

ParishNews



Blessed Sacrament Parish Heavitree Exeter

1 March 2020. First Sunday of Lent. Year A

Parish Priest

Fr Jonathan Stewart

Priest in retirement

Fr John Watkins

PARISH OFFICE

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

Email exeter-heavitree@prcdtr.org.uk

Parish Office hours

Tuesday, Wednesday and
Thursday 10.00am–4.00pm

Parish Secretary

Lesley Hooper

Parish Pastoral Assistant

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

Parish Youth Worker

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

Safeguarding Reps

Vince Clark & Lesley Hooper

PARISH SCHOOL

St Nicholas Catholic

Primary School Ringswell

Avenue, Exeter EX1 3EG

01392 445403

admin@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



In the Cycle of Sunday Readings, the oldest are those of Year A in Lent. These Gospels have accompanied the Church for many centuries. We must realise why: Lent was originally the time of immediate preparation of candidates for Baptism at Easter (something which has been reintroduced to the Church by RCIA): those already baptised used it as a time to prepare for the renewal of Baptismal promises. This is why so much of the Scripture in Lent is about Baptism, New Life and Salvation. What is the new life of Baptism? What are we set free from? What is sin? We begin Lent by hearing about sin and temptation; the Gospel will tell us of Jesus' own temptations, something he shares with us, though he did not sin. The other Scripture readings prepare us for the Gospel, in which Jesus, the new Adam, triumphs over temptation.

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
16 February £1161.77
23 February £1356.90*

Calendar of Events

Mondays

livesimply Sewing Group

St Richard Reynolds Centre 6.30pm

Wednesdays

Wednesday Word

St Richard Reynolds Centre 2.00pm

Fridays

Wednesday Word

Sacred Heart Church 7.00pm

Sun 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 12.00pm

Praying the Rosary

Blessed Sacrament Church 6.30pm

Fri 6 Mar

Cafod Fast Day

World Day of Prayer

Belmont Chapel 6.30pm

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 12.00pm

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

Sat 14 Mar

Baptism Preparation Course Session 1

St Richard Reynolds Centre 10.30am

Sun 15 Mar

Week of Guided Prayer

to Sat 21 Mar

St Richard Reynolds Centre and the Church

Wed 18 Mar

Lent Prayer and lunch

St Lawrence Church 12.00pm

Praying the Rosary

Blessed Sacrament Church 6.30pm

Fri 20 Mar

Stations of the Cross

Blessed Sacrament Church 7.00pm

Wed 25 Mar

Lent Prayer and lunch

Blessed Sacrament Church 12.00pm

LENT 2020

Each year the Church invites us to enter a period of reflection which we call Lent. 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.

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 Lunches

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.

Lent confessions

On Wednesday 25 March at Sacred Heart Church there will be a chance to make your Lenten confession from 6.00pm to 8.00pm when there will be 4 priests in the church to hear confessions.

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.

Reflecting on Ministry

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. 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 please contact Margaret Leonard on 01392 252408.

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.

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 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

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.

livesimply

Collection of biscuits etc.: Please put your donation of biscuits and other snacks in the box at the back of the church labelled Sleep Safe. Please continue to fill the box. Thank you for your generosity.

Nina Lubugumu has been to the Budika Orphanage in Vidah village in Uganda to deliver the dresses and shorts that the sewing group made and also to see the borehole that money had been raised for in the parish. The children were all thrilled with the dresses and shorts and the borehole is now fully operational and means that those it serves only have to walk a few minutes for clean water instead of two hours for dirty water. We will be displaying photos of these soon in the church.

Sleep Easy The YMCA are organising their 10th Anniversary Sleep Easy night when you are invited to sleep rough on Saturday 14 March from 7.00pm – 7.00am at Barnfield Crescent, Exeter. Perhaps a few of us could get together to join in. Ring 01392 209542 to discuss or register yourself at www.sleepeasyexeter.org.uk or call 01392 410530.

Future Date the next livesimply meeting is on Saturday April 4 after Mass.

Food Bank - remember that 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.

Stronghold Prayer & Praise

Next meet in the St Richard Reynolds Centre on Thursday 26 March 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 4 March at 6.30pm in the church. We would love to see you there.

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

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 Prompt applications are advisable. Also see poster in the church porch.

Look & Ichthus sheets

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

Extraordinary Form Mass

Blessed Sacrament Sunday 8 March 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.

Book of Intentions

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. To comply with GDPR please only mention people by their Christian name.

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.

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

Until the building work is completed at the Sacred Heart Church 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 for 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.

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)

Pope Francis on mercy...

May we never get used to the poverty and decay around us. A Christian must act.

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 group which meets at the St Richard Reynolds Centre on Wednesdays will meet at the Mount St Mary's Centre from on Wednesday 4 March and Wednesday 18 March. All other Wednesdays will meet as usual in the St Richard Reynolds Centre.

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. To comply with GDPR rules we must have the permission of the person named if it is to be made public unless they are deceased.

Lent Day of Recollection

Bishop Mark O'Toole will lead a day entitled 'Journeying with the Lord' St Rita's Honiton, Saturday 4 April 9.30am til 4.00pm. The cost is £25.00 which includes lunch and coffee and tea. Mass will be celebrated and there will be an opportunity to celebrate the sacrament of reconciliation. To book contact St Rita's 01404 42601 or follow the link: <https://www.stritascentre.org/events/lent-day-of-recollection>

Rededication of England as Mary's Dowry

Sunday 29 March 2020 is the day of the great rededication of England as Mary's Dowry when our Bishops, with the support of our personal prayers and personal acts of Consecration to Jesus through Mary, will rededicate, reconsecrate, re-entrust our England, which is the Dowry of Mary, to Jesus through Mary. See www.behold2020.com/the.rededication for more information.

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.

Diocesan Retreats 2020

Led by experienced members of the Diocesan Ignatian Spirituality Group, who are trained in Ignatian Spirituality. The group includes priests, deacons and lay people. A list of retreats in 2020 and application forms can be found in the church porch.

Into your hands, Lord...

Please pray for the repose of the souls of Noel Tighe and Maureen Rogers who have died. A Funeral Mass will be celebrated for Noel at 12.00 on Friday 6 March and for Maureen at 12.00 on Friday 13 March. May they rest in peace.

Diocesan Vacancy

Part time Parenting Facilitator at St. Boniface House, Ashburton TQ13 7JL but may consider home based. Salary: £25,000 pro rata (actual salary £14,289.60 pa), 20 hours per week which need to be flexible
The Catholic Children's Society (Plymouth) is a child welfare charity working across the Roman Catholic Diocese of Plymouth. The Society is looking to recruit an enthusiastic, energetic individual with experience of running/facilitating training programmes to plan and deliver group-based parenting education and support through Diocesan schools and parishes. To apply please contact Jan Holton for the job description and application form jan.holton@prcdtr.org.uk or telephone 01364 645383. To discuss the role, please contact Caroline Hambly on 01364 645422. The closing date for applications is Monday 9 March and interviews will be held on Tuesday 17 March

A Thank You from Exeter Foodbank

To everyone who has so generously given food to help feed local people in crisis. The food you have donated is making a very real difference to many people's lives in Exeter. Donation in last 6 months: 98.7 kgs. All time donation: 157.8 kgs – *equivalent to approximately 1.5 baby elephants!*

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. Thank you. The Sisters.

Pope's March Intention

We pray that the Church in China may persevere in its faithfulness to the Gospel and grow in unity. See also [https:// thePopevideo.org/](https://thePopevideo.org/)

St Nick's News

The Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales have designated 2020 as 'The God Who Speaks': A Year of the Word to celebrate the 10th anniversary of *Verbum Domini*- Pope Benedict XVI's Apostolic Exhortation on 'The Word of the Lord' and the 1600th anniversary of St Jerome's death. Therefore 2020 will be a year of celebrating, living and sharing God's word and we have decided to make **World Book Day, a Bible Day**, a God Who Speaks day in our school. Our theme is 'Your Word is our Light': *'Your word is a lamp for my steps and a light for my path.'* Psalm 119: 105 On Thursday 5 March (World Book Day), the children have been invited to come to school dressed as 'light' (e.g., white, yellow, reflective clothing). Or, if they prefer, they may come to school dressed as their favourite person or animal from the Bible (e.g., the Angel Gabriel, a Wise Man, the donkey that carried Mary, Noah or one of the animals). They are also invited to bring a torch and their own Bible. In the afternoon, Fr Jonathon and Fr Cyriacus will lead a torchlight assembly answering children's questions about the Bible. They will also share their favourite Bible passages with the children and will bless the children's Bibles from home. We look forward to celebrating World Book Day on the 5 March and hope that it will be an extra special day for the children.

Feast of St David

On the 1st March the people of Wales will celebrate their patron saint. We would normally celebrate the day as well, but as it is a Sunday the Solemnity of the Lord's Day take precedent. But we can still ask for his intercession, that he will inspire us by his life. Gwledd Hapus!

Mass Times

Sunday 1 March

First of Lent

8.45am *May Henrisson RIP*

10.45am *People of the Parish*

6.00pm

Monday 2 March

7.30am Convent

Tuesday 3 March

6.30pm *Vicki Hunt RIP & family*

Wednesday 4 March

9.30am *Maryvonne Green RIP*

4.00pm RD&E Hospital

Thursday 5 March

9.30am *Pat Stewart RIP*

Friday 6 March

CAFOD Lent Fast Day

7.30am Convent

12.00pm *Funeral Mass*

Noel Tighe RIP

Saturday 7 March

SS Perpetua & Felicity

9.30am *Special Intention*

Sunday 8 March

Second of Lent

8.45am

10.45am

6.00pm *People of the Parish*

Monday 9 March

7.30am Convent

Tuesday 10 March

6.30pm St Nicholas school

Wednesday 11 March

9.30am

4.00pm RD&E Hospital

Thursday 12 March

9.30am

Friday 13 March

7.30am Convent

12.00pm *Funeral Mass*

Maureen Rogers RIP

Saturday 14 March

9.30am

Sunday 15 March

Third of Lent

8.45am *People of the Parish*

10.45am

6.00pm

Confessions

Saturday 10.00am Church

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.*

The Word

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.*

Sunday 8 March

First Reading

Genesis 12:1-4

*The call of Abraham, father of
the people of God.*

Psalm Response

*May your love be upon us, O
Lord, as we place all our
hope in you.*

Second Reading

2 Timothy 1:8-10

God calls and enlightens us.

Gospel

Matthew 17:1-9

His face shone like the sun.

Sunday 15 March

First Reading

Exodus 17:3-7

Give us water to drink.

Psalm Response

*O that today you would
listen to his voice:
'Harden not your hearts.'*

Second Reading

Romans 5:1-2.5-8

*The love of God has been
poured into our hearts by the
Holy Spirit which has been
given to us.*

Gospel

Matthew 4:5-42

*A spring of water welling up to
eternal life.*



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