

CATHOLIC EXETER



Parishes of Blessed Sacrament and Sacred Heart
26 March 2023 Fifth Sunday of Lent. Year A. *Psalter I*



I am the resurrection and the life

When we feel overwhelmed or dispirited, or when all our positive resources have come to an end, we have a God who can breathe life into that which appears dead.

The prophet Ezekiel expresses faith that declares that no matter how bleak the situation may seem, new life and a

new future can be possible. Human spirits, which have been crushed of all hope and beauty, are brought to life as music nurtures barren souls.

St Paul tells us that if Christ is in you, then your spirit is alive because he who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal body. And the Gospel passage exhorts us that God is stronger than death, and he will bring all who are his friends into eternal life. Lazarus, here, becomes a part of the cycle of death-to-life by being called from the tomb into the world of the living. *Fr Anil*

MASS TIMES

SACRED HEART



Sunday 26 March – Fifth Sunday of Lent. (NB Clocks go forward one hour)

5.30pm (Sat) *Fr Kieran Kirby RIP*
9.15am *Teresa Maraone RIP*
11.15am *Andrea Tindal-Robertson RIP*
5.00-6.00pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament & Benediction

Monday 27 March

10.00am *Ruth De Sanabria*

Tuesday 28 March

10.00am *Fr Kieran Kirby RIP*

Wednesday 29 March

10.00am *For Ukraine*

Thursday 30 March

6.30pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament & Benediction
7.00pm *Holy Souls*

Friday 31 March

10.00am *Peace in the world*
12 Noon Stations of The Cross

Saturday 1 April

10.00am *Fr Michael Wheaton*

Sunday 2 April – Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

5.30pm (Sat) *Ruth De Sanabria*
9.15am *People of the Parish*
11.15am *Patrick Coyne RIP*
5.00-6.00pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament & Benediction

Confessions

Saturday after 10am Mass and 4-5pm, and on reasonable request.

Live stream Mass To access the YouTube stream please [click here](#).

Refreshments

served after Masses on Sunday (9.15am), Tuesday, Wednesday and Saturday.

Church open for private prayer from 9.00am until 6.00pm each day.

MASS TIMES BLESSED SACRAMENT



Sunday 26 March – Fifth Sunday of Lent. (NB Clocks go forward one hour)

8.45am *Holy Souls*
10.45am *John Wood's family*
6.00pm *People of the Parish*

Tuesday 28 March

6.30pm *Fr Kieran Kirby RIP*

Wednesday 29 March

9.30am *People of Ukraine*

Thursday 30 March

9.30am *Holy Souls*

Friday 31 March

6.00pm *Stations of The Cross*
6.30pm *The sick & housebound*

Saturday 1 April

9.30am *World Peace*

Sunday 2 April – Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

8.45am *People of the Parish*
10.45am *Fr Kieran Kirby RIP*
6.00pm *Canon Paul Cummins*

Confessions

Saturdays after 9.30am Mass and on reasonable request.

Liturgy of the Word for Children

During term time at 10.45am Mass on Sunday.

Live stream Mass

To access the YouTube stream please [click here](#).

Refreshments

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

Blessed Sacrament Altar Servers practice

10.00am on Tuesday 4 April for all those who would like to serve during the Triduum. The practice should last no longer than an hour.



Fr Kieran Kirby RIP

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Fr Kieran. He died peacefully early on Monday morning last week at The Lodge nursing home where he had been living since leaving hospital last year. He was surrounded by the love and prayer of so many people; family and friends, brother clergy and staff.

Fr Kieran's body will be received into Sacred Heart Church on

Wednesday 19 April at 5.00pm.

Mass will be celebrated at 7.00pm.

The Funeral Mass will be at 12 noon on Thursday 20 April. He

will be buried in Bournemouth on Friday 21 April alongside his mother and father.

We give thanks for a dedicated and caring priest whose ministry touched and transformed so many lives and who will be fondly remembered by all. Please also prayer for his family and all who are grieving. May he rest in peace and rise in glory.

CHARITY BEGINS AT HOME

Turkey and Syria Earthquake Appeals

Mary's Meals [click here to donate.](#) CAFOD [click here to donate.](#)

Mary's Meals in Malawi



Cyclone Freddie has ripped through Malawi causing devastation for many of the children who eat Mary's Meals. Entire communities have been swept away by raging waters and buried under landslides. More than 400 people have died, a figure that is expected to rise in the coming weeks.

While schools in affected areas are closed, the classrooms that haven't been destroyed by the

storm are being used as shelters for the many thousands of people who have lost their homes. As well as providing food for the children who usually eat our school meals we are ensuring that wider families also receive a daily meal of our mugs of likuni phal, a porridge fortified with essential vitamins and minerals in these shelters. Through this emergency response we are already feeding more than 24000 displaced people every day who have been impacted by this disaster and we stand ready to help further as the situation evolves.

As the place where Mary's Meals story began Malawi holds a special place in our hearts. From feeding just 200 children in 2002 we are now reaching more than one million little one across the country every school day. The children, their families, the volunteers who prepare our meals and our courageous colleagues are in our prayers at this terrible time. Support our work in Malawi. [Please donate here today.](#)

Exeter Foodbank [Click here for more information.](#)

Priority items: pasta sauce, tinned fruit, tinned meat, tinned vegetarian meals, noodle snacks, shampoo, deodorant, fruit squash. Collection points located at Sacred Heart & Blessed Sacrament churches, and in local supermarkets.

Exeter Free Food Network and Homelessness Partnership Free Food Guide can be found at [this link](#)

LENT NEWS & EVENTS

Stations of the Cross

Fridays in Lent. 12 noon at Sacred Heart. 6.00pm at Blessed Sacrament.

Catholic Exeter Lent Penitential Service

Tuesday 4 April 7.00pm at Sacred Heart. The Sacrament of Reconciliation is the most wonderful opportunity to receive God's forgiveness and the grace we need to change our lives. There will be a number of priests available for confession.

Lenten Lunches – Helping the homeless

Lower Room at Sacred Heart 12.30pm every Friday during Lent.

Serving the Poor this Lent – Caritas Plymouth

In his message for World Day of the Poor 2022, Pope Francis reminded us of the meaning of solidarity: 'sharing the little we have with those who have nothing, so that no one will go without'. Find out more at: [Caritas Plymouth Lent Calendar.](#)

Living Simply in Lent

You are invited to consider your carbon emissions this Lent: how can we help protect the planet? We can make a difference together as 40% of carbon emissions are from homes. Energy can be reduced through less car use, turning down heating in homes if possible, switching to LED lighting, being mindful of your consumption of food with a higher carbon footprint, and reducing food waste. Check your carbon footprint with this tool: [WWF Footprint Calculator](#)

The next CAFOD and livesimply meeting is on Saturday 15 April from 10.00am until 12.00pm. All welcome to join.

Good Friday Passion for Exeter

Friday 7 April 10.00-10.45am in the Cathedral and 10.45-11.30am on the Green.

Led by Hannah Richards (City Community Church, and Chair of Christians Together Across Exeter) and Ash Leighton Plom (St David's with St Michael's Mt Dinham, and Deputy Chair of Christians Together Across Exeter). Messages from Rev. Paul Snell (County Ecumenical Officer for Devon) and Pastor Mark Pugh (Rediscover Church). Prayer ministry by Exeter Roman Catholic Parishes and Pastor Samuel Oluwafemi from Exeter's Redeemed Christian Church of God. Music by Exeter Chinese Church and Exeter Salvation Army Band.

FORMING IN FAITH

Is God really listening?

The next session of 'The Prayer Course' is about **Unanswered Prayer**, something we have all experienced. Please join us on Monday 27 March at 10.30am in the Lower Room, Sacred Heart church OR Tuesday 28 March at 7.00pm in the St Richard Reynolds Centre at Blessed Sacrament. Don't worry if you have missed the first sessions, you will really enjoy the films and discussion.

NB no sessions on Mon/Tues 10/11 April. Sessions after Easter 24/25 April.

Thinking of becoming a Catholic?

If you are thinking of joining the Church or would simply like to know more about it, then you are welcome to join us. We will meet next on **Thursday 30 March** at 7.30pm in the Lower Room at Sacred Heart. Meetings are friendly and informal, and you don't need to do anything to prepare. Don't worry if you feel a bit daunted, this could be the first step towards a whole new life! We look forward to welcoming you.

Wednesday Word Scripture Reflection

Meet online via Zoom from 2.00 – 3.00pm each Wednesday. If you would like to join us, contact Maria: exeter-pastoral-assistant@prcdtr.org.uk. Come whenever you can to explore the riches of the scriptures. You will be most welcome.

Preparing for Baptism

We are now taking bookings for the April sessions.

Are you expecting a baby and/or looking to have your child baptised? We look forward to supporting you in preparation for this important sacrament and welcoming you and your family into our parish family. Sessions run over two consecutive Saturday mornings from 10.15-12.00 on Zoom. Dates: 15/22 April, 15/22 July and 14/21 October. Godparents are especially welcome to attend the second Saturday session as the role of Godparents is explored. Click on the link below to register. If you have any problems accessing this, please contact Lesley in the parish office on 01392 274724 or at exeter-heavytrees@prcdtr.org.uk [Baptism Enquiry form](#).

Dipping into the Catechism [Click here for the March sheets](#)

YOUTH & FAMILY EVENTS

GIFT Youth & Socials News

The first Gift Youth Social was held last Friday evening and everyone enjoyed getting together. The next social will be held in the St Richard Reynolds Centre on Friday 21 April from 7.30 till 9.30pm.

To ensure that our safeguarding and GDPR procedures are robust we ask that the parent of any young person **MUST** have registered/re-registered them using the NEW form (using the link sent to parents on 10 March or [use this link](#) before they come along to future Gift Youth Socials and Gift Youth Saturdays. This will ensure that we have all the required details about the young person as well as the necessary consents from their parents to enable us to keep them safe.

Youth Events Newsletter [Click here for the March Newsletter](#)

GIFT: Gateway to the Sacraments

GIFT is the gateway to the sacraments of Reconciliation, Holy Communion and Confirmation in the Exeter parishes. [Click here](#) to find out more about GIFT.

Next GIFT Meeting: Saturday 1 April at Blessed Sacrament church. Mass will be celebrated at 9.30am and will be followed by an interactive People's Passion Play with the Riding Lights Theatre Company.

NEWS & EVENTS

Love the Stranger

Love The Stranger is a new publication that presents a Catholic response to migrants and refugees. It places the human being at the heart of our pastoral outreach, looking beyond statistics and policies to the person - each with a name, a face and a story.

Visit our website [Diocese of Plymouth Migrants & Refugees](#)

to read more and please email caritas@prcdtr.org.uk to find out about projects aimed at helping refugees here in our Diocese.

Sacred Heart International Café

26 March after the Sunday 11.15am Mass. Organised by a group of parishioners from various cultures, mainly Hong Kong and the Philippines. There will be tea, coffee, and refreshments. All parishioners are welcome. If you want to volunteer at the Café, please contact Dennis Mak at dennismph@gmail.com.

Gardening help needed

A disabled parishioner would greatly appreciate some help tidying up her garden. If you can help, please contact Blessed Sacrament Parish Office for more information.

Caritas March Newsletter [Please click here to read.](#)

Rise Theatre Company Presents: *Faithful Companions*



On Thursday 30 March at 7.30 pm at the Royal Lyceum. *Faithful Companions* explores the inspirational true story of the Marie Madeleine d'houlst, founders of an International Society of Catholic Sisters - The Faithful Companions of Jesus. www.fcjsisters.org In the play we see the courageous story of one woman's fight to address the great need in the world around her in 19th century France and beyond, lived through steadfast devotion to Jesus Christ and responding to God's

call. It's an inspirational story of faith, love, loss, discernment, vocation, social justice & missionary zeal...and a great opportunity to deepen your Lenten reflections and journey towards Easter.

Tickets £5 in advance or £8 on the door [To get tickets click here](#)

Doors open at 7.00pm - Limited street parking is available but nearest car parks are located - Lower Union Lane TQ2 5PN (Abbey Road Entrance) Levels 1 to 5a (8am to midnight) & Fleet Walk Shopping Centre TQ2 5EA

Due to the age of the building disabled facilities are limited, please contact the box office at +447795640458 or email (the new box-office email) before booking tickets.

Big Exeter Sleep Out 2023

Chris, Dalton and Marian are taking part in this year's Big Sleep Out to raise money for Julian House. [To donate please use this link](#) Thank you.

St Nicholas School News

We have had some wild and wacky hair and clothes worn on Thursday this week to raise over £150 for CAFOD! We are now approaching the end of Spring term and will be holding our Supper of the Lord and Way of the Cross liturgies next week in preparation for Easter.

If you wish to find out more about your child joining our school community or about being a volunteer to hear children reading please contact Mrs Brocksom at:

abrocksom@stncls.uk

Vacancy in the Diocese of Plymouth

Lettings Co-Ordinator. The role is part of the Property Department. The post holder will have the day-to-day responsibility of liaising with letting agents and Diocesan representatives to coordinate all aspects of the lettings process. If you have

experience as a letting agent or administrator with up to date and thorough knowledge of housing and tenant legislation and have the ability to act as a key representative for the Diocese of Plymouth we would love to hear from you. The post will be for 28 hours per week and based at St. Boniface House. For more information please visit the careers page on the Diocese of Plymouth website. To apply send application form and covering letter to recruitment@prcdtr.org.uk
Closing date for applications is 27 March.

Kenyan Educational Sponsorship (KES)

Sponsor Fr Albert, Fr Anil, Deacon Kelvin and Brian Bargent who are giving up alcohol, chocolate, cake & biscuits for Lent in aid of KES supporting four students from extremely impoverished backgrounds through High School. Add your name to the list, at the back of Sacred Heart and in the porch at Blessed Sacrament.

Are YOU being Called to Serve?

as a Permanent Deacon? Come to our Enquirers' Day on Saturday 29 April at St Boniface House Ashburton 10.30am-1.30pm For more details or to book a place, please contact Deacon Nick Johnson on 07768 622343 or by email at nick.johnson@prcdtr.org.uk See also: www.ukvocation.org or [this link](#).

People's Passion Play

Riding Lights Theatre Company are coming to Blessed Sacrament on Saturday 1 April for a performance of the People's Passion Play. Following the 9.30am Mass there will be refreshments while things are set up for a 10.45am start. Our GIFT families are joining us on this day and everyone is welcome.

Catholic Children's Society (Plymouth)

Recycle Your Ink Cartridges and Help Support CCSP. Please pop your used ink cartridges in the box located in the Baptistry at Blessed Sacrament. Thank you.

Ascension Day fundraiser at Buckfast Abbey on Thursday 18 May the CCSP is holding an event. It starts at midday with Mass in the Abbey, followed by a 2-course lunch, raffle and then a guest speaker. We are delighted to announce that Rear Admiral Chris Snow CBE, the Deputy Lord-Lieutenant of Devon will join us to talk about his role assisting the Lord-Lieutenant of Devon, who is His Majesty the King's personal representative in the county. Tickets on a first come-first served basis at £30 with all proceeds going towards helping vulnerable children and families living in our Diocese. Book tickets by email vicki.dunstone@prcdtr.org.uk or 01364 645420.

Poetry reading: 'Utterly Staggering'

On Thursday 30 March at 12.30pm at St Stephen's church Richard Skinner will give a reading of his poem based on the gospel accounts of the first Easter and will be complemented by poems from Helen Evans and music from Bee Harley. Drinks from 12.30pm. Free entry with donations for Exeter Food Action.

Big Diocesan Quiz (CCSP)

Friday 28 April at 7.00pm in the St Richard Reynolds Centre. We need volunteers to help organise the Quiz and sell tickets. Contact Lesley in the Parish Office if you can help in any way. Thank you.

Building Sanctuary - Responding to Refugees

'Responding to Refugees' with City of Sanctuary President Rev Dr Inderjit Bhogal on Sunday 30 April 10.30am and 2.00pm at Southernhay URC. Rev Dr Bhogal, (<https://inderjitbhogal.com/>) will preach at the 10.30 am service and speak at 2.30pm. Dr Bhogal is one of the founders and President of the City of Sanctuary movement, former President of the Methodist Conference and former Leader of the Corrymeela ecumenical and peacemaking community in N. Ireland. Event organised by the Exeter and SW Corrymeela group. Everyone welcome.

St George's Day Concert

Holy Cross Topsham Sunday 23 April 4.00-5.00pm.

A recital of organ and cello music from David Davies and Hilary Boxer followed by refreshments (weather permitting). David Davies, organist at Buckfast Abbey, will play Holy Cross's 1786 Robert and William Gray chamber organ and Hilary Boxer her 1750 Thomas Smith cello. The programme will include works by the English composers Dowland, Eccles, Berkeley, Elgar and Vaughan Williams as well music by Handel, Bach and Vivaldi. Tickets (free) can be requested through the Events page of the [Holy Cross website](#). Retiring collection to cover the costs of the concert and to raise money for Médecins Sans Frontières and Refugee Support (Devon).

PRAYER & LITURGY

Fr Harry Doyle – Please pray for Fr Harry who has gone into hospital for a short visit to receive some medical help. He is being well looked after and we hope to see him back at home very soon. Please keep him in your prayers.

Prayer Around the Cross – Friday 7 April at 7.00pm at St. Pancras Church, Guildhall Shopping Centre. It consists of readings, prayers, meditations and silence, interspersed with songs and chants from Taizé and elsewhere around the world.

Pope's March Prayer Intention – For victims of abuse. For those who have suffered harm from members of the Church; may they find within the Church herself a concrete response to their pain and suffering.

CAFOD – this month's inspiration "We cannot resign ourselves and stand at the window and watch. We cannot remain indifferent or apathetic without assuming responsibility for others and for society." *Pope Francis*

HOLY WEEK AT SACRED HEART

Palm Sunday 2 April

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

Monday 3 April

Mass 10.00am

Tuesday 4 April

Mass 10.00am

Wednesday 5 April

Mass 9.00am

Chrism Mass *Plymouth Cathedral* 12 noon

THE PASCHAL TRIDUUM

Maundy Thursday 6 April

Mass of the Lord's Supper 7.30pm

Watching at the Altar of Repose until 10.00pm

Polish Mass at Holy Cross, Topsham 7.00pm

Good Friday 7 April

The Passion of the Lord 3.00pm

Polish Stations of the Cross 6.30pm

Polish Liturgy 7.00pm

Holy Saturday 8 April

Blessing of Polish Easter baskets 10.15am, 10.45
& 11.00am

The Easter Vigil 8.00pm

Easter Sunday 9 April

Mass 9.15am, 11.15am

Polish Mass 1.15pm, 3.00pm

Easter Monday 10 April

Mass 10.00am

Polish Mass 1.15pm

HOLY WEEK AT BLESSED SACRAMENT

Palm Sunday 2 April

Mass 8.45am, 10.45am, 6.00pm

Monday 3 April

No Mass

Tuesday 4 April

Mass 6.30pm

Wednesday 5 April

No Mass

Chrism Mass *Plymouth Cathedral* 12 noon

THE PASCHAL TRIDUUM

Maundy Thursday 6 April

Mass of the Lord's Supper 7.00pm

Watching at the Altar of Repose until 10.30pm

Good Friday 7 April

Morning Prayer & Office of Readings 9.30am

The Passion of the Lord 3.00pm

Holy Saturday 8 April

Morning Prayer & Office of Readings 9.30am

The Easter Vigil 9.00pm

Easter Sunday 9 April

Mass 8.45am, 10.45am, No evening Mass

Easter Monday 10 April

Mass 9.30am

EASTER

Easter Offerings

Your gift to the priests of the parishes. You can make your offering by using one of the envelopes available in the church, if you are a planned giver by using the envelope provided in your box, or by placing your offering directly in the collection. If you usually offer by standing order why not make a bank transfer: put 'Easter Offering' in the narrative. Thank you.

THE WORD

Sunday 26 March – Fifth Sunday of Lent

First Reading Ezekiel 37:12-14

I shall put my spirit in you, and you will live.

Psalm Response: With the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption.

Second Reading Romans 8:8-11

The Spirit of him who raided Jesus from the dead is living in you

Gospel John 11:1-45

I am the resurrection and the life.

Sunday 2 April – Palm Sunday the Passion of the Lord

First Reading Isaiah 50:4-7

I did not cover my face against insult – I know I shall not be shamed.

Psalm Response: My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?

Second Reading Philippians 2:6-11

He humbled himself, but God raised him high.

Gospel Matthew 26:14-27:66

The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ

CONTACT US

Blessed Sacrament

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exeter-heavitree@prcdtr.org.uk

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Priest in retirement

Fr John Watkins

Parish Secretary

Lesley Hooper

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Thursday 10.00am–4.00pm

Gift Aid enquiries:

exeter-heavitree@prcdtr.org.uk

Sacred Heart

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01392 272815

exeter-sacredheart@prcdtr.org.uk

Parish Priest

Fr Petroc Cobb

Assistant Priests

Fr Albert Lawes

Fr Anil Gundabatina

Deacons

Delian Bower

Kelvin Russell

Parish Secretary

Coral Saunders-Mortier

Office Hours 9.00am–12.00pm &

1.00pm–4.00pm Tuesday–Friday

Gift Aid enquiries: [exeter-sacredheart-](mailto:exeter-sacredheart-giftaid@prcdtr.org.uk)

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Parish School

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Useful links

[Bishops' Conference Updates](#)

[Churches Together Devon News](#)

[Churches Together Exeter News](#)

[Churches Together England News](#)

Catholic Exeter is part of the Roman
Catholic Diocese of Plymouth.