

ParishNews



Blessed Sacrament Parish Heavitree Exeter
2 February 2020. The Presentation of the Lord. Year A

Parish Priest

Fr Jonathan Stewart

Priest in retirement

Fr John Watkins

PARISH OFFICE

The Presbytery,
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Email exeter-heavitree
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Parish Office hours

Tuesday, Wednesday and
Thursday 10.00am–4.00pm

Parish Secretary

Lesley Hooper

Parish Pastoral Assistant

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Safeguarding Reps

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PARISH SCHOOL

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CONVENT

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Today, 40 days after Christmas we celebrate the Feast of the Presentation of Jesus in the temple. Only Luke tells the story, most likely because he writes for Gentile Christians who are not familiar with the Jewish rite of presentation and purification. Luke's intent is to show that God's promise to Israel, fulfilled in Jesus, extends to Gentiles. Mary and Joseph, faithful Jews, present their firstborn son to the Lord. Jesus is thus consecrated as required by the Law of Moses. Present in the temple at this time are Simeon and Anna. Both are awaiting the restoration of God's rule in Israel. Simeon had been promised by the Holy Spirit that he would see Christ the Lord, the Messiah, before he died. The holy man immediately recognised the infant Jesus as the promised Saviour, a "light for revelation to the Gentiles, and glory for your people Israel." Anna also recognised Jesus as the fulfilment of the promise and spoke about him to all.

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
19 Jan £1226.21
26 Jan £1354.17*

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

Fri 31 Jan –

Gather Conference

Sun 2 Feb

Livermead Cliff Hotel Torquay

Tues 4 Feb

Understanding the Mass

St Richard Reynolds Centre 7.00pm

Wed 5 Feb

Memory Cafe

St Richard Reynolds Centre 2.00pm

Praying the Rosary

Blessed Sacrament Church 6.30pm

Sun 9 Feb

Extraordinary Form Mass

Blessed Sacrament Church 3.00pm

Tues 11 Feb

Understanding the Mass

St Richard Reynolds Centre 7.00pm

Wed 12 Feb

Week of Guided Prayer Taster Session

St Richard Reynolds Centre 7.00pm

Thurs 13 Feb

Thursday Lunch Club

St Richard Reynolds Centre 12.30pm

Prayer Group

St Richard Reynolds Centre 7.15pm

Sat 15 Feb

GIFT Session 2 – Home Sweet Home

Blessed Sacrament Church 9.30am

Tues 18 Feb

Understanding the Mass

St Richard Reynolds Centre 7.00pm

Wed 19 Feb

Praying the Rosary

Blessed Sacrament Church 6.30pm

Tues 25 Feb

Understanding 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

Sun 1 Mar

Week of Guided Prayer

To Sat 7 Mar

St Richard Reynolds Centre and the Church

Wed 3 Mar

Praying the Rosary

Blessed Sacrament Church 6.30pm

Sat 7 Mar

GIFT Session 3

St Nicholas School 9.30am

Society of Our Lady of Lourdes get together *St Richard Reynolds Centre*

Lenten Weeks of Guided Prayer: Retreat in Daily Life

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

Guided prayer offers an opportunity for one-to-one help with prayer. Through daily prayer, focussed scripture and a companion to share and chat with each day, time is made to recapture a sense of your personal relationship with God. **There will be an introductory taster meeting, with an opportunity to sign up for one of the weeks, on Wednesday 12 February in the Richard Reynolds Centre at 7.00pm.** If you have any questions or would like to book a place on one of the weeks and cannot attend this Introductory Taster Session, please contact Maria Quinn exeter-pastoral-assistant@prcdtr.org.uk or call the Blessed Sacrament parish office 01392 274724

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

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 15 February 9.30 - 12.00 at the Blessed Sacrament Church**

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 4, 11, 18, and 25. In this week's film Bishop Robert begins to unfold the beauty of the Liturgy of the Word. St Richard Reynolds Centre. Mass at 6.30pm film/discussion from 7.00 -8.30pm

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

Catholic Women's League

The Branch Retreat will be held at St. Rita's, Honiton on Wednesday 12 February from 10.00 am led by Father Jonathan Stewart. The cost for the day - £22 to include a 3 course lunch plus tea/coffee, payable at our next meeting by those wishing to attend.

Stronghold Praise & Worship

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.

Parish Rosary Group

Would you like to gather to pray the rosary together? We will next be meeting on Wednesday 5 February at 6.30pm in the church. We would love to see you there.

Ash Wednesday

February 26 is Ash Wednesday which is a day of fasting and abstinence and marks the start of Lent. Masses and distribution of Ashes will be at 9.30am and 7.00pm

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.

St Nick's News

This week we celebrated the success of our school football team in the Utilita Kids Cup against other Exeter Schools. We won overall and will go on to the next stage in Swindon. If we are successful in that tournament Wembley beckons! Well done to our fantastic team. To help fight the Australian bushfires, on Tuesday 21 January we invited the children to bring in a few coins to fill in an outline of Australia. Amazingly, we raised over £300. Why not follow us on Facebook - St Nicholas Catholic Primary School, Exeter or on Twitter - @StNicholasCPS to see more news items about the school.

Plymouth Diocese Catechetical Summer Camps 2020

Applications are now being taken for places at the Plymouth Diocese Catechetical Summer Camps, to be held at Grangehurst, Buckfast Abbey. Camp details and application forms can be obtained from the parish office, the church porch or on-line from www.pdsummercamps.org.uk Prompt applications are advisable. Also see poster in the church porch.

Plymouth Diocesan Pilgrimage to 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. Details can be found on a poster in the church porch or from www.marian-uk.com

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.

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/>

Weekly Giving Envelopes

There are still a number of weekly gift aid and planned giving envelopes to be collected. If you haven't collected yours then please contact the Parish office.

Prayer Group

The next meeting of the Prayer Group is on Thursday 13 February at 7.15pm in the St Richard Reynolds Centre. All welcome.

The Society of Our Lady of Lourdes

Are holding a spring Get-together which will be held at the St Richard Reynolds Centre at the Blessed Sacrament on Saturday 7 March starting with coffee at 10.00am, Mass 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.

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

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)

Look & Ichthus

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

livesimply

Sleep Safe: So far the weather has not been too brutal, but it is still very cold if you are homeless. The Night Stop Centre provides overnight accommodation. We will be taking a supply of biscuits and snacks, which have been requested, from the beginning of Lent. There will be a box at the back of the church from the middle of February.

Seeds: Frances Canning will be outside Church after Mass on Saturday 8 February to collect and or distribute seeds for people to grow for the Spring fair on 2 May.

Sponsored Sleep Out: The YMCA are organising their 10th Sleep Easy night. You are invited to sleep rough so others don’t have to on Saturday 14 March 7.00pm – 7.00am at Barnfield Crescent, Exeter. It is suggested that a few parishioners get together to join in. Ring 01392 209542 to discuss this or register yourself at www.sleepeasyexeter.org.uk or call 01392 410530. For an information pack.

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.

Upcoming events:-

Saturday 4 April there will be a *livesimply* meeting after 9.30 Mass.

Saturday 2 May Spring Fair

Sewing Group meets every Monday at 6.30pm in the St Richard Reynolds Centre. All are welcome.

Extraordinary Form Mass

At Blessed Sacrament Church on Sunday 9 February at 3.00pm.

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.

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.

In the coming year, at 10 venues across the diocese, including Blessed Sacrament, a talk will be given by Fr Guy De Gaynesford and Fr Robbie Low on "Principles of Scriptural interpretation and the link between the Old and New Testaments". There is also a website, www.whatgoodnews.org with some excellent talks on the Scriptures, created and overseen by Fr Adrian Graffy, a priest of the Diocese of Brentwood, who is also a member of the Pontifical Biblical Commission.

The Pope Tweets...

The Gospel will not go forward with boring, bitter evangelisers. No. It will only go forward with joyful evangelisers, full of life.

A Deacon Enquirer's Day

Will be held on Saturday 22 February at St Boniface House. If you think you may have a vocation to become a permanent deacon, please take a look at the poster and information sheet in the porch or speak to Fr Jonathan.

Dartmoor in a day

'Education is the most powerful weapon you can use to change the world.' In many parts of the world children still do not have access to education, thus perpetuating a vicious circle of poverty. Christina Pilkington from our parish will be taking part in 'Dartmoor in a day' walking 50km/30 miles hoping to raise £1000 for **Street Child** a non-profit organisation that works to provide education to children in rural areas of Asia and Africa and improve the quality of education already provided. This includes training teachers and repairing classrooms damaged in conflicts. Christina plans to work with this charity this summer and hopes to travel to Sri Lanka to work alongside teachers and share best practice. Please donate to help ensure as many children as possible get the opportunity to go to a well-equipped, prepared school with confident teachers. Fundraising page: www.gofundme.com/f/Dartmoor-in-a-day-education-for-a-lifetime

Racial Justice Sunday

On 9 February we celebrate Racial Justice Sunday. The theme of this is 'You are at the heart of the Church' and celebrates the contribution Travelling Communities make to the Church in England and Wales. Historically, Gypsies, Roma and Travellers have experienced discrimination both in the wider society and, sadly, within the Church. The aim of this Racial Justice Sunday is to celebrate the contribution that the Travelling Communities make within our parishes and to encourage parishioners to be more welcoming towards fellow Catholics who come from a Traveller background. There will be a retiring collection at all Masses on this day.

New Readers Rota

The new rota has been sent to those with email. For those without, please collect a hard copy from the church porch. Thanks.

Christians Across Exeter

Find out how Christians are enabling young people to flourish in Exeter. At St Matt's Church hall on Wednesday 12 February.

6.30 refreshments for a 7.00pm start.

All are welcome

Memory Cafe

On the first Wednesday of the month the Memory Café, organised by the Friends of Heavitree Health Centre, meets in the St Richard Reynolds Centre at 2.00pm. This is an opportunity for anyone with memory loss, and their carers, to meet for a chat and have a cuppa in a safe environment. Various activities are also arranged. You are most welcome to come along and please invite anyone that you know who may benefit from an afternoon out.

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 at the St Richard Reynolds Centre on Wednesday afternoons or at the Sacred Heart church on Friday evenings.

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.

Book of Intentions

This book is brought to the altar at each Mass and contains the things we offer to God in prayer; the name of someone who is sick or who has died; a personal situation which needs resolution; a private intention, anything you would like to bring to the Lord. The book can be found on the offertory table with the bread and wine.

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.

Catenian Bursary Fund

This fund is designed to offer financial support to young Catholics aged 16 to 24, particularly those who are more disadvantaged and would not normally be able to undertake voluntary work, and who engage in projects of at least 15 working days to help others less fortunate than themselves. Please visit www.thecatenians.com for more information

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.

Mass Times

Sunday 2 February

*The Presentation
of the Lord*

Day for Consecrated Life

8.45am *People of the Parish*

10.45am

6.00pm

Monday 3 February

7.30am Convent

Tuesday 4 February

6.30pm

Wednesday 5 February

St Agatha, Virgin, Martyr

9.30am *Lorna Livock*

4.00pm RD&E Hospital

Thursday 6 February

St Paul Miki & Companions

9.30am

Friday 7 February

7.30am Convent

9.30am

Saturday 8 February

*Day for victims of human
trafficking and those
working to combat it.*

9.30am

Sunday 9 February

5th in Ordinary Time

Racial Justice Day

8.45am

10.45am *Wilfred Kingsland
RIP*

6.00pm *People of the Parish*

Monday 10 February

St Scholastica

7.30am Convent

Tuesday 11 February

*World Day for the sick and
those who care for them.*

6.30pm *Priests of the Exeter
Deanery*

Wednesday 12 February

9.30am

4.00pm RD&E Hospital

Thursday 13 February

9.30am *Special Intention*

Friday 14 February

*Ss Cyril Monk & Methodius,
Missionaries, Patrons of
Europe*

7.30am Convent

9.30am

Saturday 15 February

9.30am

Sunday 16 Feb

6th in Ordinary time

8.45am *Joe Leonard RIP*

10.45am *People of the Parish*

6.00pm

Confessions

Saturday 10.00am Church

Adoration

Tuesdays 8.00-9.00pm
at the Convent

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 2 February

First Reading

Malachi 3:1-4

*The Lord you are seeking will
suddenly enter his Temple.*

Psalm Response

Who is the king of glory?

It is the Lord.

Second Reading

Hebrews 2:14-18

*It was essential that he should
in this way become completely
like his brothers*

Gospel

Luke 2:22-40

*My eyes have seen your
salvation.*

Sunday 9 February

First Reading

Isaiah 58:7-10

*Then will your light shine like
the dawn.*

Psalm Response

*The good man is a light in
the darkness of the upright.*

Second Reading

1 Corinthians 2:1-5

*During my stay with you, the
only knowledge I claimed to
have was about Jesus as the
crucified Christ.*

Gospel

Matthew 5:13-16

You are the light of the world.

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.*



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