



Societas Presbyterorum  
Sacratissimi Cordis Jesu  
BETHARRAM

## SACRED HEART & ST CATHERINE OF ALEXANDRIA

208 Worcester Road, Droitwich Spa,  
WR9 8AZ, Tel: 01905 773258  
Email: sacredheart.droitwich@rcaob.org.uk  
Web: www.sacredheartdroitwich.org.uk



### Today's Mass Readings

*Isaiah 6:1-8;*

*Psalms 138(137);*

*1 Corinthians 15:1-11;*

*Luke 5:1-11*

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

<b>This Week: 9th-16th Feb 2025 Psalter Week 1</b>	<b>Holy Mass &amp; Services</b>	<b>Other Events</b>
<b>Sunday 9th February Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C</b>	8:30 am Pat Whaley (AP) 10:30 am Special Intention (C&PI) 6:00 pm Alan Remedios RIP(AK)	After 8:30 Mass: Tea & coffee in the Parish Hall 10:30 am Mass Children's Liturgy 2.30 pm SVP Afternoon
<b>Monday 10th February Memorial of St Scholastica, Virgin</b>	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Communion Service	
<b>Tuesday 11th February Feria</b>	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Communion Service	
<b>Wednesday 12th February Feria</b>	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Fr. Brian Boyle RIP(BB)	After Communion– Adoration
<b>Thursday 13th February Feria</b>	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Mark Froggatt RIP(BB)	After mass– church cleaning
<b>Friday 14th February Feast of St Cyril, Monk and St Methodius, Bishop, Patrons of Europe</b>	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Mason Family (MA)	After Mass: Novena to the Sacred Heart 6:30-8:00pm Youth Group
<b>Saturday 15th February Feria</b>	11.00 am Harry Remedios RIP(AK) 11.00 am Anointing Mass	10:40-10.55am Confessions 12:00-5:00 pm Visitor Centre in the Romero Room, Parish Hall 2.00-3.00pm Private Church Tour
<b>Sunday 16th February Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C Second collection for Racial Justice</b>	8:30 am Private Intention (MJ) 10:30 am Maciej Judzynski RIP(AOL) 6:00 pm John Ryan (DR)	After 8:30 Mass: Tea & coffee in the Parish Hall

**“ We must remember that young children observe, understand, and remember. They speak to us through their gazes and silences. Let us listen to them!”**

Pope Francis via Twitter 3rd February 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 and 6.00 pm**

**In the presence of the angels I praise you, O Lord.**

---

**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, Judy Lynam Pyper and Peggy Garvey.

---

**RECENTLY DECEASED**

Your prayers are asked for Bridget Mary Beddall who died recently. May her  
soul and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God,  
rest in peace. The funeral service of Bridget will take place on Thursday 20th  
February at 10.30am. Please keep her family and friends in your prayers.

**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.

**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 contact Fr. George SCJ or the parish office  
before 23rd February. Holy Communion Mass will be on Saturday 21st June.  
Holy Communion Sessions will start on Saturday 8th March at 9:30 - 11:00am  
in the Parish Hall. There will be a meeting with the parents and children on  
23rd February after 10.30 Mass in the parish hall.

**WORD ON FIRE UK BIBLE CONFERENCE-FEBRUARY 2025**

If you want to gain a deeper appreciation of the Bible and the Catholic faith  
come and join Bishop Robert Barron and thousands of other Catholics from  
across the UK for the national conference Evangelisation & Culture: The  
CCCBible, which will take place from Friday 21st - Saturday 22nd February  
2025, at the Excel Centre in East London. Further details about the  
programme, speakers, and tickets can be found on the event  
website: [events.wordonfire.org/the-bible-event](https://events.wordonfire.org/the-bible-event)). Tickets are available for the  
Friday and Saturday or just a day pass for the Saturday.

**JOURNEY IN FAITH (RCIA)**

The Journey in faith will take place on Wednesday 18th February and the  
topic will be 'Mother Mary and Marian Devotion'.

**WELCOMERS-10.30AM MASS**

The 10.30am Welcomers are looking for new people to come and help. This  
really doesn't take too much time and the more people we have the better.  
We would welcome some new members, so please consider joining us to  
welcome people into our beautiful church. If you interesting please contact  
parish office 01905 773258.

## GIFT AID

If you are a UK taxpayer, the Church can receive the 25% of tax back on your donation. This is a very important part of the funding of the Parish, so please consider signing a Gift Aid Form (blanks are at the back of the Church) and bring back to the parish office.

## A YEAR OF HOPE: INTRODUCTION TO THE JUBILEE YEAR

How can we respond to Pope Francis' call to be "tangible signs of hope" in this Jubilee Year? Find out by watching this inspirational event:

<https://cafod.org.uk/news/events/a-year-of-hope-an-introduction-to-the-jubilee-year> (find it and other Jubilee resources at [cafod.org.uk/jubilee](https://cafod.org.uk/jubilee)). Featuring Fr Jan Nowotnik, Director of Mission at the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales, CAFOD Director Christine Allen and more. Discover how we can act in faith and in love as pilgrims of hope this Holy Year.

## 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.

## PUBLIC CHURCH TOUR

As part of our National Lottery Heritage Fund project we continue to run activities for the local community. Church tours will be conducted on one Saturday each month. To book, visit the website:

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

One Saturday a month children's mosaic workshops and mini tours will run. To book, visit the website:

<http://www.sacredheartdroitwich.org.uk/news-and-events/upcoming-events/>

Thanks to all our volunteers who continue to make this work possible.

## FRIENDS OF THE HOLY LAND

'Friends of the Holy Land would like to thank all parishioners for £116.85 raised for Christians in the Holy Land, at a time when they desperately need our help. Please continue to remember our work in your prayers, giving our brothers and sisters strength to continue.'

## REFUGEE KNITTING

Thank you so very much for the numerous exquisite knitted and crocheted items recently donated. Also for the variety of clothing, both new and pre loved. Your generosity and continual support is so appreciated by Gain and of course the recipients whose lives you so uplift by your kindness. Please continue to make items and store them at home until requested because of storage. If you can do the same with clothing that would be so helpful. The need for your support is sadly more desperate than ever at the moment! Donations of wool to help defray costs can be placed in the cupboard at the church entrance. As ever thank you all very much, your kindness is overwhelming.

## CHILDREN'S LITURGY

There will be Children's Liturgy during 10.30 am mass on **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 Clare Tomlinson, Carla Tucker and Bogusia Koniszewska-Fijolek. 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

£255.54

Gift Aid: £196.00

## Second collection for

Life Charity:

£92.60

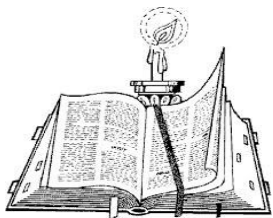
Thank you for  
supporting your  
Parish.

Mass attendance  
last Sunday: 280

## 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

Jeremiah 17:5-8;

*Psalm 1;*

*1 Corinthians*

*15:12,16-20;*

*Luke 6:17, 20-26*

If we take a close look at all the readings today, they reveal one common phenomenon of feeling and expression of unworthiness by all the personalities (Isaiah, Paul, and Peter). Given that they were ordinary human beings, they were not worthy of God's mission. "There is none as holy as the Lord" (1 Sam. 2, 2). Anyone who grasps this truth is already on the path of salvation. These feelings and expressions of unworthiness were marks of humility on Isaiah who said: "I am a man of unclean lips", on Paul who admitted: "I am the least of the apostles" and on Peter who pleaded: "Leave me, Lord; I am a sinful man". The first reading is based in the context of the death of King Uzziah, who had a remarkable reign of five decades. The Judeans faced threatening encroachment from the Assyrian Empire which was the most formidable army of all time with advanced weaponry, massive economic support and a penchant for psychological warfare. In contrast, Jerusalem was a city with hastily erected defences filled with refugees from the countryside and other captured cities. Isaiah's experience takes place in "the temple", in the "Holy of Holies". In his visionary experience and feeling unworthy, he uncounted God and took up the responsibility of being the mouthpiece of God.

The Gospel passage today speaks about how limited our human capacity is. One evening a boat, which had gone for fishing returns to the shore empty, after a tiring night of toil and failure. It was the boat of Peter, the experienced fisherman. Every day the boat of our life leaves the shores of our home to sail out into the sea of daily life. But often, like Peter, we experience the night of empty nets, the disappointment of trying hard and not seeing the desired results: "We toiled all night and took nothing" but disappointment and bitterness. So, what did Jesus do? He got into Simon's boat. To do what? To teach. Similarly, when we return with our empty boats, with our disappointments, Jesus chooses to climb into our boat. It is precisely that empty boat, which is the symbol of our incapacity, that becomes the "cathedra" of Jesus, the pulpit from which Jesus proclaims the Word. Jesus climbs into the boat of our lives when we have nothing to offer Him, but our emptiness and He fills it with his presence. Let us remember this: God does not want a cruise ship: a poor "broken and empty" boat is enough for Him, if we welcome him. If we allow Jesus to enter our emptiness, our brokenness; with Jesus, we shall sail the sea of life without fear, without giving in to disappointment, especially on days when we catch nothing, on days when we are discouraged, our little empty boat, too, will witness a miraculous catch.

Another beautiful point of today's reading is the grace of God working in us who are unfit or imperfect. No one is fit. Both Peter and Isaiah are overwhelmed by a sense of their own sinfulness and inadequacy. Yet each experiences the Lord's forgiveness and is sent to preach the good news of His mercy to the world. No one is "fit to be called an apostle", Paul recognizes in today's Epistle. But by "the grace of God", even a persecutor of the Church as Paul once was, can be lifted up for the Lord's service. Today's scene from Isaiah is recalled in every Mass. Before proclaiming the Holy Gospel, the priest prays: "Cleanse my heart and my lips, almighty God, that I may worthily proclaim your Holy Gospel". Dear brothers & sisters, let us remember that when we return with our empty boats, with our disappointments, Jesus chooses to climb into our boat sails with us, guides us with His Word and blesses us with numerous graces even though we are not worthy.

Fr. George Mathew SCJ