



Societas Presbyterorum  
Sacratissimi Cordis Jesu  
BETHARRAM

## SACRED HEART & ST CATHERINE OF ALEXANDRIA

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### Today's Mass Readings

*Isaiah 43:16-21;*  
*Psalms 126(125)*  
*Philippians 3:8-14;*  
*John 8:1-11*

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

<b>This Week:</b> <b>6th-13th April 2025</b> Psalter Week 1	<b>Holy Mass &amp; Services</b>	<b>Other Events</b>
<b>Sunday 6th April</b> <b>Fifth Sunday of Lent</b> <b>Year C</b>	8:30 am Edgar Riches RIP (AK) 10:30 am Patricia Fahy RIP (GF) 6:00 pm John & Ruby Martin RIP (MM)	After 8:30 Mass: Tea & coffee in the Parish Hall 10.30 am Children's Liturgy
<b>Monday 7th April</b> Lent Feria	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Fr. Dominic Innamorathi RIP (D)	3.00 pm Reception of the body Fr. Dominic
<b>Tuesday 8th April</b> Lent Feria	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Nora O'Leary RIP (SVP)	2.00 pm Private Church Tour
<b>Wednesday 9th April</b> Lent Feria	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Fr. Brian Boyle RIP (D)	After Communion– Adoration 7.00 pm Journey in Faith
<b>Thursday 10th April</b> Feast of St Richard of Chichester	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Nora O'Leary RIP (J&GP)	After Mass Church cleaning
<b>Friday 11th April</b> Lent Feria	No morning Prayer 9:00 am Station of the Cross 9:15 am Holy Mass 11:30 am Requiem Mass of Michael Marshall	6.30-8.00 pm Youth Group
<b>Saturday 12th April</b> Lent Feria	11.00 am Alan Remedios RIP (AK)	10:15-10.45am Confessions 11:00am –4:00pm Day of Recollection for Eucharistic ministers & readers 12:00-5:00 pm Visitor Centre in the Romero Room, Parish Hall 12.30-4.00 pm Children's Workshop Tour
<b>Sunday 13th April</b> <b>Palm Sunday of the Pasion of the Lord, Year C</b> Second collection for Easter Flowers	8:30 am Mark Leahy-Thanksgiving (JJH) 10:30 am People of the Parish 6:00 pm Fr. Dominic Innamorathi RIP (Folk Group)	After 8:30 Mass: Tea & coffee in the Parish Hall 2.30 SVP Afternoon

**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** What great deeds the Lord worked for us! Indeed, we were glad.

**6.00 pm** They go out they go out full of tears, carrying the seed for the sowing.  
They come back, they come back full of song, carrying their sheaves.

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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, Richard Wightman, Mrs. Roma,  
Judy Lynam Pyper and Peggy Garvey.

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**RECENTLY DECEASED**

Your prayers are asked for Fr. Dominic Innamorati SCJ, Norah O'Leary,  
Michael Marshall who died recently. May their souls and the souls of all the  
faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

The Requiem Mass for Fr. Dominic will take place at Olton Friary St Bernards  
Road, Solihull, B92 7BL on 7th April at 11am. Fr. Dominic will then be  
brought to Sacred Heart Church around 3pm followed by burial at 4 pm.

The Requiem Mass for Michael Marshall will take place on Friday 11th April  
at 11.30am.

The Requiem Mass of Nora O'Leary will take place on 29th April at 12.00  
noon.

Please keep their family and friends in your prayers.

**JOURNEY IN FAITH (RCIA)**

The next Journey in Faith will take place on 9th April and the topic will be  
'Living with the Saints'.

**NEWMAN TALK**

Details are: Worcester Circle Newman Association: Hope in the Cross,  
David McLaughlin. Wednesday 9th April 2025, 7pm. St. George's RC Church  
Hall, Worcester WR1 1UT. This will be an excellent opportunity to help  
prepare for Holy Week. All are welcome.

**RECOLLECTION FOR READERS AND EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS**

A day of recollection for the Readers and Eucharistic Ministers will be on  
Saturday 12th April from 11.00 am to 4.00 pm. Lunchtime refreshments will  
be provided. Please, all Readers & Eucharist Ministers mark this in your  
diary.

**MOSAIC RESTORATION**

The cleaning and restoration of the mosaics is scheduled to start on Tuesday  
22nd April and is planned to be completed in early July. Whilst there will  
inevitably be some disruption, daily Masses will continue to be held as usual.  
Further details are available in the Visitor Centre – open every Saturday  
afternoon. This work is funded thanks to the National Lottery Heritage Fund.

### **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.

### **SVP REQUEST**

One of our beneficiaries is in need of a replacement mobility scooter. Does anyone have a mobility scooter that is no longer in use and is still in working order, that they could kindly pass over to us?

You can contact us on 0771 3623997 or [droitwichreferrals@svp.org.uk](mailto:droitwichreferrals@svp.org.uk)

### **SVP**

St Vincent de Paul Society is requesting help please

Are you Kind, Caring and Compassionate and would like to put your faith into action? We are looking for volunteers to join SVP specifically to support the Bereavement Cafe we run - a simple hospitality task. This is on the second Tuesday of each month, 9.30-12.30, at Rotary House, Corbett Avenue. If you feel you could help please contact Gina on 0771 362 3997 or [droitwichreferrals@svp.org.uk](mailto:droitwichreferrals@svp.org.uk)

### **THANK YOU FROM CLARE TOMLINSON**

'A big thank you for all your prayers and kind messages. I am very pleased to say that I am now recovering well from my surgery.'

### **STATIONS OF THE CROSS**

On every Friday during Lent there will be Stations of the Cross at 9.00am followed by Holy Mass. There will not be Novena to the Sacred Heart on Fridays during Lent.

### **ST MARY'S COLLEGE OSCOTT**

Oscott College, the Diocesan Seminary in Sutton Coldfield, are trying to spread the news about the work they do, by getting people to sign up to their newsletter at [www.oscott.org](http://www.oscott.org). April's newsletter includes an update from the Rector, some answers to frequently asked questions about discernment, a report on some of the 'Hidden Treasures' in Oscott's museum, and details of how to book a college tour. It takes less than a minute to sign up, and those who do will receive a monthly newsletter, as well as early access to the annual 'Oscotian Magazine' and events hosted at the college

### **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.

### **CHILDREN'S LITURGY**

There will be Children's Liturgy during 10.30 am mass on **6th April**.

### **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 by 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:**

**£350.32**

**Gift Aid: £3697.50**

**Additional donation to**

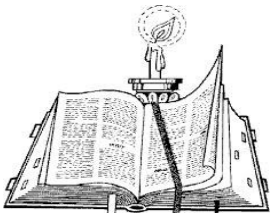
**CAFOD: £15.00**

**Thank you for  
supporting your  
Parish.**

**Mass attendance  
last Sunday: 352**

**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 April** 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**

Isaiah 50:4-7;

Psalm 22(21)

Philippians 2:6-11;

Luke 22:14-23:56

Today as we celebrate the fifth Sunday of Lent, we draw close to our destination and the most important moments in our journey this season. This fact is reflected in all the readings of this Sunday. The first reading of this Sunday is an assurance of God's continuous presence with us. It also reminds us of the new thing that God is about to do in our midst: "I will make a new covenant and never call their sin to mind...then, I will be their God, and they will be my people." God is ready to set aside a relationship that was destroyed by infidelity. He wishes to restore a broken relationship.

In the Gospel of John, we encounter the powerful narrative of the woman caught in adultery. This event is not only humiliating but also deeply inhuman and unjust. She is publicly humiliated, yet the man involved in the act is conspicuously absent. The Pharisees and Scribes are not genuinely interested in upholding the law; rather, they are using this woman as a hostage to test Jesus, hoping to trap Him in an act of blasphemy. Jewish law mandates that both the adulterer and the adulteress be put to death. However, in this situation, only the woman is accused. Jesus, however, responds with a brilliant and unexpected move. Instead of engaging in their trap, He bends down and doodles in the dust. Whatever he was writing, His response shifts the focus from the accused to the accusers. When pressed for an answer, he says, "let the one without sin cast the first stone"! And one by one, they slink away. Jesus is left alone with the woman. He looks up to her, has no one condemned you? No, no one sir! The woman replied. Neither do I condemn you, says Jesus gently, go away and sin no more. With this statement, He exposes their hypocrisy. Jesus treats her with respect. He is understanding and merciful. He invites her to turn over a new leaf in her life, that was an invitation for her to a conversion of heart. She is given a second chance. This passage highlights the mercy of God, which does not serve as an excuse to sin but as an invitation to transformation. Jesus, the only one without sin and the only one truly qualified to condemn, chooses instead to forgive. He tells the woman, "Neither do I condemn you. Go, and sin no more."

This is the heart of Christianity: justice and mercy meet in Jesus Christ. By respecting the dignity of the sinner and forgiving her, He is not trying to sweep the sin under the carpet, but He provides an opportunity for redemption. His forgiveness does not mean that sin is inconsequential - on the contrary, He can forgive because He will take the punishment upon Himself. From the woman's perspective, she was caught in a conspiracy where death seemed certain. She had no hope, but Jesus gave her hope and life. In many ways, sometimes we can be like the Pharisees - quick to judge others while ignoring our own faults. Yet, we have also been in moments where we felt trapped, without hope, in need of rescue. God's presence brings hope and life, even in our darkest moments. Each of us has our ups and downs. Jesus tells us, "Go, and sin no more." The time to change is not tomorrow, not later - it is now. In Lent, we examine our conscience, recognise our vulnerability and we confess our sin. And then we are blown over by mercy! We encounter the Lord who loves us and who is waiting to forgive and to heal, to set a new heart in us. That is the overwhelming message of Lent. Not that we toughen up by our own works of penance. But that we are embraced unconditionally in the arms of God's mercy.

Fr. George Mathew SCJ