

ParishNews



Blessed Sacrament Parish Heavitree Exeter
5 January 2020. *The Epiphany of the Lord. Year A*

Parish Priest

Fr Jonathan Stewart

Priest in retirement

Fr John Watkins

PARISH OFFICE

The Presbytery,
29 Fore Street, Heavitree
Exeter EX1 2QJ
01392 274724

Email exeter-heavitree
@prcdtr.org.uk

Parish Office hours

Tuesday, Wednesday and
Thursday 10.00am–4.00pm

Parish Secretary

Lesley Hooper

Parish Pastoral Assistant

Maria Quinn
exeter-pastoral-
assistant@prcdtr.org.uk

Parish Youth Worker

Erik Renz
exeter-youth-
worker@prcdtr.org.uk

Safeguarding Reps

Vince Clark & Lesley Hooper

PARISH SCHOOL

St Nicholas Catholic

Primary School Ringswell
Avenue, Exeter EX1 3EG
01392 445403

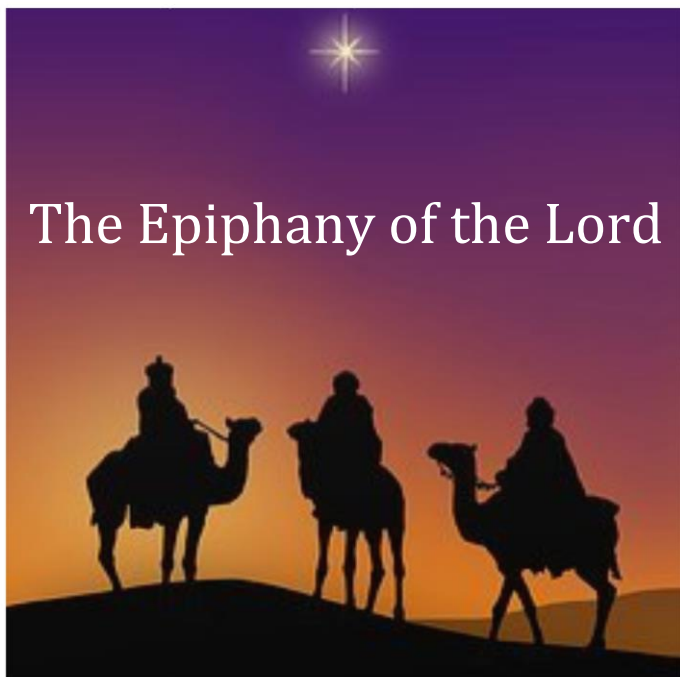
admin@stnics.uk
www.st-nicholas-
exeter.devon.sch.uk

Head Teacher

Angela Folland

CONVENT

Mount St Mary Convent,
Wonford Road, EX2 4PF
Telephone 01392 433301



The Epiphany of the Lord

In the East Christmas is called the ‘Time of Manifestation’, or Showing. 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. Today’s 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”.

For the people of Israel this was to be their Messiah, come to restore their fortunes. By this feast, we proclaim God’s plan 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.

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 10.45am Mass most Sundays.

Refreshments

Sundays after 10.45am 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
22 Dec £1153.15
29 Dec £1209.05*

Calendar of Events

Mondays

livesimply Sewing Group

St Richard Reynolds Centre 6.30pm

Wednesdays

Wednesday Word

St Richard Reynolds Centre 2.00pm

Fridays

Wednesday Word

Sacred Heart Church 7.00pm

Sun 5 Jan

Epiphany Praise

Blessed Sacrament Church 3.00pm

Mon 6 Jan

Porch floor repairs commence

Blessed Sacrament Church

Livesimply Sewing Group resumes

St Richard Reynolds Centre 6.30pm

Wed 8 Jan

Wednesday Word resumes

St Richard Reynolds Centre 2.00pm

Praying the Rosary

Blessed Sacrament Church 6.30pm

Thurs 9 Jan

Prayer Group

St Richard Reynolds Centre 7.00pm

Sun 12 Jan

SPUC White Flower Appeal

Blessed Sacrament Church All Masses

Extraordinary Form Mass

Blessed Sacrament Church 3.00pm

Mon 13 Jan

Toddler Group resumes

St Richard Reynolds Centre 9.30am

Tues 14 Jan

Pastoral Parish Council Meeting

St Richard Reynolds Centre 7.00pm

Thurs 16 Jan

Thursday Lunch Club

St Richard Reynolds Centre 12.30pm

Sun 19 Jan

Peace Sunday

Tues 21 Jan

Understanding the Mass

St Richard Reynolds Centre 7.00pm

Wed 22 Jan

Praying the Rosary

Blessed Sacrament Church 6.30pm

Thurs 23 Jan

Stronghold Praise & Worship

St Richard Reynolds Centre 7.15pm

Fri 24 Jan

Devon Youth Jazz Orchestra

Blessed Sacrament Church 6.00pm

Sat 25 Jan

GIFT

St Nicholas School 9.30am

Tues 28 Jan

Understanding the Mass

St Richard Reynolds Centre 7.00pm

Fri 31 Jan –

Gather Conference

Sun 2 Feb

Livermead Cliff Hotel Torquay

Tues 4 Feb

Understanding the Mass

St Richard Reynolds Centre 7.00pm

Epiphany Praise

Today we celebrate the lovely feast of the Epiphany of the Lord, when the three visitors from the east brought gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. Please join us at 3.00pm to sing the praises of the Lord led by the Stronghold music group. Refreshments afterwards in St Richard Reynolds Centre.

Share our love, give them hope

Please take time to visit our crib over the Christmas period. The collection will be donated to the Catholic Children's Society as it works across our diocese spreading God's love and giving families hope in times of crisis. Please give what you can afford, it is greatly appreciated by so many children. Thank you. For more information on their work visit www.ccsplymouth.org.uk

Prayer Group

The next meeting of the Prayer Group is on Thursday 9 January at 7.15pm in the St Richard Reynolds Centre. All welcome.

Extraordinary Form Mass

At Blessed Sacrament Church on Sunday 12 January at 3.00pm.

Parish Rosary Group

Would you like to gather to pray the rosary together? We will next be meeting on Wednesday 8 January at 6.30pm in the church. We would love to see you there.

Pope Francis' Intention for January

For the promotion of World peace. We pray that Christians, followers of other religions, and all people of goodwill may promote peace and justice in the world.

Christmas crib in Heavitree

Please don't forget to take a look at the crib in the window of G. W. Key & Shoe in Heavitree. This is organised by Christians Together in Heavitree.

Diocesan Yearbook 2020

There are just a few copies left in the porch at a cost of £4.00 each. The yearbook is a great source of diocesan information and news. Please put your payment in the wall box marked 'Books'.

GIFT Family Catechesis

If you have children in primary school, then GIFT is for you. A different approach to growing in faith which we hope will lead to a greater understanding of the sacraments and your part in the life of the Church.

It is for all primary school age families regardless of whether your children have or have not received First Holy

Communion. Please take information leaflets giving dates of sessions which begin on **25 January 9.30 - 12.00 at St Nicholas School, Ringswell Avenue EX1 3EG**

Preparing for Baptism

If you are expecting a baby or wish to have a baby baptised in the near future, please contact the Parish office to book a place on one of our courses. We look forward to supporting you and your family in your faith journey together. Our Baptism course runs over 3 consecutive Saturday mornings from 10.30-12.00. We are offering three courses in 2020: March 14, 21, 28 July 11, 18, 25 and November 14, 21, 28

Stamps for Hospice

The Sisters trim used postage stamps for the Hospice who can get a lot of money from selling the stamps. At this time of year we may receive more post from friends and relatives so please remember to cut off the stamps and bring them and put them in the box in the church porch. Thank you.

Weekly Giving Envelopes

The weekly gift aid and planned giving envelopes are available for collection. If you missed collecting yours recently then please contact the Parish office. Do remember to let us know if there are any changes in your circumstances. Are you still paying income tax for instance? If you have moved recently do let us know your correct contact details. If you are new to the Parish and perhaps not considered gift aiding your donations there is opportunity today to consider it. You can always call the Parish office for more information. Thank you.

Wednesday Word

'Wednesday Word' is a resource which allows us to prayerfully prepare for Mass on Sunday by reading and reflecting on the upcoming Sunday Gospel in a friendly and supportive group setting. Come along to an open group each week to ready yourself for Sunday Mass and to deepen and feed your faith. *It will re commence on Wednesday 8 January at 2.00pm (RRC) and on Friday 10 January 7.00pm (SH).*

Thursday Lunch Club

The first meeting of the lunch club in 2020 will be on **Thursday 16 January** at 12.30pm and **NOT 2 January** as previously published. Lunches will continue fortnightly after that.

The Pope Tweets...

Let us ask for the grace to live this year with the desire to take others to heart and to care for them.

Smart Loving Breakthrough

When marriages are conflicted, the whole family suffers. It's stressful for the parents and distressing for the children. Smart Loving Break Through is an online course designed to help individual spouses process their emotions and understand what is driving the conflict in their marriage. Grounded in contemporary psychology and

framed by Catholic spirituality, the 3 hour course is available anywhere, anytime. More information is available online (and a 50% discount): smartloving.org/breakthrough/

Rest in Peace...

Please pray for **Jean Waldron** and **Peggy Moore** who have died recently. May they rest in peace and may their families and friends be consoled. Jean's funeral Mass will be celebrated at 12 noon on Tuesday 14 January. All welcome.

SPUC White flower appeal

The Society for the Protection of Unborn Children (SPUC) will be having their annual appeal on Sunday 12 January. SPUC's mission is to save the lives of unborn babies and to protect women from abortion. You can stop abortion getting worse by signing a postcard that you will find in the church porch. This asks the Prime Minister not to allow pro-abortion legislation to pass through parliament. Please fill in your postcard today and post it to SPUC who will gather them together and present them to No. 10 on your behalf. Please also support the work of SPUC by giving generously to the White Flower collection after all Masses today. We also ask you to pray for SPUC's work. Thank you.

Magazines for hospital

A big thank you to everyone who has given magazines for the hospital, it has been very much appreciated by both staff and patients. As there has been a great response and not to overwhelm the hospital they will in future be collected on the last Sunday of the month starting from 26 January. Thank you.

livesimply

The Sewing Group will meet again on Monday 6 January at 6.30pm in the St Richard Reynolds Centre. New members always welcome.

St Nick's News

We return to school on the 7 January and will be celebrating the Epiphany liturgy in school on Friday 10 January at 9.15am.

Parishioners are very welcome to join us.

A reminder to parents who are applying for Reception places for September 2020 that applications to Devon County Council must be made by the 15 January. If you are applying to St Nicholas School you must also complete a supplementary application form (obtainable on the school website or by calling the school) which must be returned to the school by the same date.

Medjugorje Irish Centre

Pilgrimages

April - Oct 2020 7 Night Stay and Airport Shuttle service from Dubrovnik or Split for €266 per person sharing. Book any flight - any time and we provide guaranteed airport shuttle service. Call us for further info and book the dates that suit you. Tel. 020 3239 8662 or email reservations@med-irishcentre.com.

Christmas Cards

Last chance: Remember to look to see if any cards have been left for you in the box in the porch! **The sisters will not be collecting Christmas cards this year so please do not bring them to church. Thank you.**

New parishioners

Are you new to Blessed Sacrament parish? 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.

Peace Sunday

Annual day of prayer for peace in the world Sunday 19 January 2020.

Understanding the Mass

We will be running six film and discussion sessions from Bishop Robert Barron's 'Word on Fire' series in the New Year to grow in our understanding of the Mass. Come to all six or dip in and out each week; either way, you will feel inspired and spiritually fed.

When? Jan 21, 28, Feb 4, 11, 18, and 25

Where? St Richard Reynolds Centre

What time? Mass at 6.30pm film/discussion from 7.00 -8.30pm

Exeter Street Pastors

Would you like to be a Street Pastor or Prayer Pastor? Exeter Street Pastor teams are out every Friday and Saturday night, listening to anyone who wants to chat, helping people who may be vulnerable due to alcohol, offering flip-flops to ladies with sore feet, and picking up bottles. In our encounters, people sometimes share their stories and ask for prayer. Street Pastors are received warmly by the people of Exeter. It is very rewarding, with each team deploying once a month. Full training given. Prayer Pastors, back at base, support the teams with prayer, fellowship, a hot drink and often cake! Applications for new Street Pastors close at the end of January. For more information, please phone Brian 01392 874 212), or contact Dave at admin.exeter@streetpastors.org.uk

Plymouth Diocesan

Pilgrimage to Lourdes 2020

Led by Bishop Mark O'Toole and Pilgrimage Director, Father Kieran Kirby. 31 July – 6 August. Flying from Exeter. £799 per person sharing. Joe Walsh tours tel. 020346806127 or Father Kieran tel. 01392 274724 for further information and booking forms see: <https://www.plymouth-diocese.org.uk/plymouthlourdes/>

Look & Ichthus

Please take copies of these from the porch each week for your children.

Thanksgiving Masses

As a way of saying thank you to the many people who have helped in the parish in various ministries this year, we will be celebrating Mass for your intentions during the next couple of weeks. So many people do a lot to help make the parish as vibrant and as varied as it is. If you can come along that would be wonderful, but if you can't be there, be assured that we will be praying for you and giving thanks for all you have done for our parish family. May God bless you all.

Sunday 5 January 10.45am

Children's Liturgy Catechists

Tuesday 7 January 6.30pm

Parish Catechists

Wednesday 8 January 9.30am

Catholic Women's League

Thursday 9 January 9.30am

Sunday Morning Welcomers

Friday 10 January 9.30am

Parish Finance Committee

Saturday 11 January 9.30am

Young People of the Parish

Sunday 12 January 8.45am

Parish livesimply Group

Sunday 12 January 10.45am

Musicians & Singers

Tuesday 14 January 6.30pm

Pastoral Parish Council

Wednesday 15 January 9.30am

Toddler Group

Sunday 19 January 10.45am

Sunday Refreshments Team

New Pastoral Parish Council meeting

The new members of the Pastoral Parish Council will meet for the first time on Tuesday 13 January at 7.00pm following Mass at 6.30pm which will be celebrated for their intentions.

The God Who Speaks The year of the Word

2020 sees the 10th anniversary of *Verbum Domini*, the Apostolic Exhortation of Pope Benedict XVI on the Word of the Lord. It is also the 1600th anniversary of the death of St Jerome who said: "Ignorance of the Scriptures is ignorance of Christ". We pray that during this special year we will all be enriched and renewed by the living Word of God and that we shall all be moved to share the love of Christ to the ends of the earth.

The Baptism of the Lord

Next Sunday we celebrate this feast which marks the end of Christmastide.

Plymouth Diocesan Youth Pilgrimage to Lourdes 2020

31 July to 6 August. Direct flights from Exeter to Lourdes £499 per person sharing. To book contact Joe Walsh Tours on 0203 468 06127 info@joewalshstours.co.uk or Fr Kieran Kirby on 01392 272815. See poster in church porch for more details or contact the above.

Catholic Women's League

Regular Masses for the CWL are at 10.00am at Sacred Heart every second Saturday of the month. Usual monthly meetings are on the fourth Tuesday at Mount St Mary's Centre. All welcome especially anyone interested in knowing more about our work and are thinking of joining us

Porch floor repairs

The long awaited repairs to the porch floor will be commencing on Monday 6 January. While the work is going on access to the church will be via the back door by the baptistry. It is hoped that the work will be completed in time for next Sunday's Masses but signs will be put up advising how to access the church.

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 2020

18 to 25 January. This year's theme is 'They Showed Us Unusual Kindness' and uses material prepared by Christian churches in Malta. There will be a city-wide united prayer service at Belmont Chapel on Sunday 19 January at 6.30pm. All welcome.

St Vincent de Paul

Meetings of the St Vincent de Paul Society are on the first Thursday of each month at the Mount St. Mary Centre at 7.00pm.

RE:connect project

Saturday 18 January 2020 –Open Day for the Buckfast Abbey RE:connect project from 10.00am till 3.30pm. This is a free event.

RE:connect is very difficult to describe! It is an exhibition space where you can explore the interconnectivity of the world through hands on and thought provoking activities, exercises and reflections. It has been specially designed to help young people (and the not so young!) think more deeply about themselves and the world around them. Lots of amazing interactive experiences and thought provoking activities. Also visit RE:focus our interactive prayer space linked to RE:connect. Higher Mill at Buckfast Abbey. (Please see our website for directions).

Ladies Keep Fit Classes

The New Year Spring Term commences on Tuesday 7 January. 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. For more details Contact Maggie Nicholls on 01392 426683.

Urafiki

Our appeal this year is for shoes. Having a pair of shoes is 'medicine for the legs' in places of desperate poverty. It helps the elderly avoid getting 'jiggers' which are insects that pierce the skin and then lay their eggs and it is very painful and incapacitating. Rather like having lots of deep splinters. We are asking for donations of £12 which will go towards the elderly people having pumps, the secondary students having sturdy shoes and the children having jellies. Donations either through the website urafiki.org.uk or to Imelda Wightman 01392 460041.

Catholic children's Society (Plymouth)

Copies of the Society's winter edition of 'Children First' are now available in the church porch.

Exeter Foodbank

Many many thanks for your generosity over the Christmas period. It was greatly appreciated by the Foodbank and will help make a difference to so many families. WE are still accepting donations. Please leave them in the basket at the back of church.

Thank you

A huge thank you for all your cards, gifts and good wishes this Christmas. It is greatly appreciated by both Fr Jonathan and Fr John. Many thanks to those who helped prepare the church which looked beautiful and the liturgies which were joyous and prayerful and so well attended.

Happy New Year?

Let us pray that 2020 will be a time of peace and joy for our parish, our city, our country and our world. God bless us all.

Mass Times

Sunday 5 January

The Epiphany of the Lord

8.45am *People of the Parish*

10.45am *Children's Liturgy*

Catechists

3.00pm *Epiphany Praise*

6.00pm *Olive Morgan RIP*

Monday 6 January

7.30am Convent

Tuesday 7 January

6.30pm *Parish Catechists*

Wednesday 8 January

9.30am *Catholic Women's League*

4.00pm RD&E Hospital

Thursday 9 January

9.30am *Sunday Morning Welcomers*

Friday 10 January

7.30am Convent

9.30am *Finance Committee*

Saturday 11 January

9.30am *Young People of the Parish*

Sunday 12 January

The Baptism of the Lord

8.45am *livesimply Group*

10.45am *Musicians and Singers*

6.00pm *People of the Parish*

Monday 13 January

7.30am Convent

Tuesday 14 January

12.00pm Funeral Mass

Jean Waldron RIP

6.30pm *Pastoral Parish Council*

Wednesday 15 January

9.30am

Parent & Toddler Group

4.00pm RD&E Hospital

Thursday 16 January

9.30am *Ann Hughes RIP*

Friday 17 January

St Anthony, Abbot

7.30am Convent

9.30am

Saturday 18 January

9.30am

Sunday 19 January

Peace Sunday

8.45am *Antonetta & Harry Arpine RIP*

10.45am *Sunday*

Refreshments Team

6.00pm *People of the Parish*

Confessions

Saturday 10.00am Church

Adoration

Tuesdays 8.00-9.00pm at the Convent resumes on 7 January

Lady chapel at Sacred Heart 7.00pm on 8 January 2020

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

The Word

Sunday 5 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 12 January

First Reading

Isaiah 42:1-4.6-7

Here is my servant in whom my soul delights.

Psalm Response

The Lord will bless his people with peace.

Second Reading

Acts 10:34-38

God anointed him with the Holy Spirit.

Gospel

Matthew 3:13-17

As soon as Jesus was baptised he saw the Spirit of God coming down on him.

Sunday 19 January

First Reading

Isaiah 49:3.5-6

I will make you the light of the nations so that my salvation may reach to the ends of the earth.

Psalm Response

Here I am, Lord! I come to do your will.

Second Reading

Corinthians 1:1-3

May God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ send you grace and peace.

Gospel

John 1:29-34

Look, there is the Lamb of God that takes away the sin of the world.

Blessed Sacrament is part of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Plymouth