

# ParishNews



Blessed Sacrament Parish Heavitree Exeter

5 November 2017 31st Sunday in Ordinary Time. *Psalter Week 3*

## Practice what you preach!



The natural consequence of being in a position of authority over anyone else is a responsibility for their well-being and happiness.

The more responsibility we have for the flock of God, the more is demanded of us. But for all God's people, there is the need for constant vigilance, to be on guard against hypocrisy and complacency, the two greatest threats to our living God's way and not our own, self-serving way.

This is a prelude to the end: for the next three weeks we will think about the end of the world and the judgement that awaits. This Sunday's readings should begin to encourage us not to fear and dread that day, but to look forward to it, by putting our lives in order and living as the Lord showed us.





## Living in solidarity with the poor

*"Little children, let us not love in word or speech, but in deed and in truth" (1 Jn 3:18). These words of the Apostle John voice an imperative that no Christian may disregard. The seriousness with which the "beloved disciple" hands down Jesus' command to our own day is made even clearer by the contrast between the empty words so frequently on our lips and the concrete deeds against which we are called to measure ourselves. Love has no alibi. Whenever we set out to love as Jesus loved, we have to take the Lord as our example; especially when it comes to loving the poor. (Pope Francis – from his Message for the First World Day of the Poor)*

In our parish, there are already examples of practising love through deeds such as donating to homeless charities in Exeter and supporting the work of CAFOD in disadvantaged communities around the world. *Livesimply* is an opportunity for us to reflect on how we as individuals and as the parish community can do even more to love 'in deed and in truth'. The next step in our *livesimply* journey will be a meeting on Saturday 2 December at 10.00am at the St Richard Reynolds Centre with a focus on the theme of 'Living in solidarity with the poor'. All welcome!

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### Preparing for First Holy Communion

If your child is in school year 3 and you would like them to prepare for First Holy Communion, you must attend a Registration meeting on **Wednesday 29 November at 6.30 pm at St Nicholas School EX1 3EG**. Children do not need to attend this meeting. Please bring a copy of your child's certificate of baptism, your contact details and £8.00 (*which funds the book we will be using*). The programme begins in January and consists of a monthly Saturday morning meeting for both parents and children with a further early evening meeting monthly for the children. It is essential you attend this meeting as it will not be possible to join the preparation process part way through. We look forward to seeing you.

### Blessing of the graves

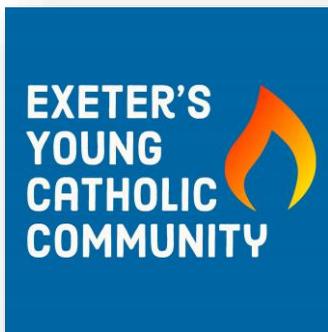
Join us today at Exeter Higher Cemetery (the Hamlin Lane entrance) at 3.00pm to visit the graves of our loved ones. Even if they are buried far away come and join in this act of remembrance.

### Thank you from Fr John

Fr John Watkins would like to thank all those involved in organising the party on Sunday afternoon and all parishioners for their generosity. He thoroughly enjoyed the afternoon.

### Thursday Lunch Club

Can anyone help? Ladies or Gentlemen, the Thursday Lunch Club would be so pleased if you could join our rota of helpers. We fortnightly set up, serve and clear up lunch for our very appreciative diners. Please give Di Bish a call on 07940142124 to find out more about us. We look forward to hearing from you.



## **Exeter's Young Catholic Community**

A new group in Exeter for Catholics aged 16-21. There will be food, discussions about our faith and prayer and we're open to any ideas as to how we can improve each session! The first gathering will be on Wednesday 8 November at 19.00-20.30 in St Richard Reynolds Centre and we'd love to see you there! Like our Facebook page to keep updated and if you'd like more info, speak to Fr Jonathan.

## **APF Red Box collection**

Box holders are asked to bring their red box along with them to Mass on Sunday 19 November to be collected and emptied. Thank you.

## **Plymouth Clergy Requiem**

Please come and pray for the repose of the souls of those men who served the diocese and our parishes for so many years and who have died. **Thursday 9 November** at 12 noon Plymouth Cathedral Cecil Street PL1 5HW. May they rest in peace. Praying for the dead is one of the most important things we do as Christians

## **Charismatic prayer group**

Meets in the St Richard Reynolds Centre - 7.15 to 9.00pm. The next meeting will be 9 November. All welcome. For more info call Chris and Sue Lee on 01392 432929.

## **Filipino-Led Mass**

Sacred Heart at 5.30pm on 11 November there will be a 'Filipino-led' Mass.



# **GATHER 2018**

A residential weekend of faith, formation and friendship. Come and join catechists, parents, clergy and friends, as well as Bishop Mark, and take the opportunity to strengthen your faith with other Catholics. 19-21 January 2018 Livermead Cliff Hotel, Torquay. Cost £150 residential, £40 non-residential day rate. To book your place use the flyer provided or download from Facebook page Gather Conference. Early booking is essential. We hope to see you in Torquay in January.

## **Catholic Singles**

We all know how difficult it is to meet people of like mind, let alone others who share our faith. Catholic Singles is an organisation which helps single Catholics of all ages (over 18 years) meet other single Catholics, either one to one or through social events. For further information tel. 0161 9413498 or visit [www.catholicssingles.org.uk](http://www.catholicssingles.org.uk)

# The Catenian Association

This is an organization for Catholic men. They meet monthly in local 'Circles' for prayers and dinner together often followed by a talk on a topical issue. Families play an important role, taking part in social events. Being a Catenian is an opportunity to get to know your fellow Catholics, to support the clergy and support some charitable causes. The Exeter Circle meets at the Golf & Country Club on the second Monday of each month and would welcome new members. For more information contact Matthew Clark on 07875 298088.

## Eucharistic Adoration

**Mondays** 9.30am at Blessed Sacrament.

**Tuesdays** 8.00–9.00pm at Mount St Mary Convent. All welcome.

### Monday 6 Nov and Monday 4 Dec

Adoration with Taizé chants in the Lady Chapel, Sacred Heart from 7.00-8.00 pm. Singers/musicians/any instruments very welcome. Practice in Church from 6.30 pm.

## Refreshments after Mass

Served in the St Richard Reynolds Centre after the 10.30 Mass on Sunday and the 9.30 Mass on Wednesday mornings. Please join us for a cuppa and a chat.

## Guided Retreat

November 17–19 'Taster' Weekend Retreat Southgate House, Buckfast Abbey. Booking forms in church porch or telephone 01548 852670 or email [mjbutler6@yahoo.com](mailto:mjbutler6@yahoo.com) or [adriantoffolo@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:adriantoffolo@yahoo.co.uk)

## Sick Parishioners

Please let a priest or the parish office know details of parishioners who would like a visit or Holy Communion at home.

## St Rita's Pilgrimage 2018

St Rita's are arranging a pilgrimage to Cascia, Rome and Roccaporena in June 2018. For more information see the poster in the porch, telephone 01404 42635 or email [stritas@btinternet.com](mailto:stritas@btinternet.com)



## CHRISTMAS PARCELS

Every Christmas the St Vincent de Paul Society donates food parcels to the residents of homeless shelters in Exeter. Staff at the shelters tell us that this gift makes a big difference at this time of the year which can be particularly difficult. Last year we were able to deliver more than 160 parcels and this was made possible only through the generous donations of food by parishioners and by the pupils of St Nicholas School. We are looking to deliver at least that number this year. From 11 November a box will be available at the back of the church to collect your food donations. Further information about the progress of our appeal will be made over the coming weeks. For more information please contact Amie Dunphy on 07795 461528.

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## Christmas Get Together

On Friday 15th December there will be a Christmas Afternoon Tea held in the Richard Reynolds Centre. This will start at 2.00pm. Please bring your own scones, cake etc. - we can provide the tea and mulled wine! No cost for this afternoon of fun and chat! For more details call Jane on 07890 373617.

## Children's Liturgy of the Word

At 10.30am Mass on Sundays our young children are invited to go to the St Richard Reynolds Centre with their catechists



## Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes

2-8 August 2018 led by Bishop Mark. Flying from Exeter. A time of prayer and relaxation. Cost £779. For further information and to book please see the information in church porch.

## Youth Pilgrimage to Lourdes

2-8 August 2018 also led by Bishop Mark. Flying from Exeter. A time of prayer and relaxation. Cost £495. For further information and to book please contact Rev Anthony O'Gorman, tel: 01637 851697 or e:mail: anthony.o'gorman@prcdtr.org.uk.

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## Nightfever 2017

A meeting to discuss arrangements for this year's Nightfever will be on Tuesday 28 November at 7.30 pm within the Blessed Sacrament Church, following 7.00 pm Mass. Please try to attend if you would like to volunteer your help. This year Nightfever will take place at the Sacred heart church on Thursday 14 December.



## Sisters' Christmas Cards

During the year, the Sisters have been making cards (religious Christmas and general) with the used cards which you donated. These cards are now for sale at the convent. All proceeds will go towards their orphanage in the Philippines. Please drop by the Convent to buy some.



## Exeter City of Sanctuary (ExCoS)

This is a local organisation working to make Exeter a more welcoming place for refugees. We currently have a friendly, small and active management committee but are looking for a:

**Treasurer** - ExCoS has a bank account and at present few funds but we do need someone to keep a record of our income and expenditure.

**Fund Raiser** - to help increase our funds we thought it would be a good idea to have someone to take on this specific role, perhaps with the brief of organising one fundraising event each year.

If you know of someone who might be approached for either of these tasks or you see this as your way of supporting ExCoS, please do get in touch. We would be happy to discuss the tasks in more detail. Please email [exetercos@outlook.com](mailto:exetercos@outlook.com) if you are interested.



## Exeter Street Pastors

Pope Francis said *"I prefer a church which is bruised, hurting and dirty because it has been out on the streets...."*

Exeter Street Pastors don't usually get bruised or hurt, but occasionally get dirty while looking after people on the streets of Exeter at night. Can you spare one night a month (till 3am), to show the church in action on the streets by giving out flip-flips and water, occasional first aid, clearing up broken bottles, but mostly listening and caring? If you would like to learn more, or follow us some night as an observer, then ask the parish office to put you in contact with one of the Street Pastors in our parish, or email [Exeter@streetpastors.org.uk](mailto:Exeter@streetpastors.org.uk)

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## St Nick's News

We're back at school after a lovely half term break. Last Thursday all children from Yr 1 - 6 enjoyed taking part in a cross country running event at Killerton House on a beautiful autumn day. Next week we are hosting 'Skip to be Fit'.

We are also busy making plans for our 10th anniversary on our Ringswell Avenue site. We are pleased that the Bishop will be coming to celebrate mass with the school community at 9.15am on Wednesday 6th December in the school hall. Parishioners are welcome to join us. Please let Ali know if you wish to come by email [paslt@stnics.uk](mailto:paslt@stnics.uk) or by calling 01392 445403 ext. 222.

## Meaningful Advent Calendar

Looking for an Advent calendar with more meaning? 'The Real Advent Calendar' has been produced which contains Fairtrade chocolate. They can be bought at some supermarkets and from Traidcraft.



## Visit by Cardinal Vincent Nichols

The Cardinal will be visiting the diocese in November to celebrate the Feast of St Cuthbert Mayne during this year when we mark the 440th anniversary of his death. The Cardinal will preach at First Vespers in Plymouth Cathedral at 6.00pm on Tuesday 28 November. He will then celebrate Mass at 12.30pm at Buckfast Abbey on Wednesday 29 November. Parishioners are very welcome to attend both and there will be a chance to venerate the relic of St Cuthbert at both liturgies.

## The World Meeting of Families

Will take place in Dublin from 21- 26 August 2018. Pope Francis intends to be present for the last part of the gathering including the Final Mass on 26 August. This is a wonderful opportunity to attend a global Church event. see <http://www.worldmeeting2018.ie/en/>

## A Sea Symphony

Saturday 25 November Exeter Cathedral. Tickets from the Exeter Visitor Information and Tickets Office in Dix's Field, or at <http://seasympphony.org.uk>

# Youth Ice Skating Trip

This year on Youth Sunday 26 November a trip to Plymouth Pavilions for ice skating has been arranged followed by a BBQ and Mass. A coach will leave Exeter Services at 10.00am returning at 6.00pm. This is for all 10 to 17 year olds and the cost will be £12. If you can go please contact Patrick on 07880734088

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## Preparing for Baptism

If you would like to have your child baptised then we ask you to attend a session which includes reflection on the significance of the sacrament and its effect in our lives. The next session is on Saturday 25 November at 10.30am in the St Richard Reynolds Centre (adjacent to the church). Please phone the parish office to register and to book a place. Thank you.

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## YMCA Christmas Fundraiser

From sleep outs to cream teas, fancy dinners to crazy abseils, people choose to take part in some amazing fundraising events for YMCA Exeter. You can give the gift of a home this Christmas by getting sponsored to abseil off Princesshay Car Park on Saturday 9th December in our annual Santa Abseil. Every year YMCA Exeter provides Supported accommodation for young people who are experiencing, or at risk of, homelessness. Every participant who abseils off Princesshay Car Park dressed as Santa Claus aims to raise a goal of £150 each but most people raise a lot more! When? **Saturday 9th December, slots available between 10am - 4pm** Where? **Princesshay Car Park, Exeter, EX1 1EU** Registration fee? **£20 (adult), £15 (u18), includes a complimentary Santa suit, hot drinks and mince pies** Register at [www.santaabseil.org.uk](http://www.santaabseil.org.uk) or by ringing YMCA Exeter's Events Team on 01392 410530. Email [events@ymcaexeter.org.uk](mailto:events@ymcaexeter.org.uk) for more information.

# CONFIRMATION 2018

The first session for the young people is on Wednesday 15 November at 7.00pm at Blessed Sacrament Church. Parents: if you did not come to the introductory session last week please come on 15 Nov at 6.00pm so that we can take details and give you information about the preparation process.

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## The Pope Tweets...

We are all small and defenceless before the mystery of death, but what a grace if at that moment we keep in our heart the flame of faith!

## The Pope intention for November

That Christians in Asia, bearing witness to the Gospel in word and deed, may promote dialogue, peace, and mutual understanding, especially with those of other religions.

## St Augustine & Sam Smith? Really?

Augustine of Hippo (359-430) journeyed from self-orientation and a struggle to make sense of the world, to Christ-orientation and a vocation to help the world make sense of itself. In the hit song 'Pray', Sam Smith positions himself at a crisis point of belief similar to Augustine prior to his conversion in 386. Smith looks back ('I'm young and I'm foolish.... I block out the news, turn my back on religion'). He then reflects on his current predicament (I'm broken, alone and afraid'), before turning to prayer as a last resort: 'Maybe I'll pray / I've never believed in you, no, but I'm gonna'. After his conversion, Augustine's reflections in *Confessions* could almost have been penned by Sam Smith:- 'Late have I loved you, O Lord; you were within and I was outside... You were with me when I was not with you.... For you have made us, And our hearts are restless until they rest in you.' (Book 10).

*From Catholic Charismatic Renewal blog.*

## Masses

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**Sunday 5 November**

**31st Sunday Ordinary Time**

**9.00am** *Tadeusz Lewczak RIP*

*Father of Renata & Eva*

**10.30am** *Andre Raymond &*

*Marie Therese Mein RIP*

**6.00pm** *People of the parish*

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**Monday 6 November**

**7.30am** Convent

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**Tuesday 7 November**

**7.00pm** *Amelia McFadyen RIP*

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**Wednesday 8 November**

**9.30am** *Phyllis Brown RIP*

**4.00pm** RD&E Hospital

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**Thursday 9 November**

**NO 9.30am** Mass

**12.00 noon**

*At Plymouth Cathedral*

*Clergy Requiem*

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**Friday 10 November**

*St Leo the Great*

**7.30am** Convent

**10.30am** *Funeral Mass*

*Diarmid McMahon RIP*

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**Saturday 11 November**

*St Martin of Tours*

**9.30am** *A P Anthony RIP*

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**Sunday 12 November**

**32nd Sunday Ordinary Time**

**Remembrance Sunday**

**9.00am** *Repose of the souls of*

*Catenians and Catholics of*

*Exeter area killed in the*

*1939/45 war*

**10.30am** *The Evans family*

**6.00pm** *People of the Parish*

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## Confessions

After 9.30am Mass  
on Saturday morning  
and by appointment.

## The Word

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**This Sunday 5 Nov**

**First Reading**

*Malachi 1:14-2:2.8-10*

**Psalm Response**

*Keep my soul in peace  
before you, O Lord.*

**Second Reading**

*1 Thessalonians 2:7-9.13*

**Gospel** *Matthew 23:1-12*

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**Next Sunday 12 Nov**

**First Reading**

*Wisdom 6:12-16*

**Psalm Response**

*For you my soul is thirsting,  
O God, my God.*

**Second Reading**

*1 Thessalonians 4:13-18*

**Gospel** *Matthew 25:1-3*

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## 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.

## Thank you

Collection Sunday  
29 October **£1197.73**

## Getting married?

Congratulations! Please give us at least six months notice if you are planning to marry in the Church.

## Newsletter

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

## Contact us

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**Parish Priest**

Fr Jonathan Stewart

**Priest in retirement**

Fr John Watkins

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**PARISH OFFICE**

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

**Telephone**

01392 274724

**Email** 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

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**PARISH SCHOOL**

**St Nicholas Catholic**

**Primary School**

Ringswell Avenue,

Exeter EX1 3EG

**Telephone**

01392 445403

**Email** admin@stncls.uk

**Website**

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

**Head Teacher**

Angela Folland

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**CONVENT**

**Mount St Mary Convent,**

Wonford Road,

Exeter EX2 4PF

**Telephone** 01392 433301

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