



BLESSED SACRAMENT

# PARISH NEWS

4 July 2021. 14th Sunday in Ordinary Time. B

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## A prophet is only despised in his own country

A prophet's job is to open people's eyes to the reality of their situation - pointing out to them the things they would rather forget or ignore. A prophet is a sort of 'national conscience', always awake to situations of injustice and always speaking out about them. A prophet is commissioned to do this by God, who sends the prophet on his

mission. Jesus is just such a prophet - teaching and preaching about the Kingdom of God and the best way to live. Despite the welcome his message has received elsewhere, when he comes to his hometown he is faced with rejection -such that 'he was amazed at their lack of faith.' It is curious that they seem to accept his wisdom, and his miracles, but because he grew up among them they cannot accept him as a teacher from God. We should remember that it is often hardest to stand up for the truth among those who know us well.

# 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](mailto:caritas@prcdtr.org.uk) or call 01364 653421.

## 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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:stpetrocscamp@prcdtr.org.uk)

**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.

## Baptism Preparation Courses 2021

**Are you expecting a baby and/or looking to have your child baptised?**

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 10:30-12.00. The next course dates for 2021 are: 10/17 July and 9/16 October. Godparents are especially welcome to attend the second Saturday session as the role of Godparents is explored.

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](mailto:exeter-heavitree@prcdtr.org.uk) or 01392 274724

**We are currently taking bookings for the July dates.**

## Sea Sunday 11 July

Next week is Sea Sunday, when the Church prays for all who live and work at sea. For an appeal talk from Bishop Paul Mason and a video showing some of what Stella Maris does please visit [here](#). There is usually 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 at [here](#) or text 'SEA' to 70460 to donate £5. Stella Maris is dependent on voluntary donations so please give generously. Thank you

## 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**. 'Grandparents'... vital contribution to the family, the Church and society was never as important as now... We can never fail so long as we keep on doing what we are doing - praying, showing the way and passing on our faith'. 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-judgemental God.

## CAFOD - Vaccine commitments from the G7

Vaccine commitments from the G7 not enough to end the pandemic. Campaign groups including CAFOD have said a commitment by G7 countries to provide an additional one billion vaccines to poorer nations over the next year was insufficient, given the group's pledge to "vaccinate the world by getting as many safe vaccines to as many people as possible as fast as possible". Aisha Dodwell, Head of Campaigns at CAFOD, said: "Rich countries have secured more than enough vaccines to cover their own populations, but what they are offering the rest of the world will only help a fraction of those yet to be vaccinated. If G7 leaders are serious about securing vaccines for all, then they should all support proposals for a waiver to the COVID vaccine patent put forward by South Africa and India and backed by an increasing number of world leaders, including Joe Biden and Emmanuel Macron."

## Pope Francis on Mercy

We need to go forth from our own communities and be bold enough to feel the closeness of God. He abandons no one, and He always shows his unfailing tenderness and mercy, this therefore, is what we need to take to all people.



## Baptised in faith...

Congratulations to Tia who was baptised recently at Blessed Sacrament. We wish her and her family every blessing as she becomes part of the Body of Christ and the Family of the Church.

## We welcome ...

Fr Albert Lawes was ordained to the priesthood by Bishop Mark at Plymouth Cathedral recently. Fr Albert will be joining Fr Kieran at Sacred Heart Parish in September. Please keep him in your prayers



## 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](mailto:exeter-youth-worker@prcdtr.org.uk). We will also be looking to hold in person events again in August, restrictions permitting.

## Youth Event in the Diocese

**Jesus walks with us: 10 July 10.00am – 4.00pm St Rita's Honiton**  
By Design Theatre, Rise Theatre and the team from Stay Awake, amongst others are coming together to run a conference for young people aged 10 – 16. You will have the chance to explore the story of the encounter with Jesus on the road to Emmaus through the arts. There will be a number of workshops on offer including art, craft, drama and dance. Those attending will have the opportunity to attend more than one workshop during the day. We are asking for £10 contribution to cover the costs of speakers and the lunch provided. To book a place complete the form which you can find at this link. For further youth events information contact Saskia Hogbin [youth@prcdtr.org.uk](mailto:youth@prcdtr.org.uk)

## ST NICK'S NEWS

We held a COVID friendly sports day last week and all the children participated in a variety of sporting activities, cheered on by other classes. Our PTA provided ice lollies, the sun shone and the children (and staff) really enjoyed the day after missing it last year.

We held another joint liturgy (online) this week, celebrating the feast of St Peter and St Paul with our sister school, Our Lady and St Patrick in Teignmouth. These are lovely shared occasions when we can really strengthen the relationship between our two schools.

Please contact Mrs Brocksom [abrocksom@stncs.uk](mailto:abrocksom@stncs.uk) for information about joining our school from Nursery to Year 6.

## 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](mailto:exeter-pastoral-assistant@prcdtr.org.uk)

## Pope Francis tweets...

If we are docile to love, to the Holy Spirit who is the creative love of God and who brings harmony to diversity, he will open the way to a renewed fraternity.

# GIFT Growing In Faith Together

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

These can be found on the [Blessed Sacrament Website GIFT page](#)

## Get in touch

Our next parents zoom session is on Saturday 3 July. If you would like to join us, please get in touch with Maria [exeter-pastoral-assistant@prcdtr.org.uk](mailto: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 priority items list which is a non-food focus month: washing up liquid, deodorant, shower gel, hair conditioner and shampoo. 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) Donate money online at [this link](#).

## 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](http://www.chemin-neuf.org.uk)

## 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.

## Praying for the Sisters

As you know the Convent will be closing this autumn. Arrangements have yet to be finalised but in the meantime the most important thing we can do as a community is to pray for Sr Anna, Sr Sheila and Sr Stella. We will miss them enormously but we are confident they will be held in the love and safety of God's hands.

## 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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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.

## Plymouth Diocesan Year Book 2022

This publication is a great source of diocesan information and news. If you would like a copy of the 2022 edition please phone or email the parish office and one can be ordered for you. By ordering only the number of copies required it will save waste of resources and money.

# 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.

Founding Director of Living and Dying Well, Robert is a former civil servant and parliamentary official. Baroness Finlay is a cross-bench member of the House of Lords and one of Europe's leading palliative care consultants. Both have extensive experience of this complex and sensitive subject. They make clear from the outset that, in their view, the case being made for changing the law to legalise physician-assisted suicide does not stack up. From law, to clinical practice, social attitudes, end of life care, public safety and the experience of those jurisdictions, they carefully lay out their evidence in a manner that recognises and respects that others may see the matter differently. That's something of a rarity in this emotionally-charged area of discussion. Bishop John Sherrington will introduce the evening and the National Board of Catholic Women will join Baroness Finlay and Robert Preston in conversation. There will also be a question and answer session after the presentations.

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.

## Emerging from restrictions?

We are all hoping and praying that the situation in England will change on July 18 with the easing of restrictions around social distancing and contact. What this will actually mean is, at the moment, anybody's guess, but 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. And pray, especially for all those who remain isolated, anxious and afraid.

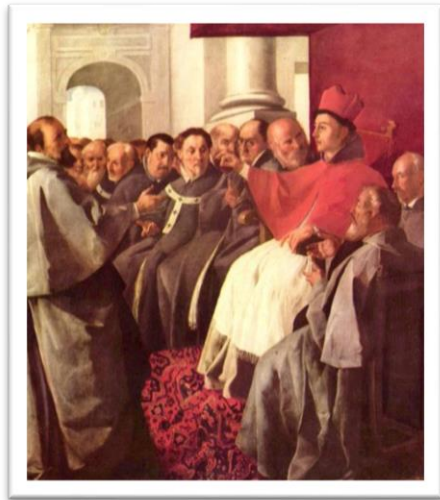


## Please pray for...

**Fr Kieran** who is undergoing treatment to relieve pain in his shoulder and right arm. He has been suffering for some time and we pray that this will help.

**Fr Cyriacus** who leaves Exeter in the autumn to take up his new appointment as Parish Priest of Yelverton and Tavistock. We have been blessed to work with him on many aspects of pastoral life in Catholic Exeter over the past year and we wish him every blessing.

# FOR ALL THE SAINTS...



## 15 July St Bonaventure, Bishop & Doctor (1218-1274)

Bonaventure was born at Bagnoregio in Etruria in about 1218. He became a Franciscan in 1243 and studied philosophy and theology at the University of Paris. He became a famous teacher and philosopher, part of the extraordinary intellectual flowering of the 13th century. He was a friend and colleague of St Thomas Aquinas. At this time the friars were still a new and revolutionary force in the Church, and their radical embracing of poverty and rejection of institutional structures raised suspicion and

opposition from many quarters. Bonaventure defended the Franciscan Order and, after he was elected general of the order in 1255, he ruled it with wisdom and prudence. He is regarded as the second founder of the Order.

He declined the archbishopric of York in 1265 but was made cardinal bishop of Albano in 1273, dying a year later in 1274 at the Council of Lyons, at which the Greek and Latin churches were (briefly) reconciled.

Bonaventure wrote extensively on philosophy and theology, making a permanent mark on intellectual history; but he always insisted that the simple and uneducated could have a clearer knowledge of God than the wise. He was declared a Doctor of the Church in 1588 by Pope Sixtus V.

# Mass Times

## Sunday 4 July

14th Sunday in Ordinary Time

8.45am

10.45am People of the Parish

6.00pm Thomas & Mary O'Halloran RIP

## Tuesday 6 July 6.30pm

## Wednesday 7 July 9.30am

## Thursday 8 July 9.30am

Private intention

## Friday 9 July 6.30pm

Bob Bendall RIP

## Saturday 10 July 9.30am

## Sunday 11 July

15th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sea Sunday

8.45am

10.45am

6.00pm People of the Parish

## Tuesday 13 July 6.30pm

## Wednesday 14 July 9.30am

## Thursday 15 July 9.30am

St Bonaventure, Bishop & Doctor

## Friday 16 July 6.30pm

**Deadline for newsletter items**

**10.00am Thursday.**

# The Word

## Sunday 4 July

First Reading Ezekiel 2:2-5

*The sons are defiant and obstinate and they shall know that there is a prophet among them.*

Psalm Response

Our eyes are on the Lord till he show us his mercy

Second Reading

2 Corinthians 12:7-10

*I shall be very happy to make my weaknesses my special boast so that the power of Christ may stay over me.*

Gospel Mark 6:1-6

## 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.*

## 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

# 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](#).