

# PARISH NEWS



**BLESSED SACRAMENT PARISH, HEAVITREE, EXETER**

12 May 2024 Seventh Sunday of Easter. Year B. Psalter 3

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On this Seventh Sunday of Easter the gospels each year are taken from Chapter 17 of Saint John's Gospel - the "priestly prayer" of Jesus at the Last Supper: this long prayer is a farewell message, where Jesus prays for all that the Church will have to be and do in the millennia after his Ascension – in other words, the time we are in now. This is his prayer for us. The specific message this year is all about the continuity of the Church, using the example of Judas (the one who "chose to be lost") being replaced so that the College of Apostle may be twelve in number. Since we have just celebrated the Ascension last Thursday, and are now praying for the coming of the Spirit next Sunday, our minds should be full of this mystery of the ever-renewed Church throughout the ages, as Christ prays for us.. *Salford Office for Liturgy*

## MASS TIMES

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### **Sunday 12 May – Seventh Sunday of Easter**

8.45am *People of the Parish*  
10.45am *Teresa, Peter and Kieran Mc Donagh RIP*  
6.00pm *Ihimekpen Family*

### **Tuesday 14 May**

6.30pm *Jenny and Patrick Mason RIP*

### **Wednesday 15 May**

1.00pm *Funeral Mass – Stella Landers RIP*

### **Thursday 16 May – St Matthias, Apostle**

9.30am *Kathleen Jenkinson RIP*  
7.00pm *Adoration*

### **Friday 17 May**

6.30pm *Teresa Tee RIP*

### **Saturday 18 May**

9.30am *For a bishop for our diocese*

### **Sunday 19 May – Pentecost Sunday**

8.45am  
10.45am *Jo and Tony Fewkes RIP*  
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.

# NEWS & EVENTS

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## Saint Marie Rivier

15 May marks the second anniversary of the canonisation of Saint Marie Rivier. To commemorate this special event a reliquary containing a relic of Saint Marie Rivier will be present in the sanctuary during each Mass, this **Sunday, 12 May**. There will be an opportunity, for those who wish, to venerate the relic of Saint Marie Rivier after the Masses. Medals of Saint Marie Rivier will also be available for those who wish to take one.

## Catholic Women's League Annual Pilgrimage to Buckfast Wednesday 15 May.

A coach will leave South Street at **12 noon** and Blessed Sacrament at **12.10pm**. Return to Exeter about 6.00pm. The day includes the celebration of Mass and tea in the Grange Restaurant. There will be a small charge for the coach, probably £10.

To book your place or to find out more detail please contact Frances Canning on 01392 209542 or email [francesandedward@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:francesandedward@blueyonder.co.uk) as soon as possible.



## 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 on **Saturday 25 May**. We look forward to seeing you.

## CAFOD

### Sudan Crisis Appeal

When violence broke out last year in Sudan between government and paramilitaries, most aid agencies evacuated. Now, humanitarian workers are struggling to get back into Sudan to help, meaning severe delays in getting aid to the people, and the challenges of getting into areas where fighting is still going on remain. Many borders are shut as the government say they need to keep weapons out.

The situation has gone from serious to desperate very quickly. The UN is calling it 'the world's worst displacement crisis'. At least 8 million people have had to flee their homes: famine looms. But the Church and our local partners are still there. Please, stand with them today.

It is possible to donate online through CAFOD's website or put your offering in an envelope marked 'Sudan Crisis' and place it in the collection or hand in to the parish office. Thank you.

## Right To Life

Ask your MP to stop abortion up to birth being introduced. Diana Johnson and Stella Creasy have tabled amendments to the Criminal Justice Bill that would make extreme changes to our abortion laws. Both amendments would make it more likely that babies are aborted at home for any reason, up to birth. Take action: To oppose the abortion up to birth amendments, email your MP via [this link](#)

**Want to be the first to know about pro-life developments?** Sign up now to receive action alerts along with tools to help change hearts and minds by [clicking here](#)

## 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 Bishops' Conference webpage [click here](#).

10-point summary on assisted dying [click here](#).

## The Pillar's Tale



A brief video has been made about the Holy Pillar of St Richard Reynolds or finial, situated in Blessed Sacrament Church. It is narrated by the last Abbess of Syon, Sister Anne Smyth, O.Ss.S.

Please scan this QR code to access it. Alternatively, it can be viewed on You Tube.

## Flores de Mayo & Santacruzán

12 May 2024 at Plymouth Cathedral.

**Flores de Mayo**- a traditional Marian devotion of Mass, a procession, devotion and flower offerings.

**Santacruzán** depicts the searching and finding of the Holy Cross by Queen Helena, mother of Constantine the Great, who was a new convert to Christianity. After the Holy Cross was found in Jerusalem and brought to Rome, it was welcomed with a joyful celebration of thanksgiving. During the procession, the ladies represent many Biblical personalities.

There is a poster in the porch about this event with contact details for more information.

The Diocesan newsletter for May can be accessed [here](#):

## Tabletop sale for Christian Aid

As part of Christian Aid Week. Tuesday 14 May from 11.00am at South Street Baptist Church. Please come and support the work of Christian Aid.

## 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](mailto:youth@prcdtr.org.uk). For more news of youth activities see [this link](#).

# St Rita's of Cascia Feast Day

Wednesday 22 May 2023 at St. Rita's Centre, Honiton

Principal Celebrant: Father John Dockerty.

The day will begin with Mass at 12 noon followed by the blessing and distribution of roses for the sick. Two shops will be open that day for sale of religious articles; you can also make your orders on our website [www.stritascentre.org](http://www.stritascentre.org) and collect your items on site on the feast day. Hot drinks will be available all day but visitors should bring a packed lunch. The day will conclude with Benediction at 3.00pm.

We would advise early arrival as car parking can be difficult if you arrive after 11.30am. Car parking stewards will be on duty to help you and there will be a small army of volunteers working in various places helping to ensure a smooth running of the day and a happy feast day for everyone.

Maureen Knowles is hoping to fill a coach from the parish, leaving Blessed Sacrament car park at 10.30am and returning directly after Benediction. Cost £10 per person.

## Caritas Diocese of Plymouth

Please [click here](#) to read about what events are coming up in the diocese.

Caritas Anniversary Newsletter

This May marks the 5<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Caritas Diocese of Plymouth's launch. Read about the work they have done and continue to do [here](#). Alternatively, there is a copy in the porch.

### Laudato Si Week

**19-26 May 24:** Calling all craft groups and creators to contribute to this wonderful creation:

During Laudato Si' week, there will be an exhibition and prayer walk at Plymouth Cathedral interpreting Laudato Si' through artwork and reflections by pupils from local schools. All visitors to the Cathedral will also be invited to add to a mass participation artwork called the Mossy Carpet. People are invited to make a textile tuft such as crochet, knit, embroider, plait, pompom, tuft... or something else to attach to the carpet! This artwork will help us to consider how our small actions can make a huge change, and how our Christian faith calls us to be part of the restoration of nature.

## St Nicholas School News

We celebrated our May Crowning liturgy last week surrounded by donated flowers, led by our Reception Class. It was a lovely occasion.

We have SATS week next week. We wish all students good luck and success.

If you wish to find out more about joining the St Nicholas School community, from Nursery to Yr 6 please contact Mrs Brocksom by emailing [admissions@stnics.uk](mailto:admissions@stnics.uk).

We can offer tours of the school and Nursery. We have some places in our Nursery from September and can offer both 15 and 30 hours funding (including wrap around care) for 3-4 year olds. Additional hours are £5 per hour.

## Please join us at the Third Annual Mass for Marriage

**Saturday June 8th 2024 Midday** at Plymouth Cathedral

Send us your anniversaries to add to the Order of Service - whether you have been married for one week or sixty + years (or about to marry). Let us know too when your wedding will take place if you are engaged. Light refreshments will be provided and (not so light) wedding cake. For further information please contact: [deborah.vankroonenburg@prcdtr.org.uk](mailto:deborah.vankroonenburg@prcdtr.org.uk)

## Pax Christi

Our 2024 Annual General Meeting will be held on **Saturday 1st June 2024** at the Quaker Meeting House, 22 School Lane, Liverpool, L1 3BT at 10.30am for an 11.00 am start. and also online via the AGM page on our website: [paxchrisi.org.uk/agm](http://paxchrisi.org.uk/agm)

## Diocesan Pilgrimage to Crediton

This will take place on **Sunday 9th of June** at St Boniface Church, Park Rd, Crediton presided over by Cannon Paul Cummins. Parishioners are warmly invited to the celebration of the Feast of Saint Boniface, Patron of our Diocese. Pilgrims are invited to gather from 4:00 PM at the Church for Vespers and Benediction. Light refreshments will be provided. For further information, please see poster or e-mail [crediton@prcdtr.org.uk](mailto:crediton@prcdtr.org.uk). Parking is available nearby for coaches.

## Plymouth Diocese Catholic Charismatic Renewal

You are invited to the following event:

**Jesus is in the house! (Mark 2:1) Come and encounter Him.**

A day of encounter for all ages, at St Cuthbert's Conference Centre, Buckfast Abbey **10.00am – 6.00pm, 29 June.**

Experience joyful praise and worship, ways of connecting to God's voice, prayer from the heart, workshops, prayer ministry, Adoration, and Mass. Hot and cold drinks included, optional two course lunch or bring your own packed lunch. Tickets available from Eventbrite [here](#). We want to make the day as accessible as possible for everyone so there is also a 'pay what you can' option for tickets. Please contact [info@swccr.org.uk](mailto:info@swccr.org.uk) for more information or if you have any questions. We're really looking forward to sharing the day with as many of you as possible!

## Catholic Bishops' Conference

The latest news from the Catholic Bishops' conference can be accessed [here](#). There will be drop-in workshops from **12-4pm on Monday 20 May** at the Cathedral of St Mary and St Boniface but the Mossy Carpet will be in place from 18<sup>th</sup>-24<sup>th</sup> May for people to visit and add their contributions. If you cannot come to the Cathedral but are able to help us by making some crafts to contribute, please contact [caritas@prcdtr.org.uk](mailto:caritas@prcdtr.org.uk) and we can send through some guidance.

## Catholic Children's Society

The latest edition of our "Children First" newsletter can be found at the back of the church. An electronic copy can be found [here](#):

**Recycle your ink cartridges** and help support CCSP. Please pop your used ink cartridges in the box situated in the Baptistry at Blessed Sacrament. Thank you.

**Orange Box.** De-clutter and help the children in our Diocese. There is an orange box in the St. Richard Reynolds Rooms where items can be placed and every box filled will raise much needed funds for the CCSP.

Items that can be collected in the boxes include coins and bank notes, precious metals, medals and badges, costume jewellery, metals, watches, keys and locks, small antiques and collectibles.

## Plymouth Diocesan and Youth Pilgrimages to Lourdes

Here's your chance to join us at Our Lady's beautiful shrine this year; let's go and bring some blessings back for our diocese!

**26 July** for 6 nights. Please see the posters on the notice board in the porch.

## Exeter Foodbank

Donations of the following priority items are especially needed: tins of meat, tins of fish, jams and spreads, custard, pasta sauce, noodle snacks, small jars of coffee.

There is a collection basket at the back of the church. Please email Mark at [info@exeterfoodbank.org.uk](mailto:info@exeterfoodbank.org.uk) to find out how you can help.

## Waymakers Update: Can you help?

Waymakers are delighted to have welcomed a refugee family to Exeter. Thank you to all who have supported Waymakers over the last 3 years.

We are committed to supporting the family for two years on their journey to independence and are looking for help, both practical and financial.

Could you befriend our family by visiting them, showing them around Exeter or practising their English with you?

If you have teaching experience, we are looking to train up an English Language Supporter.

Please get in touch with Phil Smallwood if you are interested in helping in any way: [pmsmallwood@hotmail.com](mailto:pmsmallwood@hotmail.com).

Donations can be made via the Sacred Heart parish office, clearly identified for Exeter WAYmakers, cheques (PRCDTR Exeter WAYmakers) or by setting up a small monthly donation via Phil Smallwood. Thank you.

## International English Café

Sundays in term time 4.30pm – 6.00pm at St Leonard's Church Exeter.

All levels of English welcome. See the poster in the church porch.

# Parish Pentecost Picnic

The tradition of celebrating the Feast of Pentecost with a Parish Picnic continue this year. Please join us (weather permitting!) in Heavitree Park – to the left of the pools – after the 10.45am Mass next Sunday. Why not invite some friends to join us? Bring your own picnic, something to drink, a hat and lots of community spirit. It would also be wonderful if you could wear something red or orange or yellow, the colours of the flames of the Holy Spirit. Look forward to seeing you there.

## Diocese of Plymouth Summer Camps 2024

The Summer Catechetical Camps provide young Catholics of the Diocese of Plymouth opportunities to learn about their faith within a holiday atmosphere. Originally the vision of the Catholic Women's League, who organised and ran them for many years, they are now run by a dedicated team of volunteers, many of whom experienced camp for themselves.

Currently based in the grounds of Buckfast Abbey, this year's dates are:

<b>Senior Camp</b> (Yrs 7-10)	28 July – 2 August
<b>St. Petroc's Camp</b> (Yrs 11 & 12)	31 July – 2 August
<b>Junior Camp</b> (Yrs 3-6)	4 August – 8 August

Click [here](#) to download the information booklet and find out more.





## St Nicholas School News

We are celebrating a big win in an Exeter football tournament by our St Nicholas football team. The team were recognised as being worthy winners and superb ambassadors of our school! We also celebrated our May Crowning liturgy this week, beautifully led by one of our Reception classes.

If you wish to find out about admission to St Nicholas please contact Mrs Brocksom, Senior Administrator by emailing [admissions@stnics.uk](mailto:admissions@stnics.uk) or calling 01392 445403. We do have spaces in our Nursery in September and offer the 15 and 30 hours funding for 3-4 year olds. We can also offer you a tour of the school. Please see our website for more information.

## PRAYER & LITURGY

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

We pray for those training for the Religious life and for the Priesthood. May they grow to be credible witnesses of the Gospel through the human, pastoral, spiritual, and community formation they receive. "Do not be afraid of holiness. It will take away none of your energy, vitality or joy.

### We commend to the Lord...

the soul of Stella Landers.

Stella's funeral will be celebrated on Wednesday 15 May at 1.00pm at Blessed Sacrament Church. All welcome.

Please keep all who have died and their family and friends in your prayers. May they rest in peace and rise in glory.

### Worship Thursdays

Adoration in church each Thursday 7.00-8.00pm. Next: **16 May**, with Taizé.

## GROWING IN FAITH TOGETHER

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### GIFT tots

Next session: **Friday 14 May in the St Richard Reynolds Room. 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 8 June 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 17 May**. 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](mailto:exeter-pastoral-assistant@prcdtr.org.uk) if you would like to join or have further questions about how the session runs.

## 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 towards an ever deeper, personal relationship with Jesus Christ. Join us every fortnight on Monday morning after the 10.00am Mass until 12.15pm in the Lower Room at Sacred Heart. Our next meeting is on **Monday 20 May**.

## Going into hospital?

If you, or someone you know is going into hospital for any length of time and would like the Chaplaincy team to know, please let the parish office know.

## Getting Married?

Congratulations. If you are hoping to marry at Blessed Sacrament Church or any other place, including abroad, we require at least six months' notice. Please contact the parish office to arrange an appointment to meet with the parish priest.

## 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: **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](mailto:exeter-heavitree@prcdtr.org.uk). We are now taking bookings for the April 2024 course. [Baptism Enquiry form](#)

## THE WORD

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### **Sunday 12 May – Seventh Sunday of Easter**

**First Reading:** Acts 15: 1-15-17. 20-26

*We must choose one of these to be a witness to his resurrection with us.*

**Psalm Response:** The Lord has set his sway in heaven.

**Second Reading:** John 4:11-16.

*Anyone who lives in love lives in God, and God lives in him.*

**Gospel** John 17: 11-19 *That they may be one like us!*

### **Sunday 19 May – Pentecost Sunday**

**First Reading:** Acts 2:1-11

*They were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak.*

**Psalm Response:** Send forth your Spirit, O Lord, and renew the face of the earth.

**Second Reading:** Galatian 5:16-25

*In the one Spirit we were all baptised.*

**Gospel:** John 15:26-27,16:12-15

*The Spirit of truth will lead you to the complete truth.*

# CONTACT US

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## Blessed Sacrament Parish

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 Secretary *Catherine Odams*

Pastoral Assistant *Maria Quinn* [exeter-pastoral-assistant@prcdtr.org.uk](mailto:exeter-pastoral-assistant@prcdtr.org.uk)

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

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

Parish website [blessedsacrament.org.uk](http://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](mailto: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](mailto:admin@stnics.uk)

[www.st-nicholas-exeter.devon.sch.uk](http://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](#)