



Societas Presbyterorum  
Sacratissimi Cordis Jesu  
BETHARRAM

## SACRED HEART & ST CATHERINE OF ALEXANDRIA

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Web: www.sacredheartdroitwich.org.uk



### Today's Mass Readings

*Isaiah 62:1-5;*

*Psalms 95;*

*1 Corinthians 12:4-11;*

*John 2:1-11*

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

<b>This Week: 19th—26th Jan 2025 Psalter Week 2</b>	<b>Holy Mass &amp; Services</b>	<b>Other Events</b>
<b>Sunday 19th January</b> <b>Second Sunday in Ordinary Time</b> <b>Year C</b> 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
<b>Monday 20th January</b> Feria	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am N.O. Thomas RIP	
<b>Tuesday 21st January</b> Memorial of St Agnes, Virgin, Martyr	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Communion Service	
<b>Wednesday 21nd January</b> Feria	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Communion Service	After Mass— Adoration
<b>Thursday 23rd January</b> Feria	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Communion Service	
<b>Friday 24th January</b> Memorial of St Francis de Sales, Bishop, Doctor of the Church	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Communion Service	After Mass: Novena to the Sacred Heart 6:30-8:00pm Youth Group
<b>Saturday 25th January</b> Feast of the Conversation of St Paul, the Apostle	11.00 am Peter Dance RIP (KL)	10:15-10.45am Confessions 12:00-5:00 pm Visitor Centre in the Romero Room, Parish Hall 12:00– 3.00 pm Children's Workshop Tour
<b>Sunday 26th January</b> <b>Third Sunday in Ordinary Time</b> <b>Year C</b>	8:30 am Fr. Brian Boyle RIP(MM) 10:30 am Maureen Weaver RIP (CL) 6:00 pm Alan Remedios RIP(AK)	After 8:30 Mass: Tea & coffee in the Parish Hall 10:30 am Mass Children's Liturgy

**“ Jesus invite us not to be in drawn in by worldly logic. We must rather listen to the least and poor, because God loves to speak to us through them.”**

Pope Francis via Twitter 18th 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

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sacredheart.droitwich@  
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**PARISH HALL  
BOOKINGS**

Please contact Sally at  
volunteers.

sacredheart.droitwich  
@rcaob.org.uk or  
07891144870

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

**8.30, 10.30am** Proclaim the wonders of the Lord among all the peoples.

**6.00 pm** Sing a new song to the Lord; sing to the Lord all the earth!  
Sing a new song to, sing a new song to the Lord; bless His name.

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**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.

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**FR. GEORGE ON HOLIDAY**

Fr. George will be away for his holiday and visiting his family from  
21st January till 11th February. While Fr. George is away priests from the  
deanery and from Olton Friary will supply for the weekend masses. Any  
emergency sick visit or funerals please contact Fr. Tomas (07391550817) at  
St. Peter's Bromsgrove.

**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> as well as 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  
bernadetteeakin@gmail.com .

**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.

**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 six, 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.

**REFUGEE KNITTING**

Could you please bring your items to church ready for collection on  
28th.January. If anyone has other items you think may help the refugees, I  
can take those too. Thank you for the beautiful baby Christmas and adult  
clothes collected recently. Donations of wool would also be gratefully  
accepted and can be placed in the cupboard at the church entrance. As ever  
thank you so much for supporting this cause.

## JOURNEY IN FAITH (RCIA)

The next Journey in Faith (RCIA) session will be on Wednesday 5th February at 7pm in the Elgar Room. The topic for the discussion will be 'Mother Mary and Marian Devotion'.

## 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.

## PUBLIC CHURCH TOUR

We held our first public church tour last Saturday, alongside a pop-up café. Both were well supported and a great success. We would like to thank all the volunteers for their enthusiasm, help and support in getting these off the ground. If anyone is interested in volunteering for the project, please do contact the parish office. We are particularly looking for people to help man the heritage centre which is open every Saturday 12-5pm.

The next project events will be:

\*Children's mini tour and mosaic workshops Saturday 25th January at 2.30pm

<http://www.sacredheartdroitwich.org.uk/free-mosaic-workshops/>

\*Public Church Tour Saturday 22nd February at 2pm

<http://www.sacredheartdroitwich.org.uk/the-church/church-tours/>

You can also keep up to date with the project and other parish events via our new Facebook Page: 'Friends of Sacred Heart Church Droitwich Spa'  
<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61570844243830>

## 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](mailto: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

**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](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**

**£171.00**

**Gift Aid: £236.11**

**Thank you for  
supporting your  
Parish.**

**Mass attendance  
last Sunday: 211**



**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 **9th February** 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**

*Nehemiah 8:2-6;*

*Psalms 19(18);*

*1 Corinthians 12:12-30 ;*

*Luke 1:1-4,4:14-21*

*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.*

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ. The readings for today focus on the abundant love of God who transforms our lives and calls us to be joyful witnesses of his glory. The first reading from the prophet Isaiah is a beautiful poem that depicts the glory of the people of Israel. The prophet marks that Israel shall be a crown of beauty and royal diadem in the hand of the Lord. God promises to transform Zion into a place of joy and celebration indicating a deep relationship between God and His people, Israel. The prophet uses the metaphor of marriage to convey the message. Though Jerusalem had been devastated by the Babylonian conquest, the prophet envisioned Jerusalem's future glory to encourage and sustain the people. The prophet invites people to rejoice at the abundance of blessings that would be theirs once cleansed of her sins or wrongdoings.

In the second reading, from the First Letter of St Paul to the Corinthians, 12: 4-11, Paul focuses on spiritual gifts and their role in building up the body of Christ, the church. He aims to correct misunderstandings among the Corinthians that prioritizing certain gifts like speaking in tongues over others can lead to pride and division in the community. He highlights the variety of gifts given by the Holy Spirit, and he says that these gifts are not for our personal glorification but for the common good, fostering unity within the body of Christ, the Church. Paul also reminds us the distribution of gifts is not based on human merits or aspirations but pure gift of God.

Today's gospel passage is taken from Gospel of St John 2: 1-11, which recounts Jesus's first miracle or sign, turning water into wine at the wedding feast in Cana. Cana is a small village in Galilee, which emphasizes Jesus's ministry among ordinary people. St John's Gospel is structured around seven signs that reveal Jesus's divine identity and His mission. The first sign, changing water into wine, sets the tone for Jesus's mission, that is the transformative power of Jesus. Historically, wedding celebrations in Jewish culture were significant social and religious events. Wedding feasts often lasted for several days. Running out of wine would have been a major embarrassment for the host, symbolizing a failure to provide for guests. Wine as in Jewish tradition has a significant role as Psalm 104:15, "wine to gladden their hearts..."; wine is a symbol of joy and blessing. Mary demonstrates faith in Jesus and entrusts the situation to Him despite his initial response. This act reflects the model of discipleship. This also has a significant part of our understanding of Mary as the great mediator. She brings each of us closer to Christ by bridging the gap between us and Jesus. Jesus's first public miracle happened through the intercession of Mary. We also notice that this miracle of transformation of water into wine occurs without a visible gesture or extraordinary words from Jesus, unlike other miracles in the Gospels. The servants did whatever He told them (cf. John 2:5). And here's the amazing thing: all He asked them to do was fill those jars with water. That's all! Then a miracle followed, because of the servants' obedience. Sometimes I think we are not doing enough to live out our faith. Maybe, just like the servants at Cana, Jesus is asking us to do something simple, and well within our abilities, training and current life situation. These commands, doing whatever He tells us, may not be as complicated as we think. Easy? Not always. If we humble ourselves, no matter how insignificant it may seem, the miraculous transformation will happen in our lives. Let us allow Jesus to transform our lives. Amen.

Fr. George Mathew SCJ