

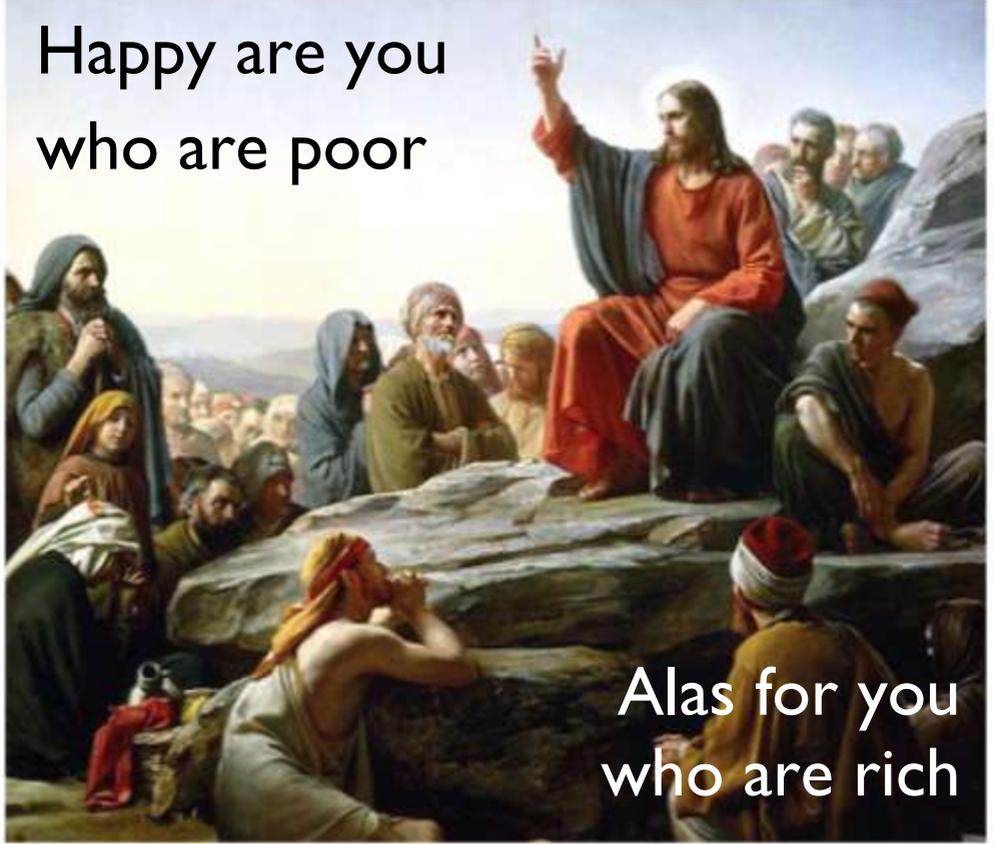


BLESSED SACRAMENT

PARISH NEWS

13 February 2022. Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time. Year C

Happy are you
who are poor



Alas for you
who are rich

Life is often about picking our way through opposites - choices and decisions that surround every moment of every day: should I do this or that, choose this way or that way, and so on. Just as there are choices on either side, so there are opposing consequences blessings and curses, in the language of the first reading, happiness and woe in the language of the Gospel. In Saint Luke's version of the Beatitudes, we see Jesus setting out very clearly the teaching that life is about choices, and that we must take control, and be responsible for the life we choose, or even the conditions of life that we embrace or accept.

Racial Justice Sunday 13 February

The theme builds on that of the previous year's Racial Justice Sunday 'A Time to Act', which reflected on the importance of everyone recognising themselves, their race, their culture and their history in the life of the Church.

The aim, in 2022, is to continue these conversations about how we see others in the "Image and Likeness of God". We are encouraging Catholics to mark the day by praying the words of Pope Francis taken from his encyclical letter *Fratelli Tutti* – on fraternity and social friendship:

*Come, Holy Spirit, show us your beauty,
reflected in all the peoples of the earth,
so that we may discover anew
that all are important and all are necessary,
different faces of the one humanity
that God so loves.*

Amen.

What is God saying to the Church?

2022 marks two years since the pandemic hit much of the world.

What is God saying to the Church throughout the last two years?

What have we learned?

As a parish, what should be our focus moving forward?

As we slowly emerge into a post-pandemic world, we have an incredible opportunity to recommit our energies in bringing the gospel to those around us.

But where do we begin? There are important questions we need to consider:

- What is the most urgent call for the Church?
- What have the past two years revealed about the Church and how she is fulfilling her mission?
- What are we being called to repent of, to turn from, and to turn towards?

Join us for an in-person watch party featuring a live conversation with Bishop Robert Barron, Fr. James Mallon (Divine Renovation), and Revd. Nicky Gumbel (Alpha) for a conversation on 'What is God Saying to the Church?' This will be held in the St Richard Reynolds Centre on Thursday 10 March from 19:00-21:00. There will be an opportunity to share reflections and ideas among the group following the livestreamed event.

Pope Francis tweets...

To caress an elderly person expresses the same hope as caressing a child, because the beginning of life and the end are always a mystery, a mystery that should be respected, accompanied, cared for, loved.

The Big Exeter Sleep Out at St Richard Reynolds Centre

Come and join us on Friday 11 March as we support an amazing initiative. We'll begin with Mass at 6.30pm, then enjoy a bowl of soup and a film before bedding down for the night in the garden. Fr Jonathan and Maria, our Pastoral Assistant have already signed up and have their sleeping bags at the ready! Proceeds go to Julian House, a charity that supports vulnerable and at-risk individuals. Please come and join us and raise money for this important cause. Email Maria Exeter-pastoral-assistant@prcdtr.org.uk to let us know that you will be coming along. NB Minors will need to be accompanied by an adult.

By joining this challenge you can help to raise awareness and funds for rough sleepers and vulnerable adults and homelessness in Exeter and Devon. It's a grim realisation that without support like this the life expectancy of a long-term homeless person is just 45 years! For this year's event, upon registering, you can choose where you would like to sleep-out. We are holding our sleep out a week early but still register and start your own challenge by following the link where you will also find more information- click [here](#)

Return to Ministry – Your Parish needs YOU!

Are you being called to help minister in some way in the parish? We are looking for new welcomers/stewards, readers, Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, church cleaners, musicians and singers, Catechists, SVP & CAFOD members. To find out about any of these ministries speak to Fr Jonathan or the Parish Office. Many thanks are due to our stewards who have worked tirelessly over the past two years to help keep our church safe and open for all of us. It is time for some of them to take a well-earned rest so we are appealing to those who are coming to church to take on the important role of welcoming/stewarding.

Walking Together - Our Diocesan Synodal Journey

Thank you to everyone who has participated in our local listening journey and either joined in discussions in parish or other groups or contributed individually. Every contribution will contribute to our Diocesan synthesis. The synthesis will be finalised after our Pre-Synodal events on 26 February and 12 March.

In order to finish collating and organising the feedback we have received we will be closing the online survey options on 18 February 2022. If anyone wishes to contribute feedback after that date, they are welcome to do so but should please email it directly to synodfeedback@prcdtr.org.uk.

We pray for...

The sick and housebound but especially for Fr Kieran Kirby and Fr David Williams

Diocesan Retreats

There will be people who need to explore, make sense or reflect on the presence of God in their everyday lives, during the present challenging times, or perhaps in the more painful moments experienced recently. A retreat offers us this opportunity.

Residential - Ignatian Individually Guided Retreats organised by the Plymouth Diocesan Ignatian Spirituality Group. Members of the Ignatian Spirituality Group are experienced guides, who have received training in relation to Ignatian spirituality and include priests, deacons and lay people.

Lenten- Residential Silent Retreats - Honiton

4 - 6 March (Fri – Sun) Weekend Retreat (£150)

7 - 11 March (Mon – Fri) Midweek Retreat (£240)

4 – 11 March (Fri to Fri) 6 day Retreat (£450) Limited Places

The Group continues to offer one-to-one days of accompanied prayer i.e. online or by phone, to suit people's individual circumstances. For further information, or to book those who are interested can contact the Diocesan Ignatian Spirituality Group by email [here](#) or telephone: 01752 769164 or 07823447637.

The following retreat is also being offered in conjunction with outside guides.

Contemplative Retreat – Living and Praying in the Way of Franz Jalics

Friday 6 – 14 May (£600)

Thursday Lunch Club

Both diners and helpers are delighted to be meeting once again at our club which is now in its 14th year. However, we would warmly welcome some new helpers!

Could you spare a few hours, roughly once every six weeks? We assure you it is a joyful time for all. Please give Di Bish a call on 07940142124 or email her at clydebish@hotmail.com for further information. Look forward to hearing from you.

Exeter Foodbank – February Priority List

The February priority items are: 100g jars of coffee, UHT milk (the green one NOT the red one please), noodle snacks (e.g. super noodles, Pot Noodle), sugar, soft drinks and fruit squash, sweets and chocolate treats.

Please ONLY donate items from the list. Thank you for your understanding.

Collection Points - Co-Op (Heavitree/St Thomas); Tesco (Exe Vale); Sainsbury's Alphington/Pinhoe/Guildhall); Waitrose (Gladstone Rd). Or you can donate money online [here](#). The Food Bank is feeding approximately 333 people a week at present.

Diocese of Plymouth vacancy

The Diocese of Plymouth is looking to appoint the following position.

Tribunal & Chancery Administrator (part time) – 1 post

Location: St Boniface House Near Ashburton Devon with some home working

Salary: £11.39 per hour (Actual Salary - £8,291.92 per annum) plus contributory pension scheme (subject to eligibility) Hours: 14 hours per week

Copies of the job description and application form are obtainable from the Human Resources Department on 01364 645383 or email recruitment@prcdtr.org.uk.

Applications are by application form and covering letter. The last date for applications is Monday 14 February and interviews will be held during w/c 21 Feb.

Weekly Giving Envelopes & Standing Orders

Don't forget to contact the Parish Office to arrange to collect your 2022 weekly gift aid and planned giving envelopes. Please also let us know if there are any changes in your circumstances. Do you still paying income tax? You may have moved recently so let us know your new contact details. If you have set up a standing order and wish to continue giving in this way so no longer require your envelopes.

If you would like more information how to make regular planned giving using the envelopes or by standing order from your bank call the Parish Office.

If you don't already do so, perhaps consider gift aiding your donations - if you pay UK tax, you could increase the value of your contribution (an extra 25% at no cost to yourself) by adding Gift Aid. Cheques can still be received and these should be made payable to PRCDTR Heavitree RC Parish and sent to the Parish Office.

Vocations Event

Have you asked the question 'Is God calling me to be a Priest?' A Day of Reflection - Accompanying you in your journey of discernment of vocation. Fr Jacek Kostuch is offering a day of reflection for men (18 + ... if younger we would still like to hear from you with parents' permission) from 10:00-17:00 on Saturday 26 February at Fowey Retreat House. Fr Jacek will be accompanied by at least one other priest. The day will be a time for Mass, additional time praying, reflection, and sharing a meal together. For further information and to register for the event, please contact Fr Jacek on Jacek.Kostuch@prcdtr.org.uk by 23 February at the latest. Arrangements can be made to collect you from St Austell Station before 9:15, and returned after, if required.

Baptised in faith...

We welcome into the Church Éloïse Jones who has recently been baptised into our parish community. Please offer a prayer for her, her parents and Godparents.

GIFT Growing In Faith Together

February update On Saturday 5 February, we met with families in the Sacred Heart Church for a hands-on 'Holy Hunt'. By exploring the church, looking for specific symbols and engaging with familiar gestures, families learned about their catholic faith in an engaging and fun way.

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/>

Next Meeting Our next parent zoom session is on Wednesday 16 February from 19:00-20:00.

Get In Touch If you would like to join us, please get in touch with Maria exeter-pastoral-assistant@prcdtr.org.uk

Register for GIFT by clicking [this link](#).

GIFT Youth – Gateway to Confirmation

Calling all young people in secondary school. Would you like to meet other Catholics your age to socialise and learn about your faith together? If so, GIFT Youth is for you. We'd like to invite you to join us for our monthly Saturday sessions beginning on Saturday 5 March from 10:00-12:00 at St Nicholas Catholic Primary School. Led by Fr Albert and a team of parishioners, there will be Mass, refreshments, social activities, Catholic teaching and lively discussion.

GIFT Youth provides the time and space to grow in faith throughout your teenage years. If you have already been confirmed, come along. If you are hoping to be confirmed this year you will need to come along. GIFT Youth is for you.

Register for GIFT Youth by completing [this Registration Form](#).

We look forward to seeing you!

Youth Events in the diocese

World Youth Day (WYD) 2023

Plans are underway for a group of young people from our diocese to attend World Youth Day. It is a fantastic opportunity for those who will be 16 upwards by August 2023. World Youth Day will be held in Lisbon. Further information can be found on their website: [here](#) Some young people have already expressed interest in coming, if you think you would like to join us or know someone who would please email Saskia

at youth@prcdtr.org.uk I can arrange for either myself or someone to come and talk about World Youth Day to any young people in our parish. It is important that we start to gather interest now so that we book enough places. We need to allow young people enough time to be able to raise the funds to go. Planning has begun for our trip to Lisbon, Portugal. Leaders are starting to be recruited and young people are expressing interest. Please contact me if you know anyone who would be interested in joining us: Saskia at youth@prcdtr.org.uk

Heatree Residential

Are you in year 6 - year 8? Why not sign up for the Heatree residential 18-20 February. It is a great way to meet other young Catholics in the diocese. Bookings can be made through: the link [here](#) or contact Saskia youth@prcdtr.org.uk

Creative Arts Day

Join RISE Theatre for a creative arts day for ages 10-16. Come along to a day being run for young people to create a short filmed piece. Explore art, music, drama, spoken word and dance. Your input! Your piece! Have fun and meet young people from your area. In Exeter on 5 March. To book and for further information contact Saskia at youth@prcdtr.org.uk

Exeter Street Pastors

Are you a Christian, over 18, and have a heart to serve as Jesus' hands and feet on the street of Exeter? Training of this year's intake of Exeter Street Pastors begins Monday 7 March – sign up now for your place, or share widely to help this great ministry recruit its team for this year Contact: admin.exeter@streetpastors.org.uk

Pope's February prayer intention

We pray for religious sisters and consecrated women; thanking them for their mission and their courage; may they continue to find new responses to the challenges of our times. See also the Popes' video [here](#)

Catholic Exeter Forming in Faith

The next sessions are on Monday 14 February 10.30am–12.30pm at Sacred Heart and Tuesday 15 February 7.00–9.00pm at Blessed Sacrament. We're watching and discussing films from Bishop Robert Barron's 'CATHOLICISM' series. Our next session is Lesson 8: A Vast Company of Witnesses – The communion of Saints. This lesson tells of the story of the church as a vast company of witnesses who are called by Christ to be a Communion of Saints. To join us on this journey of discovery come along.

Mary's Meals

Our vision at Mary's Meals is that every child receives one daily meal in their place of education and that all those who have more than they need, share with those who lack even the most basic things.

Mary's Meals began by feeding 200 hungry school children in Malawi in 2002. Now, in 2022 we are feeding over 2 million children in 20 countries around the world, giving them the chance to learn and thrive. £15.90 is all it costs to feed a child for a whole school year.

Our idea is a simple one that works. We provide a daily meal in a place of learning to attract chronically hungry children into the classroom, where they receive an education that could be their ladder out of poverty. In schools where children receive Mary's Meals, there is a rise in enrolment, attendance and attainment. We are a global family from all walks of life, united by our belief that no child in this world of plenty should endure a day without a meal.

Join our global movement of Mary's Meals, we believe everyone has something important to contribute. There are many different ways you can help – by donating your time, money, skills and prayers.

We urgently need your help to serve our nutritious meals in more schools in South Sudan where 2.2 million children are out of education – the highest rate in the world. Education across the country has been drastically hindered by years of violence and upheaval, resulting in deep poverty and internal displacement. Life for families is a real struggle, with survival often taking priority over children attending school. Together, we are already feeding around 70,000 children in South Sudan every school day – but your support is urgently needed to reach more desperately hungry children waiting for Mary's Meals. Click [here](#) to donate

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.

Wednesday Word Scripture Reflection

Wednesday word meets online via zoom from 2.00-3.00pm. If you would like to join us then, please get in touch with Maria: exeter-pastoral-assistant@prcdtr.org.uk. Please note that you do not need to make a weekly commitment and a warm welcome will await you whenever you can come.

Museum of the Moon

At Exeter Cathedral now until 27 February. When asked why the Cathedral is hosting this exhibit, Dean Jonathan Greener said, “this is a beautiful and fascinating work of art we want to make available to people... it comes also from our desire to make the Cathedral a place where everyone in Devon feels at home... but there’s also the whole wonderment thing... There’s a lovely story about Buzz Aldrin receiving Holy Communion as Apollo 11 arrived at the moon, which led me to reflect on some words from Psalm 19, ‘The heavens are telling the glory of God and the firmament proclaims his handiwork.’ So when you come to the Cathedral this coming month, to one of our services, or specifically to see the Moon in situ, please take time to give thanks”. You can book to visit this exhibit, great for bringing children and friends to, [here](#)

Catholic and Anglican Bishops pray and walk together between Liverpool’s two great Cathedrals



Catholic and Anglican Bishops met in Liverpool for a two-day joint meeting that began on 1 February with a Service of Midday Prayer in the city’s Catholic Cathedral, the Metropolitan Cathedral of Christ the King. The bishops then took part in a ‘Fraternal Pilgrimage Walk’ down Hope Street – the

famous road that links the Metropolitan Cathedral and Liverpool’s Anglican Cathedral pausing at the Sheppard-Worlock memorial. The memorial comprises of two face-to-face sculptures of two of the city’s much loved former bishops. Archbishop Derek Worlock and his Anglican counterpart Bishop David Sheppard forged a long-lasting, genuine friendship based on working together to serve the Common Good. The meeting was the first between the Catholic Bishops of the Bishops’ Conference of England and Wales and the Church of England House of Bishops since back in January 2019.

The image shows Cardinal Vincent Nichols, Archbishop of Westminster and The Most Revd Justin Welby, Archbishop of Canterbury standing between the two sculptures that make up the Sheppard-Worlock memorial. Hope Street, Liverpool.

World Day of Prayer 2022

Friday 4 March, a service for everyone, at St Stephen's Church, High St, Exeter at 11.00am.
Refreshments at 10.30am. Join us to pray for our country www.wwdp.org.uk

Retrouvaille Marriage Support

The Covid pandemic has been a very challenging time for many marriages. So much uncertainty around health, income, employment, vulnerable family members, children, housing. Different ways of seeing things, coping with change, managing fears can be a source of conflict and stress. It can be difficult to talk, to listen to support and comfort when there is so much uncertainty. Being together all the time, brings different challenges. You wonder would we be better apart? Retrouvaille is a programme to support couples, it brings a positive focus, new hope and helps nourish and grow your marriage ...and you don't need to leave home, it comes to you! For confidential information about Retrouvaille', or to register for the next programme, a Virtual weekend commencing 3 – 6 March call or text +44 788 729 6983. Email: retrouvailleukinfo@gmail.org – or visit www.retrouvaille.uk

SAINTS OF THE WEEK...

14 February Saint Cyril Monk (827 – 869)

He was born in Thessalonica and was educated in Constantinople. With his brother Methodius he went to Moravia to preach the faith. They translated liturgical texts into the Slavonic language and invented the Glagolitic and possibly also the Cyrillic alphabet. They were called back to Rome, where Cyril died on 14 February 869.

14 February Saint Methodius Bishop (815 - 885)

He was born in Thessalonica. With his brother Cyril he went to Moravia to preach the faith. They translated liturgical texts into the Slavonic language and invented the Glagolitic and possibly also the Cyrillic alphabet. After his brother's death he went



to Pannonia, where he was assiduous in the work of evangelization. In the complicated international politics of the time he suffered much from attacks by his enemies, but he was always supported by the Popes. He died on 6 April 885.

*St Cyril & St Methodius
Patrons of Europe*

Mass Times

Sunday 13 February

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Racial Justice Day

8.45am *Fr Kieran Kirby*

10.45am *Fr David Williams*

6.00pm *People of the Parish*

Tuesday 15 February 6.30pm

Wednesday 16 February 9.30am

Joe Leonard RIP

Thursday 17 February 9.30am

Sick and housebound of the parish

Friday 18 February 6.30pm

The young people of our parish

Saturday 19 February 9.30am

Sunday 20 February

Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

8.45am *People of the Parish*

10.45am

6.00pm

Tuesday 22 February 6.30pm

The Chair of St Peter Apostle

Wednesday 23 February 9.30am

St Polycarp Bishop

Thursday 24 February 9.30am

Friday 25 February 6.30pm

Saturday 26 February 9.30am

The Word

Sunday 13 February

First Reading Jeremiah 17:5-8

A curse on the man who puts his trust in a man, a blessing on the man who puts his trust in the Lord.

Psalm Response

Happy the man who has placed his trust in the Lord.

Second Reading

I Corinthians 15:12.16-20

If Christ has not been raised, your believing is useless.

Gospel Luke 6:17.20-26

How happy are the poor. Alas for you who are rich.

Sunday 20 February

First Reading

ISamuel 26:2.7-9.12-13.22-23

The Lord put you in my power, but I would not raise my hand.

Psalm Response

The Lord is compassion and love.

Second Reading

I Corinthians 15:45-49

We who have been modelled on the earthly man will be modelled on the heavenly man.

Gospel Luke 6:27-38

Be compassionate as your Father is compassionate.



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

Safeguarding Reps

Lesley Hooper & Maria Edwards

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@stncs.uk

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

Executive Head Teacher

Cathy Lowry

Blessed Sacrament Live

10.45am Mass on Sunday and most weekday Masses will be streamed live on the Parish YouTube channel.

Deadline for newsletter items 10.00am Thursday.

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 or calling 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 by dialing 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 [here](#)

Churches Together

Devon News [here](#)

Exeter news [here](#)

England News [here](#).