

CATHOLIC EXETER



Parishes of Sacred Heart, Blessed Sacrament, and Holy Cross
14 January 2024. Second Sunday in Ordinary Time. Year B. Psalter Week 2

COME AND SEE



What does it mean to be a follower of the Lord Jesus? Surely to listen and hear his voice, and to go where he leads us. Today, as we enter the “ordinary” season of the year, we begin our story of Jesus’s life and ministry with the calling of the first disciples. John fulfils his ministry - pointing to the Lamb of God - and the disciples follow where he points. His word to them is simple and inviting: “Come and see.” This echoes the calling of Samuel - a simple call, by name, which Samuel does not understand: discipleship is about trust, which Samuel shows simply by saying “Speak, Lord; your servant is listening. The Psalm also underlines this, as we (the disciples of the Lord) sing together: “Here I am, Lord! I come to do your will.” We hear his call, and we freely go to him, to listen again to the words of the Master. *Salford Office for Liturgy*

MASS TIMES BLESSED SACRAMENT



Sunday 14 January – Second Sunday in Ordinary Time Peace Sunday

8.45am *People of the Parish*
10.45am *Musicians & Singers*
Followed by refreshments in St Richard Reynolds Centre
6.00pm *Welcomers*

Tuesday 16 January

6.30pm *For Joanna*

Wednesday 17 January – St Anthony, Abbot

9.30am *Mrs Kelly's Intention*
Followed by refreshments in St Richard Reynolds Centre

Thursday 18 January

9.30am *For the soul of Latifat RIP*
7.00pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
Octave of prayer for Christian Unity until 25th

Friday 19 January

6.30pm *Young people of the parish*

Saturday 20 January

9.30am *Parish Catering Team*
Followed by Confessions

Sunday 21 January – Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

8.45am *Emma Bullous RIP*
10.45am *Church cleaners*
Followed by refreshments in St Richard Reynolds Centre
3.00pm Christian Unity Service
Followed by refreshments in St Richard Reynolds Centre
6.00pm *People of the Parish*

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 14 January - Second Sunday in Ordinary Time Peace Sunday

- 5.30pm (Sat) *Birthday Thanksgiving Aisosa Akpede*
9.15am *Private Intention*
Followed by refreshments in the Lower Room
11.15am *People of the Parish*
1.15pm *Mass in Polish*
5.30-6.00pm *Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament & Benediction*

Monday 15 January

- 10.00am *Peace in Palestine*

Tuesday 16 January

- 10.00am *Chris Lee RIP*
Followed by refreshments in the Lower Room
5.30-6.00pm *Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament & Benediction*

Wednesday 17 January – St Anthony Abbot

- 10.00am *Private Intention*
Followed by Chatter Café in the Lower Room

Thursday 18 January

- 6.30pm *Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament & Benediction*
7.00pm *James Buchanan RIP*
Octave of prayer for Christian Unity until 25th

Friday 19 January – St Wulstan, Bishop

- 10.00am *Vincent Reeve RIP*

Saturday 20 January – The Blessed Virgin Mary

- 10.00am *Private Intention*
Followed by CWL refreshments in the Lower Room

Sunday 21 January - Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

- 5.30pm (Sat) *People of the Parish*
9.15am *Rev Thomas Barney RIP*
Followed by refreshments in the Lower Room
11.15am *Private Intention*
1.15pm *Mass in Polish*
5.30-6.00pm *Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament & Benediction*

Confessions Saturdays after 10.00am Mass and at 4.00-5.00pm and on request

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 14 January – Second Sunday in Ordinary Time Peace Sunday

11.00am *People of the Parish*

Thursday 18 January

10.00am

Sunday 21 January – Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

11.15am *People of the Parish*

EXETER NEWS & EVENTS

Peace Sunday 2024

Today is peace Sunday and the theme chosen by Pope Francis is 'Artificial Intelligence and Peace'. Whilst this might seem a strangely technical theme, we know that we do need to think about the consequences of the advances in AI for peace and justice.

Certainly, governments around the world are taking the development of AI seriously. Pope Francis is raising a highly contemporary theme and one he has spoken on before when he has addressed the risks in the development of technology, not least in *Laudato Si'* and *Laudato Deum*.

Then there are the fundamental concerns that Pope Francis raised when he announced his theme for the World Day of Peace: the need to be vigilant that a 'logic of violence and discrimination' doesn't take root in the development of AI at the expense of the most fragile and excluded; that the advancement of AI does not fuel injustice and inequality and therefore conflict, and, of course, that AI is developed so that it serves humanity and the protection of our common home. It is a theme we will need to keep returning to.

Prayer for Peace

God our creator and sustainer, we thank you for the gifts of creativity you have given us, for the ability to explore science and understand your creation. We ask your forgiveness for the times we have used science for evil and not for good, for war and not for peace. Make us vigilant as we develop technology, that violence and discrimination may not take root, that injustice and inequality will not be fueled, that the poor and vulnerable will not pay the cost. May all that we create contribute to peace and justice. Amen.

Blessed Sacrament Parish in Council

On Saturday 20 January you are invited to join us for the first of what we intend to be an annual Parish in Council meeting.

As part of a synodal Church we place listening to the Holy Spirit and to one another at the heart of who we are and what we do. Parish in Council is a chance for us to review the state of play and to look forward to the future. The morning will include input from Fr Jonathan and members of the Parish Vision Team as well as the opportunity to discuss how we can continue to implement our vision this year. You are all invited, we need to hear what you think!

We hope that as many of you as possible will be able to join us. Saturday 20 January. 9.30am Mass. 10.00am–10.30am refreshments in the St Richard Reynolds Centre. 10.30am–12.30pm Parish in Council in the church.

The Bereavement Journey

The Bereavement Journey is a great place for talking to others who have been bereaved, or just to hear how others are experiencing and dealing with similar issues. Grief is more easily managed when journeying with others and past losses can be opened up safely.

If you have been bereaved and feel you may not have come to terms with your loss, we hope you will benefit from attending The Bereavement Journey which is being run in the St Richard Reynolds Centre at the Blessed Sacrament church. This journey offers 15 films over 7 sessions, offered weekly, starting on Saturday 10 February at 10.00am. Guests are placed in groups of 6-8 for discussion following the films and volunteers guide them in exploring their loss, aided by a Guest Manual (for a suggested donation of £15).

Anyone 18 years+ for whom someone important has died at any time is welcome. More information can be found on the Blessed Sacrament website and places must be booked in advance. This can be done by emailing or phoning the Parish Office. We look forward to welcoming you on this journey

CAFOD Pyramid Boxes

The Blessed Sacrament CAFOD group will be collecting in pyramid boxes at all Masses on Sunday 21 January. Please bring your box back to be emptied. It doesn't have to be full. Every penny we collect goes to help our brothers and sisters across the world who are living in desperate poverty. Further information and update on CAFOD's work can be found at <https://cafod.org.uk/>. If you would like to get more involved with CAFOD's work please leave your contact details with your parish office and we will get back to you.

Holy Communion at home

If you know of anyone who can no longer come to Mass and would like to be added to the list for home Communion visits from Sacred Heart, please inform Fr Petroc,

Fr Albert, or the Parish Office so that they can be added to our lists. For Blessed Sacrament please contact Fr Jonathan or the Blessed Sacrament Parish Office.

Mass Intentions at Sacred Heart

Our diary for Mass Intentions fills up very quickly! It is wonderful to see so many people praying for each other and for our departed friends and family. If you have specific dates for your intentions, it is a good idea to fill out the Mass Offering envelopes in good time to avoid disappointment. These can either be given directly to a Priest or put through the Parish Office post box.

Sacred Heart Church Book Club

The next meeting of the Book Club will be on Thursday 15 February at 7.30pm, after evening Mass. The book that we shall be reading is 'The Spire', by William Golding. All are welcome.

Legion of Mary Exeter Praesidium

We meet weekly on Friday at 6.00pm in the Sacred Heart Parish lower room. Come and join us to share our faith, pray together, and do apostolic work reaching out to people in need.



International Mass – Sacred Heart

We are very proud to host our annual International Mass on Sunday 4 February at 10:45am at Sacred Heart Church. You are invited to attend Mass followed by a Bring & Share Feast at Mecure Southgate Hotel, South Street. National Dress would add to the occasion. (Please bring a plate/dish of food sweet or savoury typical of your country.) There are no facilities for HOT Food. Please remember to label ingredients clearly, people could have allergies to e.g. nuts, wheat, dairy etc. There will also be a Bar available for you to purchase drinks.

International Mass FLAGS: Is your country represented?

Australia, Austria, Belgium, Botswana, Brazil, Canada, China, Colombia, Dubai, East Timor, England, Eritrea, Ecuador, France, Germany, Ghana, Hong Kong, Hungary, Ireland, Iraq, India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Lebanon, Lithuania, Malta, Mexico, Nigeria, Norway, New Zealand, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Romania, Rwanda, Scotland, Spain, Africa, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Singapore, Slovakia, UK, Ukraine, USA, Venezuela, Wales, Zambia, Zimbabwe,

If your flag is not on the list, Please contact Vivianne at email:hot-ma@hotmail.com or at the back of the church at any of the weekend Masses

Exeter Foodbank

Donations of the following priority items are especially needed: tinned meat, tinned vegetables, tinned fruit, noodle & pasta snacks, small jars of coffee, jams and spreads and rice pudding.

Collection Points include – Co-Op (Heavitree/St Thomas); Tesco (Exe Vale); Sainsbury's Alphington/Pinhoe/Guildhall); Waitrose (Gladstone Rd) as well as the back of the Blessed Sacrament and Sacred Heart churches. Please email Mark at info@exeterfoodbank.org.uk to find out how you can help. More information about Food Bank can be found at <https://exeter.foodbank.org.uk/give-help/donate-money/>

WIDER NEWS

Lent Retreat Day

A retreat day titled “a campaign of Christian service...” led by Fr. Jacek Kostuch will be held on the Saturday 2 March at St Rita's Centre, Honiton.

The day will begin with coffee/tea on arrival at 9.30am. The first talk will start at 10.00am, and the 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 will be celebrated at 2.45pm and there will be an opportunity for Confession. The charge for the day, including lunch (3 course meal), is just £25.00.

Booking can be made by phone, email or online (www.stritascentre.org/events)

Payment can be made on the day.

If you have any questions, please contact Krista Radzina on 01404 42635

Christians Together across Exeter (CTaX)

CTaX invites you to a United Prayer Service at 3.00pm on Sunday 21 January in Blessed Sacrament Church, followed by refreshments in the St Richard Reynolds Centre. This is an opportunity for Christians across Exeter to come together to pray for unity and peace. All are welcome.

Caritas Plymouth

Homelessness – How are we called to respond?

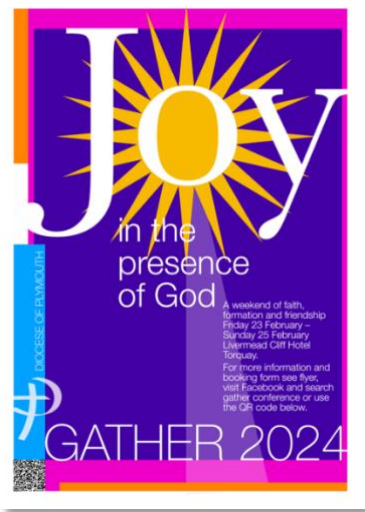
Join Caritas Diocese of Plymouth on Zoom on Wednesday 17 January from 6.00pm-7.00pm to pray and reflect on this important issue and to hear from charities across our Diocese about what they are doing and how we can respond. St Petros Cornwall and Routes to Roots based in Poole will be sharing their work and insights. Please register to receive the Zoom details <https://forms.office.com/e/VVp5t5qU7F>

Diocese of Plymouth Newsletter

The diocese is publishing a regular newsletter with items of interest from across the diocese as well as further afield. [Here is the link to the latest newsletter](#)

And here is [the link](#) if you would like to sign up to receive the next newsletter

Diocesan Youth Events Newsletter [click here](#)



GATHER 2024

Joy in the presence of God

The annual GATHER Conference unites people from across the Diocese of Plymouth and further afield for a weekend of faith, formation and friendship. This year, once again, we will gather at the Livermead Cliff Hotel, Torquay from Friday 23 February – Sunday 25 February.

Speakers include Avril Baigent from the Diocese of Northampton, artist Colin Bentley, Sr Mary Magdalen from the Sisters of Mary, Morning Star, Lynton and David Wells. Jo Boyce, from CJM Music will be leading the liturgies.

Join us for the whole weekend or come as a day delegate. To book use the QR code on the poster and flyer or [use this link](#). We look forward to seeing you there.

St Petrock's Annual Homelessness Service

Sunday 28 January at 4.00pm in St Petrock's church on Exeter High Street (with refreshments afterwards in St Petrock's centre). This is a simple annual church service we host each year to bring together supporters to reflect on homelessness in Exeter, with readings, Christian teaching, songs and a space to remember those from the homeless community who have died over the past year.

Vacancy in the Diocese of Plymouth

Assistant to Diocesan Care Officer

To support in delivering organisational and practical pastoral assistance to the clergy welfare support team. The primary objective of the team is to support the well-being of clergy members who are sick or retired from Ecclesiastical office in the diocese.

The ideal candidate should have an understanding of welfare provisions and be prepared to undertake proactive measures to support our clergy members. The post holder will require excellent interpersonal skills with the ability to build strong relationships, a keen eye for details and an empathetic nature.

If you have experience in a nursing and/or in the organisation of care support in the social sector, some awareness or knowledge of social care policy and legislation in relation to older people and an ability to act as a key representative for the diocese of Plymouth we encourage you to get in touch.

The hours are 21 per week and the location is St Boniface House, Ashburton or a Plymouth location. The closing date is Monday 29 January

For more information visit the careers page on the Diocesan website. To apply please send your application form and covering letter to recruitment@prcdtr.org.uk.

Caritas January Newsletter

Follow [this link](#) to the January edition of the Caritas Diocese of Plymouth newsletter.



Help Your Marriage – Do you feel alone? Are you frustrated or angry with each other? Do you argue... or have you just stopped talking to each

other? Does talking about it only make it worse? Retrouvaille is a programme to support couples who have difficulties in their marriage. It brings a positive focus, new hope and helps nourish and grow your marriage.

Tens of thousands of couples headed for divorce have successfully saved their marriages by attending and using the tools provided. The programme helps spouses uncover or re-awaken the love, trust and commitment that originally brought them together. It helps them through difficult times whether they are disillusioned or in deep misery. There is no group therapy or group work.

For confidential information about 'Retrouvaille' or to register for the next programme commencing with a Virtual weekend on 8 - 11 February 2024 or a Face to Face weekend in Welwyn Garden City on 14-16 June 2024, call or text 07887 296983 or 07973 380443 or email retrouvailleukinfo@gmail.com - or visit <http://www.retrouvaille.org.uk/>

Fancy helping at Inspire?

It is hoped that around 160 young people from across the diocese will gather together at Schiller Hall, **Buckfast Abbey**. I am looking for **volunteers** to support this event. On the day you will be asked to help marshal groups of young people, assist with directing them to the toilets etc. Not only will you be able to listen to the bands and hear the speakers, you will receive lunch.

In order to help on the day, you will need to be DBS checked and have attended the safeguarding training (can be done online). If you are interested in helping please email: youth@prcdtr.org.uk sharing what experience you have working with youth and why you would like to be part of the event team.

Bless Youth Ministry

March 2nd 2024, Schiller Hall, Buckfast Abbey.

INSPIRE

Saturday 2nd March 2024, Buckfast Abbey



Be inspired by the gift of the Holy Spirit

A Christian music festival for young people aged 13 - 25

Tickets £25 per person

Keynote speaker:



Music by:



CROSSBEAM



Diocese of Plymouth
Youth Events

For further information
or to book groups, contact,
Saskia: youth@prcdtr.org.uk

FORMING IN FAITH

GIFT tots

Next session Friday 26 January at Sacred Heart: Registration is Required

An hour of fun faith for pre-school age children and their parents and carers. Come together to pray, sing, explore and create the Good News as we Grow In Faith Together. Second Friday every month at St Richard Reynolds Centre, Blessed Sacrament. Fourth Friday every month at the Lower Room Sacred Heart. 10.15-11.15am. [GIFTtots Registration](#)

GIFT 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. Next GIFT Meeting: **Saturday 3 February at 9.45am** at St Nicholas School, Ringswell Avenue, Exeter EX1 3EG. [Click here to register for GIFT.](#)

GIFT Youth & Socials News

The next Gift Youth Social will be on **19 January 2024** and will have a French theme. If you have signed up for Gift Youth details of the next session will be sent to you. We ask that the parent of any young person wishing to come along to Gift Youth has registered them using the form [use this link](#) before they come along to Gift Youth Socials and Gift Youth Saturdays. This ensures the safety of the young people.

Baptism Preparation Course

Are you expecting a baby and/or wish to have your child baptised? We look forward to supporting you in preparation for this important sacrament and welcoming you and your family into the community of the Church. Courses are over two consecutive Saturday mornings from 10.15-12.15 delivered via Zoom.

Forthcoming dates: **27 January & 3 February**, 20 & 27 April, 20 & 27 July and 12 & 19 October 2024. 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, contact Lesley on 01392 274724 or exeter-heavitree@prcdtr.org.uk. We are now taking bookings for the January 2024 course. [Baptism Enquiry form](#)

Want to learn more about the Sacraments?

Join us every fortnight on Monday morning after the 10.00am Mass until 12.15pm in the Lower Room Sacred Heart. Monday 15 January 2024. All welcome.

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.

RCIA: Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

These sessions are aimed at those wanting to learn more, desiring to receive Baptism or Confirmation in the Catholic Church. If you would like to discover more, join our RCIA course starting again on Thursday 11 January at 7.30pm in the Lower Room at Sacred Heart.

PRAYER & LITURGY

Service of Prayer for Christian Unity 21 January

United service of prayer hosted by Christians Together Across Exeter at Blessed Sacrament Church at 3.00pm on Sunday 21 January 2024. We welcome Rev Ash Plom from St David's Church who will be the main speaker. Refreshments afterwards. All welcome.

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 18-25 January

We are praying for unity among the churches, a unity founded upon truth and compassion, For the church to find a common voice, to speak on matters that affect the whole of society.

Worship Thursday at Blessed Sacrament

Adoration of Blessed Sacrament each Thursday 7.00-8.00pm.

With Taizé on the 2nd Thursday of each month. Next one: 8 February

Pope's January Prayer Intention

For The Gift of Diversity in the Church. Let us pray that the spirit helps us recognise the gift of different charisms within the Christian community, and to discover the richness of different ritual traditions in the heart of the Catholic Church. See also

[The Pope Video](#).

17 January St Antony, Abbot (251 - 356)

St Antony is the originator of the monastic life. He was born in Egypt: when his parents died, he listened to the words of the Gospel and gave all his belongings to the poor. He went out into the wilderness to begin a life of penitence, living in absolute poverty, praying, meditating, and supporting himself by manual work. He suffered many temptations, both physical and spiritual, but he overcame them. Disciples gathered round him, attracted by his wisdom, moderation, and holiness. He gave



support to the victims of the persecutions of Diocletian, and helping St Athanasius in his fight against the Arians. He lived to be over a hundred years old, and died in 356. The Gospels are full of wise sayings of Jesus that seem to be ignored, and one of the most poignant of these was in his meeting with that young man who asked over and over again, insistently, “What must I do to have eternal life?”. When, in the end, Jesus told him that if he wanted to be *perfect* he would have to sell all that he had and give the money to the poor, the young man went away, sorrowing; because he was very rich. What could be more of a waste than that? You tell someone what he has to do, and he is afraid to do it. And yet... 250 years later, St Antony hears the story, and does give away all that he has, and becomes the founder of monasticism. And then again, over 1,000

years later, St Francis of Assisi hears the story, and gives away his possessions (and some of his father’s) and revolutionises Christianity again.

Not all the words that we speak are forgotten, even though we cannot see their effects ourselves. Let us pray that those unknown effects may always be good ones.

THE WORD

Sunday 14 January. Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

First Reading | Samuel 3:3-10.19

Speak, Lord, your servant is listening.

Psalm Response: Here I am, Lord! I come to do your will.

Second Reading: | Corinthians 6:13-15.17-20

Your bodies are members making up the body of Christ.

Gospel John 3:35-42

They saw where he lived, and stayed with him.

Sunday 21 January. Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

First Reading Jonah 3:1-5.10

The people of Nineveh renounce their evil behaviour.

Psalm Response: Lord, make me know your ways.

Second Reading: | Corinthians 7:29-31

The world as we know it is passing away.

Gospel Mark 1:14-20

Repent, and believe the Good news.

CONTACT US

Sacred Heart

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01392 642389

exeter-sacredheart@prcdtr.org.uk

Parish Priest

Fr Petroc Cobb 01392 642388

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 EX1 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

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

admin@stnics.uk

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

Executive Head Teacher

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Maria Quinn

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Safeguarding

Sacred Heart

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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.*