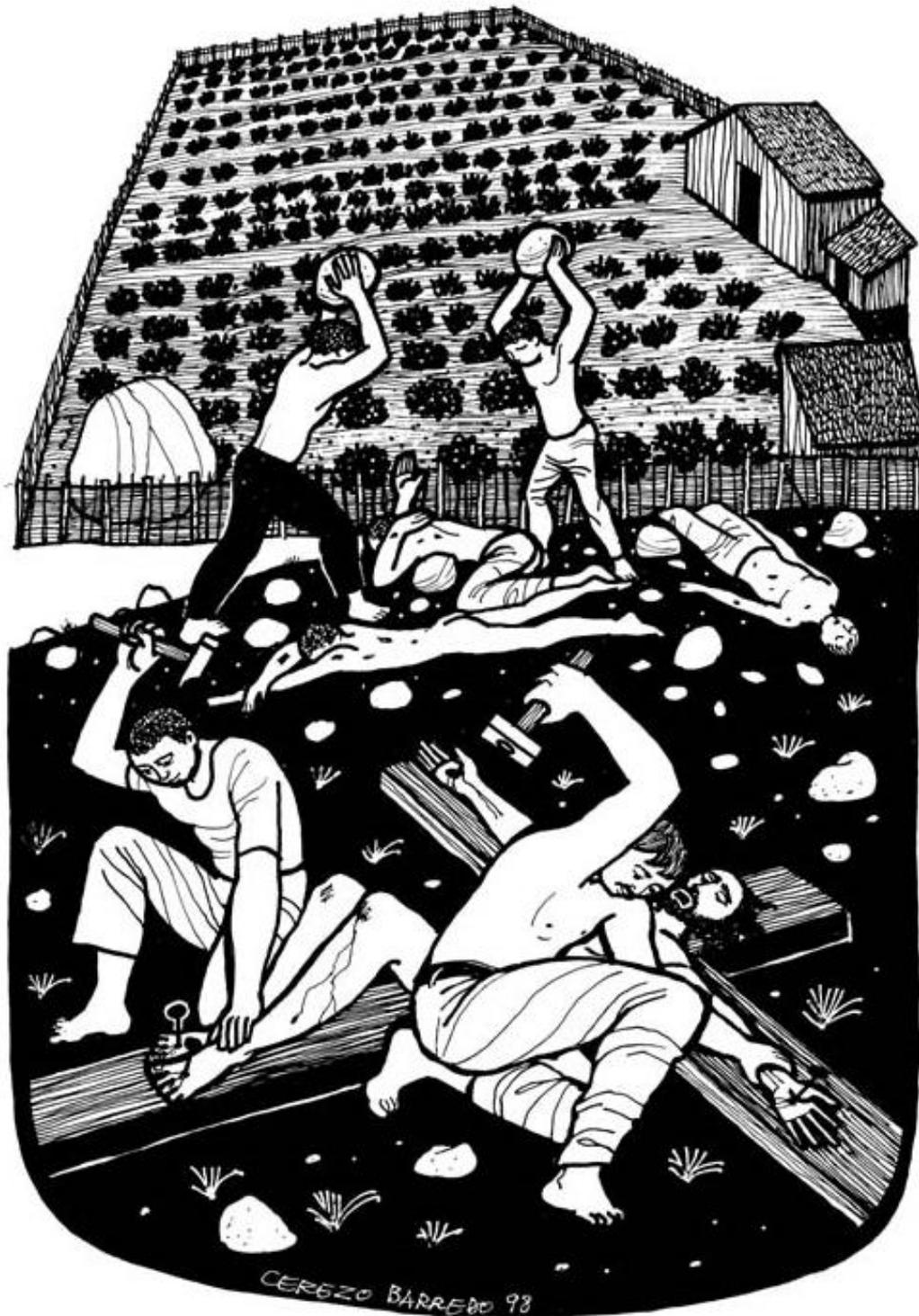


ParishNews



Blessed Sacrament Parish Heavitree Exeter

4 October 2020 Twenty Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time. Year A



He will lease the vineyard to other tenants

Today we focus on the vineyard: frequently we see the vineyard as an image or parable of the Kingdom of God. A vineyard takes a great deal of work, throughout the year; it must be tended, watered, pruned, cared for if there is to be any fruit - there are no quick results with vines. So the financial and labour investments made would create high expectations for a good crop. How heartbreaking when the fruit is as sour as vinegar! So it was with God and his people:

he invested immense care and love on them, tending them and giving them what they needed - but the fruit was rotten and sour. What can God do? Hand the vineyard over to some tenants who will bring in a harvest. That is us, the new people of Israel: but what sort of harvest will we produce?

NHS COVID-19 App and QR Code for Blessed Sacrament

As many of you will know, the NHS has recently introduced an app for smart phones which enables you to check into venues such as restaurants, pubs and churches which display a QR code. You can download the app from the App Store or Google Play store. We have received a QR Code poster for the Blessed Sacrament Church and this is now on display in the porch. To check in, open your NHS COVID-19 app and tap "Venue Check in". This will open your camera automatically. Scan the QR code on the poster. The time and date of your visit will be stored on the app. It will not be sent or shared with anyone else. As not everyone has a smart phone or is able to use the app, we will also continue to manually take names and contact details. For more information on the NHS app and QR codes, please see the two attachments.

Care for the Family

Because Family Life Matters. Since 1988, Care for the Family has sought to promote strong family life and help those who face family difficulties. Their work has been focused on the UK and the Isle of Man, but increasingly through digital technology, they are reaching a wider audience. They focus primarily on the following areas of family life: marriage, parenting and bereavement. Their aim is to be accessible to every family whatever their circumstances and to create resources and support that are preventative, evidence-based and easy to apply.

Every family and marriage is unique. Parents may have one child or many, be fostering or adopting, be parenting a child with additional needs, parenting alone or apart from their children. Couples may have been together for many years or just beginning their marriage adventure. Whatever the context and circumstances they want to do all they can to support both marriages and families to help them thrive.

However, they also know that on every journey they will experience difficult times as well as the good. Their telephone befriending services are there to support them when the going is tough. In particular, they are aware that all will experience grief and loss during their lifetime. They want to help those who are living with loss to discover hope for the future, and the strength to rebuild their own lives and the lives of those that they love.

Motivated by their Christian faith, ethos and compassion they have committed to supporting families of all faiths or none, with outstanding services and resources.

Their autumn events have a specific faith focus and we are sure you will find them helpful. Visit their website cff.org.uk for information about the free to view sessions and films and to register for those you would like to watch. The titles are:

Raising faith: 6, 7, 8 October

The Wisdom House: 13, 14, 15 October

Mum's the word: 17, 18, 19 October

Free To Be: 21, 22, 23 October

Run the Race: 10, 11, 12 November

Primary Parenting: 24, 25, 26 November

Stella Maris

This year Stella Maris (formerly known as Apostleship of the Sea) is celebrating 100 years of its support to seafarers, fishers, and their families. To mark the beginning of our centenary year we will be holding a live-streamed Mass celebrated by Archbishop Philip Tartaglia of Glasgow. You are invited to join online to share in this very special celebration on Sunday **4 October at 3.00pm. The Mass will be streamed live at www.stellamaris.org.uk/centenarymass** We hope that can join online for this historic occasion.

October Rosary Mission - Rosary Whirlwind British Isles

October is traditionally the month dedicated to Our Lady of the Rosary. Once again, Catholics across England, Wales, Scotland and the Isles are invited to take up their rosaries for an intensive Rosary Whirlwind Mission for the spiritual well-being of the British Isles and for its preservation from degeneration, disaster, sickness and war. More than ever, we need to intercede for our Isles and for the conversion to Christ of our peoples and that they be protected from all danger, from all sickness and from all evil. Daily recitation of the Rosary will take place on-line from the following sites at 8.00pm each evening throughout October. Links to each of these sites are available on the Walsingham web page: www.walsingham.org.uk.

Sunday - Paisley, Scotland;

Monday - Newport Wales;

Tuesday - Basilica Walsingham;

Wednesday - Plymouth Cathedral (7, 14, 21, 28);

Thursday - Canning Town London;

Friday - London Rosary Shrine;

Saturday- Carfin Grotto Scotland.

On the 31 October, this event will finish with a continuous Rosary recitation across the British Isles from 9.00am – 9.00pm. The Plymouth Diocese slot is 11.30am and will be led by Bishop Mark. Full information is on the Walsingham web page.

Celebrate South West

The South West Celebrate Team have put together a series of online Zoom evenings on Mondays from 7.30 – 8.30pm starting on Monday 5 October. These will take place instead of their annual 'in-person' weekend conference. Registration is now open. To register go to www.celebrateconference.org/back-to-basics-2020. The topics covered are:

5 October: Baptism in the Holy Spirit; The Power of a Personal Encounter.

19 October: Family; How can we receive the kingdom of God more like a child?

2 November: Unity; The Importance of Unity for the Kingdom.

16 November: Formation; The Call to Ever Deeper Discipleship.

30 November: Mission; Taking Risks and Stepping out in Faith to Pursue God's Mission.

See attached poster for more details. Stronghold prayer and worship group are going to lead the Worship session on Monday 16 November.

Virtues & Vices

We are called to live a virtuous life, but what are the virtues? You are invited to join Fr Jonathan via Zoom on Tuesday 27 October 7.30pm to explore the meaning of the virtues (and the vices!). There will be a visual presentation and then group discussion. If you would like to take part please email the parish office and the zoom link will be sent to you. All welcome.

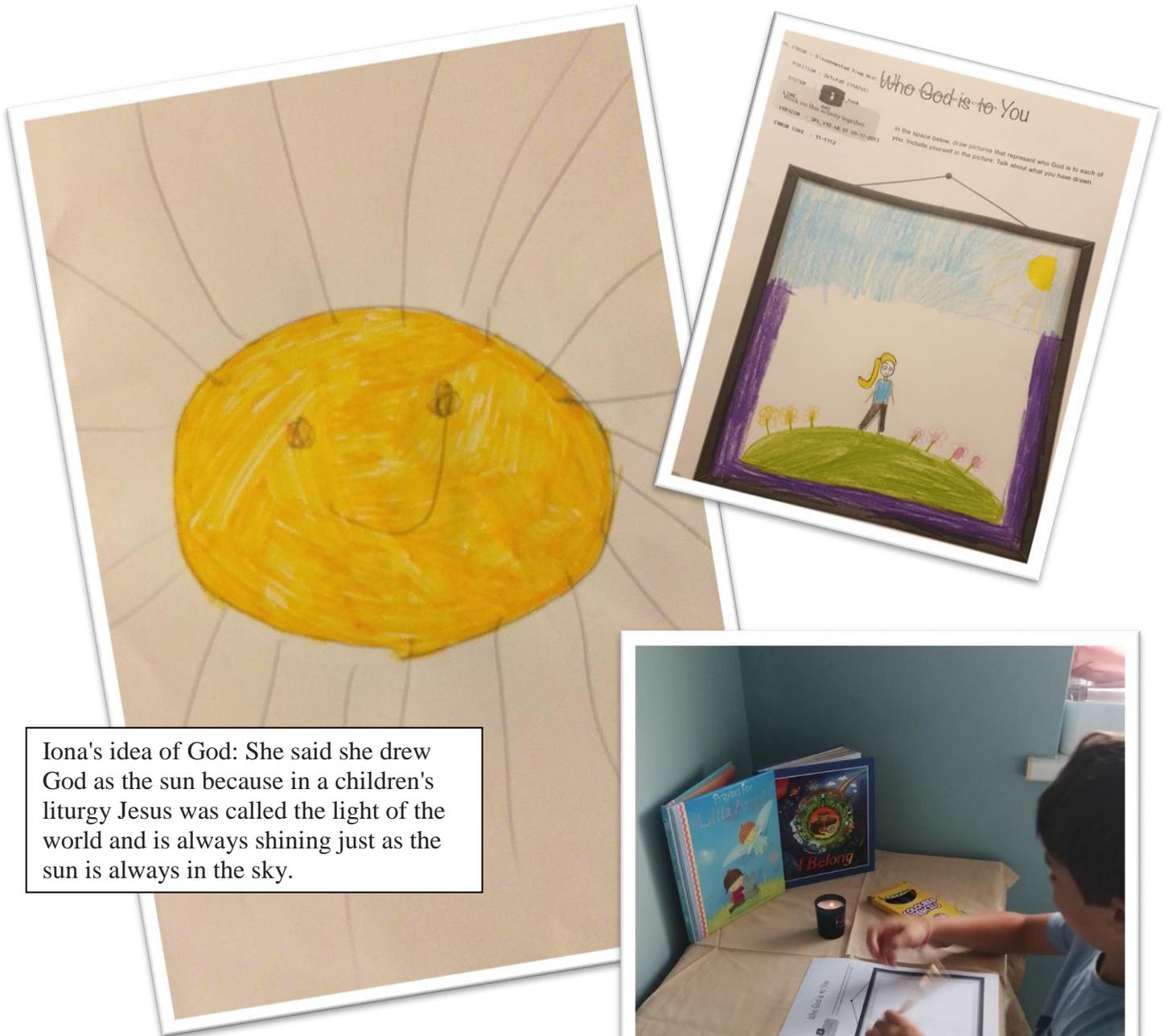
St Nicholas School Admissions

Reception 2021 Admissions

We are now taking Reception tour bookings for those interested in Reception 2021 admissions. Due to COVID restrictions we are offering 6 tours over 2 days and are strictly limiting the numbers to 15 people per tour. The dates are either **Wednesday 21 October** or **Wednesday 18 November** and on each day we are offering tours at **9.30am, 1.30pm or 6.00p**. Please email the school (head@stnics.uk) with your preferred date, time and the numbers coming. We look forward to meeting you and showing you our lovely school.

GIFT *Growing In Faith Together*

Our monthly sessions of GIFT are continuing. These 30-minute zoom meetings help familiarise parents with the 'God calls' resources by focusing on: introducing parents to the structure and format of the resources; exploring the catechesis and faith teaching of the resource and answering any questions parents may have. The material concentrates on coaching parents to teach and support their children in learning about faith. Following the Zoom call, parents are emailed the resources which can be used with the whole family during the month. GIFT is for all families; if you'd like to join us, please get in touch with Maria exeter-pastoral-assistant@prcdtr.org.uk Future GIFT zoom dates are scheduled for the 7 Nov and 5 Dec. Here are some pictures of the children's work:



Iona's idea of God: She said she drew God as the sun because in a children's liturgy Jesus was called the light of the world and is always shining just as the sun is always in the sky.

Reaching Out – Stretch forth your Hand to the Poor

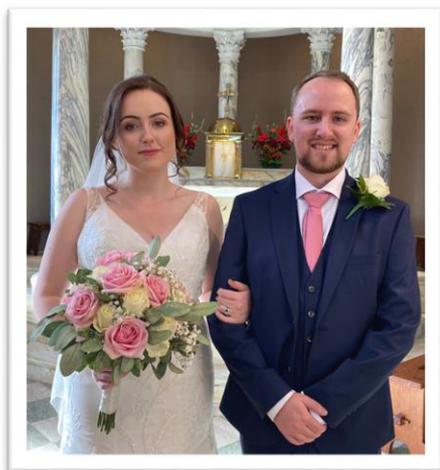


Reaching Out Conference.

You are warmly invited to join Bishop Mark O'Toole at this free Diocesan on-line event on Saturday 24 October from 10.30am till 12.30pm to reflect on how the Church is reaching out to the poor and marginalised. This is a great opportunity to meet people from other parishes and to share your views about how we can grow the Ministry of charity in our Diocese. Please [register online](#) or email caritas@prcdtr.org.

Cafod Harvest Day

CAFOD's Family Fast Day, to help people facing the worst of the coronavirus crisis, is on Friday 9 October. We have all felt the impact of this terrible disease – let's come together to help the poorest and most vulnerable people in the world survive, rebuild and heal. Please pray for all those affected and donate online at cafod.org.uk/give or by using one of the envelopes which you can pick up as you leave church at all Masses this week. You can also give easily via text. Text CAFOD to 70085 to donate £10. *Texts cost £10 plus one standard rate message and you'll be opting in to hear more about our work and fundraising via telephone and SMS.* If you'd like to give £10 but do not wish to receive marketing communications, text CAFODNOINFO to 70085. Any envelopes taken should be returned on Sunday 11 October and placed in the basket as you leave the church. More information can be found at <https://cafod.org.uk/Fundraise/Family-Fast-Day>



Michael & Shawni

Joined in Matrimony...

Please pray for Michael Olorenshaw and Shawni Wannell who were married at Blessed Sacrament Church on Saturday 26 September. We wish them every blessing as they go forward into life as husband and wife.

Please pray for former parishioner Isabelle Cosgrave and her partner Dan Heaton who are getting married on Friday 9 October at Isabelle's home parish of St Mary and St George in Totnes. They would be very grateful for your prayers.

Please pray for all couples who are preparing to marry, especially those for whom this has been a most challenging time, often having to cancel and remake plans.

One Hope Project - Exploring your relationship with God

Are you aged between 11 and 25? Fancy working with One Hope Project to explore your relationship with God, through singing, reflection and prayer. There will be 4 sessions which started on Wednesday 30 September but it's not too late to join up for the next 3. Sessions will run through ZOOM 7.30 – 8.30 pm. Email: youth@prcdtr.org.uk for further information, or to book and get the log in. Feel free to bring a friend.

Youth Events in the Diocese

October – a series of 5 sessions, exploring faith, music and creativity for those aged 13-21. We are looking for young people across the diocese to help put together a short film of prayer and reflection. The theme is; My spiritual journey, living through COVID-19. If you are interested in any of these or any future events, please email: youth@prcdtr.org

Stewarding at Mass

Our stewards continue to offer their time to help us celebrate Mass safely. We are immensely grateful to them all. Please cooperate politely with them as they take you to your seats in church. It may not always be possible for you to sit in your favourite place, but this is so that we can easily accommodate people towards the back of the church minimising disruption during Mass. Once Mass has started the doors will be closed, so please ensure that you arrive in plenty of time. Thank you.

If you would like to join our team of stewards please contact the Parish Office and we will get you on the rota. You may need to undergo some simple training. Please can we ask that all stewards arrive **at least half an hour before the beginning of Mass** so that we can open the doors of the church in readiness for our congregation. Many thanks.

Financial support

We have very kindly been given some money to help people who might be struggling at the moment. It's not a huge amount but it could perhaps cover a few weekly shops for some families or something similar. We know how difficult it can be to ask for help but you may be able to ask on someone's behalf. Please don't hesitate to get in touch with the Parish Office.

Exeter Foodbank—Food Shortages

Can you help by donating the following? Potatoes (tinned); Rice Pudding (tinned); Microwaveable Sponge Pudding; Toiletries (shower gel/deodorant/shampoo).
Current Collection Points - Sainsbury's (Alphington/Pinhoe/Guildhall); Tesco (Exe Vale); Co-Op (Heavitree/St Thomas); Waitrose (Gladstone Rd)

Exeter Foodbank—Job vacancy

Exeter Foodbank are looking for someone to join their amazing, little team! It is a 20 hour-a-week post which will make a huge difference to the lives of our clients. Please share far and wide, details at: <https://exeter.foodbank.org.uk/2020/09/25/exeter-foodbank-seeks-part-time-advice-worker/>

Wednesday Word Scripture Reflection

Wednesday Word meets online via the Zoom app and reflect together on the Gospel for the coming Sunday. If you would like to join and receive email notifications, please email: exeter-pastoral-assistant@predtr.org.uk

Pope's October Intention

We pray that by virtue of baptism, the laity, especially women, may participate more in areas of responsibility in the Church. See also <https://thepopevideo.org>

Pope Francis on Mercy...

To live as true children of God means to love your neighbour and to be close to those who are lonely and in difficulty.

The Pope tweets...

Let us not go back to the "normality" sick with injustice, inequality and environmental degradation. The normality to which we are called is that of the Kingdom of God, where there is bread for all and the social organisation is based on contributing, sharing and distributing.

Celebration of Mass – Rule of 6

The change to the law regarding meeting in groups no larger than six from Monday 14 September **does not** apply to places of worship. Thank goodness!

Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love you above all things, and I desire to receive you into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive you sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace you as if you were already there and unite myself wholly to you. Never permit me to be separated from you. Amen.

Face Masks/Coverings

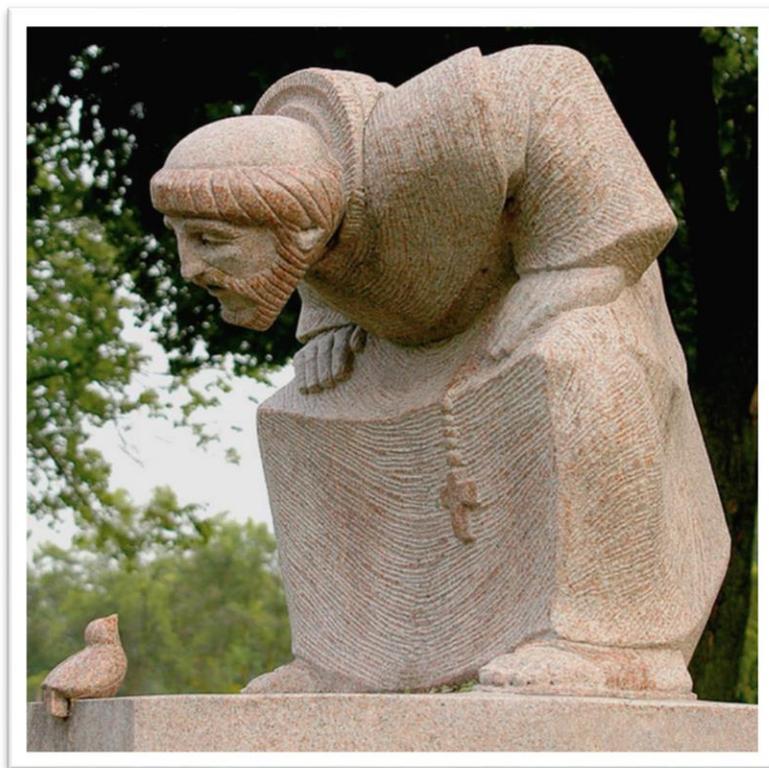
It continues to be mandatory to cover our faces when we come to church. Please see it rather as an act of charity towards your neighbour than a rule. We are going to maintain the 2m distancing in church which the government recommends wherever possible. This will mean that the capacity inside the church will not change. Therefore, if you do come and cannot get in, please be generous in your response. Certain people are exempt from wearing masks and a list of these exemptions can be found on the Gov.uk website.

The Parish livesimply Sewing Group have been making face masks and some are available at church. The group are asking for a donation for the parish.

Catholic Chaplaincies

A website has been set up to help young people find their Catholic chaplaincy when they arrive at college or university this autumn <http://www.catholicsatuniversity.org.uk>

For all the Saints...



4 October St Francis of Assisi (1181 - 1226)

Francis was the son of a prosperous cloth merchant in Assisi. When his father objected to having his goods sold without his consent to pay for the restoration of a church, the bishop commanded Francis to repay the money. He did. He also renounced his father and gave back every thing he had ever been given, even his garments. He began a life of perfect evangelical poverty, living by begging and even then only accepting the worst food that people had to give. He preached to all the love of God and the love of the created world; because, having renounced everything, he celebrated everything he received, or saw, or heard, as a gift. A rich man sold

everything and joined him in living next to a leper colony; a canon from a neighbouring church gave up his position and joined them also. They looked into the Gospel and saw the story of the rich young man whom Jesus told to sell everything; they saw Jesus telling his disciples to take nothing with them on their journey; they saw Jesus saying that his followers must also carry his cross. And on that basis they founded an order. Francis went to Rome himself and persuaded the Pope to sanction it, though it must have seemed at once impractical and subversive, to set thousands of holy men wandering penniless round the towns and villages of Europe.

Because Francis was wearing an old brown garment begged from a peasant, tied round the middle with string, that became the Franciscan habit. Ten years later 5,000 men were wearing it; a hundred years later Dante was buried in it because it was more glorious than cloth of gold. There is too much to say about Francis to fit here. He tried to convert the Muslims, or at least to attain martyrdom in doing so. He started the practice of setting up a crib in church to celebrate the Nativity.

Francis died in 1226, having started a revolution. The Franciscans endure to this day. This year the feast falls on a Sunday so the celebration does not take place. We are sure St Francis will be celebrating in heaven!



7 October Our Lady of the Rosary

The feast of the Holy Rosary was instituted by Pope Pius V to celebrate the anniversary of the defeat of the Turkish fleet at the battle of Lepanto on the first Sunday in October 1571, which ended the threat of Muslim domination of the Mediterranean and was ascribed in part to the prayers and processions of the Rosary confraternity in Rome. Later the feast was moved to the fixed date of 7 October.

The purpose of the Rosary is to help keep in memory certain principal events in the history of our salvation. There are twenty mysteries reflected upon in the Rosary, and these are divided into the five Joyful Mysteries (said on Monday and Saturday), the five Luminous Mysteries (said on Thursday), the five Sorrowful Mysteries (said on Tuesday and Friday), and the five Glorious

Mysteries (said on Wednesday and Sunday). As an exception, the Joyful Mysteries may be said on Sundays during Advent and Christmas, while the Sorrowful Mysteries may be said on the Sundays of Lent.

The question is sometimes asked, why, of all the incidents in our Lord's life, the Rosary only considers these particular twenty. The mysteries of the Rosary are based on the incidents in the life of Our Lord and His Mother that are celebrated in the Liturgy. There is a parallel between the main feasts honouring our Lord and his Mother in the liturgical year, and the twenty mysteries of the Rosary. Consequently, one who recites the twenty mysteries of the Rosary in one day reflects on the whole liturgical cycle that the Church commemorates during the course of each year. That is why some of the Popes have referred to the Rosary as a compendium of the Gospel. One cannot change the mysteries of the Rosary without losing the indulgences that the Church grants for the recitation of the Rosary.

The Universal Call to Holiness

When we commemorate the great figures of history such as St Francis of Assisi, St Thérèse of the child of Jesus, St Joseph etc. and remember the remarkable things they did during their lives (and afterwards in the many miracles attributed to them), it's easy for us to forget that we are all called to the same holiness as them. In *Lumen Gentium*, The Dogmatic Constitution on the Church of the Second Vatican Council the Church reminds us that: "...all the faithful of Christ are invited to strive for the holiness and perfection of their own proper state. Indeed they have an obligation to so strive. Let all then have care that they guide aright their own deepest sentiments of soul." It is God's plan that we all attain the holiness which he desires for us. Indeed he sends the Holy Spirit to assist us. Let us be continually inspired by these great figures of our Church and seek to imitate them in their way of life, their prayer, and their devotion to God. May all the saints pray for us.

Mass Times

Sunday 4 October

Twenty Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

8.45am

10.45am *People of the Parish*

6.00pm

Tuesday 6 October

6.30pm *Sandy Kent RIP*

Wednesday 7 October

Our Lady of the Rosary

9.30am *Richard & Tom Ware RIP*

Thursday 8 October

9.30am *Special Intention*

Friday 9 October

6.30pm *In Thanksgiving- Cristales family*

Saturday 10 October

9.30am *Diana & Jacob Price RIP*

Sunday 11 October

Twenty Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Day of Prayer for prisoners & their families

8.45am *Clare Leonard RIP*

10.45am

6.00pm *People of the Parish*

Tuesday 13 October

6.30pm *Mary Leach RIP*

Wednesday 14 October

9.30am

Thursday 15 October

St Teresa of Jesus, Virgin & Doctor

9.30am *The Tapp Family*

Friday 16 October

6.30pm

Saturday 17 October

St Ignatius of Antioch, Bishop & Martyr

9.30am

The Word

Sunday 4 October

FIRST READING Isaiah 5:1-7

The vineyard of the Lord God of hosts is the House of Israel.

PSALM *The vineyard of the Lord is the House of Israel.*

SECOND READING Philippians 4:6-9

The God of peace will be with you.

GOSPEL Matthew 21:33-43

He will leave the vineyard to other tenants.

Sunday 11 October

FIRST READING Isaiah 25:6-10

The Lord will prepare a banquet, and will wipe away tears from every cheek.

PSALM *In the Lord's own house shall I dwell for ever and ever.*

SECOND READING

Philippians 4:12-14.19-20

There is nothing I cannot master with the help of the One who gives me strength.

GOSPEL Matthew 22:1-4

Invite everyone you can find to the wedding.

Confessions

Following 9.30am Mass on Saturday morning. *Please be seated (socially distanced) in the front pews on the left of the church. The church will need to be cleaned following confessions.*

Attachments

Parish Information

Sunday Message, Sunday Homily. Sunday Plus

LOOK for young children

ICHTHUS for older children

NHS Covid 19 App

QR User Guide

Parish Information

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

Exeter Parishes Pastoral Assistant

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

Exeter Parishes 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

Executive Head Teacher

Angela Folland

CONVENT

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

Your Offering

We are enormously grateful for your continued generosity to the parish, particularly at this time when fewer people are coming to church on a regular basis. Please place your cash offering or planned giving envelopes in one of the two baskets at the church doors. These will be collected at the end of each Mass. Please remember that the most efficient way for you to give is by standing order. Forms are available by emailing the parish office. Arrangements are made directly with your bank. And if you can, please GiftAid your contribution. We are making plans for contactless giving at the church.

Gift Aid Donors

You should soon receive your annual gift aid letter for the year ending 5 April 2020. This shows the tax amount the Parish will be claiming so do check you have paid enough tax to cover the gift. The letters have been sent to the address currently held in our gift aid records. If you are expecting a letter but do not receive one please contact the Parish Treasurer via the Parish Office. Many thanks for your continued financial support of the parish.

No paper Parish News

Some of you will have been able to celebrate Mass in the church recently. In line with Covid regulations, paper copies of the newsletter will not be available at the church. We are sending it to as many as we can by email. If you know anyone who may like to receive it please ask them to email their request to the parish office and they can be added to our circulation list.

Parish News by Post

If you know someone who would appreciate keeping in touch in this way. With their permission please give their name and address to the parish office at exeterheavitree@prcdtr.org.uk or call the parish office and we will arrange to get a copy to them.