

ParishNews



Blessed Sacrament Parish Heavitree Exeter
6 January 2019. *The Epiphany of the Lord. Year C*

Parish Priest

Fr Jonathan Stewart

Priest in retirement

Fr John Watkins

PARISH OFFICE

The Presbytery,
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Exeter EX1 2QJ

Telephone

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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
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Head Teacher

Angela Folland

CONVENT

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



EPIPHANY

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.

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
16 December **£1094.35**
23 December **£1528.35**
30 December **£1225.82**

Calendar of Events

- Sun 6 Jan **Epiphany Praise**
Blessed Sacrament Church 3.00pm
- Mon 7 Jan **Live simply sewing group**
St Richard Reynolds Centre 6.30pm
- Thurs 10 Jan **Prayer Group**
St Richard Reynolds Centre 7.00pm
- Sat 12 Jan **Eucharistic Ministers training**
Blessed Sacrament Church 11.00am
- Sun 13 Jan **White Flower appeal**
Blessed Sacrament Church all Masses
- Mon 14 Jan **Live simply sewing group**
St Richard Reynolds Centre 6.30pm
- Wed 16 Jan **1115 Youth Group**
St Richard Reynolds Centre 6.30pm
- Thurs 17 Jan **Thursday Lunch Club**
St Richard Reynolds Centre 12.00pm
- Fri 18 Jan-
to Sun 20 Jan* **Gather Conference**
Livermead Cliff Hotel Torquay
- Sat 19 Jan **Baptism preparation course**
St Richard Reynolds Centre 10.30am
- Sun 20 Jan **Extraordinary form Mass**
Blessed Sacrament Church 3.00pm
- Mon 21 Jan **Live simply sewing group**
St Richard Reynolds Centre 6.30pm
- Thurs 24 Jan **Stronghold Prayer & Praise**
St Richard Reynolds Centre 7.00pm
- Sat 26 Jan **Live simply sewing group**
St Richard Reynolds Centre 10.00am
- Mon 28 Jan **Live simply sewing group**
St Richard Reynolds Centre 6.30pm
- Thurs 31 Jan **Thursday Lunch Club**
St Richard Reynolds Centre 12.00pm
- Thurs 17 Jan **Cafod meeting**
St Richard Reynolds Centre 7.00pm
- Mon 4 Feb **Live simply sewing group**
St Richard Reynolds Centre 6.30pm
- Sat 9 Feb **Livesimply meeting**
St Richard Reynolds Centre 10.00am
- Mon 4 Feb **Live simply sewing group**
St Richard Reynolds Centre 12.00pm
- Mon 11 Feb **Live simply sewing group**
St Richard Reynolds Centre 6.30pm
- Sun 17 Feb **Extraordinary form Mass**
Blessed Sacrament Church 3.00pm

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

Today is the Feast of the Manifestation, or the Showing of the Saviour to the whole world, to all nations. In the wise men who travel from the East, we see all the nations other than the people of Israel being welcomed at the New Temple of the New Covenant - the new born child in the manger. A look at the Psalm response shows this: All nations shall fall prostrate before you, O Lord. The same is true of the key word in the second reading: Revelation. Remember that for the people of Israel this was to be their Messiah, come to restore their fortunes. By this feast, we proclaim God's plan was to extend his salvation to men and women of every nation, of every time and every place - including us. In many ways this is our Christmas Feast, when we celebrate the Good News of the Saviour's birth revealed at last to us.

Epiphany Praise

We will gather in church at 3.00pm to sing the praises of the Lord led by the Stronghold music group. There will be a cup of tea in the parish centre afterwards. All welcome.

Gather 2019

January 18-20 at the Livermead Cliff Hotel, Torquay. A weekend conference which brings together people from across the Diocese of Plymouth and beyond for a time of friendship, shared faith and formation. Flyers which include a booking form are available in the church porch. We'd love to see you there. If you'd like to know more about the conference just ask Fr Jonathan. There are still places available, especially for day delegates at a much reduced rate and all the benefits of the conference.

livesimply

We have raised a total of £1,376.54. £300 have been donated to CAFOD for a World Gift of a Medical Outreach Team. The remaining funds are being used to support the SafeSleep winter shelter for the homeless on Magdalen Street by providing a meal on Friday evenings (meals on other days are provided by other churches in Exeter).

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 listed on the calendar. Please contact Sharron (07756691940) for more information.

Exeter Foodbank Collection

We will continue to collect non-perishable food and toiletries at the back of the church. Priority items include tins of vegetables, potatoes, fruit and meat; jams & spreads, granulated sugar, noodle & pasta snacks, squash & cordial.

***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 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'.

Baptism Preparation Course

The next baptism preparation course for parents will take place in the St Richard Reynolds Centre on Saturday 19 January at 10.30 am. If you are expecting a baby or wish to have a baby baptized in the near future please contact the Parish office to book a place on the course.

We welcome...

Liliana Grygierzec who will be baptised this Sunday at the 10.30am Mass. Please offer a prayer for her, her parents and Godparents.

The Pope Tweets...

If we live as Jesus taught us, and in harmony with what we proclaim, our witness will bear fruit

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

The next meeting for the 1115 Group will be held at the St. Richard Reynolds Centre at Blessed Sacrament Church, Heavitree, on Wednesday 16 January from 6.30 to 8.00pm.

Pope's Intention for January

That young people follow the example of Mary and respond to the call of the Lord to communicate the joy of the gospel to the world.

Thursday Prayer Group

meets next on Thursday 10 January in the St Richard Reynolds Centre at 7.00pm. All are welcome.

Formation Day for Catechists

Calling all catechists and “would be” catechists who help pass on the faith in any way. The day which was scheduled for Saturday 19 January has now been changed to **Saturday 12 January** at St. Peter’s Parish Room, 10.30am-1.00pm. All welcome. Contact Fr John Bielawski on 01752 701660 or turn up on the day.

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.holycrosstopsham.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.

Ladies Keep Fit Classes

Will re-commence on Tuesday 8 January following the Christmas Break. Classes are held each Tuesday morning at 10.00am at the Cardinal Newman Centre, Wonford Road, Exeter for the ladies of the Exeter Parishes. New members are always welcome to come along and try. Contact Maggie Nicholls on 01392 426683

White flower appeal

The Society for the protection of unborn children (SPUC) will be holding its annual appeal next Sunday 13 January. Please give generously in the retiring collection (at all Masses) to help them defeat a latest attack on unborn babies and their mothers, and to stop abortion getting even worse in this country by decriminalisation.

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. There will be a retiring collection at all Masses on this day to assist Pax Christi in its work.

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.

RE:connect Open Day

Saturday 19 January.

A chance for youth groups, parish groups or individuals to visit the Buckfast Abbey Education Department's ground-breaking project RE:connect. This is an exciting interactive experience to help young people

(and the not so young!) to think more deeply about the world around them. Enter the RE:connect network to explore the interconnectivity of the world through hands on and thought provoking activities, exercises and reflections. Situated in the Higher Mill building at Buckfast Abbey (just by the car park, former site of the Monastic Produce Shop). Free drop in from 10.00am to 4.00pm. This year we have also added a 'prayer space' called RE:focus. This will also be open on 19 January and is situated in the Old Guesthall. Further information at <https://www.buckfast.org.uk/education/reconnect2019>

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

Next Sunday we celebrate the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord. Lots of you may have already taken down your Christmas trees and consigned your cribs to the attic for another year (I know someone who takes it all down on Boxing Day!), but officially Christmastide (the period of celebrating Christmas) comes to an end after the feast of the Baptism of the Lord. So take courage! Be a sign of difference in the world! Keep your tree up until 13 January. You know you want to! Happy Christmas! *Fr Jonathan.*

First Holy Communion

Those children who have registered for preparation for First Holy Communion this year are meeting at Sacred Heart Church at 6.00pm on Tuesday 8 January to celebrate Mass together. This will be the first of the preparation meetings and it is essential that your child attends. You would be most welcome to stay and celebrate Mass with us. See you on Tuesday. Don't forget to sign up on Sundays to say you have been to Mass. The sheet will be on the Martyrs altar in church.



Epiphany Praise



Come and join us to praise God for the gift of his Son JESUS
Blessed Sacrament Church Sunday 6 January 3.00pm
STRONGHOLD Praise Band. All ages and traditions welcome

BLESSED SACRAMENT PARISH

Mass Times

Sunday 6 January

The Epiphany of the Lord

9.00am *Ministers of the word*

10.30am *People of the Parish*

6.00pm *Olive Morgan RIP*

Monday 7 January

7.30am Convent

Tuesday 8 January

NO MASS

Wednesday 9 January

9.30am *Parish Street pastors*

4.00pm RD&E Hospital

Thursday 10 January

9.30am

Friday 11 January

7.30am Convent Mass

9.30am

Saturday 12 January

9.30am *Eucharistic Ministers*

Sunday 13 January

The Baptism of the Lord

9.00am *Welcomers*

10.30am *People of the Parish*

6.00pm *Parish Catechists*

Monday 14 January

7.30am Convent

Tuesday 15 January

9.00am

Wednesday 16 January

9.30am

4.00pm RD&E Hospital

Thursday 17 January

St Anthony

9.30am

Friday 18 January

NO Convent Mass

9.30am

Saturday 19 January

9.30am *In thanksgiving*

Sunday 20 January

Second Sunday in

Ordinary time

Peace Day

9.00am *People of the parish*

10.30am *Musicians & singers*

6.00pm *Parish Council*

Confessions

Saturday 10.00am Church

Adoration

Mondays 9.30am Church

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.

The Word

Sunday 6 January

First Reading

Isaiah 60:1-6

Above you the glory of the Lord appears.

Psalm Response

All nations shall fall prostrate before you, O Lord.

Second Reading

Ephesians 3:2-3.5-6

It has now been revealed that pagans share the same inheritance.

Gospel

Matthew 2:1-12

We saw his star and have come to do the king homage.

Sunday 13 January

First Reading

Isaiah 40:1-5.9-11

The glory of the Lord shall be revealed and all mankind shall see it.

Psalm Response

Bless the Lord, my soul! Lord God, how great you are.

Second Reading

Titus 2:11-14.3:4-7

He saved us by cleansing water of rebirth and by renewing us with the Holy Spirit

Gospel

Luke 3:15-16.21-22

While Jesus after his own baptism was at prayer, heaven opened.

Sunday 20 January

First Reading

Isaiah 62:1-15

The bridegroom rejoices in his bride.

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
