

ParishNews



Blessed Sacrament Parish Heavitree Exeter
3 March 2019 2019. *Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time. Year C*

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: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

[www.st-nicholas-
exeter.devon.sch.uk](http://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.*



“There is no sound
tree that produces
rotten fruit”

We have many sayings about results being more important than promises, such as “the proof of the pudding is in the eating”. Today’s scripture readings are all about this – the ways in which our words and actions will reveal who we truly are. There is a wonderful mosaic of poetic wisdom in the readings this Sunday – images and parables and similes that can sit in our heads and hearts, and make us think about the sort of people we are, and the words we use and the fruits we produce by them.

And we should pray that we will always produce good, sound fruit, so that we may keep on working at the Lord’s work always, and so share in Christ’s victory over death itself.

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
17 February **£1056.94**
24 February **£1188.82**

Calendar of Events

Mon 4 Mar	Live simply sewing group <i>St Richard Reynolds Centre 6.30pm</i>
Wed 6 Mar	Ash Wednesday <i>Blessed Sacrament Masses 9.30am & 7.00pm</i>
Thurs 7 Mar	Cafod meeting <i>St Richard Reynolds Centre 7.00pm</i>
Fri 8 Mar	1115 Youth Group <i>Clip & Climb Haven banks</i>
Fri 8 Mar	Stations of the Cross <i>Blessed Sacrament Church 7.00pm</i>
Sun 10 Mar	Stronghold Led Mass <i>Blessed Sacrament Church 10.30am</i>
Sun 10 Mar	Rite of Election <i>Plymouth Cathedral 3.00pm</i>
Mon 11 Mar	Live simply sewing group <i>St Richard Reynolds Centre 6.30pm</i>
Wed 13 Mar	Lent Service & Lunch <i>St Michaels Heavitree 12.00noon</i>
Thurs 14 Mar	Thursday Lunch Club <i>St Richard Reynolds Centre 12.00pm</i>
Thurs 14 Mar	Prayer Group <i>St Richard Reynolds Centre 7.00pm</i>
Fri 15 Mar	Cafod Lent Fast Day Lunch <i>St Richard Reynolds Centre 12.00</i>
Fri 15 Mar	Stations of the Cross <i>Blessed Sacrament Church 7.00pm</i>
Sun 17 Mar	Extraordinary Form Mass <i>Blessed Sacrament Church 3.00pm</i>
Mon 18 Mar	Live simply sewing group <i>St Richard Reynolds Centre 6.30pm</i>
Wed 20 Mar	Lent service and lunch <i>St Lawrence Church 12.00noon</i>
Wed 20 Mar	1115 Youth Group <i>St Richard Reynolds Centre 6.30pm</i>
Sat 23 Mar	Urafiki Coffee morning <i>St Richard Reynolds Centre 10.00am</i>
Sat 23 Mar	Lent Day of Recollection <i>St Rita's Honiton 10.00am</i>
Mon 25 Mar	Live simply sewing group <i>St Richard Reynolds Centre 6.30pm</i>
Wed 27 Mar	Lent service and lunch <i>Blessed Sacrament Church 12.00noon</i>
Thurs 28 Mar	Thursday Lunch Club <i>St Richard Reynolds Centre 12.00pm</i>

The Season of Lent

Lent, like Advent is a season of preparation. It's austerity motivated by our sorrow for sin is tempered by the joy we experience as people who have been redeemed by the passion, death and resurrection of the Lord Jesus. Lent puts before us the whole mystery of salvation through which God's merciful love has been revealed in Jesus Christ his Son.

Lent is a time of anticipation and waiting for the coming Easter celebration. The full meaning of Lent is to be found in its consummation in the three days (*Triduum*) of Holy Thursday, Good Friday and the Easter Vigil on Holy Saturday.

The rigours of Lent are undergone to prepare us for the triumphant emergence of Christ from the tomb. In Lent we are reminded that we must die to ourselves if we are to rise with Christ. The Gospel message of Lent is clear "if we die with him we shall rise with him."

The various aspects of Lent as a baptismal season are beautifully set out for us in the Gospels for the first and second Sundays of Lent. On the first Sunday, Christ in the desert refuses to seek his happiness in the riches of the world and affirms his trust and submission to the Father. On the second Sunday the transfigured Christ, with Moses and Elijah, is revealed to his apostles as Israel's glory and ours.

Our pilgrimage in the footsteps of the Master calls for constant vigilance, prayer and self denial as he leads us towards our heavenly Jerusalem.

Our whole life is like the season of Lent waiting and preparing until the day when we will be with the Lord in his glory. This is the full meaning of Christian baptism.

Cafod Lent Fast Day

Cafod Lent Family Fast Day is on Friday 15 March and this Lent is an opportunity to support our brothers and sisters around the world. Drought, floods and storms are having a devastating impact on our global family. Like Mahinur from Bangladesh. She makes a living from fishing but a drought last year killed all the fish and she is struggling to support her disabled husband and son. On Friday 15 March can you eat a simple meal in solidarity and give what you save to help people like Mahinur? Through CAFODs global Church network – one of the largest aid networks in the world – your support can reach to the ends of the earth. Please collect your Fast Day envelope on Sunday 10 March and return them the following Sunday. We will be holding a Family Fast Day Lunch on Friday 15 March Please join us for a simple soup and roll fast day lunch at 12 noon in the St Richard Reynolds centre. This will follow Mass which will be at 11.30am.

Lenten Day Retreat

A Lenten Retreat is being held at St Rita's Centre, Honiton on Saturday 23 March from 10.00am till 4.30pm with Fr Jonathan Stewart. Cost £25 per person which included lunch. For further information and to register contact St Rita's promotions on 01404 42635, pick up a booking form from the church porch or email stritas@btinternet.com

Ash Wednesday

The first day of Lent is a day of fasting and abstinence. We try to do without some food, particularly red meat, as a sign of our penitence and willingness to change. Mass and distribution of ashes will take place at Masses on Wednesday 6 March at 9.30am and 7.00pm. There is also a Liturgy at St Nicholas School at 9.15am which you are most welcome to attend.

livesimply

Fairtrade Fortnight

Fairtrade Fortnight is Monday 25 February to Sunday 10 March and the focus of this year's is on the livelihoods of farmers



in West Africa where over 60% of the world's cocoa is grown. The UK chocolate industry is worth £4 billion a year, but a typical cocoa farmer in Côte d'Ivoire earns less than a \$1 a day. If you love chocolate and care about the people working so hard to grow the core ingredient, please watch out for the Fairtrade logo when buying your treats. You are also invited to support the Fairtrade Foundation's campaign for a living wage (that covers a basic standard of living) for cocoa farmers.

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 (see dates in the newsletter calendar).

Thank you very much for your fabric donations! The group now has enough to work on their current projects.

Exeter Foodbank Collection

Thank you for your continuing support to Exeter Foodbank. On average, the local Foodbank has been supporting around 140 clients a week since the start of the New Year – a marked increase to last year's numbers. If you would like to help address a key reason why people rely on foodbanks, please join the ongoing Trussell Trust campaign on ending the five weeks wait for Universal Credit payments:

<https://www.trusselltrust.org/five-weeks-too-long/>

livesimply meeting

The next meeting will take place at the St Richard Reynolds Centre on Saturday 30 March at 10.00am. All welcome!

For more information on *livesimply*, please contact Kathrin on 07726316264 or livesimplyexeter@gmail.com

CAFOD

Our next CAFOD meeting is Thursday 7 March at 7.00pm in the St Richard Reynolds Centre. Anyone interested in the work of Cafod and/or getting involved with the active parish group is very welcome to come along to this meeting.

Change of Mass time

Mass on Tuesdays will now be at 6.30pm

1115 Youth Group

The next meeting of the 1115 youth group will be an outing to Clip and Climb in Haven Banks on Friday 8 March 6.30 – 8.00pm. This will be followed by regular fortnightly meetings on Wednesday evenings in the St Richard Reynolds Centre.

Into your hands, Lord...

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Arthur Maddocks. Arthur was a regular at the Thursday Lunch Club for many years and a parishioner at Holy Cross Topsham. May he rest in peace.

The Pope Tweets...

Let's take a little time every day to examine our conscience, to convert to the Lord. Five minutes at the end of each day will help us think about a change of heart and conversion to the Lord, without procrastination.

Charity Abseil

Help your local Home-Start by abseiling down the highest waterfall in the UK at Canonteign on 27 April from 9.00am. Details can be found on a poster in the church porch or call 01392 826299

Pope's Intention for March

Recognition of the Right of Christian communities. That Christian communities, especially those who are persecuted, feel that they are close to Christ and have their rights respected.

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>

Catholic Women's League

On Saturdays (except Holy Saturday) after the morning Mass at the Sacred Heart Church in South Street coffee and cake is served by the Catholic Women's League in the Lower room. Please come along.

Frugal Lunches of soup, a roll and cheese with tea or coffee will be served next Friday and the Fridays of Lent at 12 o'clock in the Lower Room at the Sacred Heart Church. The proceeds are for St. Petrock's Day Centre for the homeless in Cathedral Close. Everyone welcome.

Vocations Retreat

'Call on me, and I will show you great and wonderful things which you have not known' (Jeremiah 33:3) A two-day retreat with space to pray and reflect on the call of God and what it might mean for you. For those discerning their vocation . . . an opportunity to meet others who are also wondering about God's call . . . and to meet those who have already made the choice to live the religious life in the Church. Dates and times: Friday 22 March at 4.00 pm till Sunday 24 March after lunch. If you feel that the Lord is calling you in some way - as a priest or as a brother or you are not too sure - get in touch with Fr Ralph Candy Vocations Director, Diocese of Plymouth. Email:vocation@prcdtr.org.uk or Tel: 01803 557518 for further details.

Catechist Formation

'Ongoing Formation & the Catechism of the Catholic Church' on Saturday February 23 and 'Children's Liturgy of the Word', for all those who help with Children's Liturgy, on Saturday March 23. Both events are at St. Peter's, Crownhill, Plymouth - 9.30am Mass, 10.00am refreshments, 10.30am start and 1.00pm finish.

Walk for Dementia UK

Just over a year ago my mother in law, Maryvonne Green, who was a parishioner of Blessed Sacrament, died after suffering over many years with dementia. I therefore decided to do this walk in her memory as well as to raise money for the many people and their families who are currently affected by this terrible disease. Please donate whatever you can to motivate me on this long and challenging walk along the North Devon Coast Path, which I will soon be undertaking. I am starting this walk on March 26 and it will take me 13 days to complete and I will be walking in all weathers!! Donating through JustGiving is simple, fast and totally secure. Your details are safe with JustGiving - they'll never sell them on or send unwanted emails. Once you donate, they'll send your money directly to the charity. So it's the most efficient way to donate - saving time and cutting costs for the charity. The link is www.justgiving.com/fundraising/Craig-Ayles. I will also be in the porch after Masses with a sponsor form if that is easier for you to do.

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.

Saying Goodbye

When a baby is lost, whether during pregnancy, at birth or in infancy, it is a devastating experience. The "Saying Goodbye" services, run by the charity the Mariposa Trust, are a set of remembrance services for people who have suffered the loss of a baby at any stage whether that be recently or decades ago. They provide a time and place to acknowledge and remember your baby, whilst collectively 'saying goodbye'. The services also welcome anyone grieving the fact that they have been unable to have children. The services are for people of any faith, or no faith, are free to attend and people are invited to bring family, friends and children with them. Together we will stand and say, "Our children may have only been on this earth for days, weeks, months or years, but they were truly loved, and will always be missed". A service is being held at Exeter Cathedral on Saturday 30 March at 2.30pm.

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.

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 to 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

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. Contact Patricia on 01268 762 278 or 07740 175557 or email knockpilgrimages@gmail.com

Envision 2019

This is an exciting opportunity to see and hear what God is doing in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA). Maggie Morgan, an award-winning SAT-7 producer from Egypt, will speak about the challenges facing women in the Middle East and North Africa as well as testimonies from Middle Eastern believers about how God is at work in their lives, and find out how you can get involved in this exciting ministry. **Come and be inspired and challenged!** 1.00pm (for a 1.30pm start) – 5.00pm at Wonford Methodist church on Saturday 16 March. For more details and to register go to www.sat7uk.org/envision

Summer Conferences at the School of the Annunciation

8-11 August - Inflamed by Love:

Discipleship and the Holy Spirit.

12-15 August - Church History & the

Fathers

15-18 August - Philosophy & Apologetics

See posters in the church porch or for more

information and to apply visit [www.sota-](http://www.sota-edu.com)

edu.com Email enquiries: [enquiries@sota-](mailto:enquiries@sota-edu.com)

edu.com or telephone 01364 645660

FLAME 2019

A large group of young people from the diocese, including most of the Exeter candidates for Confirmation, travelled to Wembley Arena yesterday to join in the biggest gathering of Catholic young people in the country. They travelled by coach, leaving (and returning) at an un-Godly hour but we hope they had a wonderful time and experienced what it can be like to share one's faith with a huge number of people. Please keep them in your prayers.

Holy Land Pilgrimage

Our pilgrims to the Holy Land have returned! They had a wonderful, grace filled time visiting many of the sites of the Gospel and the Old Testament. Bishop Mark led them and they were joined by Canon John Deeny and 14 parishioners from the Exeter parishes. They prayed for us. You will find some pictures of the pilgrimage on the parish Facebook page or go to the Cathedral website <https://www.plymouthcathedral.co.uk/holy-land-pilgrimage.html>

New parishioners

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. Thank you.

St Nicks' News

We have a vacancy for a **Foundation Governor** to join our Local Governing Body. If you are interested in this very rewarding role and would be willing and able to give up some time to join the governing team please contact Ali Brocksom by email (abrocksom@stnics.uk) for info about the role and how to apply.

Our whole school **Ash Wednesday liturgy** takes place on Wednesday at 9.15am. Parishioners are welcome to join us in the school hall.

We are taking part in **World Book Day** next Thursday and celebrating Reading Around the World. Children are currently completing a reading challenge to read as many books as possible about different countries. On the day each class will be celebrating a different country, dressing in the colours of the flag and learning about its culture.

We have spaces in our high quality **Nursery** for Summer Term. You can use your 15 (or extended 30 hours funding) with the option to purchase additional hours at less than £4.50 per hour. Please contact abrocksom@stnics.uk / 01392445403 ext 222 for more information or to arrange a tour.

Stations of the Cross

Stations of the Cross will be celebrated each Friday in Lent at 7.00pm in the church. As in past years they will be led by a variety of groups within the parish including the Catholic Women's League, the parish CAFOD group and members of the Thursday Luncheon Club. Walking in the footsteps of Jesus on his final journey is a wonderful Lenten devotion and would make a good resolution to do something, rather than always giving something up.

Mass Times

Sunday 3 March

Eighth in Ordinary time

Day of prayer for the unemployed

9.00am *People of the parish*

10.30am *Private intention*

6.00pm

Monday 4 March

7.30am Convent Mass

Tuesday 5 March

6.30pm NOTE NEW TIME

Pat Stewart RIP

Wednesday 6 March

Ash Wednesday. Day of Fasting and Abstinence

9.30am

4.00pm RD&E Hospital

7.00pm

Thursday 7 March

St Perpetua & St Felicity

9.30am

Friday 8 March

International Women's Day

7.30am Convent

9.30am

Saturday 9 March

9.30am

Sunday 10 March

First Sunday of Lent

9.00am

10.30am *People of the Parish*

6.00pm

Monday 11 March

7.30am Convent

Tuesday 12 March

6.30pm

Wednesday 13 March

9.30am

4.00pm RD&E Hospital

Thursday 14 March

9.30am

Friday 15 March

7.30am Convent

11.30am

Saturday 16 March

9.30am

Sunday 17 March

Second Sunday of Lent

Collection for Cafod Lent

Fast Day

9.00am

10.30am

6.00pm *People of the parish*

Confessions

Saturday 10.00am Church

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.

The Word

Sunday 3 March

First Reading

Ecclesiasticus 27:4-7

Do not praise a man before he has spoken.

Psalm Response

It is good to give you thank O Lord.

Second Reading

Corinthians 15:54-58

He has given us victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Gospel

Luke 6:39-45

A man's words flow out of what fills his heart.

Sunday 10 March

First Reading

Deuteronomy 26:4-10

The creed of the chosen people.

Psalm Response

Be with me, O Lord, in my distress.

Second Reading

Romans 10:8-13

The creed of the Christian.

Gospel

Luke 4:1-13

Jesus was led by the Spirit through the wilderness and was tempted there.

Sunday 17 March

First Reading

Genesis 15:5-12.17-18

God enters into a Covenant with Abraham, the man of faith.

Psalm Response

The Lord is my light and my help.

Second Reading

Philippians 3:17-4:1

Christ will transfigure our bodies into copies of his glorious body.

Gospel

Luke 9:28-36

As Jesus prayed, the aspect of his face was changed.

