

# ParishNews



**Blessed Sacrament Parish** Heavitree Exeter  
16 February 2020. Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time. *Year A*

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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  
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@stncls.uk

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

## **Head Teacher**

Angela Folland

## **CONVENT**

### **Mount St Mary Convent,**

Wonford Road, EX2 4PF

**Telephone** 01392 433301

# I say this to you...



In the 1960s some groups ‘adopted’ Jesus Christ as an icon of rebellion, overturning authority and tearing up the rule book, possibly because of the frequent confrontations between Our Lord and the Pharisees. Today’s Gospel, however, shows us Jesus not as rule-breaker, but as rule-fulfiller, bringing an even greater depth to the rule that had guided the people of Israel for centuries. Jesus does not throw out the rulebook, or as the first reading says, He does not command us to be godless! He challenges us in this Gospel to see how far our keeping God’s Law will go: will it just be about the letter of the Law – ‘I have never killed anyone’ – or will it look deeper – ‘Have I ever been angry? Have I been violent in my thoughts?’. The challenge of the Kingdom of Heaven is to keep the commandments first and foremost from within, so that our outward behaviour conforms to the requirements of God’s Law.

# 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.*

## 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.*

## Parish News

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

## Wednesday Word

*Reflecting on the Sunday readings. Wednesdays 2.00pm St Richard Reynolds Centre.*

## Many thanks

*Sunday Collections  
2 February £1185.36  
9 February £1041.68*

# Calendar of Events

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## **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*

Tues 18 Feb

### **The Mass**

*St Richard Reynolds Centre 7.00pm*

Wed 19 Feb

### **Praying the Rosary**

*Blessed Sacrament Church 6.30pm*

### **Cafod Meeting**

*St Richard Reynolds Centre 7.00pm*

Tues 25 Feb

### **The Mass**

*St Richard Reynolds Centre 7.00pm*

Thurs 27 Feb

### **Thursday Lunch Club**

*St Richard Reynolds Centre 12.30pm*

### **Stronghold Prayer & Worship**

*St Richard Reynolds Centre 7.15pm*

Fri 28 Feb

### **Stations of the Cross**

*Blessed Sacrament Church 7.00pm*

Sun 1 Mar

### **Week of Guided Prayer**

To Sat 7 Mar

*St Richard Reynolds Centre and the Church*

Wed 4 Mar

### **Lent Prayer and lunch**

*URC Heavitree 12.00*

### **Praying the Rosary**

*Blessed Sacrament Church 6.30pm*

Fri 6 Mar

### **Cafod Fast Day**

### **Stations of the Cross**

*Blessed Sacrament Church 7.00pm*

Sat 7 Mar

### **GIFT Session 3**

*St Nicholas School 9.30am*

### **Society of Our Lady of Lourdes get together**

*St Richard Reynolds Centre*

Sun 8 Mar

### **Extraordinary Form Mass**

*Blessed Sacrament Church 3.00pm*

Tues 10 Mar

### **Reflecting on Ministry**

*St Nicholas School 6.30pm*

Wed 11 Mar

### **Lent Prayer and lunch**

*St Michaels Church Heavitree 12.00*

Thurs 12 Mar

### **Thursday Lunch Club**

*St Richard Reynolds Centre 12.30pm*

### **Prayer Group**

*St Richard Reynolds Centre 7.15pm*

Fri 13 Mar

### **Stations of the Cross**

*Blessed Sacrament Church 7.00pm*

# LENT 2020

Each year the Church invites us to enter a period of reflection which we call Lent – from an old English word meaning ‘to lengthen’ – the days are getting longer. When we reflect on our lives we realise that not everything is good and we need to make changes. This ‘repentance’, this ‘turning around’ is at the heart of this season. By accepting our sinful actions and desiring change we open ourselves to God’s transforming and healing grace.

## Ash Wednesday

February 26 is Ash Wednesday, the beginning of the Lenten season. It is a day of fasting and abstinence. We abstain from eating red meat and try to go without some food. In this way we recognise that the only food which brings us true and lasting nourishment is the Word of God and the body and blood of Jesus. Masses and distribution of Ashes in the church will be celebrated at 9.30am and 7.00pm

## Lenten Weeks of Guided Prayer: Retreat in Daily Life

Sun 1 – Sat 7 Mar or Sun 15 – Sat 21 Mar

### Confirmation Deadline

For those who have already signed up and given your contact details in January, a member of the prayer team will be in touch with you shortly to confirm availability. The deadline for this confirmation is Friday 21 February. For anyone who would still like to sign up for one of the weeks, please contact Joanna Price [igspgrp@prcdtr.org.uk](mailto:igspgrp@prcdtr.org.uk) or Blessed Sacrament Parish Office (274724) before Friday 21 February.

## Lent Extra

To accompany your journey towards Easter, 47 daily reflections and prayers. These booklets are available in the church porch for £1.50 to be placed in the wall box marked Books.

## CAFOD Lent Fast Day

Friday 6 March. This Lent, CAFOD’s Fast Day is an opportunity to reach out to some of the poorest, most marginalised of our sisters and brothers. Your donations go to highly-trained, highly-skilled local experts around the world who save and support the health of the world’s poorest families. But we urgently need your help to fund more local experts, to reach out to even more people who need treatment, care and love. On Friday 6 March, will you eat a simple meal in solidarity and give what you save to help people like Sister Consilia to continue her life-saving work – helping the health of the world’s poorest people? Through CAFOD’s global Church family – one of the largest aid networks in the world – your support can reach to the ends of the earth. Please give whatever you can.

## Lent Prayer and Lunch

Wednesdays in Lent at 12 noon. Gather to pray together with fellow Christians in Heavitree and share a simple lunch.

Collection for Exeter Foodbank. 4 March URC, 11 March St Michael's, 18 March St Lawrence's, 25 March Blessed Sacrament and 1 April Wonford Methodist.

## 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. The next session is on Saturday 7 March 9.30 - 12.00 at St Nicholas School.

## Look & Ichthus sheets

Please take copies of these from the porch each week to help support your children in their understanding of the Mass.

## Reflecting on Ministry

There will be an evening of reflection and conversation for ministers of the Word (Readers) and extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion on Tuesday 10 March at St Nicholas Catholic Primary School from 6.30-9.00pm. Following Mass at 6.30pm in the school hall, we will watch and discuss two inspirational films on the Liturgy of the Word and Eucharist by Bishop Robert Barron from the media organisation 'Word on Fire'. Please let the parish office know if you are unable to attend.

## Evening Mass change

On **Tuesday 10 March**, the 6.30pm Mass will be celebrated at St Nicholas School and not at Blessed Sacrament Church. All are welcome. After Mass, there will be a session for Ministers of the Word and extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion from both Exeter parishes and the Exeter Deanery.

## World Day of Prayer

A woman led Global Ecumenical Movement. A prayer service, prepared by the Christian Women of Zimbabwe, will be held at Belmont Chapel on 6 March at 11.00am. Any ladies from Zimbabwe who would like to take part would be very welcome and could they please contact Margaret Leonard on 01392 252408

## 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.

## Extraordinary Form Mass

At Blessed Sacrament Church on Sunday 8 March at 3.00pm.

## Stronghold Prayer & Praise

Next meet in the St Richard Reynolds Centre on Thursday 27 February at 7.15pm. Please 'bring a plate' to share and join in a spiritually uplifting and joy filled evening. All are very welcome.

## Plymouth Diocese Catechetical Summer Camps 2020

Applications are now being taken for places at the Summer Camps at Grangehurst, Buckfast Abbey. Details of dates and application forms can be obtained from the parish office, the church porch or on-line from [www.pdsummercamps.org.uk](http://www.pdsummercamps.org.uk) Prompt applications are advisable. Also see poster in the church porch.

## St Nick's News

**We are on half term next week** for a well-earned break! We look forward to Spring and the children enjoying more outdoor play in warmer, drier weather as we continue to develop our school grounds.

**To help fight the Australian bushfires** we invited families to bring in coins for the children to fill in an outline of Australia laid out on the floor. Amazingly, we raised over £320 towards this important cause.

**It is Fairtrade Fortnight** from 24 February to 6 March and we will be running a tuckshop every day for children to buy Fairtrade products and to raise awareness in the school.

## The Mass

Film and discussion using Bishop Robert Barron's 'Word on Fire' series on The Mass to grow in our understanding of the central mystery and celebration of our faith. Feb 18 and 25 in the St Richard Reynolds Centre. In this week's film Bishop Robert begins to unfold the beauty of the Liturgy of the Eucharist. Mass at 6.30pm followed by film and discussion from 7.00 -8.30pm.

# Plymouth Diocese Pilgrimages 2020

## Lourdes

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/>

## Lourdes Youth Pilgrimage

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@joewalstours.co.uk](mailto:info@joewalstours.co.uk) or Fr Kieran Kirby on 01392 272815. See poster in church porch for more details or contact the above.

## Medjugorje

This is the first time that the Diocese has been able to organise an official Diocesan pilgrimage to Medjugorje as it was only in May 2019 that Pope Francis authorised such pilgrimages. The pilgrimage will take place from 24 to 31 October 2020 flying from Heathrow to Split. It is being organised through the Marian Pilgrimages Medjugorje Team and bookings should be made through them. More details on poster in the church porch or from [www.marian-uk.com](http://www.marian-uk.com)

## Knock Shrine

Fully escorted Pilgrimage to Knock Shrine, Ireland on 8 July 2020. £649.00 per person sharing. Fly from Bristol with 10kg hand luggage, 4 nights' in Knock House Hotel with breakfast and dinner. All excursions included. Lunches on days out. Single extra £100. For info call Patricia on 01268 762 278 or 07740 175557 or email [knockpilgrimages@gmail.com](mailto:knockpilgrimages@gmail.com).

## Diocesan Lourdes fund

On Sunday 23 February there will be a retiring collection to help subsidise some of our pilgrims, especially the sick, and also our youth pilgrims, whose ministry on the pilgrimage is so invaluable. We would encourage anyone who would benefit from this pilgrimage, families and our young people to think about joining this pilgrimage. There are subsidies available.

## Society of Our Lady of Lourdes Spring get together

St Richard Reynolds Centre on Saturday 7 March starting with coffee at 10.00am. Mass will be celebrated at 11.00 am and followed by a light lunch. All welcome. Enquiries to Sheelah on 01392 431927. Later in the year, the Society of Our Lady of Lourdes pilgrimage for the sick takes place from May 22 to May 29. For information and details please contact Chrissie on 01647 253215 or Sheelah on 01392 431927.

## Toddler Group News

Unfortunately, due to the lack of volunteer support to oversee the group it has had to be suspended for the foreseeable future.

## Caritas Plymouth

“Every human being is a free person destined to live for the good of others in equality and fraternity. Every person, and all people, are equal and must be accorded the same freedom and the same dignity.” Pope Francis’ Declaration on International Day for the Abolition of Slavery. Caritas Plymouth will be holding their fourth event looking at Modern Slavery and Trafficking on Saturday 7 March from 10.30am – 3.15pm at St Boniface College, Plymouth. The event will be led by Bishop Mark O'Toole and include speakers from Border Force, the Medaille Trust and Apostleship of the Sea. It is free and includes a buffet lunch but booking is essential at: [caritas@prcdtr.org.uk](mailto:caritas@prcdtr.org.uk)

# *livesimply*

**Collection of biscuits etc.** Please put your donation of biscuits (custard creams are favourite) and other snacks, crisps etc. in the box at the back of the church labelled Sleep Safe. The Sleep Safe centre provides overnight accommodation to the homeless. These small treats mean a lot to those who are living through real hardship.

**Sow and Grow.** Seed distribution was quite successful, but please start growing seeds and cuttings now for the Spring Fair on 2 May.

**Sleep Easy** The YMCA are organising their Sleep Easy night 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. You are invited to sleep rough on Saturday 14 March, 7pm - 7am Barnfield Crescent, Exeter, EX1 1QT. Perhaps a few of us could get together to join in. Ring 01392 209542 to discuss or Register [www.sleepeasyexeter.org.uk](http://www.sleepeasyexeter.org.uk) or call 01392 410530.

**Future Dates** Live Simply meeting Saturday April 4 after Mass. There is not a membership everyone is welcome to further the aspirations of this livesimply Parish. The Sewing group meets every Monday from 6.30pm in the Saint Richard Reynolds Centre.

**Exeter foodbank:** suggested items: rice - 500g/1 kg, noodle/pasta snacks, potatoes - tins/packets, teabags - small packs, coffee - instant, custard - tins/cartons, milk - 1l UHT semi-skimmed, meat - tins, vegetables - tins sweetcorn/peas/carrots, sponge puddings. Donated items can be placed in the basket at the back of the church from where they are regularly collected and taken to a collection point. Thank you.

## Going in to hospital?

Please let the parish office or one of the priests know so that your details can be passed to the hospital chaplain so that you can be visited and ministered to. You may also wish to receive the Sacrament of the Sick before you go into hospital.

## Catholic Women's League

Until the building work is completed at Sacred Heart, the Baptist Church on South Street has kindly offered the CWL the use of their premises for the Lenten Lunches on the THURSDAYS of Lent and the Saturday coffee mornings.

**Lenten Lunches** - Starting on Thursday 27 February after the 10.00am Mass, the CWL will serve coffee or tea followed by a frugal lunch of soup with a crusty roll and cheese in the Baptist Centre 10.30am until 1.00pm. The proceeds are for St. Petroc's Day Centre for the homeless in Exeter. Suggested donation £3.50.

**The monthly Mass** for the work of the League will be celebrated at the Sacred Heart Church, South St. at 10.00am on Saturday 22 February. Coffee and cakes will be served in the Baptist Centre after Mass.

**Next Meeting** will be on Tuesday 25 February at Mount St. Mary's Convent, Wonford Rd at 2.00pm.

## Parish Rosary Group

Would you like to gather to pray the rosary together? We will next be meeting on Wednesday 18 February at 6.30pm in the church. We would love to see you there.

## Prayer Group

The next meeting of the Prayer Group is on Thursday 12 March at 7.15pm in the St Richard Reynolds Centre. All welcome.

## Prayer in a Secular Age

Finding the secret of prayer in the earliest teachers, a talk to include an introduction to and time for meditation by Laurence Freeman OSB of the World Community for Christian Meditation. Thursday 12 March at 7.00pm at St James' Church (suggested donation £5-£10)

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## Pope Francis on mercy...

"A little bit of mercy makes the world less cold and more just."

## Wednesday Word

A resource which allows us to prayerfully prepare for Mass on Sunday by reading and reflecting on the Gospel and the other readings 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. St Richard Reynolds Centre on Wednesdays at 2.00pm or at Sacred Heart church on Fridays at 7.00pm. All welcome.

**Venue change:** Please note that the Wednesday Word group which meets at the St Richard Reynolds Centre on Wednesdays from 2:00-3:00 will meet at the Mount St Mary's Centre from 2.00-3.00pm on Wednesday 4 March and Wednesday 18 March. All other Wednesdays will meet as usual in the St Richard Reynolds Centre.

## Deacon Enquirer's Day

Saturday 22 February at St Boniface House, Ashburton. If you think you may have a vocation to become a permanent deacon you would be most welcome to come along.

## 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.

## Pope's February Intention

Listen to the migrants' cries. We pray that the cries of our migrant brothers and sisters, victims of criminal trafficking, may be heard and considered.

## 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. The next collection will be on 23 February. Thank you.

## Charity Card Making

The cards you have been giving us over the years have been very helpful for our Card Making for various Charities. We would appreciate, if you would continue to do so. However, NO Christmas cards please. Thank you. The Sisters.

## Public Speaking Contest

The Catenians invite to all Catholic students in Years 11 to 14 (16 to 19 year-olds) to enter their 6th PSC which is being held on Saturday 29 February at 1.30pm at the Moorland Garden Hotel, Yelverton, PL20 6DA. The winner will receive the Provincial Trophy, awarded annually to the winning school, as well as a personal trophy, cash prize and Certificate. Runners up and participants also receive awards. The winner of our local Provincial trophy goes forward to the national competition in Manchester during September 2020. Contact: Graham Johnson 01752 766506 [grahamj1@icloud.com](mailto:grahamj1@icloud.com)

## Quiet Day at Buckfast

Saturday 14 March 10.00am– 3.30pm led by Fr Jonathan Stewart. A chance to come away from the busyness of life and reflect on what God may be asking of us. All welcome. Violet Evelyn Hall, Buckfast Abbey, Buckfastleigh, Devon TQ11 0EE.

## Diocesan Retreats 2020

Retreats are led by experienced members of the Diocesan Ignatian Spirituality Group, who have received training in relation to Ignatian Spirituality and include priests, deacons and lay people. A list of retreats in 2020 and application forms can be found in the church porch.

# Mass Times

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## Sunday 16 Feb

*Sixth in Ordinary time*

8.45am Joe Leonard RIP

10.45am *People of the Parish*

6.00pm

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## Monday 17 February

7.30am Convent

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## Tuesday 18 February

6.30pm

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## Wednesday 19 February

9.30am

4.00pm RD&E Hospital

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## Thursday 20 February

9.30am *Jovita Martir RIP*

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## Friday 21 February

7.30am Convent

9.30am

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## Saturday 22 February

*The Chair of St Peter*

9.30am

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## Sunday 23 Feb

*Seventh in Ordinary Time*

*Day of prayer for the*

*Unemployed*

8.45am

10.45am

6.00pm *People of the Parish*

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## Monday 24 February

7.30am Convent

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## Tuesday 25 February

*St Walburga*

6.30pm

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## Wednesday 26 February

*Ash Wednesday*

9.30am

4.00pm RD&E Hospital

7.00pm

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## Thursday 27 February

9.30am

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## Friday 28 February

7.30am Convent

9.30am

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## Saturday 29 February

9.30am

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## Sunday 1 March

*First of Lent*

8.45am *People of the Parish*

10.45am

6.00pm

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## Confessions

Saturday 10.00am Church

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## Adoration

Tuesdays 8.00-9.00pm  
at the Convent.

First Wednesday each  
month Lady Chapel at  
Sacred Heart 7.00pm

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

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## The Word

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### Sunday 16 February

First Reading

Ecclesiasticus 15:15-20

*He never commanded anyone  
to be godless.*

Psalm Response

*They are happy who follow  
God's law!*

Second Reading

1 Corinthians 2:6-10

*God predestined wisdom to be  
for our glory before the ages  
began.*

Gospel

Matthew 5:17-37

*You have learnt how it was said  
to your ancestors, but I say this  
to you.*

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### Sunday 23 February

First Reading

Leviticus 19:1-2.17-18

*You must love your neighbour,  
as yourself*

Psalm Response

*The Lord is compassion  
and love.*

Second Reading

1 Corinthians 3:16-23

*All are your servants, but you  
belong to Christ and Christ  
belongs to God.*

Gospel

Matthew 5:38-48

*Love your enemies.*

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### Sunday 1 March

First Reading

Genesis 2:7-9.3:1-7

*The creation and sin of our first  
parents.*

Psalm Response

*Have mercy on us, O Lord,  
for we have sinned.*

Second Reading

Romans 5:12-19

*However great the number of  
sins committed, grace was even  
greater.*

Gospel

Matthew 4:1-11

*Jesus fasts for forty days and is  
tempted.*

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