

ParishNews



Blessed Sacrament Parish Heavitree Exeter
29 April 2018 Fifth Sunday of Easter. Psalter 1



Gaudete et Exsultate

In the opening paragraphs of the latest Apostolic Exhortation *Gaudete et Exsultate* – On the call to Holiness in Today's World, Pope Francis writes: "What follows is not meant to be a treatise on holiness, containing definitions and distinctions helpful for understanding this important subject, or a discussion of the various means of sanctification. My modest goal is to repropose the call to holiness in a practical way for our own time, with all its risks, challenges and opportunities. For the Lord has chosen each one of us 'to be holy and blameless before him in love.'" Copies of the document are available in the Parish Office, price £4.95, or online at w2.vatican.va



Root Yourself in Christ

Last week it was sheep: this week, the vine. Jesus offers us another image to explain the mystery of his offering of himself, and our belonging to him, our being part of him, which comes about through the sacrament of Baptism. This is, as was stated earlier, the period of Mystagogy, when the newly baptised are helped to see what life in Jesus Christ really means. Today this comes out strongly for all of us, with two of the readings emphasising the moral aspects of life in Christ: it is not simply enough to “belong” to him: our belonging must be shown by the works we do, by the fruits we bear - while remembering of course that we cannot bear fruit except in him.

livesimply

Every year an estimated 300,000 tonnes of used clothing goes to landfill in the UK. Currently, over 5% of the UK's total annual carbon and water footprints result from clothing consumption. But if clothes stayed

in active use for nine months longer (extending their average life to around three years), this would reduce their carbon, water and waste footprints by 20-30%. In the average UK household, nearly a third of clothes (worth over £1,000 per household, £30 billion in total) haven't been worn in the last year. We can all make a huge difference by taking small steps – for example by asking ourselves ‘do I need it’ before we buy, being better informed when we purchase clothing, choosing pre-owned options more frequently, learning long lost repair and fixing skills, getting creative with clothing and sharing and donating unwanted clothing. We should also keep old clothes out of the bin and drop them off at a local textile recycling bank instead. For more information, see

<https://www.loveyourclothes.org.uk/>.

As part of the parish livesimply action plan, we are planning to set up a group that will refashion and help to mend textiles. More information to follow.

Parish Groups on the Eucharist

In preparation for **Adoremus 2018 – The Eucharistic Congress**, in Liverpool in September, we will be running several parish groups. The purpose of the groups will be: to help us grow in love and understanding of the Mass, our appreciation of the presence of Christ in the Eucharist, and foster our sense of mission which springs from the Eucharist. There are 6 sessions, following a booklet by Fr Stephen Wang, and recommended by Bishop Mark. Each session includes Prayer, discussion and reflection and lasts up to an hour and a half. Sign up using the forms, listing the details of the groups, which can be found in the church porch. All are welcome to participate. There are also a series of podcasts that are available to help us understand further what, we as a

church, are being invited to prepare for. **Podcast 1: An Invitation to us all:**
<http://catholicnews.org.uk/Home/Special-Events/Adoremus-National-Eucharistic-Pilgrimage/Let-Us-Adore-Him-Adoremus-Podcasts/Episode-1>

Preparing for Baptism

Next preparation course for parents is on Saturday 19 May at 10.30am in the St Richard Reynolds Centre. If you are expecting a baby or wish to have a baby baptized in the near future please book your place with the Parish Office.

We welcome in baptism...

Jakob Bielecki and Thomas Jones who will be baptised into the church community this week. We pray for them, their families and Godparents.

Diocesan Clergy Moves

There are a number of clergy moves taking place this summer, as selected by Bishop Mark. Amongst these Canon John Deeny is moving to St Cuthbert Mayne, Launceston (with St Peter's Bude and Our Lady of Victories, Callington) and Fr Kieran Kirby moves to Sacred Heart from Torquay. The change will take place some time this coming autumn.

World Communications Day

The Catholic Church celebrates World Communications Day on 13 May, when we are asked to pray for those who work in the media and a second collection is taken after Mass to fund this important work.

St Nick's News

Well done to the children in the St Nicholas Choir who brilliantly performed the Easter story last Tuesday at Blessed Sacrament Church. They performed to raise money to sponsor children in Southern India to receive education. It was considered 'a fine show which we all enjoyed'. The Choir's next engagement is to sing at the St Rita's Day Mass at St Rita's in Honiton.

We are currently accepting applications for September 2018 Nursery places for children who are 3 years old and over. Please contact abrocksom@stnics.uk for an application form and to arrange a tour. Alternatively visit the school website <http://www.st-nicholas-exeter.devon.sch.uk/website>. We do offer 30 funded hours to eligible parents.

St Richard Reynolds

Please join us in the St Richard Reynolds Centre after 9.30am Mass on **Friday 4 May** (remembrance of all the English Martyrs including St Richard Reynolds) for coffee and an opportunity to hear a short talk with illustrations about the history of Syon Abbey.

The Ascension of the Lord

Thursday 10 May, the Feast of the Ascension is a Holyday of Obligation. This celebration has been moved back to a Thursday rather than the Sunday celebration of the last few years. Masses will be at 9.30am and 7.00pm.

We pray for...

Our young people who are spending a final weekend in preparation for their confirmation by Bishop Mark at Sacred Heart Church on Sunday 6 May.

Thursday Lunch Club

The Thursday Lunch Club is flourishing but are short of helpers so if anyone feels able to offer help - no cooking involved - or wishes to find out more ring Di Bish on 07940 142124

Exeter's Young Catholics

The next meeting of EYCC will be on Wednesday 2 May in the St Richard Reynolds Centre at 7.00pm. If you're aged 16 to 21 you are most welcome to join us.

Flores De May and Santacruznan

Church of the Assumption of Our Lady, Torquay, on Saturday 12 May. Starts from Princess Gardens Pavilion at 2.30pm

processing to the Church for Mass at 5.45pm, followed by a Filipino Cultural Show and food. Everyone is welcome.

True Survivor

A vocation event for teenage boys aged 13 to 18 on May 29 to 31. Come along to a 'wild camping' experience offering formation in Christian manhood. It offers a combination of training in survival skills and an explanation of how we need parallel skills in the spiritual life. This year's schedule includes input on the priesthood as a model of manhood and so those attending need to be open to considering a priestly vocation, please see the poster in the porch, contact Fr Dylan James our Vocations Promotor, or at www.beyondthewild.org.

Run to the Son

Friday 22 to Sunday 24 June at Buckfast Abbey. A weekend of prayer and inspiration to help equip you for mission. Tickets £50 inclusive of food and camping facilities (other accommodation available at additional cost). Booking forms online at www.buckfast.org.uk/run-to-the-son or contact St. Peter's parish Plymouth on 01752 701660.

Share the Journey

Join Bishop Mark at Buckfast Abbey on Saturday 5 May 1.00 pm - 4.30 pm to find out how we can take action in solidarity with migrants and refugees. For further information contact: mary.conway@prcdtr.org.uk or sgiarchi@cafod.org.uk.

Parent and Toddler Group

Meets at 9.30am till 11.30am in the St Richard Reynolds Centre. All welcome, especially new parents with babies and toddlers.

Refreshments after Mass

St Richard Reynolds Centre after 10.30 Mass on Sunday and 9.30 Mass on Wednesday mornings. Please join us for a cuppa and a chat.

Society for the Protection of Unborn Children [SPUC]

March for Life - London 5 May. Coach pick up at Exeter Services at 8.00am and returns at 5.00pm. Cost £25 per person
SPUC Regional Conference, Saturday 19 May 1.00- 4.30pm at Buckfast Conference Centre. Speakers will be coming from HQ to explain the latest attacks on unborn life. For further info for both events: Chris Hudson Tel: 01752 224018

MURDER MYSTERY

Did you miss out by not getting tickets for the last "**Murder Mystery**" event? By popular demand it has come back to life! On Sunday 13 May at 3.00pm at Cardinal Newman House. Tickets £5 - to include tea and cake. Proceeds will be going to Mary's Meals. For information about this charity go to www.marymeals.org.uk. So don't miss out again there are only a limited number of tickets which are available to buy from the parish office.

Catholic Children's Society

Celebrate Ascension Thursday at Buckfast Abbey with the Society on 10 May to raise funds for local families in need. Mass at midday, followed by lunch and a talk from the Rt Hon Ann Widdecombe. Tickets £25 to include lunch and a tour of the grounds or the Abbey. Call our office 01364 645420 or email ccs@prcdtr.org.uk for details.

Quiet Day at Buckfast

Saturday 12 May in the Violet Evelyn Hall at the Southgate Retreat Centre at 10.00am until 3.00pm. Mass will be celebrated as part of the day and there will be an opportunity for quiet prayer, group discussions and confession. The subject is: *Jesus said 'Love your enemies', is this at all possible?* The cost is £15, to include refreshments and a light lunch. Booking forms are in the church porch.

Churches Together at Devon County Show 2018

Volunteers are needed on Thursday 17 May to help serving tea or coffee and cake on the Churches Together stand throughout the day in shifts giving volunteers time to enjoy the show. If you are visiting the show on any of the days (Thursday, Friday and Saturday 17, 18 and 19 May) please come along to the stand and help welcome visitors, showing them what is available and listening to anyone who wants to talk. We also need donations of homemade cakes, biscuits or scones. The drop off point for these will be the Lower Room of Sacred Heart Church from 10.30am until 12.30pm on Wednesday 16 May. If you can help please contact Frances Canning on 01392 209542 or francesandedward@blueyonder.co.uk

Foodbank Sponsored Walk

You can support the work of Exeter Foodbank by joining this sponsored walk on June 23. More information is available from walk@exeterfoodbank.org.uk or by phoning 07818226524

World Meeting of Families 2018

Pope Francis confirms he will travel to Ireland to take part in the 9th World Meeting of Families which takes place in Dublin 21 – 26 August. Visit www.worldmeeting2018.ie/en/Tickets for more information.

Adult server at Mass

Is there someone amongst our parishioners who feels called to serve the parish in this way? If you do, please speak to Fr Jonathan or Fr John. Thank you to all our servers who do a wonderful job on Sunday but also during the week.

Charismatic prayer group

The next prayer group will be held in the St Richard Reynolds centre on Thursday 10 May from 7.15 – 9.00pm.



Uganda Thank you

Please accept a warm thank you to everyone for your kind and thoughtful donations towards the orphanage of Budaka village in East Uganda. Every item was received with love and gratitude which was so evident in the children's expressions and the teary eyed husband and wife (Dyson and Christine Balla), who live with them. The books were held on to like treasures; the football and the toys caused so much laughter and excitement for the children too! Some photographs can be seen at the back of the church. John & Nina Lubugumu.

CAFOD

Thank you for your support for our Lent Fast Day appeal. Donations to CAFOD until 12 May will be doubled by the UK Government. We have planned a £5 million programme to combat malnutrition in Zimbabwe & Zambia - and with it we hope to be able to reach 245,000 people. But we need the full amount of match funding to make it happen. You can help us reach the full amount needed for this crucial programme. We still have some way to go yet! You can donate today by adding to our pyramid box collection or donate on-line at cafod.org.uk/lent. Collectors will be present at Masses for any donations you wish to make.



SVP Fundraiser

The SVP is hugely grateful to the children of St Nicholas School who performed the Easter story in song at the Blessed Sacrament Church. The concert, offered as a tribute to Peter Kelly who helped to link the school with the local work of the SVP, raised a remarkable £450. While the SVP continues to serve local needs, the funds raised will enable us to reach out to those in poverty further afield. £450 will now enable us to sponsor 30 children from the poorer parishes of southern India thus enabling them to remain at school to receive at least the basic education. We thank the children and their teachers for making this possible.

Mass Intentions

If you would like a Mass celebrated for a particular intention, for someone who is ill or a loved one who has died, in thanksgiving for an answer to prayer or perhaps something personal, please see Lesley in the parish office who will be able to help you find a date and time which suits you. It is traditional to make an offering at the same time. This is simply what you can afford and would like to give.

Dying Matters Week

As part of Dying Matters week Palliative Care Physician, Dr Kathryn Mannix will be giving a talk on her latest book 'With the End in Mind' at the Royal Devon and Exeter Hospital Lecture Theatre, Monday 14 May between 1- 2pm and 3-4pm. 'With the End in Mind' is Kathryn's exploration of the biggest taboo in our society and the only certainty we all share: death. Open to both RD&E staff and the general public, this event provides the opportunity to hear first-hand how the author of this extraordinary book sends a vital message to the living and answers the most urgent, intimate and fascinating questions about the end-of-life process. Kathryn is the medical advisor to the Art of Dying Well website. Book early as there is limited space! To find out more and to book your place visit the RD&E Members Website www.rdemembers.com. For further information phone 01392 403977. If you are unable to attend one of these daytime talks Kathryn will also be giving a talk at the Waterstones bookshop in Exeter the following evening (Tuesday 15 May) at 6.30pm. Tickets for this are £3 and are available instore or on line at www.bit.ly/wexmannix

The Pope Tweets...

God alone can give us true happiness. It's useless wasting time looking for it elsewhere: in wealth, pleasure and power.

Feast of St Rita of Cascia

You are invited to join the Augustinian Recollect community in Honiton to celebrate the feast of St Rita on Tuesday 22 May at St Rita's Centre. Mass is at 12.00 noon followed by the blessing and distribution of roses for the sick. The principal celebrant will be Fr Jonathan Stewart, Dean of Exeter. At 3.30pm there will be benediction. You are very welcome to join this celebration. Hot drinks will be available all day but you will need to take a packed lunch.

The Feast of the English Martyrs 4th May

On 4 May 1535, at Tyburn in London the first of many martyrs of the English Reformation were executed. The number included our own St Richard Reynolds, born in Pinhoe. Of these martyrs, forty-two have been canonised, and a further 242 have been declared Blessed; but the true number of those who died on the scaffold, perished in prison, or were tortured or persecuted for their faith cannot now be reckoned. The persecution lasted a hundred and fifty years and left a permanent mark on English culture: to this day Catholics continue to suffer certain minor disabilities under English law. The martyrs celebrated today came from every walk of life. There were rich and poor; married and single; men and women. They are remembered for the example they gave of constancy in their faith and courage in the face of persecution.

From 2001, there are also celebrated on this day the forty martyrs of England and Wales who were canonised on 25 October 1970 and formerly celebrated on that day. They include Saints Cuthbert Mayne, John Houghton, Edmund Campion, and Richard Gwynn, as well as Saints John Roberts and Ambrose Barlow from the Benedictine monastery of St Gregory at Douay (now at Downside Abbey in Somerset).

The Pope's intentions for May
The mission of the Laity. That the lay faithful may fulfil their specific mission, by responding with creativity to the challenges that face the world today.

Why not join the Pope in prayer online by visiting apostleshipofprayer.org

Individually Guided Retreats

Offered by the diocesan Ignatian Spirituality group. These silent retreats range from one day, weekend, 3 or 6-day retreats and are held at Buckfast Abbey. For dates, booking information and more information please ring 01548 852670 or e-mail mjbutler6@yahoo.com or adriantoffolo@yahoo.co.uk.

New Parishioners

Are you new to Blessed Sacrament parish? If so, you are most welcome and we hope you will be very happy here. If you haven't already done so, please provide us with your contact details. Forms are available in the church porch and from the parish office (electronically) and should be returned to the office once completed. This also applies if you have been here for a while but not yet completed a form. It is good for us to know something about you and to be able to keep you updated with things happening in the parish. Thank you.

Sick parishioners

If you know of any sick or housebound parishioners who would like to receive communion at home or be visited by a priest please let Fr Jonathan or the parish office know their details.

I am the vine,
you are the branches.
Whoever remains in me,
with me in them, bears fruit
in plenty; for cut off from me
you can do nothing. John 15

Masses

Sunday 29 April

9.00am *Maryvonne Green RIP*

10.30am *People of the parish*

6.00pm *Sr Patrick's birthday*

Monday 30 April

7.30am Convent Mass

Tuesday 1 May

7.00pm *Private Intention*

Wednesday 2 May

St Athanasius

9.30am *Joe Leonard RIP*

4.00pm RD&E Hospital

Thursday 3 May

St Philip & St James

9.30am *Jack Newman RIP*

Friday 4 May

The English Martyrs

7.30am Convent Mass

9.30am *Joe Leonard RIP*

Saturday 5 May

St Richard Reynolds

9.30am

Sunday 6 May

9.00am *Special Intention*

10.30am

Confirmation Candidates

6.00pm *People of the parish*

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Monday at 9.30am in the church.

Tuesday at 8.00pm at the Convent

The Word

This Sunday 29 April

First Reading

Acts 9:26-31

Psalm Response

You, Lord, are my praise in the great assembly.

Second Reading

1John 3:18-24

Gospel John 15:1-8

Next Sunday 6 May

First Reading

Acts 10:25-26.34-35.44-48

Psalm Response

The Lord has shown his salvation to the nations.

Second Reading

1John 4:7-10

Gospel John 15:9-17

Welcome

We hope you have a happy and peaceful time with us here in Exeter. Please ask one of the Welcomers or contact the parish office if we can help in any way.

Getting married?

Congratulations! Please give us at least six months' notice if you are planning to marry in the Church.

Newsletter

Deadline for newsletter items 4.00pm Wednesday. By phone or email.

Thank you

Collection Sunday
22 April **£1219.40**

Contact us

Parish Priest

Fr Jonathan Stewart

Priest in retirement

Fr John Watkins

PARISH OFFICE

The Presbytery,
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Telephone

01392 274724

Email exeter-heavitree

@prcdtr.org.uk

Parish Office hours

Tuesday, Wednesday and
Thursday 10.00am–4.00pm

Parish Secretary

Lesley Hooper

Safeguarding Reps

Vince Clark &

Lesley Hooper

PARISH SCHOOL

St Nicholas Catholic

Primary School

Ringswell Avenue,
Exeter EX1 3EG

Telephone

01392 445403

Email admin@stncls.uk

Website

www.st-nicholas-
exeter.devon.sch.uk

Head Teacher

Angela Folland

CONVENT

Mount St Mary Convent,

Wonford Road,
Exeter EX2 4PF

Telephone 01392 433301

*Blessed Sacrament Parish is
part of the Roman Catholic
Diocese of Plymouth.*