the help of God. Because of original sin, we come into the world with a soul which is supernaturally dead. We come into the world with only the natural endowments of human nature. "The supernatural life, which is the result of God's personal and intimate indwelling, is absent from the soul." When the sacrament of Baptism is administered, the spiritual vacuum which we call Original Sin disappears as God becomes present in the soul, and the soul is caught up into that sharing of God's own life which we call sanctifying grace.

Most of us dipped the fingers of our right hand into the holy water font and blessed ourselves when we came into Church today. Why? This blessing is supposed to remind us of our Baptism. And so, when I bless myself with Holy Water, I should be thinking of the fact that I am a child of God, that I have been washed, forgiven, cleansed and purified by Christ. It's good to ask ourselves this questions as we celebrate this feast. What difference does it make that I am baptised? Are the fruits of baptism evident in my life? Am I dying to sin? Am I putting on the life of Christ? And when this baptismal grace is tarnished or even lost through sin, we have the great sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation, which sacramentally washes and cleanses us anew, restoring the dignity and graces of our baptism to us. We ask the Lord to keep us mindful of our baptismal dignity and to help us to live out our baptismal calling as His sons and daughters, until we, please God, reach the fulfilment our baptism in heaven. God bless you all.

George Mathew SCJ