CATHOLIC EXETER



Parishes of Sacred Heart, Blessed Sacrament, and Holy Cross
5 November 2023 Thirty First Sunday in Ordinary Time. Year A. Psalter Week 3



They do not practise what they preach

Living out our faith requires more than just words or rituals. It's about the way we connect with others and lead by example.

In the second reading today, we see the apostles' dedication to sharing their faith through loving relationships, akin

to a mother's care for her children. This serves as a model for us in how we can convey the message of faith—through genuine, heartfelt connections. Similarly, Jesus emphasized the importance of faithful leadership and sincerity in religious matters. He urged leaders to avoid hypocrisy and to remain true to their beliefs, setting a genuine example for others.

In essence, the readings for this Sunday remind us that faith isn't just a private matter; it's about how we treat others and the authenticity we bring to our relationships. True faith shines through in our actions, care for one another, and our commitment to living by the values we profess.

MASS TIMES BLESSED SACRAMENT



Sunday 5 November - Thirty First Sunday in Ordinary Time

8.45am All Souls

10.45am People of the Parish

Followed by refreshments in St Richard Reynolds Centre

3.00pm Blessing of Graves at Higher Cemetery

3.00pm Syro-Malabar Mass

6.00pm Peace in the Middle East & Ukraine

Tuesday 7 November

6.30pm Special Intention

Wednesday 8 November

9.30am Margaret Parker & John Mussell RIP

Followed by refreshments in St Richard Reynolds Centre

Thursday 9 November – The Dedication of the Lateran Basilica **10.00am**Past and present members of the Thursday Lunch Club

Please note the later time

7.00pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Friday 10 November - St Leo the Great, Pope & Doctor

7.00pm Confirmation

Saturday II November - St Martin of Tours, Bishop

9.30am The Evans Family

Sunday 12 November – Thirty Second Sunday in Ordinary Time Remembrance Day – All victims of War

8.45am People of the Parish

10.45am Olwyn & Dudley Folland RIP

Followed by refreshments in St Richard Reynolds Centre

6.00pm For the repose of the souls of Catenians & Catholics of Exeter

killed in the 1939/45 war

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.

MASS TIMES SACRED HEART



Sunday 5 November - Thirty First Sunday in Ordinary Time

5.30pm (Sat) Most Abandoned Souls in Purgatory

9.15am Mgr Harry Doyle RIP - Mass with Liturgy of the Word for Children.

Followed by refreshments in the Lower Room

11.15am People of the Parish1.15pm Mass in Polish

5.30-6.00pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament & Benediction

Monday 6 November

10.00am Foss Family

Tuesday 7 November – St Willibrord, Bishop

10.00am Parishioners of Sacred Heart who fell in the Great War (1914-1918)

Followed by refreshments in the Lower Room

5.30-6.00pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament & Benediction

Wednesday 8 November

10.00am Margaret & Kenneth Found RIP

Followed by SVP Chatter Café in the Lower Room

Thursday 9 November – Dedication of the Lateran Basilica, Feast 6.30pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament & Benediction

7.00pm All Souls

Friday 10 November - St Leo the Great, Pope & Doctor

10.00am All Souls

Saturday II November - St Martin of Tours, Bishop

10.00am Pietro Giannone RIP

Followed by CWL refreshments in the Lower Room

Sunday 12 November – Thirty Second Sunday in Ordinary Time Remembrance Day – All victims of War

5.30pm (Sat) Mgr Harry Doyle RIP

9.15am Fr Kieran Kirby RIP - Mass with Liturgy of the Word for Children.

Followed by refreshments in the Lower Room

11.15am People of the Parish1.15pm Mass in Polish

5.30-6.00pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament & Benediction

Confessions Saturday after 10.00am Mass and 4.00-5.00pm, and on request.

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

Live stream Mass To access the YouTube stream please click here.

MASS TIMES HOLY CROSS, TOPSHAM

Sunday 5 November Thirty First Sunday in Ordinary Time

11.00am People of the Parish

Thursday 9 November – The Dedication of the Lateran Basilica, Feast 10 00am

Sunday 12 November Thirty Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

People of the Parish

EXETER NEWS & EVENTS

Celebrating the Sacrament of Confirmation

On **Friday 10 November** 20 young people and 4 adults of the Exeter parishes will be confirmed at Blessed Sacrament. The Mass will be at the slightly later time of **7.00pm** that evening. The Mass will be live streamed via the link in the newsletter. Please keep the Confirmands and their sponsors in your prayers this week.

GIFT Youth Bingo & Talent Show

You are invited to our first GIFT Youth fundraiser, a Bingo and Talent Show Night on **Friday 17 November** at St Nicholas Catholic Primary School from **7.00-9.00pm**.

Family tickets cost $\pounds 5$. We are raising money for our GIFT Youth Social Fund which supports youth activities, and a charity of their choice. Tickets will also be available on the door. We look forward to welcoming you.

Advent Fair

The CAFOD team and the livesimply group are holding an Advent Fair in the St Richard Reynolds Centre at Blessed Sacrament Church on **Saturday 18 November from 10.00am to 1.00pm**. We will be selling handmade crafts, gifts, cards and Christmas decorations. There will also be refreshments, local honey and sweet treats. Come along and support our crafters and makers. All proceeds for CAFOD. Only cash and cheques can be accepted.

Blessing of Graves

Praying for the dead is one of the most important things we do as Christians. Join us at Exeter Higher Cemetery (Hamlin Lane entrance) this afternoon, **Sunday 5 November** at **3.00pm** to visit the graves of our loved ones. Even if they are buried far away come and join in this act of remembrance and love.

Gift of Remembered Love

On **Friday 24 November at 7.00pm** at Blessed Sacrament Church you are invited to join us to remember all those we have loved and lost. This collective act of thanksgiving will include readings, prayers, songs and reflections to help us remember and to give thanks for their lives. All welcome. Please invite anyone you know, family or friends who you think may like to come. This will be followed by refreshments in the St Richard Reynolds Centre

World Day of the Poor 2023

Do not turn your face away from anyone who is poor. Tobit 4:7

"These words help us to understand the essence of our witness. By reflecting on the Book of Tobit, a little-known text of the Old Testament, yet one that is charming and full of wisdom, we can better appreciate the message the sacred writer wished to communicate."

Pope Francis.

We are invited to celebrate World Day of the Poor on **Sunday 19 November** and to make every effort to create moments of encounter and friendship, solidary and concrete assistance with those who are poor. Pope Francis' message this year is a clear call to us not to turn our face away from the poor so that God's face will not be turned away from us. The recent Synodal Assembly message to the people of God reminds is that to progress in our discernment, the Church absolutely needs to listen to everyone, starting with the poorest. This requires a path of conversion, which is also a path of praise: "I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that you have hidden these things from the wise and understanding and revealed them to little children" (Luke 10:21).

We are invited at all times, but particularly on this Sunday, to reflect on how we can draw close to those who are poor and bring hope and dignity to all who are in need both at a personal and parish level. You can find more information on the Diocesan website www.plymouth-diocese.org.uk/wdp23/

Pope Francis - Laudate Deum

Pope Francis has issued a new Apostolic Exhortation, Laudate Deum on the climate crisis. Copies are available from the Blessed Sacrament Parish Office price £4.95.

Sacred Heart International Mass

It's that time of the year again! We are organising the 2024 International Mass. Please join us at the planning meeting on **7 November at 7.00pm** in the Lower Room at Sacred Heart. Please contact Vivianne Anderson on hot-ma@hotmail.com to confirm.

"Never Say Dy"

Performance dates: Friday I and Saturday 2 December at 7.00pm and Sunday 3 December at 2.30pm. All performances in the Lower Room. All proceeds to charity. Apply to gerryhinton@aol.com or maureenspeller@hotmail.com or any member of the Arts Group.



Movember

The Deacons of the parish are growing moustaches this November to raise money and awareness of prostate cancer. Any men across Catholic Exeter are invited to join them. Please show your support by sponsoring them on the list at the back of the church. (Photo reproduced with permission of Deacon Kelvin)

Advent Retreat Day

"Prepare A Way For The Lord" Faith And Works led by Deacon Nick Johnson. On **Saturday 9 December** at St Rita's Centre, Honiton. The day will begin with coffee/tea on arrival at 9.30am. The first talk will start at 10.15am. Adoration in silence (with opportunity for Confession) at 11.15pm. Second talk will be at 12.10pm. Lunch at 1.00pm. The third talk will start at 2.10pm. Mass at 3.15pm. The charge for the day, including lunch, is £25.00. Booking can be made by phone, email or online at www.stritascentre.org/events Payment can be made on the day.

Vacancies in the Diocese of Plymouth

Parish Secretary for Blessed Sacrament Parish

The purpose of the role is to manage the administrative and secretarial support alongside the office resources to ensure the smooth running of the Parish and to enable the Parish Priest to carry out his diocesan responsibilities.

If you have excellent organisational skills and the ability to act as a key representative for the Diocese of Plymouth we would love to hear from you. The hours are 28 per week. Closing date for applications Monday 20 November. Interviews Wednesday 6 December. More information and how to apply at this link.

Finance Supervisor at St Boniface House

Working within our Central Finance Team, the role provides effective and efficient financial services to the Diocesan Administration Office, the Clergy and the parishes. The post holder should have an eye for detail and be well organised. They will need to be fully AAT qualified or part CCAB qualified. The hours are 35 per week and the salary is competitive. The closing date is Monday 13 November

For more information on both posts including application details please visit the careers page on the Diocese of Plymouth website.

Thursday Lunch Club at Blessed Sacrament

Are looking for new recruits to the group of helpers who keep the club going. The volunteers help set up at the St Richard Reynolds Centre, serve lunch and then help clear up afterwards. You don't have to do any cooking as the meals are provided. The rota is such that your turn is probably only one in three lunches and there is also an opportunity to go on occasional outings. If you think you could help or would like more information please give Di Bish a call on 07940 142124 or email her at clydebish@hotmail.com. Thank you.



Exeter Night Fever

On **Thursday 30 November** we will open wide the doors of Sacred Heart Church and invite our local community to be touched by the love and beauty that we encounter through our faith. We will invite passersby into the church to light a candle as a symbol of their concerns and thoughts.

We need your help to welcome people into the church and to pray for them and their intentions. This is an event every parishioner, young and old can help with and we really need your help!

We will begin with Mass at 6.00pm followed by Exposition and conclude with Night Prayer at 9.15pm. Please, please, join us for as much of this time as you can offer. No need to sign up, just turn up on the night. For more details please speak to members of the pastoral council/SLT or email liztoy@hotmail.com



HOW YOU CAN HELP

Nominations

We ask you to nominate someone (individual or family), who does not have to be a parishioner, you think would benefit from a small gift this Christmas, someone who is struggling financially or who is lonely, sick or housebound. There are nomination forms at Blessed Sacrament. Please complete one and return it to the parish office

I nominate	 	
Address	 	

Copies of this form will be available in the Blessed Sacrament church porch. All nominations will be treated in confidence. Please return to the parish office/via the presbytery letterbox

Donations of money

All donations can be placed in an envelope marked 'Love Christmas'. and put in the collection basket when you come to Mass at Blessed Sacrament. If you have the parish bank details, you can donate this way. Please add 'Love Christmas' in the narrative box. Please contact the Parish Office if you have any questions.

NB: Last date for donations & nominations is 8 December.

Vision Team at Blessed Sacrament

The newly formed Parish Vision Team met recently for the first time. The team consists of members of the Senior Leadership Team; Fr Jonathan, Maria Quinn, Lesley Hooper, Jane Martin, Sheila Hosker and Gary Martin and members of the parish; Angela Bosley, Angela Folland, Ann Wright, Ola Godbeer and Chris Jones.

We have responsibility for the long-term vision of the parish, asking the question; what do we want to be like in five years' time? Our conversation included the liturgy, ministry, small communities, evangelisation and expectations. We intend to meet 4-5 times a year. Please keep us in your prayers.

Blessed Sacrament - Parish in Council

Please save the date Saturday 20 January.

The Parish Vision Team and SLT invite you to join them for a morning of reflection and conversation about our parish community. Inspired by the call to be a synodal Church, we will listen to the Holy Spirit and one another in an effort to understand who God is calling us to be as a parish community. The meeting is open to all parishioners, and we look forward to seeing you there.

St Nicks News



After a lovely half term break we are back into the swing of things at St Nicholas. We are looking forward to showing the school to prospective parents later this month when we hold our Reception 2024 open days. Any parents wishing to come and see the school can email Mrs Brocksom, abrocksom@stncs.uk, to find out more.

We held a firework themed lunch this week with hotdogs and ginger cake, and teachers are already starting to think

about rehearsing for nativity plays and checking the sheep and shepherd costumes we hold in school! It is always such a lovely term with so many memorable activities.

Thinking of becoming a Catholic?

Please join us. The next meeting is on **Thursday 9 November** 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! Please join us, you will be very welcome.



Exeter Foodbank News

This month's priority items required: Tins of meat, tins of vegetables, tinned fruit, jams and spreads, noodle & pasta snacks, small jars of coffee and tinned rice pudding.

Collection points are located at Sacred Heart & Blessed Sacrament churches, and in local supermarkets. <u>Click here for more information.</u>

WIDER NEWS & EVENTS

Diocese of Plymouth Newsletter

The diocese is publishing a regular newsletter with items of interest from across the diocese as well as further afield. <u>Here is the link to the latest newsletter</u>

And here is the link if people would like to sign up to receive the next newsletter and weekly Advent reflections

Diocesan Vocations Newsletter

The diocesan vocations team has recently launched a digital newsletter to keep enquirers and the parishes informed about our work, including our vocations events hosted throughout the Diocese. If you would like to find out more and read about some of the young men currently in formation in the Diocese, please subscribe to the mailing list by visiting https://priesthoodplymouth.co.uk/



CAFOD News

Fix the Food Campaign is working! Following our latest actions, the World Bank agreed to meet with CAFOD representatives in both London and

Morocco and have started to look at the issue. This is an important step forward in this campaign. But we know that big businesses will continue lobbying the World Bank to try to put profits before access to food. Next year we will continue to strengthen international solidarity and build on what we've achieved this year. Israeli-Palestinian Crisis We have all been shocked and saddened by the images and stories in the media from Israel and Gaza. CAFOD has worked for many years in both Israel and the occupied Palestinian territory (oPt) with partners who are Christian, Jewish, Muslim and secular, and we join Pope Francis' urgent call for peace and an end to the violence. This is what we can do:

- 1. Send an Email to the Foreign Secretary to play its part in upholding International Law ensuring humanitarian aid can reach people in need and work with other world leaders to secure peace for this region. Call for peace and international law to be upheld in the Holy Land (cafod.org.uk)
- 2. Pray for peace in the Middle East Pray this prayer with your parish, family or on your own. Pray for peace in the Middle East (cafod.org.uk)
- 3. EMERGENCY Israeli-Palestinian Crisis Appeal Donate now and your contribution today will allow us to provide urgent, practical help to families who need it, as soon as its safe to do so. Israeli-Palestinian conflict:(cafod.org.uk)

Donate to the Israeli-Palestinian Crisis Appeal

Your donation today will allow CAFOD to provide urgent, practical help to families who need it as soon as it is safe to do so. You can donate here

Advent Retreats

Ignatian silent, individually guided retreats coming up in the Plymouth Diocese.
Places still available at St Rita's Centre Honiton on these dates:

Nov 24 - 26 (Fri - Sun) Weekend Retreat

Nov 26 – I Dec (Mon – Fri) Midweek Retreat

Nov 24 - ^t Dec (Fri - Fri) 6-day retreat.

Cost includes full board & lodging. Recommended donation: Weekend Retreat £140; Midweek Retreat £240; 6 – day Retreat £450. Some of the cost could be offset for individuals who would like to go on a retreat but may have difficulties with the suggested donation. For a booking form please contact Plymouth Diocesan Ignatian Spirituality Group at diocesan-ignatian-retreats@prcdtr.org.uk or phone 01752 769164 or 07823 447637

Synodal Newsletter November 2023: Read it here.

Red Wednesday

Mass for Persecuted Christians at 7.00pm at St. Peter's, Crownhill, on Wednesday, 22 November, followed by Rosary.

Saying Goodbye Remembrance Service

Saturday 18 November at St Andrew's Minster, Plymouth at 11.00am.

Who is the service for? Anyone who has either personally lost a baby at any stage of pregnancy, at birth or in early years, or who has been affected by a family member or friends' loss. Whether the loss was recent or 80 years ago, everyone is welcome to attend. We have also extended the services, and gladly welcome anyone who is grieving the fact that they haven't had children. This may be due to circumstance, infertility or for other reasons - but all are welcome. Babies and children are also invited to come with their family, as the Saying Goodbye service is truly a family event for all. To read more on the charity, click here.

FORMING IN FAITH

GIFT Youth & Socials News

The next Gift Youth Social will be on 17 November when they will be hosting a **Bingo & Talent Show Friday.**

Calling all parishioners:

come along to a Bingo and Talent Show at St Nicholas School from 7.30 – 9.30pm which is being organised by our youth to help raise funds for GIFT Youth activities and CAFOD. For more info get in touch with Maria: exeter-pastoral-assistant@prcdtr.org.uk



GIFT for families

GIFT is offered to all primary and secondary aged families and supports them to live and grow as Catholic Christians. GIFT meets monthly to worship together and learn about our Catholic faith. GIFT also enables parents to prepare their children to receive the sacraments of Reconciliation, Holy Communion and Confirmation. Click here to register for GIFT. Next GIFT Meeting Saturday 2 December at 9.45am at St Nicholas School, Ringswell Avenue, Exeter EXI 3EG.

Wednesday Word Scripture Reflection

We 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.

Are your prayers unanswered?

Join us in exploring the hardest and most personal questions we all ask about prayer as we journey through the Prayer Course II: 'Unanswered Prayer'. Meet fortnightly on **Monday 6 November** in Sacred Heart Lower Room after 10.00am Mass. There will not be a meeting at Blessed Sacrament but you will be welcome at the Sacred Heart meetings. We will resume Forming in Faith at Blessed Sacrament in the spring.

Dipping into the Catechism For October sheets click here

PRAYER & LITURGY

Praying for our Confirmation Candidates

Please continue to pray for all those who will be receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation on 10 November.

Worship Thursdays at Blessed Sacrament

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament each Thursday 7.00-8.00pm

Adoration with Taizé 2nd Thursday of each month: 9 November, 14 December.

Adoration with Stronghold Praise & Worship Third Thursday of each month: 16 November, 21 December.

Praying the Rosary at Blessed Sacrament

Join us on the second and fourth Wednesdays of October, November and December after the 9.30am Mass in the church. We'd love to see you.

We commend to the Lord...

Bernard Castlehouse and David Duben who have died recently.

A funeral service for Bernard will be celebrated at Blessed Sacrament on Tuesday 14 November at 10.30am. May they rest in peace and rise in glory and may their families find consolation and peace.

Pope's October Prayer Intention

We pray for the Holy Father; as he fulfills his mission, may he continue to accompany the flock entrusted to him, with the help of the Holy Spirit. See also The Pope Video

THE WORD

Sunday 5 November 31st Sunday in Ordinary Time

First Reading Malachi 1:14-2:2.8-10

You have strayed from the way, you have caused many to stumble by your teaching.

Psalm Response: Keep my soul in peace before you, O Lord.

Second Reading Thessalonians 2:7-9.13

We were eager to hand over to you not only the Good news but our lives as well.

Gospel Matthew 23:1-12 They do not practice what they preach.

Sunday 12 November 32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

First Reading Wisdom 6:12-16

Wisdom is found by those who look for her.

Psalm Response: For you my soul is thirsting, O God, my God.

Second Reading Thessalonians 4:13-14

God will bring with him those who have died in Jesus.

Gospel Matthew 25:1-3 The bridegroom is here! Go out and meet him.

CONTACT US

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exeter-sacredheart@prcdtr.org.uk

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Assistant Priests

Fr Albert Lawes 01392 642378

Deacons

Brian Bargent 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-

giftaid@prcdtr.org.uk

Blessed Sacrament

29 Fore Street, Heavitree, Exeter EX 1 2QJ 01392 274724

exeter-heavitree@prcdtr.org.uk

Parish Priest

Fr Jonathan Stewart

Priest in retirement

Fr John Watkins

Parish Secretary

Lesley Hooper

Office hours Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 10.00am—4.00pm

Gift Aid enquiries:

exeter-heavitree@prcdtr.org.uk

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.