



BLESSED SACRAMENT

PARISH NEWS

11 July 2021. 15th Sunday in Ordinary Time. Year B



He began to send them out

Again this week it is prophecy that is our theme. In today's Gospel, we concentrate on the sending of prophets, the entrusting of the mission to them, and most importantly the necessary qualifications to be a prophet. The only qualification necessary is an

open ear, to hear the mandate from God. We see this in Amos, the simple shepherd, and in the Twelve, called by Jesus from their humble occupations, which no one would have thought qualified them to speak on 'religious' themes. As last week, the possibility of rejection and failure is quite explicitly treated - Jesus instructs the Apostles in what to do if they are ignored. When the Gospel simply states, "So they set off to preach repentance..." we can imagine all that was in their minds and hearts as they did so. They had heard the call of Jesus, and allowed it into their hearts: this was all they needed to go out and speak his words.

Sea Sunday

Today is Sea Sunday, when the Church prays for all who live and work at sea. Stella Maris (Apostleship of the Sea) is the Catholic Church's official maritime welfare agency. It supports seafarers both practically and spiritually. Their chaplains and trained volunteer ship visitors help not only the seafarers and fishers in port or in centres, but also those in hospital, in prison, or in court. Their ministry leads them to stand alongside seafarers in times of trouble, wherever that takes them. All this good work is done on behalf of the Catholic Church, through the kind and compassionate support of our parish and other parishes. For an appeal talk from Bishop Paul Mason and a video showing some of what Stella Maris does please visit [here](#). Thank you, in advance, for any financial and prayer support that you can kindly give this year. There is an annual collection and if you wish to contribute you can place your offering in an envelope marked 'Sea Sunday' and place it in the basket as you leave church or alternatively you can donate on line [here](#) or text 'SEA' to 70460 to donate £5. Stella Maris is dependent on voluntary donations so please give generously. Thank you

Emerging from restrictions

The current restrictions will change on July 18 but what this will mean for the church and our parish we do not yet clearly know. We hope that coming to church will feel much more like it used to. At the moment church is a very safe place; we are distanced and masked and it is cleaned after each Mass. It is likely that the track and trace requirements will remain for some time, we just have to be patient. As soon as we get news we will of course let everyone know and in the meantime we must continue to pray, especially for all those who remain isolated, anxious and afraid, and for an end to the pandemic worldwide.

Plymouth Diocesan Year Book 2022

If you would like a copy of the 2022 edition please phone or email the parish office and one can be ordered for you. These will only be available if pre-ordered via the parish office.

Your Offering

We are grateful for your continued generosity to the parish but during the pandemic our income has gone down considerably. There is a collection basket as you leave church where offerings can be placed. Please remember that the most efficient way for you to give is by standing order. Forms are available by emailing the parish office. Arrangements are made directly with your bank. And if you can, please GiftAid your contribution.

The God Who Speaks Through Creation

Following the launch of the Diocesan Environmental Policy, you are invited to join *CARITAS PLYMOUTH* at an online reflection and discussion on how God speaks to us through His creation. This event will be on **Saturday 17 July** at 10-11.30am via Zoom. Join Bishop Mark O'Toole to reflect on climate change, our Diocesan Environment Policy and the call to be Stewards of Creation. The Guest Speaker Sister Margaret Atkins OSA, a Canoness of St Augustine in the community at Boarbank Hall, Cumbria is a lecturer and author in theology with special interest in the ethics of the environment. Cafod will also be contributing. To register for this event [click here](#), email caritas@prcdtr.org.uk or call 01364 653421.

World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly

Pope Francis has established a World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly, taking place for the first time on **Sunday July 25** For links to the Holy Father's letter and information go to [Catholic Grandparents Association](#).

Grandparents have no agenda; they simply want the best for their grandchildren. They want them to be good, decent human beings, to know the difference between right and wrong, able to make good moral decisions and, if they go astray along the way, to be able to find their way back to a loving, forgiving, non-judgmental God.

Stewarding at Blessed Sacrament

Our team of stewards have done a great job, but it is important that we all take responsibility for supporting the community in this way. So please think carefully, 'If I'm coming to Mass, I could steward' and then contact the parish office to be placed on the rota. It is not an arduous job and we will explain the duties and responsibilities to you so you'll know what is expected of you.

Many of our stewards are taking a well-earned rest during the summer so we need others to 'step up' and be added to the ranks. Thank you.

Exeter Catholic Youth Community (ECYC)

We will be holding an online Kahoot! Quiz on **15 July**. If you would like to attend, please get in touch with Erik Renz at exeter-youth-worker@prcdtr.org.uk. We will also be looking to hold in person events again in August, restrictions permitting.

Wednesday Word Scripture Reflection

Wednesday Word meets online via the Zoom app on Wednesday at 2.00pm and reflects together on the Gospel for the coming Sunday. If you would like to join and receive email notifications, please email: exeter-pastoral-assistant@prcdtr.org.uk

Plymouth Diocese Catechetical Summer Camps

This year there are to be a variety of activities for each year group.

Junior Camp for School Years 3-6 on 9-13 August online with activities in the morning and evening, with the group coming together on Friday 13th at St Rita's Centre, Honiton. Email: juniorcamp@prcdtr.org.uk

Senior Camp for School Years 7-10 on 9-13 August online with meetings in the morning and afternoon, as a short taster, with a live 4-day actual camp at Buckfast in October half term. Details for the residential Camp will be advertised shortly.

Email: seniorcamp@prcdtr.org.uk

St Petroc's Camp for School Years 10 - 12 on 9-13 August will have a Live Camp at St Rita's Centre, Honiton Email: stpetrocscamp@prcdtr.org.uk. RSVP. We have been preparing to welcome your young people to this year's residential camp. We are gathering together at St. Rita's Residential Centre, set in the beautiful vale of Honiton. Arrival: Monday 9 August at 12:00, lunch will follow quite soon after all have arrived. Leaving: Friday 13 August at 14.00 following the conclusion of Lunch. The cost remains at £170.00. A deposit of £40.00 will secure a place in the first instance. To ask any questions or access to an online Application Form please email stpetrocscamp@prcdtr.org.uk or give me a call Chris Lee on M:07702 435890

The Senior Camp, as well as a virtual week in August, is planning a short Camp during the autumn half term, hopefully at Grangehurst House, Buckfast Abbey.

There will be more details of this, and all the activities, in due course. The Junior Camp will be running a week of streamed sessions each morning and afternoon.

ST NICK'S NEWS

Throughout the week beginning the 12 July, all pupils and staff from St Nicholas and our sister school, OLSP in Teignmouth, will be working together to formally introduce our brand new all-weather running tracks. All pupils and staff will run, walk, jump or skip enough laps to add up to the equivalent distance from Lands End to John O'Groats, which is a total of 837 miles. Eleven laps of the running track is equivalent to 1 mile, and all children from nursery to year 6, and all staff from teachers to office staff, will be working together to run the full distance! We are doing this to raise money for the Catholic Children Society (Plymouth), which is a great charity that supports families with young children in our communities, a cause we feel is especially valuable during this time. Please donate via our Gofundme page <https://gofund.me/25a644e6> Please donate anything you can, to support us in our challenge!

Please contact Mrs Brocksom abrocksom@stncs.uk for information about joining our school from Nursery to Year 6.

Pope Francis tweets...

I am touched by the many caring messages received in these days. I thank everyone for their closeness and prayer.

Pope Francis on Mercy

Mercy means carrying the burden of a brother or sister and helping them walk. Do not say 'ah, no, go on, go!', nor be rigid. This is important. And who can do this? The confessor who prays, the confessor who weeps, the confessor who knows that he is more a sinner than the penitent, and if he himself has never done the bad thing that the penitent speaks of, it is but for the grace of God. Merciful is being close and accompanying the process of conversion.

GIFT Growing In Faith Together

July: Martha and Mary

On Saturday 3 July, parents and catechists met to explore the gospel account of Martha and Mary. Fr Jonathan shared thoughts based on this story via artwork before we broke into small group discussion.

Whilst many parents admitted that 'Busy Martha' resonated more with them than 'Prayerful Mary', Saturday's session inspired and supported parents to discover and carry the 'Prayerful Mary' within each of them into everything they do to care for, love and nurture their family.

Families will now explore the next two topics in our Jesus Lives resources: 'Martha and Mary' and 'Parables'.

Next Month We will not meet in the month of August and pray that the summer holidays offer a time of relaxation and refreshment for all families.

What is GIFT? GIFT is for all families of faith: for families who have already made their Holy Communion or for families with children who are looking forward to receiving this sacrament; 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.

Bedtime Chats All of the Bedtime Chats can be found on the Blessed Sacrament Website GIFT page: <https://www.blessedsacrament.org.uk/parish-life/gift/>

Get in Touch Our next parents zoom session is on Saturday 4 September. If you would like to join us, please get in touch with Maria exeter-pastoral-assistant@prcdtr.org.uk

Alpha in the autumn

We're planning to run the next Alpha in early autumn, hopefully in person. If you'd like to know more or to be put on a waiting list, please contact us at [this link](#). We'd love to hear from you.

Exeter Foodbank – Food Shortages

Can you help by donating any of the following from the July priority items list: Squash (you can't go wrong with orange or apple & blackcurrant), UHT milk (green is usually best), tinned vegetarian meals, gluten-free items, noodle and pasta snacks. Please ONLY donate items from the list. Thank you for your understanding. Collection Points - Sainsbury's Alphington/Pinhoe/Guildhall); Tesco (Exe Vale); Co-Op (Heavitree/St Thomas); Waitrose (Gladstone Rd). To donate money online please visit [this link](#).

The Convent Library

As you already know Mount Saint Mary's Convent is closing this autumn. We have many brand new books, of all sorts, about Marie Rivier, our Foundress. If you would like a copy of any of the books, free of charge, then please ring the convent (01392 433301) leaving contact details. Sr Stella will get back to you to make arrangements for you to collect the books from the Mount Saint Mary's Centre. If you are unable to get to the Centre and are interested in the books, please still contact the convent and other arrangements can be made.

Exeter Prays for...

Street Pastors – Monday 12 July and the second Monday of each month, on zoom at 7.30pm. Do get in touch with ctaxexeter@gmail.com if you would like to join others praying for the ministry of Exeter Street Pastors.

Initiatives in Education (ICE) – Tuesday 20 July and the third Tuesday of each month on zoom 7.30pm. Please email office@icetrust.co.uk for the meeting details.

Pray 4 Exeter – Tuesday 27 July and the last Thursday of each month on zoom 12.00 – 1.00pm contact ctaxexeter@gmail.com for the link. Join others to pray for our city, region and nation.

YMCA Exeter – Thursday 29 July and the last Thursday of each month at St David's church EX4 4HR and zoom 11.30am – 12.30pm. Join others to pray for the work of YMCA Exeter across the city, their staff, and the residents and young people they support. In the previous months of prayer, we've already seen situations shift and clear interventions by God. Email ctaxexeter@gmail.com for more info.

Exeter Street Music, Evangelism, and Prayer

Saturday 17 July 11.30am-2.30pm outside Exeter College, Hele Road
Christians from churches across the city are gathering (safely distanced!) near the statue outside Exeter College on Hele Road/New North Road, for some multi-church street music and evangelism, with witness and offers of prayer to passers-by. Please do join in if you can, even if just for some of it, and tell friends. Email us on ctaxexeter@gmail.com for more details if required.

Loneliness Pen Pal Project

A project run by Exeter City Community Trust to tackle loneliness amongst older people, the project sees letters exchanged between the older and younger generation on a biweekly basis. For anyone interested to sign up, simply fill out the online form which can be found on our website: [here](#), or alternatively, participants can call on 01392 255 611 or email Abigail.Appleby@ecfc.co.uk Participants are then paired with a pen pal and letters are exchanged. So far, this project has had great success. We look forward to seeing how this project will help even more people in our community.

Death by Appointment

A Rational Guide to the Assisted Suicide Debate

Would you benefit from a rational guide to the assisted suicide debate? That's what's on offer to attendees of an online event called 'Death by Appointment'.

The Assisted Suicide debate has been pushed centre stage once more in 2021 with Baroness Meacher's Assisted Dying Bill introduced into the House of Lords. Bishop John Sherrington, Lead Bishop for Life Issues, has already outlined the Catholic Church's opposition to the Bill – a Bill that could make assisted suicide legal in England and Wales.

Online Event: On Monday 12 July at 7:30 – 9.00pm, Baroness Ilora Finlay and Robert Preston will look behind the slogans of the debate to help inform your view.

Visit the event page on [Eventbrite](#).

This virtual event is supported by the Bishops' Conference's Department of Social Justice. A Zoom link will be provided 24 hours before the event. Sign-in or register at [Eventbrite](#) to be reminded about Death by Appointment: A Rational Guide to the Assisted Suicide Debate and get notified as soon as the link is available.

Cana Week for Married Couples

A marriage retreat at Sclerder Abbey, Looe, Cornwall from 25 -31 July. For more details see www.chemin-neuf.org.uk

A poster for the March for Life UK event. The background is a collage of images related to life issues, including a fetus, a woman, and a man. The text is overlaid on this background. At the top, it says 'MARCH FOR LIFE UK' in a white, torn-edge font. Below that, 'SAVE THE DATE' is written in large, bold, white letters. Underneath, 'SATURDAY 4TH SEPTEMBER' is written in a similar white, torn-edge font. The word 'London' is written in white on a dark, torn-edge rectangular background. To the left, under the heading 'Get Involved:', there is a list of activities. To the right, under the heading 'Contact Us:', there is contact information. In the bottom left corner, the 'No 1 ISSUE' logo is visible.

MARCH FOR LIFE UK

**SAVE THE
DATE**

SATURDAY 4TH SEPTEMBER

London

Get Involved:

- Put posters and leaflets up in your Church.
- Organise a small group or coach to come to London.
- Speak at any Church or groups you're involved in.
- Share our social media content.
- Volunteer to help on the day

Contact Us:

info@marchforlife.co.uk
marchforlife.co.uk
Isabel - 07773 501721
Ben - 07885505116

No 1 ISSUE

Pope's July Intention

Social friendship. We pray that, in social, economic and political situations of conflict, we may be courageous and passionate architects of dialogue and friendship.

Catholic Children's Society (Plymouth) News

Annual Appeal 2021 – 'Step Forward, Reach Out and Help'

This is the theme of our Annual Appeal this summer – we hope and pray that this year's appeal will be one of our best yet. The pandemic has affected many people and some of the most vulnerable families living in our Diocese have asked for our help to buy some of the most basic essentials of life, such as a comfy bed for their child to sleep in. It's hard to believe that there are still children who sleep on a mattress on the floor every night.

Through our Essential Grants programme, in 2019, we received 179 grant applications, which rose to 219 in 2020 and in the first six months of 2021, we have already received a staggering 157 applications !

We continue to need your help, now more than ever, and ask you please to 'STEP FORWARD, REACH OUT AND HELP' once again to support the CCSP and help replace some of our lost income from last year's Annual Appeal, which raised around a third of what we would normally receive. Thank you to everyone who was able to support us last year.

Annual Appeal leaflets will be available in parishes at the start of next month and full details of all the ways you can donate to the CCSP can be found on our website www.ccsplymouth.org.uk

We are still looking for more CCSP Parish Volunteers

"You Can Make Difference" We are delighted that a number of parishes have stepped forward and now have a Parish Volunteer in place to help us with our fundraising once it is safe for us to do so. There is a ladder of involvement and some parishes just want to *Maintain And Monitor* our supply of CCSP promotional material, whilst others want to help *Promote* organised CCSP fundraising events such as the Annual Appeal and the Great Big Diocesan Quiz and some are happy to get more involved by *Organising* fund raising events of their own. A Parish Volunteer pack has now been produced and has been sent to all parishes but if anyone would like a copy sent to them to see what's involved, please contact Vicki Dunstone at 01364 645420 or vicki.dunstone@prcdtr.org.uk

Thank you for your continued support of the Catholic Children's Society (Plymouth) especially during these unprecedented times.

Mass Times

Sunday 11 July

15th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sea Sunday

8.45am Private Intention

10.45am

6.00pm People of the Parish

Tuesday 13 July 6.30pm

Alison Pooley RIP

Wednesday 14 July 9.30am

Thursday 15 July 9.30am

St Bonaventure, Bishop & Doctor

Friday 16 July 6.30pm

Saturday 17 July

Golden Wedding Anniversary

Sunday 18 July

16th Sunday in Ordinary Time

8.45am People of the Parish

10.45am

6.00pm

Tuesday 20 July 6.30pm

Barbara Henwood RIP

Wednesday 21 July 9.30am

Michael Leonard RIP

Thursday 22 July 9.30am

Michael Leonard RIP

Friday 23 July 6.30pm

St Bridget of Sweden, Religious

Patron of Europe

Saturday 24 July 9.30am

The Word

Sunday 11 July

First Reading Amos 7:12-15

Go, prophesy to my people.

Psalm Response

Let us see, O Lord, your mercy
and give us your saving help.

Second Reading Ephesians 1:3-14

Before the world was made, God chose us.

Gospel Mark 6:7-13

He began to send them out.

Sunday 18 July

First Reading Jeremiah 23:1-6

*The remnant of my flock I will gather and I
will raise up shepherds to look after them.*

Psalm Response

The Lord is my shepherd;
there is nothing I shall want.

Second Reading Ephesians 2:13-18

*Christ Jesus is the peace between us,
and has made the two into one.*

Gospel Mark 6:30-34

They were like sheep without a shepherd.

Blessed Sacrament Live

*10.45am Mass on Sunday and most
weekday Masses will be streamed live on the
[Parish YouTube channel.](#)*



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

Deadline for newsletter items

10.00am Thursday.

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

exeter-heavitree@prcdtr.org.uk

Open 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 Rep

Lesley Hooper

Please contact the Parish office if you have any concerns about the welfare of a child or a vulnerable adult.

St Nicholas 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

Your Offering

We are grateful for your continued generosity to the parish. Please remember that the most efficient way for you to give is by standing order.

Forms are available by emailing the parish office. Arrangements are made directly with your bank. And if you can, please GiftAid your contribution.

Parish News by post & email

To receive the Parish News, by email or post, please phone or email the Parish Office and we will arrange to get a copy sent to you or someone you know who might like to receive it (with their permission).

Dial-a-Mass

For those without the internet or a computer the Mass is recorded and put on the telephone at 12 midday on Sundays and will stay until 11.59am the following Sunday. For the cost of a local call they can listen to the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. Dial 01642 130120

Getting married?

Congratulations! Please give us six months' notice if you are hoping to marry in the Church.

The Bishops' Conference

Regular updates can be found at

<https://www.cbcew.org.uk/>

Churches Together

Exeter:

<https://ctax.chessck.co.uk/Comingup>

Devon: News is available [here](#).

England: News is available [here](#).