

# CATHOLIC EXETER



**Parishes of Sacred Heart and Blessed Sacrament**

**27 March 2022** 4th Sunday of Lent *Laetare Sunday* Year C. *Psalter week 4*

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## Lost and found

This gospel about the merciful father and his two self-centred sons is one of the best loved stories in the scriptures. The younger, a wastrel, tells us something about greed and its consequences but also about the virtues of humility and repentance. The elder, a complainer, speaks multitudes about human nature and how easily envy, jealousy and resentment arise when other people are treated

well. The star of the show is the father who welcomes his son home without a word of reproach or recrimination. Irrespective of what has happened, he cannot change the one basic fact of the case. His son is still his son and he will always be received with open arms. The father in the story is someone whose love never changes and is present all the time as much when the son goes off as when he returns. That's where the gospel story tells us something about the gracious goodness of God – his warmth with sinners and the length of his merciful arm. God never changes. Somehow in a way beyond our understanding he knows the weakness, the waywardness and the perversity of the human heart and makes allowances. His love for us remains; he is always willing to forgive. Lent is a time for growing in an appreciation of the beautiful and comforting truth that every person has a place in the heart of God. This story is drawn from real life with existing situations and if we are honest, we can see shades of the elder and younger sons in ourselves. We have been wandering, disobedient and selfish children who hold grudges and are unwilling to forgive one another. We have forgotten our ever-loving Father who even after our most stupid mistakes and tragic sins is always ready to welcome us with open arms. The gospel tells us what coming home to God is really like. *Fr Anil.*

# MASS TIMES SACRED HEART



## **Sunday 27th March** – 4th Sunday of Lent *Laetare Sunday*

5.30pm Sat *People of Ukraine*  
9.15am *Jean Langan*  
11.15am *People of the Parish*

## **Monday 28th March**

10.00am *Patrick & Christy Glavin RIP*

## **Tuesday 29th March**

10.00am *Mary & Fred Collier RIP*

## **Wednesday 30th March**

10.00am *Anne & Leon Simoneau (Anniversary)*

## **Thursday 31st March**

10.00am *Sr Teresine RIP*

## **Friday 1 April**

10.00am *Requiem Mass for Pamela Bearblock RIP*  
12 noon *Stations of the Cross*  
Lenten Lunch served after Stations of the Cross

## **Saturday 2 April**

10.00am *Holy Souls*

## **Sunday 3 April** – 5th Sunday of Lent

5.30pm Sat *People of the Parish*  
9.15am *Vincent O'Rourke RIP*  
11.15am

Tea & Coffee after Masses on Sunday (9.15am), Tuesday & Saturday

All Masses and liturgies are now being live-streamed. [Click here.](#)

## **Confessions**

Saturdays after 10.00am Mass and 4.00pm-5.00pm and on reasonable request.

The church will be open for private prayer from 9.30am until 6.00pm each day

# MASS TIMES BLESSED SACRAMENT



## **Sunday 27th March** – 4th Sunday of Lent *Laetare Sunday*

8.45am *James & Eileen Cullen & Anne Kelly RIP*  
10.45am *Penny Barrington RIP*  
6.00pm *People of the Parish*

## **Tuesday 29th March**

6.30pm *Hubert, Hilda & Diane Peach RIP*

## **Wednesday 30th March**

10.00am *Funeral Mass Jeanne Gaskell RIP*

## **Thursday 31st March**

9.30am *People of Ukraine*

## **Friday 1st April**

6.00pm *Stations of the Cross*  
6.45pm *People of Poland*

## **Saturday 2nd April**

9.30am *Adam Barnes RIP*

## **Sunday 3rd April** – 5th Sunday of Lent

8.45am *People of the Parish*  
10.45am *People of Ukraine*  
6.00pm *Private Intention*

Tea & Coffee after Mass on Wednesdays

All Masses and liturgies are now being live-streamed. [Click here](#)

## Confessions

Saturdays after 9.30am Mass and on reasonable request.

The obligation to attend Mass is still suspended but we are encouraged to return if possible. Please continue to be careful! If you are not sure about your Covid status, please test if you can, and do not come to church if your test is positive. We have many Parishioners who may be vulnerable. We ask that you continue to sanitise hands and wear masks in church (unless you are exempt). Thank you.

# NEWS

## Join Alpha

Alpha has been changing people's lives around the world and has had a powerful effect on the lives of some of our parishioners. We would love you to share their experience of encountering Jesus Christ and the Church in a dynamic way.

Pauline writes: *At Alpha I found a wonderful community of people exploring the Christian faith and encouraging each other on the journey, not having all the answers, but gently helping to discover and share. Listening to others' stories has been joyful and inspirational.*

Join an 'in person' course commencing Wednesday 30 March at 7.00pm or online on the same day at 7.30pm. To take part please contact us by [clicking this link](#).



## Beda College Discernment Weekend

A vocation discernment weekend for men between the ages of 30 and 55 will take place at St Beuno's retreat centre in North Wales from Friday 2 to Sunday 4 September. The weekend is run jointly by the Pontifical Beda College in Rome and St Beuno's and is for men in the early stages of vocation discernment. Similar weekends in the past have been very successful. The direct link for further details and booking with St Beuno's is here: [Discernment weekend](#)

# Lent Confessions and Adoration

On Wednesday 30 March from 5.30 to 8.00pm confessions will be available at Sacred Heart church. Priests from our Exeter parishes will be available to hear confessions. All welcome.

## Lent Talks 2022

Fr Mark Skelton from All Saints Teignmouth has once again organised a series of Lent Talks. Each talk will begin at 7.00pm and the session will run until 8.30pm.

31 March Mr Jeremy Skelton – ‘From the Badlands to the Promised Land’

7 April Mr Anthony Towey – ‘The Trial of Truth.’ – Lenten Encounters in John.

To join the meetings please [click this link](#). Link will be active from 6.45pm.

Meeting ID: 896 2546 2101. Passcode: 146545

## **Seven Last Words** Lent Day of Recollection

Being held at St Rita’s Centre, Honiton, Devon on Saturday 2 April 9.30am – 4.00pm with Fr Tom Dubois. The day will begin with coffee/tea on arrival at 9.30am. First Talk will start at 10.00am, second talk will be at 11.00am.

Exposition and Adoration of the holy Sacrament in silence will be at 12.00pm.

Lunch will be served at 1.00pm, Mass at 2.45pm Cost per person: £25.00 which includes lunch. For further information & to register your name contact: St Rita’s Centre Tel: 01404 42635; Email: [admin@stritascentre.org](mailto:admin@stritascentre.org) or [click here](#).

## Lent Lunches

Lent lunches are being served after the 12 noon Mass at the Sacred Heart Church every Friday during Lent. A light lunch consisting of soup, bread, cheese, pickle and coffee or tea will be served at a cost of £4. We are raising money to support St Petrock’s Centre for the homeless. All welcome.

## Pope's April prayer intention

For health care workers. We pray for health care workers who serve the sick and the elderly, especially in the poorest countries: may they be adequately supported by governments and local communities. See also the Popes’ video [here](#)

## Pope Francis tweets...

Let us pray together for government leaders, that they might understand that buying and making weapons is not the solution to the problem. The solution is to work together for peace.

# Catholic Exeter Forming in Faith

We have now completed the Catholicism series and are going to continue on a journey of adult formation. We will next watch Bishop Barron's inspiring insights into the mystery of Christ's presence in our lives and the centrality of the Eucharist as an important part of that presence. So many believers do not understand the mystery of the Eucharist, which is the 'source and summit' of the Christian life. These sessions will be on Mondays 28 March & 11 April at 10.30am–12.30pm at Sacred Heart and Tuesdays 29 March & 12 April at 7.00–9.00pm at Blessed Sacrament. To join us on this journey of discovery come along. After Easter we will run sessions to watch Bishop Barron's series to grow in our understanding of the Mass. Come to all six or dip in and out each week; either way, you will feel inspired and spiritually fed. These sessions will start on Monday 25 April 10.30am till 12.30pm at Sacred Heart and Tuesday 26 April 7.00 – 9.00pm at Blessed Sacrament.

## Baptism Preparation Course

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 over two consecutive Saturday mornings from 10:15-12.00 delivered via zoom. The course dates are: 14/21 May, 16/23 July and 15/22 October. Godparents are especially welcome to attend the second Saturday session as the role of Godparents is explored. Click on the link at the end of this article to register. If you have any problems accessing this, please contact Lesley in the parish office on 01392 274724 or at [exeter-heavitree@prcdtr.org.uk](mailto:exeter-heavitree@prcdtr.org.uk)

We are now taking bookings for the May course. [Baptism Enquiry form](#)

## Consecration of Russia and Ukraine to the Immaculate Heart of Mary

The Consecration was pronounced by Pope Francis on the afternoon of Friday 25 March in St Peter's Basilica. The Holy Father made this Act at a Service of Penance in St Peter's Basilica, which marked the beginning of the annual *24 Hours for the Lord*. Bishop Mark united with the Holy Father's action, by making the Act of Consecration at the end of the Rosary at 9.30am on Friday in the Cathedral, on behalf of the whole Diocese. The act of consecration was performed in communion with the local Churches throughout the world.



## Helping Ukraine

Like you, CAFOD is deeply disturbed by the ongoing attacks on Ukraine. Together, we stand in solidarity with the Ukrainian people and send our prayers to our sister organisation Caritas Ukraine, and those Caritas

agencies in neighbouring countries, who are already helping people affected by this conflict. As one Caritas, we stand united with them. Caritas Internationalis is part of one of the largest aid networks in the world. With our global reach and local presence, we are there when an emergency hits.

[Donate to CAFOD's Ukraine Humanitarian Appeal](#)

## Support for Ukraine

The situation in terms of welcoming people to the UK is changing very rapidly. The Diocese of Plymouth website now has a page about how people can respond to the crisis in Ukraine. <https://www.plymouth-diocese.org.uk/ukrainecrisis/>. The website has links to the new Homes for Ukraine hosting scheme and will be updated regularly as more information becomes available.

Blessed Sacrament is a collection point for specified items donated for Exeter Friends of Ukraine. A list of items to donate can be found [here](#)

## 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.

## Exeter Foodbank – March Priority List

The March priority items are: Milk (UHT semi-skimmed), fruit juice, noodle snacks, sugar, shampoo, shower gel, squash.

Please ONLY donate items from the list. Thank you for your understanding. Collection Points - Co-Op (Heavitree/St Thomas/Alphington Rd); Tesco (Exe Vale); Sainsbury's Alphington/Pinhoe/Guildhall); Waitrose (Gladstone Rd); Morrisons & One Stop Woodwater Lane. Or you can donate money online [here](#)

# GIFT Growing In Faith Together

March update: A Lenten Journey

On Saturday 5 March, we met with GIFT families to celebrate Mass, enjoy refreshments and learn about and explore what it means to make a family Lenten journey. Families learned about the three pillars of Lent, took home resources to support their journey and made Lenten paper prayer chains.

**What Is Gift?**

GIFT is for families who want to learn about their Catholic faith, meet other families and be supported in their family faith journey. GIFT is the gateway to the sacraments of Reconciliation, Holy Communion and Confirmation. To register for GIFT and to receive regular updates please complete this [Registration Form](#).

**GIFT Youth**

On Saturday we were delighted to open the doors of GIFT for the first time to secondary school aged young people. Fr Albert and a team of youth catechists explored the topic of Lent with over 15 young people. To register for GIFT Youth please complete this [Registration Form](#).

**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 Sessions & getting in touch**

The next Family and Youth session is on Saturday 2 April. 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)

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## Youth Events in the diocese

### World Youth Day (WYD) 2023 Lisbon Portugal

Planning has begun for our trip. 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 [youth@prcdtr.org.uk](mailto:youth@prcdtr.org.uk)

### Heatree residential, new dates

When Storm Eunice hit it was decided to postpone the Heatree Residential. The rescheduled dates will be 13 - 15 May. The residential will start after school on Friday and will finish with a family Mass at 2.00 on Sunday 15 May. Priority will be given to those that booked for the February venture but there are spaces for those that did not book. [Click to book Heatree Residential May 13-15](#)



## Flame 2023 tickets now available

Flame is aimed at young people aged year 9 (14) through to University age. It's not just for Catholics, anyone interested is welcome to come. Ticket prices will include a T-shirt and a coach to take you to Wembley Arena, London. Email Saskia: [youth@prcdtr.org.uk](mailto:youth@prcdtr.org.uk) for further information or click on these links: [Flame Website](#) [Promotional film](#)



## Good Friday Witness

After a 2 year hiatus during the pandemic, we are excited to be back! Christians Together Across Exeter warmly invite you and your church community to our city-wide Good Friday worship service and creative witness on Cathedral Green beginning at 10.00am. All welcome.

## Wednesday Word Scripture Reflection

Wednesday word meets online via zoom from 2.00-3.00pm. If you would like to join us then, get in touch with Maria: [exeter-pastoral-assistant@prcdtr.org.uk](mailto: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.

## Into your hands, Lord...

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Jeanne Gaskell whose funeral Mass will take place at Blessed Sacrament on Wednesday 30 March at 10.00am. RIP.



## Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament with Taizé Prayer

Sacred Heart church Thursday 7 April at 7.00pm. Come and spend some time in reflective prayer before the Blessed Sacrament. All welcome.

# 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.

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)

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## Easter Offerings

The Easter Offering is a gift to the priests of the parish. If you wish to make an Easter Offering either use one of the envelopes available in the church or your offering envelope if you are a planned giver. If you are not attending Mass on Easter Sunday, please put your offering in an envelope marked Easter Offering and place in the collection as you leave any of the Masses.

If you GiftAid your offering please write your envelope number clearly on the outside. If you usually offer by standing order why not make a bank transfer and put Easter Offering in the narrative. Many thanks.

## Blessed Sacrament Gift Aid Tax Reclaim

The Parish has recently received the tax claim for the year to 31 March 2021 and it was £7,913.28. Thank you to our gift aiders who have made this possible. If you wish to become a gift aider you need to be paying UK income tax. Please contact the Parish Office and ask for a gift aid declaration form. Thank you.

## Synodal Journey

We're pleased to bring you the March update of our diocesan synodal journey. Please don't hesitate to get in touch with Deborah Fisher if you have any questions. [Synodal Journey March Update.](#)

# Franciscan at Home

Supporting Parents, Catechists and anyone involved with young people, the Franciscan at Home Catechetical Institute have a whole range of attractive resources for families, for catechists and for anyone involved with children and young people. The courses are offered free in a subscribing institution.

Join us at an online event where you can learn more from the Directors of the Institute. Thursday, May 5 at 7.00pm. Topic: Parents & Others; Children & Young Peoples' Catechists. [Join Zoom Meeting](#). Meeting ID: 830 8888 1718  
Passcode: 498144

For more information please contact [deborah.vanKroonenburg@prcdtr.org.uk](mailto:deborah.vanKroonenburg@prcdtr.org.uk)

## Plymouth Diocese Ignatian Spirituality Group Contemplative Retreat

At St. Rita's Centre, Honiton, Devon. EX14 1AP. 6th – 13th May. For those seeking a more Contemplative Way of Praying and Living. This silent Contemplative Retreat with individual guidance provides a step-by-step introduction to the Gries Path of Prayer developed by Fr Franz Jalics SJ.

For those familiar with this form of contemplative prayer, the retreat offers the opportunity to refresh and to deepen it. Donations invited: £400 (All rooms en suite) Please contact the Retreat Co-ordinator Retreat: Paddy Rylands [paddyrylands@gmail.com](mailto:paddyrylands@gmail.com) for further details and application form

## Sacred Heart online donations

It is now possible to make your Sacred Heart weekly loose plate offering and other donations on-line. **All donations are anonymous.** Please use [this link](#) to make your online donation. Alternatively, you can go to [Sacred Heart website](#). Scroll down to the 'Parish News' section and click the highlighted 'Donate Here' text. There is also a link on our [Facebook Page](#). If you need further guidance please email the Sacred Heart Parish Office.

## Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that you are present in this Holy Sacrament of the Altar. I love you above all things and I passionately desire to receive you into my soul. Since I cannot now receive you Sacramentally, come spiritually into my soul so that I may unite myself wholly to you now and forever. Amen.



# Big Exeter Sleep out

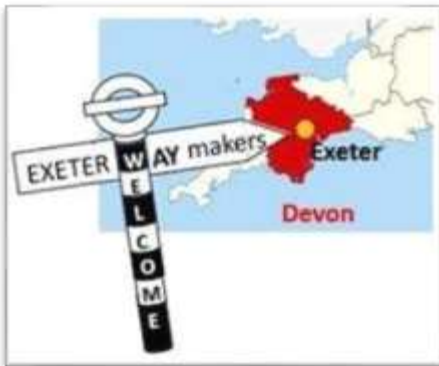
The intrepid five slept out on the night of 11 March in the garden of the St Richard Reynolds Centre to help raise money for Julian House, a charity which supports

homeless people in the city and around the country. It was cold and wet, but we were well wrapped up. Thanks to your generosity we raised over £1,800.

## Exeter WAYmakers

Have you sorted out your Lenten almsgiving yet? Help Exeter WAYmakers in our aim to resettle a refugee family in our city. To support our application to be a Community Sponsor we need to raise £9000. Both Exeter parishes have made

generous donations to start us off and we want to give you parishioners the opportunity to support this work by your prayers, your volunteering and your individual donations.



We want this to be a Catholic community effort across all our parishes so please do support us. Please place your donation in an envelope marked Exeter Waymakers and hand it in to the parish offices. If you wish to make your donation online to a parish

account please clearly reference your donation Exeter Waymakers. Many thanks on behalf of the Waymakers Core Group. If you would like more information feel free to contact Peter Schranz on [pschranz5@gmail.com](mailto:pschranz5@gmail.com) or Chris Lee.

## St John Passion at Exeter Cathedral

Join us at Exeter Cathedral at 4.00pm on Sunday 10 April to listen to J S Bach's magnificent and moving oratorio. The Passiontide drama unfolds in Bach's unparalleled music, told through the compelling words of St John's Gospel. For more info and booking [click here](#).



# Sacred Heart Rosary Group

We are praying for the following intentions:

Ukraine and peace in the world; for the love of Jesus, for the conversion of sinners and reparation to the Immaculate Heart of Mary; for the Holy Father and his intention for the month; for our dearest priests; for vocations; for all of us praying this holy rosary.

## HOLY WEEK AT SACRED HEART

**Palm Sunday** 10 April

Mass 5.30pm (Sat), 9.15am, 11.15am

Monday 11 April

Mass 10.00am

Tuesday 12 April

Mass 10.00am

Spy Wednesday 13 April

Chrism Mass *Plymouth Cathedral 12 noon*

### THE PASCHAL TRIDUUM

**Maundy Thursday** 14 April

**Mass of the Lord's Supper** 7.30pm

*Watching at the Altar of Repose until 10.00pm*

**Good Friday** 15 April

**The Passion of the Lord** 3.00pm

**Holy Saturday** 16 April

**The Easter Vigil** 8.30pm

**Easter Sunday** 17 April

Mass 9.15am, 11.15am

## HOLY WEEK AT BLESSED SACRAMENT

**Palm Sunday** 10 April

Mass 8.45am, 10.45am, 6.00pm

Monday 11 April

No Mass

Tuesday 12 April

Mass 6.30pm

Spy Wednesday 13 April

Chrism Mass *Plymouth Cathedral 12 noon*

### THE PASCHAL TRIDUUM

**Maundy Thursday** 14 April

**Mass of the Lord's Supper** 7.00pm

*Watching at the Altar of Repose until 10.00pm*

**Good Friday** 15 April

Morning Prayer & Office of Readings 9.30am

**The Passion of the Lord** 3.00pm

*Watching at the Cross 8.00 – 9.00pm*

**Holy Saturday** 16 April

Morning Prayer & Office of Readings 9.30am

**The Easter Vigil** 9.00pm

**Easter Sunday** 17 April

Mass 8.45am, 10.45am

# THE WORD

## Sunday 27 March

### First Reading

Joshua 5:9-12

*The People of God keep the Passover  
on their entry into the promised land.*

### Psalm Response

*Taste and see that the Lord is good.*

### Second Reading

2 Corinthians 5:17-21

*God reconciled us to himself through Christ*

### Gospel

Luke 15:1-3.11-32

*Your brother here was dead and has come to life.*

## Sunday 3 April

### First Reading

Isaiah 43:16-21

*See, I am doing a new deed,  
and I will give my chosen people drink.*

### Psalm Response

*What marvels the Lord worked for us!  
Indeed we were glad.*

### Second Reading

Philippians 3:8-14

*Reproducing the pattern of his death,  
I have accepted the loss of everything for Christ*

### Gospel

John 8:1-11

*If there is one of you who has not sinned,  
let him be the first to throw a stone.*

# INFO

## Sacred Heart

25 South Street, Exeter EX1 1EB  
01392 272815  
[exeter-sacredheart@prcdtr.org.uk](mailto:exeter-sacredheart@prcdtr.org.uk)

### Parish Priest

*Fr Kieran Kirby*

### Assistant Priests

*Fr Albert Lawes*

*Fr Anil Gundabatina*

### Deacons

*Delian Bower*

*Kelvin Russell*

### Sacred Heart Gift Aid Enquiries:

[exeter-sacredheart-giftaid](mailto:exeter-sacredheart-giftaid)

## Blessed Sacrament

29 Fore Street, Heavitree,  
Exeter EX1 2QJ  
01392 274724  
[exeter-heavitree@prcdtr.org.uk](mailto:exeter-heavitree@prcdtr.org.uk)

### Parish Priest

*Fr Jonathan Stewart*

### Priest in retirement

*Fr John Watkins*

### Parish Office

*Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday  
10.00am–4.00pm*

### Parish Secretary

*Lesley Hooper*

### Blessed Sacrament Gift Aid:

[exeter-heavitree@prcdtr.org.uk](mailto:exeter-heavitree@prcdtr.org.uk)

## Parish School

St Nicholas Catholic Primary School  
Ringswell Avenue, Exeter EX1 3EG  
01392 445403

[admin@stnics.uk](mailto:admin@stnics.uk)

[www.st-nicholas-exeter.devon.sch.uk](http://www.st-nicholas-exeter.devon.sch.uk)

### Executive Head Teacher

*Cathy Lowry*

## Pastoral Assistant

*Maria Quinn*

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

## Safeguarding

### Sacred Heart

*Andrew Blewett*

07729 608356

[drewmail2016@gmail.com](mailto:drewmail2016@gmail.com)

### Blessed Sacrament

*Lesley Hooper*

07712 216724

01392 274724

[exeter-heavitree@prcdtr.org.uk](mailto:exeter-heavitree@prcdtr.org.uk)

*Maria Edwards*

07870 696530

*The parishes of Catholic Exeter are  
part of the Roman Catholic Diocese of  
Plymouth.*