

PARISH NEWS



BLESSED SACRAMENT PARISH, HEAVITREE, EXETER
17 March 2024. *Fifth Sunday of Lent. Year B. Psalter I*



In the weeks of Lent so far we have followed God's work of salvation: we have seen the Covenants he established with Noah, Abraham, Moses and the people of Israel after the return from Babylon. Now we come to one of the most significant parts of the Old Testament: the promise of a brand new Covenant, which will be different from all those that went before. This Covenant will see God and Man living more closely together. For the ratification of a Covenant, something was always sacrificed as a sign of the new relationship – normally man would offer some animal offering to God. But the New Covenant will be ratified not with the death of sheep or bull, but by the death of Jesus Christ, God and Man. In this perfect sacrifice is the source of our eternal salvation. *Salford Office for Liturgy*

MASS TIMES

Sunday 17 March – Fifth Sunday of Lent

8.45am *Mrs Kelly's intentions*
10.45am *People of the Parish*
Followed by refreshments in St Richard Reynolds Centre
6.00pm *Aiden's Uncle*

Tuesday 19 March

NO MASS

Wednesday 20 March -St. Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary

9.30am *Canon Vincent Burrows R.I.P.*

Thursday 21 March

9.30am *Fr. Soloman Beyene*
7.00pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament with Taizé

Friday 22 March

6.00pm Stations of the Cross
6.30pm *For exam result. Gemar Mayubay*

Saturday 23 March

9.30am *Canon Paul Cummins*

Sunday 24 March – Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

8.45am *Peace in the Holy Land*
10.45am *Dan Docherty RIP*
Followed by refreshments in St Richard Reynolds Centre
3.00pm Syro Malabar Rite Mass
6.00pm *People of the Parish*

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 after Mass

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

Confessions

Saturdays after 9.30am Mass.

There will be other opportunities to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Thursday 21 March at 7.00pm (during Adoration); **Tuesday 26 March** at 7.00pm (after 6.30pm Mass); **Good Friday** at 10.00am (after Morning Prayer) and at 4.00pm (after the Lord's Passion liturgy); **Holy Saturday** at 10.00am (after Morning Prayer).

SEASON OF LENT

Stations of the Cross

During Lent Stations of the Cross will take place on Friday evenings at 6.00pm followed by Mass.

Online Lent Talks 2024

Series of Lenten Talks on Zoom to which anyone is welcome. No booking is needed and the code remains the same for all five evenings.

Friday 22 March The Raising of Lazarus. Mr Gerard Gillespie.

Topic: Lent Talks 2024. Time: Feb 16, 2024 06:30 PM London

Join Zoom Meeting [at this link](#). Meeting ID: 834 4584 0521 Passcode: 862737

This is the same information for all talks.

CAFOD Big Lent Walk

To sponsor Angela Bosley she has set up a Just Giving page - [this is the link](#) Let's help Angela to reach her target of £500 and help the work of CAFOD.

Caritas Diocese of Plymouth Upcoming Events

Please [click this link](#) to read about what events are coming up.

Catholic Women's League

Lenten Lunches Fridays at 12 30pm at the Parish Room South Street

After the Stations of the Cross in the Sacred Heart Church at 12 noon, the CWL will be serving a Lenten Lunch consisting of a choice of soups, roll, butter and cheese followed by tea or coffee every Friday during Lent. The suggested minimum donation is £3.50. All proceeds go to St Petrock's day services for the homeless in Exeter and its environs. The need is very great, so please come to as many as you can. It is an enjoyable social event.

Lenten Offering for week 5 of Lent

[Here is the link](#): to this week's Lenten Offering

OTHER NEWS & EVENTS

Lesley is retiring!

As you may be aware, Lesley will be retiring at Easter. We invite parishioners to join us to say farewell and thanks, with Mass at 6.30 pm on Friday 26 April. This will be followed by a farewell get-together in the St. Richard Reynolds Centre. We wish Catherine well as she takes over the reins in the Parish Office.



Forget-me-not Bereavement Café

We invite anyone who has suffered a bereavement of any kind, at any time, to come along to our **Forget-me-not Bereavement Café** for a cup of coffee/tea, cake and a chat. The café will be held once a month on a Saturday morning (every fourth Saturday of the month) at 10.30am in the St Richard Reynolds Centre. Come along, and maybe bring a friend with you who you think would also benefit from making contact with others in a friendly relaxed café. There is no need to book just come along to our first morning on **Saturday 23 March**. We look forward to seeing you.

CAFOD/livesimply

You may be aware that our social action focus as a LiveSimply parish is challenging the Government on their use of indefinite detention for immigration control. In recent years, a number of independent experts have documented the serious problems in the UK's detention centres and now the Council of Europe have released its report into indefinite detention and have recommended ending its use. Detention Action are campaigning for a 28 day time limit on its use and they have a petition which can be signed here: [by following this link](#)

Youth Adventure Residential Weekend

Save the date – 24 – 26 May at Grangehurst, Buckfast Abbey. A time to get to know others in the diocese and explore your faith. For further information contact youth@prcdtr.org.uk. For more news of youth activities see [this link](#).

End of Life Debate

In light of the calls being made for the legalisation of assisted suicide we are sharing links to Bishop Sherrington's statement on this topic as well as the ten-point summary on the CBEW webpage [click here](#).
10-point summary on assisted dying [click here](#).

Catholic Women's League AGM /Annual Review

This review will take place at 2.00 pm on Tuesday 26 March at the Parish Room South Street. There will be a speaker from St Petrock's followed by refreshments. All ladies from both parishes will be very welcome.

Caritas March Newsletter

Please click the link to read the March edition of the Caritas Diocese of Plymouth newsletter, with news of love in action and upcoming events around our diocese <https://tinyurl.com/2s3nevuz>

If you would like a printed version of the newsletter, please contact caritas@prcdtr.org.uk

LAMPS

presents

THE PASSION

“full of insights
and emotionally
shattering”

Weds 20 March 7.30pm

Temple Methodist Church Budleigh Salterton

Tickets on the door £10, online in advance £8.50

Students and accompanied children (10+) free

www.lampscollective.com/the-passion

The life, death and resurrection of Jesus are recreated in this moving, memorable and ultimately joyful retelling of the Easter story. Told from the perspectives of Peter, Mary Magdalene and a Roman centurion named Marcus, this powerful contemporary drama leads us up to and through the events of Holy Week, to the cross and beyond.

Thursday Lunch Club

Spaces are available for anyone who would like to enjoy lunch and friendship on Thursdays at the St Richard Reynolds' Centre. You may choose to come fortnightly or monthly. Diners arrive from 12 noon and lunch is served at 12.30 pm.

Extra helpers are also needed so if you feel you that can offer a few hours to help approximately once a month - no cooking is involved - only setting up, serving, clearing up and enjoying meeting new people. Please give Di Bish a call on 07940 142124 or email clydebish@hotmail.com for any extra information. We look forward to hearing from you.

Diocese of Plymouth Newsletter

The diocese is publishing a regular newsletter with items of interest from across the diocese as well as further afield. To access the February newsletter click [this link](#). And here is [the link](#) if you would like to sign up to receive the next newsletter directly to your in box.

The latest Lenten Offering can be found at [this link](#).

The Great Devon Breakfast

In aid of Force Cancer Charity



Bacon butties, cereal, fruit, coffee, tea and other lovely breakfast goodies.

Join us for a lovely morning
Including a raffle and lots of chat!

Friday March 22nd 10.00am

Donations please - Cash only

Phone Jane on 07890 373617 to reserve your table

The Richard Reynolds Centre,
Blessed Sacrament Church, Heavitree Exeter EX1 2QJ

Exeter Foodbank

Donations of the following priority items are especially needed: tins of meat, tins of vegetables, tins of fruit, noodle and pasta snacks, jams and spreads, small jars of coffee and rice pudding. There is a collection basket at the back of the church. Please email Mark at info@exeterfoodbank.org.uk to find out how you can help. More information about Food Bank can be found at [this link](#).

PRAYER & LITURGY

Worship Thursdays

Adoration in church each Thursday 7.00-8.00pm.

With Taizé on the 2nd Thursday of each month. Next: 11 April

Pope's March Prayer Intention [The Pope Video](#)

For new martyrs. Let us pray that those who risk their lives for the Gospel in various parts of the world might imbue the Church with their courage and missionary drive.

We commend to the Lord...

...the souls of Deacon John Connors and Patrick Mason. Patrick's funeral will take place at 2.30pm on Monday 25 March at Blessed Sacrament. Please keep them and their families and friends in your prayers. May they rest in peace and rise in glory.

GROWING IN FAITH TOGETHER

The Call to Conversion

Explore how ordinary people in the bible, just like you, were met by Jesus where they were and called to a better life through Him. The common theme in each story is the turning of all one's attention and energy toward an ever deeper, personal relationship with Jesus Christ. Join us every fortnight on Monday morning after the 10:00am Mass until 12:15 pm in the Lower Room Sacred Heart. Next meeting is Monday 25 March. All welcome.

RCIA: Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

If you would like to discover more, join our RCIA course every Thursday at 7.30pm in the Lower Room at Sacred Heart.

GIFT tots

Next session: **Friday 22 March 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. 2nd Friday every month at St Richard Reynolds Centre, Blessed Sacrament. 4th Friday every month at the Lower Room Sacred Heart. 10.15-11.15am.

[GIFT Tots Registration Form](#)

GIFT families

Next GIFT Meeting: **Saturday 13 April at 9.45am** at St Nicholas School.

GIFT is for primary and secondary aged families and supports them to live and grow as Catholics. It enables parents to prepare their children to receive the sacraments of Reconciliation, Holy Communion and Confirmation.

[GIFT Registration Form](#)

GIFT youth

Next GIFT Youth Social **Friday 19 April**. If you've signed up for Gift Youth details of the next session will be sent to you. We ask that parents of any young person wishing to come to GIFT Youth have registered them before they come to GIFT Youth Socials and GIFT Youth Saturdays. This helps ensure everyone's safety.

[GIFT Youth Registration Form](#)

Wednesday Word Scripture Reflection

Prayerfully Preparing for the Proclamation of Sunday's Gospel

Have you ever wondered what the Sunday Gospel message means for you personally? Lectio Divina is a way of becoming immersed in the scriptures very personally and is the basis of our weekly Wednesday Word Gospel sharing group. Every week from 2.00 -3.00pm via zoom, we set aside time together to pray, read, meditate and share our thoughts on the upcoming Sunday's Gospel. We are a friendly and inclusive group from different walks of life and we'd be delighted if you joined us. A weekly commitment is not necessary. Contact Maria Exeter-pastoral-assistant@prcdtr.org.uk if you would like to join or have further questions about how the session runs.

Passion for Exeter

Good Friday 29 March at 10.00am at Exeter Cathedral. Followed by worship and witness on Cathedral Green

THE WORD

Sunday 17 March – 5th Sunday of Lent

First Reading Jeremiah 31:31-34

I will make a new covenant and never call their sn to mind.

Psalm Response: A pure heart create for me, O God

Second Reading: Hebrews 5:7-9

He learnt to obey and became for all the source of eternal salvation.

Gospel: John 12:20-30

If a grain of wheat falls on the ground and dies, it yields a rich harvest.

Sunday 24 March – Palm Sunday of 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: Mark 14:1-15:47

The passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.

EASTER at Blessed Sacrament

Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion 24 March

Mass at 8.45am, 10.45am and 6.00pm

Maundy Thursday 28 March

7.00pm Mass of the Lord's Supper

followed by watching at the Altar of Repose

Good Friday 29 March

9.30am Office of Readings and Morning Prayer

followed by confessions.

3.00pm The Lord's Passion

followed by confessions.

Holy Saturday 30 March

9.30am Office of Readings and Morning Prayer

followed by confessions

9.00pm The Easter Vigil

Clocks go forward one hour.

Easter Sunday 31 March

Mass at 8.45am and 10.45am

No evening Mass.

Divine Mercy Sunday 7 April

Confessions at 2.30pm

Service 3.00pm

EASTER at Sacred Heart

Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion 24 March

Mass Sat 5.30pm & Sun 9.15am, 11.15am, 1.15pm (*Polish*)

Maundy Thursday 28 March

5.30pm Polish Mass

7.30pm Mass of The Lord's Supper

Good Friday 29 March

3pm The Lord's Passion

5.30pm Polish Good Friday Liturgy

Holy Saturday 30 March

12noon – 1.00pm Polish blessing of food

6.00pm Polish Easter Vigil

8.30pm Easter Vigil

Easter Sunday 31 March

Mass at 9.15am, 11.15am, 1.15pm (*Polish*)

CONTACT US

Blessed Sacrament Parish

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/Catherine Odams*

Pastoral Assistant *Maria Quinn* exeter-pastoral-assistant@prcdtr.org.uk

Parish Office *Open Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 10.00am–4.00pm*

Gift Aid enquiries: exeter-heavitree@prcdtr.org.uk

Parish website blessedsacrament.org.uk

Parish Facebook [Facebook Catholic Exeter](https://www.facebook.com/CatholicExeter)

Safeguarding

If you have any concerns about a vulnerable child or adult, please contact the parish office on 01392 274724 or by email: exeter-heavitree@prcdtr.org.uk

Parish Safeguarding Representatives

Lesley Hooper 07712 216724 or 01392 274724

Maria Edwards 07870 696530

St Nicholas 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 *Cathy Blatchford*

Useful links

[Bishops' Conference Updates](#)

[Churches Together Devon News](#)

[Churches Together Exeter News](#)

[Churches Together England News](#)