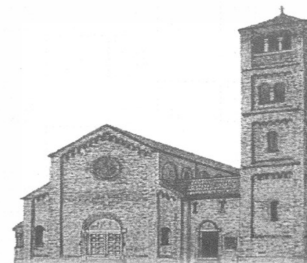




SACRED HEART & ST CATHERINE OF ALEXANDRIA

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



**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

Acts 5:27b-32, 40b-41;
Psalms 30(29);
Apocalypse 5:11-14;
John 21:1-19

This Week: 4th-11th May 2025 Psalter week 3	Holy Mass & Services	Other Events
Sunday 4th May Third Sunday of Easter Year C Second collection for Clergy Training	8:30 am David Veale RIP (AM) 10:30 am People of the Parish 12noon Baptism 6.00 pm Annette Kelsall RIP 1st Anniversary (MD)	After 8.30 am Mass: Tea & coffee in the Hall 10.30 am Mass Children Liturgy
Monday 5th May Easter Feria	10.00 am Peace in the World	
Tuesday 6th May Easter Feria	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Brenda O'Keeffe (JC)	
Wednesday 7th May Easter Feria	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Zdzislaw Koniszewski RIP(BKF)	After Mass– Adoration till 6.00 pm.
Thursday 8th May Easter Feria	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Maryakutty Paulose RIP (JP)	After Mass -Church cleaning
Friday 9th May Easter Feria	8:55 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Eddie McDermott RIP (JF)	6.30 pm Youth Group
Saturday 10th May Easter Feria	11.00 am Holy Mass 12.00-3.00 pm Wedding	10.15-10.45 am Confessions 12:00-5:00 pm Visitor Centre in the Romero Room, Parish Hall
Sunday 11th May Fourth Sunday of Easter Year C Second collection for Minnie Vinnies SVP	8:30 am Mathew Devasiya RIP 10:30 am People of the Parish 6.00 pm Eric Whaley (AP)	After 8.30 am Mass: Tea & coffee in the Hall 10.30 am Mass Children Liturgy 2.30 pm 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 am & 10.30 am I will extol you, Lord, for you have raised me up.

6.00 pm I will praise you Lord you have rescued me.

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.

BAPTISM

*We would like to invite you to pray for
children who are being baptize this
weekend.*

JOURNEY IN FAITH (RCIA)

The next Journey in Faith will take place on 7th May and the topic will be
'The direction of Pope Francis'.

BIRMINGHAM DIOCESAN TRUST

"The Trustees of the Birmingham Diocesan Trust are looking to recruit a
skilled, Catholic volunteer with professional experience of safeguarding to
join the Board of Trustees and chair the Safeguarding Sub-Committee. We'd
welcome discussion with anyone interested in this important role - Further
details available here Safeguarding | Birmingham Diocesan Trust or copy
and paste this link

www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/Pages/FAQs/Category/safeguarding

THE THEOLOGY OF THE BODY

A Teaching Day hosted by the Catholic Medical Association, Youth branch.

Saturday 19th May in Birmingham: 'Join us for a day of exploring the
theology of the body, celebrating the unique creation of man and woman.
For healthcare workers and healthcare students, ages 18+'.

Registration now open. Please see poster in the back of the Church.

FRIENDS OF HOLY LAND

Friends of Holy Land are delighted to invite you to a special ecumenical
service in Temple Church, London, on Tuesday 20th May. The event will
feature a live stream broadcast from the Co-Cathedral of the Most Holy
Name of Jesus in the Latin complex, Jerusalem. The service will commence
at 12:00 pm BST in London and 2:00 pm IDT in Jerusalem.

To book a place please visit:

<https://www.friendsoftheholylan.org.uk/Event/temple25>

MESSAGE FROM NICK AND CLARE LYNAM

Nick and Clare would like to thank the Clergy and Parishioners who so kindly prayed for our daughter Judy Lynam-Pyper during her recent severe illness. She is progressing well at home here in Droitwich and able to enjoy family life once again.

SACRED HEART SUMMER FAIR 19TH JULY 2025

The Parish Summer Fair will be on Saturday 19th July. As part of the Summer Fair we will be organizing a Raffle. If you would like to sponsor a raffle prize, please give your name to Terry Poulten as soon as possible (or write your name on the clipboard in the Narthex).

REFUGEE KNITTING

The date for the next collection will be Sunday May 11th. Over the next three Sundays I will also be able to collect any other items you think will help the refugees. Thank you so much to the person who left some lovely new baby and toddler items recently. One can easily imagine the joy they will bring to the recipients. Thank you once again for your continual, uplifting support. If you would like to know more about the organisers have a look at their website to see the variety of incredible work they are involved in
<https://globalaidnetwork.org.uk/>

MINNIE VINNIES– ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

Our Minnie Vinnies will be appealing for your help after each Mass on May 11th. They will tell you about the activities they have been doing since they were formed last autumn and their hopes for the future. Please support them in prayer and the second collection.

MOSAIC RESTORATION

The cleaning and restoration of the mosaics started 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. Sometimes there may be scaffolding or cherrypickers at the back of the church. **Parents with small children, please make sure to keep children away from them.**

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 **4th, 11th & 18th May.**

PARISH YOUTH GROUP

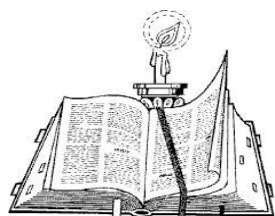
Runs during term time on Friday evenings from 6.30 pm for children aged 9-14 years.

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 or alternatively the Diocesan Safeguarding team can be contacted on 0121 230 6240/safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk if you have any concerns.

Main Collection:**£323.51****Gift Aid: £178.00****Easter collection for****Holy Land:****£132.80****Thank you for
supporting your
Parish.****Mass attendance
last Sunday: 291****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 **11th May** 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***Acts 13:14,43-52;**Psalms 100(99);**Apocalypse 7:9,14-17;**John 10:27-30*

Dear friends, today we celebrate the Third Sunday of Easter. The post resurrection life of the disciples was depressive, dismaying and disappointing time of their lives. They shut themselves behind the doors for fear of people. Today in the Gospel John presents this disappointing situation for the disciples. The leader of the group, Peter himself, is now calling on others and telling them, "I'm going fishing", a profession which he had left once upon a time when Jesus called him to himself, telling him, "Follow me, I will make you a fisher of men". Peter now wants to get back to his old profession. 'I'm going fishing' means the present situation is no longer pleasing to him, and others followed him. This has something to do with our lives too. When we face problems and difficulties, very often most of us turn away and we say, 'we are going fishing'. Since all of them, including Thomas, were professional fishermen, they go to the sea. Peter is throwing the net, and that night they do not get a single fish. Jesus, an unprofessional fisherman, comes and says to them "Cast the net on the right side of the boat, and you will find some", and they caught a miraculous catch. When we listen to the Lord and do as He tells us to do, the outcome will be a hundred-fold.

The first reading, taken from the Acts of the Apostles, gives us the narrative with one of the most powerful words in this book, which clearly portrays for us a paradigm shift in the life of the disciples after Pentecost. Standing before the Sanhedrin, the Jewish ruling council, Peter and the apostles boldly declare, "We must obey God rather than men". In the early days of the Church, Christians faced severe opposition from Jewish and Roman authorities, who viewed the Jesus movement as a threat to the religious order and political peace. The Apostles' defiance is not just civil disobedience; it's a radical reordering of allegiance. By insisting on obedience to God above the Sanhedrin, they challenge the very structures of religious and political power. Peter's speech directly confronts the leaders with their role in Jesus's crucifixion, while also proclaiming His resurrection and exaltation. He emphasizes that Jesus is "Lord and Saviour". This passage challenges us to ask ourselves: whom do we obey? Are we willing to speak and live the truth of the Gospel even when it is unpopular or costly?

To return to the Gospel, after breakfast Jesus engages Peter in a threefold dialogue, asking, "Do you love me?" This mirrors Peter's earlier three denials, offering him a path to restoration. The exchange uses two Greek words for love: "agapē" (selfless, unconditional love) and "phileo" (brotherly love). Jesus initially uses "agapē", but Peter responds with "phileo", indicating his humble acknowledgment of his limitations. In the third question, Jesus meets Peter where he is. Each affirmation by Peter is met with a commission: Jesus invited Peter and all His disciples to take part in caring for His church. They are called to nurture others, care for the church, feed believers and the lost with spiritual food, protect those in the church and go out and seek the lost "sheep" that are still out in the world. Jesus concludes with "Follow me", reaffirming Peter's role as a leader and disciple. In this passage we notice that without Jesus their efforts, though skilful, produce nothing. It's only when Jesus directs them that the net overflows. In our lives too, we often turn to routines, careers, relationships or distractions to find purpose or healing, especially after disappointment or failure. But, like the disciples, we end up weary and fruitless. It's not that those things are bad, but they are not enough on their own. Jesus stands on the shore, often unnoticed, waiting to redirect us. This painful yet healing conversation shows that even our failures can't separate us from the love and calling of Christ. But again, Peter had to stop looking inward to his shame and guilt and instead look to Jesus, who was already offering restoration. In both scenes the turning point comes when eyes are opened to Jesus. That's the challenge for us: to fix our eyes on the One who calls from the shore, offering us abundance, forgiveness, and purpose. The resurrection doesn't just promise life after death; it offers new life now—if we're looking in the right direction. May God bless us all.

Fr. George Mathew SCJ