

ParishNews



Blessed Sacrament Parish Heavitree Exeter

20 December 2020 Fourth Sunday of Advent. Year B



The HOUSE of DAVID

This Sunday we enter a new stage of Advent: having spent so much time on the Second Coming, now we look back, to remember the details of the Lord's First Coming. Today we focus on the character of Mary, and hear of the angel Gabriel being sent to her, to invite her to take her part in the mystery of the Incarnation, 'the revelation of the mystery kept secret for endless ages'. This mystery springs from the House of David, and so we lead into the Gospel by hearing of the establishing of that house. The first reading speaks of

David wishing to build a house for the Lord; through the prophet he is told not of the house that he would build, but the House which is his line: eventually, in Mary (*betrouthed to Joseph*) the House of David does itself become the house of the Lord, the womb wherein he has a dwelling place.



Fourth Sunday of Advent

Please join Fr Jonathan on our Facebook page Catholic Exeter at 5.00pm on Sunday as we light the fourth candle of our Advent wreaths.

CELEBRATING MASS at CHRISTMAS

The Mass times for the Christmas Octave will be:

Thursday 24 CHRISTMAS EVE 6.00pm and 8.00pm

Friday 25 CHRISTMAS DAY 8.45am and 10.45am

Saturday 26 Feast of St Stephen 9.30am

Sunday 27 Feast of the Holy Family 8.45am and 10.45am. No evening Mass.

Monday 28 No Mass

Tuesday 29 St Thomas Becket 6.30pm

Wednesday 30 9.30am

Thursday 31 9.30am

The church is now fully booked for the Masses on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day.

However as the bishops have encouraged, please consider coming on another day during the Octave and making that your celebration of Mass this Christmas.

We will now be able to stream the Christmas Masses and will do so to the St Richard Reynolds Centre for the 6.00pm Mass on Christmas Eve and the 10.45am Mass on Christmas Day so we now have a few more places available to book.

You will be able to receive communion if you are in the centre.

It is very important that if you do book a place and then change your mind you let us know as we can allocate the place to someone else.

If you know someone who does not have access to email and so has not received this newsletter and would like to attend, let them know and you could book on their behalf.

Please be generous and remember that space is limited.



Rest on the Flight into Egypt *by Gerard David c1510*

I have always loved this painting. It reminds me that Jesus was born into a world of turmoil, fear and danger. Almost as soon as this momentous event has taken place Joseph, under instruction from the Angel, whisks his new family away from Bethlehem to escape the murderous actions of a jealous king. The flight of this Holy Family reminds us that so many families in our world today live under the threat of danger and many have fled to protect the lives of their families. Yet this is an image of serenity and peace. While Joseph forages in the chestnut trees and the donkey rests its weary limbs, Mary and the baby Jesus feed from a bunch of grapes, a symbol of the eucharist. The basket by their side perhaps contains the gifts the Magi have brought, currency to ease the journey, or perhaps simply a packed lunch!

My prayer for us all this Christmas is that in the midst of the chaos and uncertainty of these times, we will find some peace. That as we journey through the challenges of the pandemic and all that it has brought, we will experience the peace that only Christ can bring. Christmas can never be cancelled. So while we cope with the differences and challenges this year may we all be blessed, strengthened and renewed in mind, body, spirit and soul, by the Christ-child and his presence in our lives. Happy Christmas. God bless you all. *Fr Jonathan*

Mass streamed live

The live streaming equipment is now fitted and being used so we are able to stream the Christmas Masses online on the parish Facebook page Catholic Exeter. We know many of you are still anxious about coming to church which is completely understandable.

Catholic Exeter Virtual Carol Service

Due to the Covid-19 restrictions we cannot have a carol service in our churches this year, so the musicians, singers, readers and some of our youngsters have worked together to produce a film. This can be viewed today, the fourth Sunday of Advent, 20 December for us all to enjoy. This will be which will be published on the Catholic Exeter Facebook page and the Blessed Sacrament YouTube channel. Thank you to those from both Sacred Heart and Blessed Sacrament parishes who contributed. The link for the film is <https://youtu.be/CRKamWFCyII>

Christmas Greetings

This year we are asking you to take a picture of either your family, your crib, your tree, your lights, or anything to do with the Christmas season and add your family name. These will be put together as a slide show and be projected on the screen at all of the Christmas Masses so that your greetings will go to all parishioners. Please do not bring Christmas cards and leave them in the church as they will be removed and thrown away. Photos to the parish office by Monday 21 December please.

Christmas Offerings

As is customary, collections at Christmas Masses are our personal gift to the clergy. Please use one of the special Christmas Envelopes you will find as you leave church. If you are unable to attend Mass and would still like to make an offering this can be made by a cash donation or a bank transfer. Please contact Lesley in the Parish Office who can let you have the information that you require make a bank transfer. For those who already have the parish bank details and wish to make an offering please make sure that you add 'Christmas offering' in the description field. If you wish to make a cash or cheque (made payable to PRCDTR Heavitree RC Parish) offering please place it in an envelope and mark it 'Christmas Offering' and put through the presbytery letterbox or in the offerings basket as you leave any Mass that you attend over the Christmas period.

Weekly Giving Envelopes

The weekly gift aid and planned giving envelopes are available for collection by arrangement with the Parish Office. If you have envelopes to collect please call the office on 01392 274724 and a day and time can be arranged for you to collect your box. Do remember to let us know if there are any changes in your circumstances. Are you still paying income tax for instance? If you have moved recently let us know your correct contact details. If you are new to the Parish and perhaps not considered gift aiding your donations or would like more information how to make regular planned giving using the envelopes or by standing order from your bank call the Parish Office. Thank you.

Baptism Preparation Courses 2021

Are you looking to have your child baptised next year? We look forward to spiritually supporting you in preparation for this important sacrament and welcoming you and your family into our parish family. Courses are delivered via zoom over two consecutive Saturday mornings from 10:00-11:00. The course dates for 2021 are:

23/30 January, 17/24 April, 10/17 July, and 9/16 October

Please get in touch with Fr Jonathan to let him know you would like to prepare to have your child baptised. You will then be directed to Lesley Hooper who organises registration for the course. Exeter-heavitree@prcdtr.org.uk or 01392 274724

Stewarding at Mass

To enable us to celebrate Mass publicly we need 3 stewards at each Mass, including those at Christmas. If you are able to volunteer please contact Lesley in the Parish office 01392 274724 or exeter-heavitree@prcdtr.org.uk See it as 'taking your turn' rather than leaving it to a small group of people volunteering. We are going to need stewards at our Masses for the foreseeable future so if you would like to join the team new stewards would be most welcome.

Diocesan Year Book 2021

The new Diocesan Year book is now available at a cost of **£4.00**. It is a great source of diocesan information and news. If you would like a copy please phone or email the parish office.

May they rest in peace

Please pray for the repose of the souls of Tom Reardon and Edward Al-Aziz. Edward's funeral service will be next week. We are awaiting details of Tom's funeral.

Postcards for Kindness

For this Advent, our youth community wanted to reach out to those who may not have family and friends around them for the Christmas season. They have picked the Postcards for Kindness campaign to reach out to those in Care Homes that could use some extra kindness, especially this year, and we'd like to invite you and your families to join in. It's simple, pick up a postcard or write a letter, any length and any information you want. It could be about your favourite music, where you're from, or why the sky is blue. The important part is to give someone a connection this season. We will be sending Postcards to a local Care Home: Brendoncare Woodhayes, 36 - 40 St Leonards Road, Exeter EX2 4LR.

We invite you to write through Advent or during the Christmas period and join us in helping to brighten some people's Christmas. If you have any questions, please get in touch with Erik Renz at Exeter-youth-worker@prcdtr.org.uk. Merry Christmas!

Vacancy in the Diocese of Plymouth

Diocesan Schools Commission Administrator (part time) – 1 post.

Location: St Boniface House, Ashburton, Devon with some home working to meet COVID Secure requirements. Salary: £11.39 per hour (Actual Salary - £11,846 per annum). Hours: 20 hours per week spread over 5 days- preferably mornings.

The Diocesan School's Commissioner Administrator will manage the administrative, secretarial support and the office resources required to ensure the smooth running of the Diocesan Schools Commissioner's office. They will enable the Diocesan Schools Commissioner and team to carry out their Diocesan responsibilities. The post-holder will be required to have a high level of secretarial or administrative experience and will require excellent organisational skills together with good experience of Microsoft Office and excellent interpersonal skills. Experience of working in a schools' environment would be an advantage. Copies of the job description and application form are obtainable from Jan Holton on 01364 645383 or by email to recruitment@prcdtr.org.uk up to 22 December. Last date for applications Monday 4 January 2021 and interviews will be held on Monday 18 January at St. Boniface House, Ashburton.

Diocesan Youth Service

Saskia Hogbin, the Diocesan Youth Events Coordinator, is preparing new projects for young people across the diocese. Look on the Diocese of Plymouth Youth Events Facebook page where young people have created daily reflections or clips on Advent and Christmas activities. On the Diocese of Plymouth Youth YouTube channel you can see the completed film drama series where a group of young people Year 6 – Year 13 have produced an alternative nativity play. If you would like to hear about future events or have skills to offer the young people in our diocese, please contact Saskia: at youth@prcdtr.org.uk

Christians Together Across Exeter CTAX

Unites Exeter's churches and fellowships in mission, worship, and relationship, co-working with one another and with voluntary and statutory bodies in Exeter for Christ's Kingdom in our city. You can find out more about them here: <http://www.ctax.btck.co.uk/About%20us>

As the old principle in ecumenism goes: *"Anything we can do together, we should do together"*

Exeter Nativity

The Exeter Nativity, which CTAX helps fund, *is* going ahead, #CovidSecure at Exeter Cathedral on Sunday 20 December at 3.00pm. Booking is required, although it will also be livestreamed on the cathedral's Facebook page. More info here: www.exeter-cathedral.org.uk/worship-music/advent-christmas-services/

Exeter Children's Hot Food Project

This project is run by a team of volunteers who have provided hot nutritious meals to school children and families experiencing food poverty throughout the first 'lockdown' and during the school holidays. The meals are cooked at churches and community centres then delivered immediately. **They are recruiting volunteers to help across the Christmas holidays** and in the New Year plan to extend this 'emergency food' service to other groups vulnerable to food insecurity such as isolated elders and young carers and care leavers. Here is a link to their Volunteer Survey if you are interested helping as a volunteer or donor:

docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScPRvFH7CDHI_ZwWWBo2qKcwfx0WzRt8qSEq_Khu3rL_DvZetQ/viewform

Turning Concern into Action

As this year reaches its close, the St Vincent de Paul Society would like to thank you, our friends, for your willing support throughout the year. With the help of your prayers and with your generous gifts we have been able to deliver food and gift vouchers to the Exeter Foodbank, to local families and to a Community Shelter for young people. Together with others in our churches, we have sought to maintain contact by telephone, with those who are lonely and vulnerable. Aid has also been sent to the SVP's Baby Feeding Stations in the Sudan, to the Sisters' orphanage in the Philippines and to Education programmes in India. There is so much goodwill for others at this time, and we know we play but a small part. There is so much more to do, but for all your help in the past, we thank you and we wish you a Happy Christmas.

CAFOD Christmas

This Advent we give thanks for all the kindness and prayers that you have offered to those less fortunate than ourselves, especially during these challenging times and we ask that you continue to help those who have been affected by coronavirus with these thoughtful and prayerful resources for Advent. CAFOD's online Advent calendar: cafod.org.uk/Pray/Advent-calendar For how to donate to the CAFOD Advent Appeal and how to organise a mince pie and mulled wine event or an online carol service go to <https://cafod.org.uk/Fundraise/Parish-fundraising> For how to send messages to the brave human rights defenders across the world, petition the prime minister on climate change or buy World Gifts for Christmas go to: <https://cafod.org.uk/Fundraise/Parish-fundraising>

Light up our lives – a prayer for Advent (*Sr Bridgetta Rooney/CAFOD*)

Christ, come into our world of darkness

Light up our lives with your coming.

Fulfil all our longings with the joy of your birth

Strengthen our resolve to work for change in our world

And to share the hope of your birth that each Advent brings. Amen.

St Nicholas School

If your child is due to start Reception in September 2021 you can now apply for a school place by going to <https://www.devon.gov.uk/educationandfamilies/school-information/apply-for-a-school-place/apply-for-a-primary-school-place> If you cannot apply online, please contact the education helpline on 0345 155 1019 and ask for a paper copy of the form to be sent to you. The deadline to apply is 15 January 2021. If you are applying to St Nicholas Catholic Primary School you must also submit a 2021/22 supplementary form direct to the school, obtainable from the school website https://st-nicholas-pri.eschools.co.uk/website/reception_or_in-year_admissions or by calling us on 01392 445403. Please submit this by 15 January to Mrs Brocksom, Senior Administrator by email (abrocksom@stnics.uk) or by post

The children and staff of St Nicholas School wish all parishioners a happy and restful Christmas and a very happy New Year!

Exeter Foodbank – Food Shortages

Can you help by donating any of the following from the December priority items list: cereal, sponge puddings, tinned potatoes, noodle/pasta snacks, rice pudding, biscuits, jam/spreads, tinned meat, custard, rice, shampoo/deodorant

Current Collection Points - Sainsbury's (Alphington/Pinhoe/Guildhall); Tesco (Exe Vale); Co-Op (Heavitree/St Thomas); Waitrose (Gladstone Rd)

You can also give a donation on line at exeter.foodbank.org.uk/give-help/donate-money/

The Catholic Universe newspaper

FREE digital subscription to The Universe. The Catholic Universe is a national newspaper of news views comments and features through a Catholic lens. It's a great read and downloads each week to your home computer, smartphone or tablet. You can have a trial FREE subscription to it between now and the New Year. To take them up on this free offer just go to thecatholicuniverse.com/subscription-trial to register

GIFT Growing In Faith Together

What have we been up to in December?

This month's family resource focuses on Kings and Queens of the Old Testament. God made a covenant with the Israelites. This was his special promise to look after his people. In return God asked for his people to trust him, to be faithful to him and to obey him. This month, we are encouraged to celebrate our inner beauty and strength as individuals and as a family unit; what matters is not what we look like but what is in our heart.

Bedtime Chats: Ruth and 'Preparing for Jesus'

Keep an eye out on our GIFT webpage to access our December Bedtime Chats

<https://www.blessedsacrament.org.uk/parish-life/gift/>

WHAT IS IT? GIFT is for all families of faith: for families with children who are looking forward to receiving Holy Communion or who have already made their Holy Communion; for families with older children who want to be confirmed in their faith; for families with younger children who want to experience and grow in faith in a simple and enjoyable way.

Get in touch

Our next parents zoom session is on the 9 January. If you would like to join us, please get in touch with Maria exeter-pastoral-assistant@prcdtr.ogr.uk

The Pope tweets...

"Our soul waits for the Lord: he is our help and shield. Yes, our heart is glad in him" (Ps 33:20-21). The confident expectation of the Lord allows us to find comfort and courage in the dark moments of our lives

Pope's December Intention

For a life of prayer. We pray that our personal relationship with Jesus Christ be nourished by the Word of God and a life of prayer. See also <https://thepopevideo.org/>

Pope Francis on Mercy...

When we hear the Word of Jesus, when we listen to the Word of Jesus and carry it in our heart, this Word grows. Do you know how it grows? By giving it to the other! The Word of Christ grows in us when we proclaim it, when we give it to others! And this is what Christian life is. It is mission for the whole Church, for all the baptised, for us all: listen to Jesus and offer Him to others.

Ave Maria Crisis Pregnancy Support

Ave Maria Crisis Pregnancy Support has launched in the Plymouth Diocese to offer a listening ear and support to those with an unexpected pregnancy, or to those worried about coping with another baby, or those who have been confronted with a diagnosis of potential fatal foetal abnormality, as well as to women suffering after a miscarriage or experiencing regret or remorse after an abortion or any other similar situation. Their support line is open 7 days per week between 7.30pm – 9.30pm Tel: 01752 916076

Year of St Joseph

With the Apostolic Letter "Patris corde" ("With a Father's Heart"), Pope Francis recalls the 150th anniversary of the declaration of Saint Joseph as Patron of the Universal Church. To mark the occasion, the Holy Father has proclaimed a "Year of Saint Joseph" from 8 December 2020 to 8 December 2021. The Covid-19 pandemic, the Pope says, has helped us see more clearly the importance of "ordinary" people who, though far from the limelight, exercise patience and offer hope every day. In this, they resemble Saint Joseph, "the man who goes unnoticed, a daily, discreet and hidden presence," who nonetheless played "an incomparable role in the history of salvation." St Joseph "turned his human vocation to domestic love into... a love placed at the service of the Messiah who was growing to maturity in his home". John the Baptist said: 'The Messiah stands among us'. Messiah was the person anointed with the Spirit: in English we call him 'Christ'. Though he went to heaven he continues to send his Holy Spirit to anoint the 'Christians', the 'anointed Ones'. In them Christ continues to grow to maturity. May St Joseph help Christ to keep growing in us. Fr Oscar Ardila Assistant Priest at the Cathedral Plymouth

Catholic Children's Society (Plymouth)

A number of parishes have asked how they can donate this Christmas instead of the usual 'crib offerings' made in church. During these unprecedented times, it might not be possible for 'crib offering' collections to be made in the usual way, so if you would like to donate to the CCSP this Christmas, there are a number of alternative ways you can do this via –

- our Christmas Crowdfunding page – <https://www.crowdfunder.co.uk/stretch-out-your-hands-this-christmas> (CCSP receive 100% of every donation, as Crowdfunder have waived all their fees to help charities and we acknowledge receipt via email)
- post by sending a cheque made payable to 'Catholic Children's Society (Plymouth)' to St Boniface House, Ashburton, Devon TQ13 7JL
- BACS direct into our account – Catholic Children's Society (Plymouth) sort code – 52-41-60 account number – 06024335
- text – to donate £5 text 5CCSP to 70085, to donate £10 text 10CCSP to 70085 or to donate £20 text 20CCSP to 70085

Sea Sunday 20 December

Today is Sea Sunday, when the Church throughout the world prays for all those who live and work at sea. Without them, we would not have many of the items we buy in the shops. Stella Maris (Apostleship of the Sea), is the Catholic Church's official maritime welfare agency. It

supports seafarers both practically and spiritually. For an appeal from Bishop Paul Mason, and a video showing some of the work Stella Maris is involved in, please visit www.stellamaris.org.uk/SeaSunday. Sea Sunday has been moved from July this year because of the pandemic and Stella Maris is particularly asking for donations by text or online. To donate and for more information please visit www.stellamaris.org.uk/donate or text SEA to 70460 to donate £5.00. Stella Maris is dependent on voluntary donations, so please give generously. Thank you.

A Precious Place of God's Grace

This recent document published by Bishop Mark and the Bishop's Council is being widely discussed throughout the diocese. Bishop Mark is inviting us to respond, in writing, to the issues raised so that decisions can be taken only after the widest consultation amongst the people. You're welcome to send responses to the Parish Office. The document is available on the diocesan website <http://www.plymouth-diocese.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/20-11-01-A-Precious-Place-of-Gods-Grace-Version-for-Publication.pdf> and was also sent with a previous email on 20 November to parishioners. Please do take this opportunity to have your say about the future of the diocese. Important decisions will have to be taken soon regarding the structure of the diocese, the provision of the sacraments and the work of the clergy. We pray that the Holy Spirit will continue to lead and guide those who have the responsibility of governance of the People of God in the Diocese of Plymouth.

Parish Audit

Following on from the document "A Precious Place of God's Grace", each parish has been asked to take an audit. I would like each parishioner to consider all the questions in the audit document which is attached to this newsletter and return them to the Parish Office by 15 January to be collated.

Wednesday Word Scripture Reflection

Wednesday Word meets online via the Zoom app and reflect together on the Gospel for the coming Sunday. They will not meet again until Wednesday 6 January 2021. If you would like to join and receive email notifications, please email: exeter-pastoral-assistant@prcdtr.org.uk

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 contact the Parish Office and we'll 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.

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.

Government help

There is a free service to find out what help you can get from the government and other organisations. The link here is: <https://www.gov.uk/find-coronavirus-support>

Caritas – support for individuals

Caritas Plymouth has updated their list of grants that people might find useful if they are struggling. This will be shared this via their website. Here is the link <https://www.plymouth-diocese.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/Covid-19-Support-for-Individuals-November-2020-Update.pdf>

Essential Grants Programme for Children and Families

The Catholic Children's Society (Plymouth) has funds available for essential grants to families living in the Diocese of Plymouth who are struggling as a result of Covid-19. The charity can provide essential items that parents and carers could otherwise not afford for their children such as basic essential items like cookers, fridge/ freezers, washing machines or cots and beds for children to sleep in. The fund is open to families of all faiths and none.

<https://www.ccsplymouth.org.uk/what-we-do/grant-giving/> tel: 01364 645420

The Bishops' Conference

Regular updates from the Bishops' Conference can be found at ccn@cbcew.org.uk



The Feast of the Epiphany *Wednesday 6 January*

The ancient solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord ranks among the principal festivals of the whole Liturgical year, since it celebrates in the child born of Mary the manifestation of the one who is the Son of God, the Messiah of the Jewish people, and a light to the nations. Mass will be celebrated at 9.30am and streamed live.

Pope's January Intention

Human fraternity May the Lord give us the grace to live in full fellowship with our brothers and sisters of other religions, praying for one another, open to all.

<https://thepopevideo.org/>

New parishioners

Do you know anyone who is new to Blessed Sacrament parish? If they haven't already done so, please ask them to contact the parish office and a registration form can be sent to them which should be returned to the office once completed. This also applies if you have been here for a while but not yet completed a form. It is good for us to know something about you and to be able to keep you updated with things happening in the parish. Thank you.

Assisted Suicide

Act now and ask your MP to oppose introducing assisted suicide. The assisted suicide lobby have launched a large campaign to put pressure on the Government to reconsider the legalisation of assisted suicide. It is vital that it is clear to the Government that the public want them to continue to hold strong against this pressure from assisted suicide campaigners and reject their demands. Right To Life UK have set up an easy to use tool which will enable you to email your MP asking them to make it clear to the Government that it should not give into demands from the assisted suicide lobby to reconsider the legalisation of assisted suicide. It only takes 30 seconds to email your MP by visiting the link below:

<https://righttolife.org.uk/StopAssistedSuicide>

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

Fr Jonathan and Fr John would like to wish you all a very happy and peaceful Christmas. Whatever you are doing, whoever you will be with and wherever you are, may you be filled with joy at the birth of Jesus. With grateful thanks.

Mass Times

Sunday 20 December

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Expectant Mothers

Mass 8.45am

Mass 10.45am *People of the Parish*

Mass 6.00pm

Tuesday 22 December

Mass 6.30pm

Wednesday 23 December

Mass 9.30am

Thursday 24 December

Christmas Eve

Mass 6.00pm

Mass 8.00pm

Friday 25 December

Christmas Day

Mass 8.45am

Mass 10.45am

NO EVENING MASS

Saturday 26 December

St Stephen Protomartyr

Mass 9.30am *Margueritte Feeney – Birthday*

Sunday 27 December

The Holy Family of Jesus,

Mary and Joseph

Mass 8.45am *People of the Parish*

Mass 10.45am

NO EVENING MASS

Monday 28 December

The Holy Innocents No Mass

Tuesday 29 December

St Thomas Beckett Bishop & Martyr

Mass 6.30pm

Wednesday 30 December

Mass 9.30am

Thursday 31 December

Mass 9.30am *Private Intention*

Friday 1 January

Mary, the Mother of God

Mass 12 noon.

Saturday 2 January

St Basil the Great Bishop & Doctor

Mass 9.30am

Sunday 3 January

Second Sunday after the Nativity

Mass 8.45am

Mass 10.45am *People of the Parish*

6.00pm

Monday 4 January

Tuesday 5 January

Mass 6.30pm

Wednesday 6 January

The Epiphany of the Lord

Mass 9.30am *Olive Morgan RIP*

Thursday 7 January

Mass 9.30am *Pat & George Stewart RIP*

Friday 8 January

Mass 6.30pm

Saturday 9 January

Mass 9.30am



The Word

Sunday 20 December

FIRST READING

2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8-12, 14, 16

The kingdom of David will stand secure before the Lord.

PSALM

I will sing forever of your love, O Lord.

SECOND READING

Romans 16:25-27

The mystery, which was kept secret for endless ages, is now made clear.

GOSPEL

Luke 1:26-38

Listen! You are to conceive and bear a son.

Sunday 27 December

FIRST READING

Genesis 15:1-6, 21:1-3

Your heir shall be your own flesh and blood.

PSALM

*O blessed are those who fear the Lord
and walk in his ways.*

SECOND READING

Colossians 3:12-21

Family life in the Lord.

GOSPEL Luke 2:22-40

My eyes have seen your salvation.

Sunday 3 January

FIRST READING

Ecclesiasticus 24:1-2, 8-12

*From eternity in the beginning God
created wisdom.*

PSALM

*The Word was made flesh,
and lived among us.*

SECOND READING

Ephesians 1:3-6, 15-18

*Before the world was made,
God chose us in Christ.*

GOSPEL John 1:1-18

*The Word was made flesh,
and lived among us.*

Sunday 10 January

FIRST READING

Isaiah 55:1-11

*Come to me and you soul will live, and I will
make an everlasting covenant with you.*

PSALM

*With joy you will draw water
from the wells of salvation*

SECOND READING

1 John 5:1-9

Jesus Christ came by water and blood.

GOSPEL Mark 1:7-11

*"You are my son, the beloved; my favour rests
on you."*

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

Executive Head Teacher

Angela Folland

CONVENT

Sisters of the Presentation of Mary
Mount St Mary Convent,
Wonford Road,
EX2 4PF
01392 433301

Confessions

After 9.30am Mass on Saturday morning