

# CATHOLIC EXETER



**Parishes of Sacred Heart and Blessed Sacrament**  
**22 May 2022** Sixth Sunday of Easter. Year C. *Psalter Week 2*

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## The Holy Spirit will remind you of all I have said to you

As Eastertide unfolds, we feel the power and influence of the Spirit growing. This is the Spirit who raised Jesus from the dead, and the Spirit who brings the Church to birth at Pentecost. As we journey

towards Pentecost, the climax of the Easter Season, we should be considering the presence of the Spirit in the Church today: the reconciler of disputes, the solver of problems, true inspiration for the family of God on our journey to the New Jerusalem! From this side, Pentecost is about promise: the Lord at the Last Supper promises that he and the Father will be 'at home' with all who keep his words. It is the Advocate, the Holy Spirit who will remind us of these and all his words. We believe that all Scripture is 'inspired'. It is the word of the Spirit. As we listen to or proclaim the word this Sunday let us look for the fulfilment of the promise made by the Lord.

# MASS TIMES SACRED HEART



## **Sunday 22 May** – Sixth Sunday of Easter

5.30pm Sat     *for Antonio Mansion*  
9.15am         *for Philip Micelle RIP*  
11.15am       *for People of the Parish*

## **Monday 23 May**

10.00am       *for Rachel Bower RIP*

## **Tuesday 24 May** – St Aldhelm of Sherborne, Bishop

10.00am       *for John Norman RIP*

## **Wednesday 25 May** – St Bede the Venerable, Priest & Doctor

10.00am       *for Fr Louis Rieunier RIP*

## **Thursday 26 May** – **The Ascension of the Lord**

10.00am       *for a Private Intention*  
7.00pm         *for the Holy Souls (Box)*

## **Friday 27 May** – St Augustine of Canterbury, Bishop

10.00am       *for Pat Cummins RIP*

## **Saturday 28 May**

10.00am       *for Ukraine*

## **Sunday 29 May** – Seventh Sunday of Easter

World Communications Day

5.30pm Sat     *for the People of the Parish*  
9.15am         *for Bishop Mark*  
11.15am       *for Sr Teresine RIP*

## Confessions

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

## Live stream

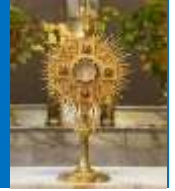
All Masses and liturgies are now being live-streamed. [Click here.](#)

## Refreshments

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

**Church open** for private prayer from 9.30am until 6.00pm each day.

# MASS TIMES BLESSED SACRAMENT



## **Sunday 22 May** – Sixth Sunday of Easter

8.45am *People of the Parish*

10.45am *Special Intention*

6.00pm *Andrew Hamachi Melie & Ernest Okechuku Mamalis RIP*

## **Tuesday 24 May** – St Aldhelm of Sherborne, Bishop

6.30pm *The Melie family special intention*

## **Wednesday 25 May** – St Bede the Venerable, Priest & Doctor

9.30am *Special Intention*

## **Thursday 26 May** – The Ascension of the Lord

9.30am *People of Ukraine*

7.00pm *Fr Louis Rieunier RIP*

## **Friday 27 May** – St Augustine of Canterbury, Bishop

6.30pm *Andy Zmuda RIP*

## **Saturday 28 May**

9.30am *Alan Summerscales RIP*

## **Sunday 29 May** – Seventh Sunday of Easter

World Communications Day

8.45am *Kevin Hare RIP*

10.45am *People of the Parish*

6.00pm

## Confessions

Saturdays after 9.30am Mass and on reasonable request.

## Live stream

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

## Refreshments

Served after 10.45am Mass on Sunday and 9.30am Mass on Wednesday.

*If you would be willing to be on a rota to serve refreshments after the 10.45am Mass on Sundays we would love to hear from you. Please contact the Parish Office.*

JESUS ANSWERED, "IF ANYONE  
LOVES ME, HE WILL KEEP MY WORD.  
MY FATHER WILL LOVE HIM, AND  
WE WILL  
COME TO HIM AND MAKE OUR HOME  
WITH HIM.  
JOHN 14:23

*Fr Anil writes:* There is consensus that God is a universal Spirit, benevolent, loving, and caring. In the Gospel reading, Jesus makes a remarkable revelation about our relationship with God. He assures us that God's spirit abides in us as teacher, counsellor, and guide and will teach us all things. This promise of Jesus is extraordinarily good news and should have significant impact for anyone pursuing more effective living. There is immediate comfort in knowing we are never alone, that God is always present in us and for us. We never need fear that we are isolated in our tribulations, or that we go it alone in our struggles for a better life.

Impiously, most of us do not appreciate, much less utilise, this infinitely powerful resource of God's presence within us. For example, we may be in great sorrow, when something totally unexpected comes about to bring us comfort. There may be times we receive just the added push we need to accomplish a difficult undertaking, or a sudden inspiration appears out of nowhere. Are we not led by the Spirit dwelling within us, often without realising it?

We should be encouraged to take advantage of the Spirit's presence within us and actively seek out God's counsel. In the quiet of our hearts, we can listen to God prompting us with inspiration to pursue what will best serve our interests. We should never hesitate, therefore, to confer with our indwelling Spirit for whatever help we need to resolve confusions, handle difficult situations, or solve our problems.

Work to develop a more active relationship with the Spirit within. Tell God how grateful you are for the help you receive. Ask the Holy Spirit for counsel in your difficulties. Go to God first with your needs, however big or small they may be. Do not be discouraged just because your prayers are not answered according to your designs or schedules – trust that God knows what is in your best interests. Communicate with God but give God a chance to communicate with you.

# NEWS

## The Ascension of the Lord

On Thursday this week, 26 May, we celebrate the Feast of the Ascension. On our journey through Eastertide this is an important moment when we remember and reflect on Jesus' return to his Father in heaven. It is always troubling when someone we love tells us they are leaving. The disciples clearly experienced this anxiety. But Jesus' departure from the earth makes way for the coming of the Paraclete, the Holy Spirit who will transform the lives of the disciples and the Church at Pentecost. Jesus reassures his friends that they will receive power from on high. This power of his Spirit enabled them to be witnesses in the world. It is the same power of the Holy Spirit, whose coming we celebrate at Pentecost, that enables us to be witnesses to Jesus Christ today.



## Returning to Mass at Pentecost

*An invitation from the Bishops of England and Wales*

As the difficulties caused by the pandemic have lessened significantly, the Bishops of England and Wales have invited all Catholics, who have not yet done so, to return to attending Mass in person every Sunday and on Holy Days of Obligation. 'Virtual viewing' of the Mass online does not fulfil the Sunday Obligation. If you are suffering any illness or other factors which makes it difficult for you to attend Mass, then you do not need to follow the obligatory attendance.

To read the full letter from the Bishops Conference about returning to Mass at Pentecost [click here](#)

# Thanksgiving Mass for Bishop Mark

On Monday 30 May the diocese will celebrate a thanksgiving Mass for Bishop Mark at the Cathedral at 12 noon. We have organised a 35 seater coach to take us to Plymouth. The cost will be £10 per person. The coach will pick up from Sacred Heart and Blessed Sacrament (probably down Fore Street by the shops). Please sign up this weekend if you would like to come.

## Parish Secretary for Sacred Heart

The Diocese of Plymouth is looking to appoint a part time Parish Secretary. Location: Sacred Heart, 25 South Street, Exeter. Salary: £10.95 per hour – £15,943.20 per annum (FTE £19,929 for full time hours). 28 hours per week. The Parish Secretary will manage the administrative, secretarial support and the office resources required to ensure the smooth running of the Parish and to enable the Parish Priest to carry out his diocesan responsibilities. The post-holder will be required to have secretarial or administrative experience and will require good organisational skills together with experience of Microsoft Office and excellent interpersonal skills.

Copies of job description, person specification and application form are available by calling Dani Osborne on 01392 575695 or by emailing her at

[Dani@cathedralappointments.co.uk](mailto:Dani@cathedralappointments.co.uk)

## Plymouth Secular Clergy Fund Collection

On Pentecost Sunday (5 June) there will be a retiring collection for this fund which supports the sick and retired priests of the diocese. The Diocese of Plymouth is second to none in caring for its sick and retired priests, largely due to your generosity at this annual collection. The fund supports those priests who have given many years of good and faithful service to God's people.

## Your Parish Music needs You!

Can you play the piano (Grade 5ish), would you like to play the organ? Come and have a go at Blessed Sacrament and see how it all works – help and support available if you decide to take it further. We need more organists and it would be a shame to let this lovely instrument become silent due to lack of volunteers. For more information please contact the parish office 01392 274724 or email [exeter-heavitree@prcdtr.org.uk](mailto:exeter-heavitree@prcdtr.org.uk)

## Adoration at Sacred Heart

Wednesday 1 June at 7.00pm. Come in adoration and spend some time in reflection and prayer before the Blessed Sacrament accompanied by prayer inspired by the Taizé community. All welcome.

# South West Awake

A chain of prayer and praise on the South West Coast Path. This is an invitation for all the family. Come and join other Christians from the South West on Saturday 4 June at 10.30am, praying for God's kingdom to come in the power of the Holy Spirit! Full details and sign-up from the link below (one person can make a single booking for a group). [South West Awake Sign-up](#)

## Proclaiming the Word of God

We know the importance of the Word of God in our lives. Proclaiming it is a privilege and we are grateful to those of you who do it so well. Training helps us proclaim with more confidence and understanding. We invite all readers to join us on Saturday 18 June at 11.00am at Blessed Sacrament Church. New readers are especially encouraged to come along. You may have been reading for years and think everything is going well; perfect time for a refresher! See you all then.

## Enquiring about the Catholic Faith



Are you, or is someone you know, interested in finding out more about becoming a Catholic? Perhaps you are a baptised Catholic but never received the Sacrament of Confirmation? Perhaps you're interested in joining a team to help those who are enquiring? In the autumn we will begin to meet with those who would like to

know more. Please get in touch with the Parish Office at Sacred Heart or Blessed Sacrament if you would like to join us on the journey. You will find a generous and friendly welcome.

## Feast of St Rita of Cascia

St Rita was born in 1381 in Cascia in Umbria, Italy. She became an Augustinian nun and is celebrated particularly by the Augustinian Recollects at St Rita's in Honiton. Her Feast day is Sunday 22 May. Celebrations in Honiton will begin with Mass at 12 noon followed by the blessing and distribution of roses for the sick. The day will conclude with Benediction at 3.30pm. You are all very welcome to join us. Hot drinks will be available all day, but please bring a packed lunch. Our two shops will be open for the sale of religious articles. Why not order on our website [here](#) and collect your items on site on the 22nd.

## Wednesday Word Scripture Reflection

We meet online via zoom from 2.00-3.00pm each Wednesday. If you would like to join us, get in touch with Maria: [exeter-pastoral-assistant@prcdtr.org.uk](mailto:exeter-pastoral-assistant@prcdtr.org.uk). You don't need to make a weekly commitment, you're welcome whenever you can.



# Youth Events in the diocese

In the latest issue of the Youth Newsletter:

- Where's God in that? Book your place on the **Water Sports** events
- **Youth Rally 2022**, is your parish bringing a team?
- **Where's God in that series**. More events to come.
- Parents, catechist and Youth volunteers, have you seen these free resources
- Come to Portugal to celebrate **World Youth day 2023**
- Book your place on **Summer camps 2022**
- **Dates for the Diary**

[Click here](#) for the full newsletter with information how to join these activities.

## Pope Francis tweets...

The Church remains grateful for every expression of fraternal charity and care shown to all who have been enslaved and exploited, for in this way, God's loving mercy becomes visible and the fabric of society is strengthened and renewed.

## Welcomed into the life of grace

Please pray for Noah Bartolome who was baptised on Saturday and for Clémmie Rockey who will be baptised next Saturday, both at Blessed Sacrament. Please also pray for their parents and Godparents. May the flame of faith and the Holy Spirit grow in their lives as they take their place among God's holy people. Congratulations to them both!

## Caritas & CAFOD Event

**Care For Our Common Home**. Caritas Plymouth with CAFOD Plymouth is organising an online event from 5.00-6.00pm on Tuesday 24 May during Laudato Sí week 2022, to reflect on how we care for our common home and respond to Pope Francis' invitation to create a new kind of solidarity and a spirit of integral ecology. The event will offer an opportunity to think about the challenges and opportunities facing us and how we are called to act. Please register here

To catch up with our latest news: Caritas April Newsletter

## Catholic Exeter Forming in Faith

We are now running 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. The next sessions will be on Monday 23 May 10.30am till 12.30pm at Sacred Heart and Tuesday 24 May 7.00 – 9.00pm at Blessed Sacrament. Please come and join us.





## **Stronghold Praise & Worship**

Join us at Blessed Sacrament Church at 7.00pm on Thursday evening 26 May, the Feast of the Ascension of the Lord.

We will be playing at Mass and then continuing to praise God in the church on this glorious feast. We look forward to welcoming you to a wonderful evening of praise and worship.

## **Residential Retreats**

Residential silent and individually guided retreats.

July 9-11 (Sat - Mon) Weekend Retreat (£160); July 11- 15 (Mon - Friday)

Midweek Retreat (£320); July 9 -16 (Sat - Sat) 6 day Retreat (£560). Venue:

Sclerder Abbey, near Looe. Cost includes full board & lodging. Please contact Plymouth Diocesan Ignatian Spirituality Group at diocesan-ignatianretreats@prcdtr.org.uk or phone 01752 769164 or 07823 447637 for further information or booking form.

## **Catholic Children's Society Plymouth**

Annual Mass – 2.00pm Thursday 30 June

If you would like to attend this year's annual Mass at St Nicholas' Catholic Primary Academy in Exeter, please contact 01364 645420 or email

ccs@prcdtr.org.uk Everyone is welcome, but we are limited on numbers so please let us know if you would like to attend.

## **World Communications Day Sunday 29 May**

The Pope's message for the 56th World Communications Day follows the theme "Listening with the Ear of the Heart". The title invites us to reflect that listening involves more than simply the sense of hearing. True listening is a foundation of genuine relationships, and is foundational to the relationship between God and humanity. The Pope, quoting St Paul, noted that "faith comes through hearing." In fact, he remarked, "listening corresponds to the humble style of God," who reveals himself by speaking, and by listening to men and women recognizing them as his partners in dialogue. Human beings are called in turn to "tune in, to be willing to listen," as God calls them to a covenant of love. Fundamentally, the Pope said, "listening is a dimension of love."

There will be a retiring collection at all Masses for the Catholic Communications Network which supports the work of Catholic media and news in this country.

# Pope's May prayer intention

For faith filled young people. We pray for all young people, called to live life to the fullest; may they see in Mary's life the way to listen, the depth of discernment, the courage that faith generates, and the dedication to service. The Pope Video

## GIFT Growing in Faith Together

**What Is GIFT?** GIFT is for families of faith who want to grow in their Catholic faith, meet other families and be supported in their faith journey. It is the gateway to the sacraments of Reconciliation, Holy Communion and Confirmation.

**GIFT Youth:** Fr Albert and our GIFT Youth Team meet with our young people for their own session. [GIFT Youth Registration Form](#).

**Next GIFT Parents Zoom Session:** Our next parent zoom is on Thursday 16 June at 7.00pm.

**Next GIFT Family Session:** Saturday 11 June St Nicholas School

**Family Prayer:** [Bedtime Chats](#)

**Get in touch and Register:** If you would like to join us, please register using this link: [GIFT Primary Registration Form](#). If you have any questions, please get in touch with Maria at [exeter-pastoral-assistant@prcdtr.org.uk](mailto:exeter-pastoral-assistant@prcdtr.org.uk)

## Sacred Heart online donations

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

## Exeter foodbank News

May priority items: noodle and pasta snacks, sponge puddings, tinned vegetables, squash, sugar, UHT milk (green, one litre), jams and spreads, toilet rolls, shampoo & shower gel, chocolates and crisps, washing capsules

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

Collection point at the back of Sacred Heart church. Donate money online [here](#)

## We pray for...

All those who are sitting exams at this time; to keep their mind alert and memory sharp, to calm their nerves and to help them concentrate. May they be successful and do their best.

# SAINTS OF THE WEEK...

## St Aldhelm of Sherborne Bishop. 24 May



Aldhelm became a monk at Malmesbury, but completed his education at Canterbury. In about 675 he became Abbot of Malmesbury, and made foundations at Frome and Bradford-on-Avon. When the Wessex diocese was divided in 705 he became the first bishop of its western half, Sherborne, without ceasing to rule the abbey at Malmesbury. He was renowned for his learning and sanctity. He wrote both prose and verse, and set his verse to music. Finding the people of his time somewhat dilatory in their church attendance, it is said that he would stand up in public places, singing songs and preaching sermons to attract people to the faith. His Old English verse, sung with harp accompaniment, has not

survived, so we can judge this Anglo-Saxon writer only by his Latin works. It is thought that he invented the crossword puzzle. He died at Doulting near Wells in Somerset, and was buried at Malmesbury. His cult was discontinued by Lanfranc, but Osmund authorised its resumption with the translation of his relics in 1078.

## St Bede the Venerable Priest & Doctor. 27 May



He was born in the north of England, near the monastery of Wearmouth. He joined that monastery, and spent all his life there or at Jarrow, teaching and writing. He was the outstanding ecclesiastical author of his time. He wrote commentaries on Scripture; an ecclesiastical history of the English people, which is a unique and irreplaceable resource for much of early English history; and the first martyrology (collection of saints' lives) to be compiled on historical

principles. He was also the first known writer of English prose, though this has not survived. He died at Jarrow on 25 May 735: he taught and worked until the last moments of his life, which are narrated by Cuthbert in today's Office of Readings. He is venerated as the 'light of the Church' in the Dark Ages, and as a forerunner of the 8th and 9th century renaissance of the Western Church.

# THE WORD

## Sunday 22 May 6th Sunday of Easter

First Reading – Acts 15:1-2,22-29

*It has been decided by the Holy Spirit and by ourselves not to saddle you with any burden beyond these essentials.*

Psalm Response: *Let the people praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you.*

Second Reading – Apocalypse 21:10-14,22-23

*He showed me the holy city coming down out of heaven.*

Gospel – John 14:23-29. *The Holy Spirit will remind you of all I have said to you.*

## Sunday 29 May 7th Sunday of Easter

First Reading – Acts 7:55-60

*I can see the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God.*

Psalm Response: *The Lord is king, most high above all the earth*

Second Reading – Apocalypse 22:12-14,16-17,20. *Come, Lord Jesus!*

Gospel – John 17:20-26. *May they be completely one.*

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### **Dom Henry Wansborough OSB reflects on today's Gospel:**

*In these final discourses of Jesus at the Last Supper (as he sketches the outlines of his future Church) there are four passages which promise the coming of a Paraclete or Advocate, the Holy Spirit. 'Paraclete' and 'Advocate' mean the same: someone who is called to your side as a supporter, often in a legal situation. The Father will send this Paraclete, in the name and power of Jesus, so that the Paraclete will make Christ present in the Church in a new way. The Paraclete will strengthen Jesus' disciples with Christ's own strength. The Paraclete will lead the disciples into all truth, so that they gradually come to a fuller understanding of all the implications of the teaching of Jesus. Like any legal advocate, the Paraclete will provide the followers of Jesus with the power in teaching and argument to withstand opposition. This is the power which will guide the Church in ages to come, not only the official teachers of the Church, the successors of the apostles, but all the faithful who preserve and enrich the tradition of the Church by their prophetic office. The decree of Vatican II on the Church leaves no doubt that not only the call to sanctity but also participation in the prophetic office of Christ extends to all the members of the Church; this is an inspiring and awesome responsibility for us all.*

# INFO

## 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)

## 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@prcdtr.org.uk](mailto:exeter-sacredheart-giftaid@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*  
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## Safeguarding

### Sacred Heart

*Andrew Blewett*  
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### Blessed Sacrament

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[Bishops' Conference Updates](#)  
[Churches Together Devon News](#)  
[Churches Together Exeter News](#)  
[Churches Together England News.](#)

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