

# ParishNews



**Blessed Sacrament Parish** Heavitree Exeter  
**20 January 2019.** *Second Sunday in Ordinary Time. Year C*

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**Parish Priest**

Fr Jonathan Stewart

**Priest in retirement**

Fr John Watkins

**PARISH OFFICE**

The Presbytery,  
29 Fore Street, Heavitree  
Exeter EX1 2QJ

**Telephone**

01392 274724

**Email** [exeter-heavitree](mailto:exeter-heavitree@prcdtr.org.uk)

[@prcdtr.org.uk](mailto:@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](mailto:admin@stncls.uk)

[www.st-nicholas-  
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**Head Teacher**

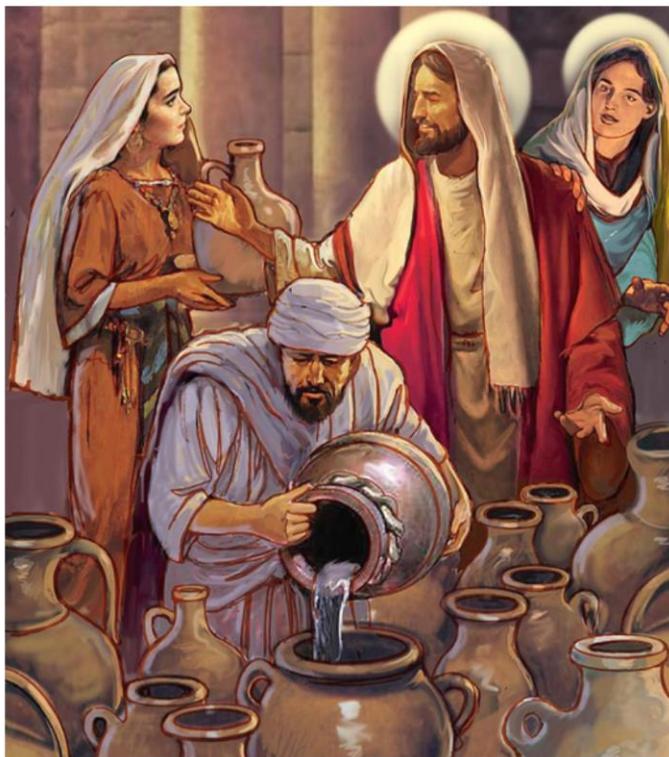
Angela Folland

**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.*



## Do whatever he tells you

The Gospel of this second Sunday of Ordinary Time continues the theme of the end of Christmas - revelation. Jesus is revealed to the world by his birth, by his baptism, and by his miracles - the "signs" as John calls them. The wedding in today's Gospel is interpreted in many ways: today, reading the Gospel with the First Reading in mind, we can see it as an image of the way in which God is so close to his people, it is as though he is married to them. Thus Jesus, the spouse of the people, shows God's closeness by revealing his glory in this miracle.

# Welcome

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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.

## Liturgy of the Word for children

During the 10.30am Mass most Sundays.

## Refreshments

Sundays after 10.30am Mass and Wednesdays after 9.30am Mass.

## Parents and Toddlers

Monday mornings 9.30–11.30am in the St Richard Reynolds Centre. All welcome especially new faces.

## Getting married?

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

## Sick parishioners

Please inform one of the priests or the parish office if you know someone who is in need of a visit.

## Newsletter

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

## Many thanks

Sunday Collections  
6 January **£1364.25**  
13 January **£1309.98**

# Calendar of Events

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Sun 20 Jan	<b>Extraordinary Form Mass</b> <i>Blessed Sacrament Church 3.00pm</i>
Mon 21 Jan	<b>Live simply sewing group</b> <i>St Richard Reynolds Centre 6.30pm</i>
Tues 22 Jan	<b>Catholic Women's League meeting</b> <i>Mount St Mary meeting Centre 2.00pm</i>
Thurs 24 Jan	<b>Stronghold Prayer &amp; Praise</b> <i>St Richard Reynolds Centre 7.15pm</i>
Sat 26 Jan	<b>Live simply sewing group</b> <i>St Richard Reynolds Centre 10.00am</i>
Mon 28 Jan	<b>Live simply sewing group</b> <i>St Richard Reynolds Centre 6.30pm</i>
Thurs 31 Jan	<b>Thursday Lunch Club</b> <i>St Richard Reynolds Centre 12.00pm</i>
Thurs 31 Jan	<b>Cafod meeting</b> <i>St Richard Reynolds Centre 7.00pm</i>
Mon 4 Feb	<b>Live simply sewing group</b> <i>St Richard Reynolds Centre 6.30pm</i>
Sat 9 Feb	<b>Livesimply meeting</b> <i>St Richard Reynolds Centre 10.00am</i>
Mon 11 Feb	<b>Live simply sewing group</b> <i>St Richard Reynolds Centre 6.30pm</i>
Thurs 14 Feb	<b>Thursday Lunch Club</b> <i>St Richard Reynolds Centre 12.00pm</i>
Sun 17 Feb	<b>Extraordinary Form Mass</b> <i>Blessed Sacrament Church 3.00pm</i>
Mon 18- 25 Feb	<b>Diocesan Pilgrimage to the Holy Land</b>
Mon 18 Feb	<b>Live simply sewing group</b> <i>St Richard Reynolds Centre 6.30pm</i>
Sat 23 Feb	<b>Livesimply sewing group</b> <i>St Richard Reynolds Centre 10.00am</i>
Mon 25 Feb	<b>Live simply sewing group</b> <i>St Richard Reynolds Centre 6.30pm</i>
Thurs 28 Feb	<b>Thursday Lunch Club</b> <i>St Richard Reynolds Centre 12.00pm</i>
Thurs 28 Feb	<b>Stronghold Prayer &amp; Praise</b> <i>St Richard Reynolds Centre 7.15pm</i>
Wed 6 Mar	<b>Ash Wednesday</b> <i>Blessed Sacrament Masses 9.30am &amp; 7.00pm</i>
Thurs 14 Mar	<b>Thursday Lunch Club</b> <i>St Richard Reynolds Centre 12.00pm</i>
Sun 17 Mar	<b>Extraordinary Form Mass</b> <i>Blessed Sacrament Church 3.00pm</i>

# Peace Sunday 2019

20 January is a date set by Pope Francis as the World Day for peace. He invites us to start the New Year with a reflection on our role as peacemakers. He wrote "the endless and horrifying sequence of wars, conflicts, genocides and ethnic cleansings" are a major cause if the migration of thousands around the globe. Pax Christi has sought to keep these issues in the forefront of its work – challenging Britain's involvement in the global arms trade, questioning the morality of new technologies.

## *livesimply*

### **Caring for Creation**

As part of the 'Sustainability with Creation' theme of our parish action plan, we will support local and national environmental campaigns this year. We are hoping to work with the Plastic Free Exeter initiative to reduce the amount of single-use plastics in the parish and our homes. More details will follow shortly.

### **Sewing & Knitting Group**

If you would like to meet up with other parish members and sew or knit (or to learn how to do it), you are welcome to join this group at the St Richard Reynolds Centre whenever you can. The next few dates are in the parish calendar. Please contact Sharron (07756691940) for more information.

### **Exeter Foodbank Collection**

Thank you for your continuing support to Exeter Foodbank. You can drop off non-perishable food and toiletries in the basket at the back of the church. Priority items for this month include rice pudding and custard (tins/cartons), fruit juice (1L long-life), milk (1L UHT semi-skimmed), granulated sugar, instant coffee, and rice (500g or 1kg).

### ***livesimply* meeting**

The next meeting will take place at the St Richard Reynolds Centre on Saturday 9 February, after the 9.30am Mass. For more information on *livesimply*, please contact Kathrin on [livesimplyexeter@gmail.com](mailto:livesimplyexeter@gmail.com) or 07726316264

### **Diocesan Yearbook 2019**

Is available in the church porch at a cost of **£4.00** each. It is a great source of diocesan information and news. Please put your payment in the wall box marked 'Books'.

### **The Pope Tweets...**

Don't let the sufferings you see frighten you. Place them before the Crucifix and the Eucharist from which we draw patient and compassionate love

### **2019 International Mass at Sacred Heart**

An International Mass will take place on Sunday **27 January 2019 at 11.00am** at the Sacred Heart Church, followed by a meal at the Cardinal Newman Centre. Everyone welcome from Exeter parishes.

### **Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes**

Have you ever been on pilgrimage? It is one of the most wonderful things to do and can strengthen our faith immeasurably. Lourdes is one of the great pilgrimage centres of the Catholic world, the place where the Virgin Mary appeared to the girl Bernadette as she was collecting firewood. The apparitions continued for many days and Bernadette's life was transformed. Many pilgrims' lives have been transformed by a visit to the grotto and the waters of the spring which Bernadette discovered. The Diocese of Plymouth travels top Lourdes every year under the leadership of Bishop Mark. Perhaps it would be something for you to consider this year?

1-8 August 2019 led by Bishop Mark. Flying from Exeter. A time of prayer and relaxation. Cost £795. For further information and to book please see the information in church porch.

## **Youth Pilgrimage to Lourdes**

1-8 August 2019 also led by Bishop Mark. Flying from Exeter. Cost £495. For further information and to book please contact Fr Anthony O'Gorman tel: 01637 851697 or email: anthony.o'gorman@prcdtr.org.uk.

## **Pilgrimage to Knock Shrine**

Fully escorted 3 July 2019. Cost - £649.00 per person sharing. Price includes flight with 10kg hand luggage, all taxes, luxury transfers, 4 nights' in Knock House Hotel with full Irish Breakfast each morning and 4 Course Dinner each evening. All entertainment, excursions/guided tours included. Wheelchair accessible rooms in the hotel. Limited single rooms at supplement of £100. Contact Patricia on 01268 762 278 or 07740 175557 or email knockpilgrimages@gmail.com

## **1115 Youth Group**

We are sorry that the last meeting of the 1115 group had to be cancelled at short notice due to illness. The next meeting which will be held at the St. Richard Reynolds Centre will be on a date to be advised, from 6.30 to 8.00pm. Parents will be contacted with a new date.

## **Pope's Intention for January**

That young people, especially in Latin America, follow the example of Mary and respond to the call of the Lord to communicate the joy of the Gospel to the world. Pope Francis also adds a second, more urgent intention each month, which is published on the Apostleship of Prayer website <http://apostleshipofprayer.org> He also records a video each month, related to the prayer theme, which can be viewed online at <http://apostleshipofprayer.org/the-pope-video>

## **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. 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.

## **Organ Recital at Holy Cross**

It is almost a year since the last organ recital at Holy Cross Topsham. We are delighted that Richard Lester, Associate Organist at Buckfast Abbey, has agreed to give a recital on Sunday 24 February at 4.00pm. Richard is an internationally known soloist on organ and harpsichord, and has made many recordings to great acclaim. As an organist, he has given recitals in many Cathedrals, including St. Paul's, Ely, Coventry, Westminster Cathedral and King's College Cambridge, and in 2013 at St Mark's in Venice and at Bergamo Cathedral.

We are privileged that Richard has agreed to play in Topsham on our 1786 Robert and William Gray chamber organ. He plans to play a programme which will include works by Handel, John Stanley, J.S. Bach, Frescobaldi, Couperin and Louis-Claude Daquin. How can you resist it?

As you know, space is limited at Holy Cross. To be sure of a seat, please apply for a ticket in advance. Tickets are available through the events page of the Holy Cross website [www.holocrosstopsham.org](http://www.holocrosstopsham.org) or by phoning 01392 877071 or 07791 693603. There will be a retiring collection to cover the costs of the concert, and to raise money for charity. The concert will be followed by refreshments (mulled wine and cake!) weather permitting.

## **Octave of Prayer for**

### **Christian Unity**

**18-25 January 2019**

Last year we were invited to reflect upon the continuing impact of the Transatlantic Slave Trade upon Caribbean society and upon Christian unity and witness. This year we are reminded again that our prayer for unity is offered up amidst injustice and that Christian disunity is in so many ways related to the divisions in our world.

The Churches of Indonesia speak out of a context of ethnic and religious diversity, and where there is a strong emphasis upon the need for a unity that is found in diversity, and one built on solidarity and collaboration. Yet they also highlight issues of economic injustice and how religious pluralism can face challenges in the face of radicalisation. This gives us an opportunity to reflect upon the context in which we pray for Christian unity. How do divisions in our society contribute to divisions in the Church? How does injustice in our British and Irish contexts create challenges in pursuit of our shared life together?

#### **Prayer for healing and justice**

God of all, you have shown us the path of justice. You are the father of the orphan. You are the constant companion of the widow. You are the friend of the stranger. In each of these, may we meet you and recognise the wind of your Spirit, moving us toward the need for justice. In all that we do, may we know your grace and mercy and offer healing and justice in your name. Amen.

#### **Gather 2019**

We pray for all our parishioners and others from the diocese who are gathering in Torquay this weekend for the Gather conference.

## **Getting married?**

The next Catholic Marriage Preparation course will be held on Saturday 11 May. Before that you will need to have made an appointment with the parish office on 01392 274724 to come and meet with Fr Jonathan. This should be at least six months before your wedding date.

## **Urgent - accommodation**

There is an urgent need for a 2/3 bedroomed property in Exeter to house a Syrian refugee family who are currently waiting in a camp abroad. Charis, a Taunton based Christian charity will rent the property for two years paying the approved benefit level, maybe more, if finances permit. Any further information can be obtained from Judith on 01392 966876.

## **St Nicks' News**

Nursery places: We have some spaces in our fantastic term time nursery from January for 3-5 year olds. We offer both 15 and 30 hours (extended) funding and additional hours are only £4.06 per hour. We also provide wrap around care from 7.45am to 6.00pm. We offer high quality provision led by a full time Nurse teacher where children can explore, thrive, develop and grow in a safe, nurturing environment. For more information and/or a tour please contact Ali on 01392 445403 ext. 222 or email [abrocksom@stncls.uk](mailto:abrocksom@stncls.uk)

## **Drop Off Drop In**

Our weekly coffee morning from 8.30 till 9.15am on Friday mornings in the Bickleigh room have resumed. Parishioners are welcome to join us for coffee and cakes and a chance to meet friends old and new!

## **Please pray for...**

The children of our parish who have begun their preparation to receive Jesus in Holy Communion for the first time this summer. They were enrolled at Mass last Sunday.

## **Stronghold**

The next meeting of the Stronghold prayer and praise group is on Thursday 24 January at 7.15pm in the St Richard Reynolds Centre. The Eucharist is the source and summit of the Christian life and the celebration of Mass is central to our faith, but it is not the only way to pray. We pray through song and word, praising God with all our hearts and minds and bodies. It is simple but moving. If you enjoyed Epiphany Praise you will enjoy this too. Why not give it a go! Everyone is welcome, all ages.

## **Mass intentions**

If you would like a Mass said 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.

## **Into your hands, Lord...**

Please pray for the repose of the souls of Diane Skinner, James (Jimmy) Quinn, Charles Stephen Lowry and Marie Parker whose funerals will take place at Blessed Sacrament this week.

Dianne Skinner Tues 22 January at 1.00pm.  
Jimmy Quinn Wed 23 January at 10.00am  
Stephen Lowry Thur 24 January at 1.30pm.  
Marie Parker Fri 25 January at 10.00am  
May their souls and the souls of the dearly departed rest in peace. Amen.

## **Catholic Women's League**

The next CWL meeting is on Tuesday 22 January at 2.00pm at the Mount St Mary Centre. Please remember that your annual subs are due. For those who wish to attend the Branch Retreat the money for this will also be collected.

## **Sick Parishioners**

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

## **Mass in the Extraordinary Form**

This afternoon (20th) at 3.00pm at Blessed Sacrament Church.

## **Wanted**

A new homeless night shelter has recently opened at the Acorn junction. They are in need of a few items and we have been asked if anyone can help provide any of the following; mugs, biscuits and spoons of all sizes. Items can be left at the back of the church or brought along to the coffee after the Wednesday morning Mass. Or you can call Frances Canning on 01392 209542.

## **Guided Retreats**

Individual guided retreats are being organised by the Diocesan Ignatian Spirituality Group. Their Lenten Quiet day on March 23 is quite popular so early booking is advised if you are interested. It is also possible to arrange retreats for one or two people at other times of the year so please get in touch with them if you are interested. A list of the retreats and how to book can be found in the church porch.

## **Homelessness Sunday**

Join in at St Petrock's Church, High St, Exeter on Sunday 27 January at 4.00pm for an afternoon of Christian teaching and worship with a focus on homelessness in our city. All are welcome.

## **Happy Tenth Birthday**

2019 sees the 10 years anniversary of the deployment of Street Pastors on the streets of Exeter. They listen to, care for and help those that they meet on the city streets on Friday and Saturday nights between 10.30pm and 3.00am, all year round and in all weathers. During this time great

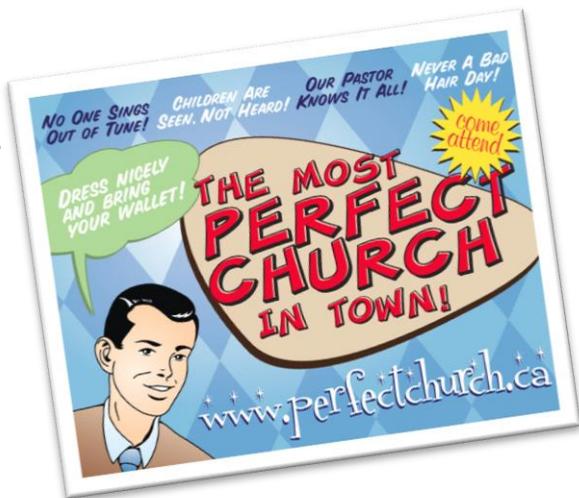
relationships have been built and strengthened between different denominations working together with a common purpose, and the support and trust of those who are out in the night time economy has become increasingly evident. Street pastors are well respected by the Police, Council, door staff and others working to keep the city safe at night. Prayer underpins all that they do and they have faithful Prayer Pastors at base and at home who pray for specific situations as they arise on the streets. They have seen God move in so many ways as a result. Exeter Street pastors would like to thank you for praying for our city. You will find a few bookmarks in the porch to take to aid you in continuing to lift the work of Street Pastors in prayer. If anyone would like more information about Street Pastors, either becoming a Street or Prayer Pastor check out their website at [www.exeter.streetpastors.org.uk](http://www.exeter.streetpastors.org.uk)

## Responding at Mass

If you are unfamiliar with the text of the Mass (the prayers etc) it appears on the first few pages of the hymn books. The Mass is a dialogue between God and his people and the call and responses reflect this dialogue. Let's be confident as we respond to God in the great celebration of the Mass.

## A welcoming parish

We are blessed in our parish to have many visitors who join us on Sundays (and during the week) to celebrate Mass. If you see someone you don't know try to say hello and make them feel welcome. It could make all the difference to their time with us. Many of our visitors don't have English as their first language, so be sensitive. Offering them the hymn book and showing them the text of the Mass could be a great icebreaker.



## The Perfect Church

If you should find the perfect church without one fault or smear, for goodness sake don't join that church, you'd spoil the atmosphere.

If you should find the perfect church where all anxieties cease, then pass it by, lest joining it you spoil a masterpiece.

If you should find the perfect church then don't you ever dare to tread upon such holy ground, you'd be a misfit there.

But since no perfect church exists made up of perfect men (and women), let's cease on looking for that church and love the church we're in.

Of course it's not the perfect church, that's simple to discern. But you and I and all of us could cause the tide to turn.

What fools we are to flee the past in that unfruitful search to find, at last, where problems loom God proudly builds his church.

# Mass Times

## Sunday 20 January

*Second in Ordinary Time*

*Day of prayer for peace*

9.00am *People of the parish*

10.30am *Musicians & singers*

6.00pm *Parish Council*

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## Monday 21 January

*St Agnes*

7.30am Convent

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## Tuesday 22 January

1.00pm **Funeral Mass**

*Diane Skinner RIP*

**NO evening Mass**

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## Wednesday 23 January

10.00am **Funeral Mass**

*James Quinn RIP*

4.00pm RD&E Hospital

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## Thursday 24 January

*St Francis de Sales*

9.30am

1.30pm **Funeral Mass**

*Stephen Lowry RIP*

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## Friday 25 January

*Conversion of St Paul*

7.30am Convent Mass

10.00am **Funeral Mass**

*Marie Parker RIP*

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## Saturday 26 January

*St Timothy & St Titus*

9.30am *Toddler Group*

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## Sunday 27 January

*Third in Ordinary Time*

9.00am

10.30am

*Sunday refreshments team*

6.00pm *People of the Parish*

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## Monday 28 January

*Anniversary of the*

*ordination of Bishop Mark*

*O'Toole*

7.30am Convent

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## Tuesday 29 January

7.00pm

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## Wednesday 30 January

9.30am

4.00pm RD&E Hospital

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## Thursday 31 January

*St John Bosco*

9.30am

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## Friday 1 February

7.30am Convent

9.30am *Peter Kelly RIP*

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## Saturday 2 February

*Presentation of the Lord*

*Day for consecrated life*

9.30am *Parish Finance*

*Committee Members*

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## Sunday 3 February

*Fourth in Ordinary time*

9.00am *People of the parish*

10.30am *Jean Quinn RIP*

6.00pm

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## Confessions

Saturday 10.00am Church

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## Adoration

Tuesdays 8.00pm Convent

First Wednesday each

month Lady chapel at

Sacred Heart 7.00pm

Some Thursdays 10.00am

(after Mass) Blessed

Sacrament Church.

*Please refer to the notice board on the church door for any alterations.*

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## The Word

### Sunday 20 January

**First Reading**

Isaiah 62:1-15

*The bridegroom rejoices in his bride.*

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## Psalm Response

*Proclaim the wonders of the*

*Lord among all the peoples.*

**Second Reading**

Corinthians 12:4-11

*One and the same spirit, who*

*distributes gifts to different*

*people just as he chooses.*

**Gospel**

John 2:1-11

*This was the first signs given by*

*Jesus: it was given at Cana in*

*Galilee*

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## Sunday 27 January

**First Reading**

Nehemiah 8:2-6.8-10

*Ezra read from the law of God*

*and the people understood*

*what was read.*

**Psalm Response**

*Your words are spirit, Lord,*

*and they are life.*

**Second Reading**

Corinthians 12:12-30

*You together are Christ's body;*

*but each of you is a different*

*part of it.*

**Gospel**

Luke 1:4-4; 4:14-21

*This text is being fulfilled today.*

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## Sunday 3 February

**First Reading**

Jeremiah 1:4-5.17-19

*I have appointed you as*

*prophet to the nations.*

**Psalm Response**

*My lips will tell of your help*

**Second Reading**

Corinthians 12:34 – 13:13

*There are three things that last:*

*faith, hope and love; and the*

*greatest of these is love.*

**Gospel**

Luke 4:21-30

*Like Elijah and Elisha, Jesus*

*is not sent to the Jews only.*

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