

PARISH NEWS



BLESSED SACRAMENT PARISH, HEAVITREE, EXETER

5 May 2024 Sixth Sunday of Easter. Year B. *Psalter 2*



There are two obvious themes to today's readings: Saint Peter summarises many of the ideas of Easter - baptism, the name of Jesus, the pouring out of the Holy Spirit; the other readings talk simply of love, both God's love for us and our love for each other. Our Gospel is taken from the great discourse at the Last Supper, and has at its centre the New Commandment that Jesus gives his disciples - the commandment of love. This love has its origins in the love of the Father, manifested in the love shown by the Son (willing to die for his friends); we, like the disciples, are called to imitate the love we see in Jesus's life and death - not because we are servants, but because we are friends. *Salford Office for Liturgy*

MASS TIMES

Sunday 5 May – Sixth Sunday of Easter

8.45am *People of the Parish*

10.45am *Jenny and Patrick Mason RIP*

Followed by refreshments in St Richard Reynolds Centre

3.00pm *Syro Malabar Rite Mass*

6.00pm *Ihimekpen Family*

Tuesday 7 May

6.30pm *Ihimekpen Family*

Wednesday 8 May

9.30am *Joan Ware special intention*

Followed by refreshments in St Richard Reynolds Centre.

Thursday 9 May

9.30am

7.00pm *Adoration*

Friday 10 May

6.30pm

Saturday 11 May

9.30am

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*

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

Safeguarding Training – Saturday 11 May 2024

Rob Kingdon from the Diocesan Safeguarding Team will be providing Safeguarding Training for parishioners from Blessed Sacrament, Sacred Heart and Topsham between 10.00 am and 4.00pm on Saturday 11 May 2024 in the Richard Reynolds Centre. (Drinks will be provided. Please bring your own packed lunch.)

Who should attend this training?

- Anyone who has not attended Diocesan approved in-person or on-line training in the last three years and is currently: a Gift Catechist; Adult serving at the altar; Parish visitor; Eucharistic Minister in church and/or taking communion to hospital, care homes, private homes; Children's Liturgy Catechists, Youth Worker/Helper.
- Anyone who is thinking of volunteering to undertake one of the above roles.
- Any member of the parish who would like to understand more about Safeguarding would be welcome to join us.

Please give your name to Catherine in the Parish Office if you plan to attend. Thank you. We look forward to seeing you there.

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

A coach will leave South Street at 12 noon and Blessed Sacrament at 12.10 pm. 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 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.

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

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.

Thank you for your generosity last weekend. It is still possible to donate. Either visit CAFOD's website and donate online 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.

CAFOD Thanks

The parish has received two letters of thanks from CAFOD, for your kind and generous support in 2023/2024, a total of £3780.27. The letters are displayed in the church porch.

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](#)

Rosary on the Coast Saturday

Saturday 11 May, Corbyn Head Torquay

You are invited to come and pray the Rosary on the Coast in reparation for the unborn babies aborted since the Abortion Act was passed in Parliament in 1967. Join with others as families gather around the Home Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe, Patroness of Unborn Children, at Corbyn Head, Torquay seafront at 11.00am on Saturday 11 May. Join with the S.P.U.C. and the Torbay Order of the Knights of St. Columba in offering Our Lady a wonderful bouquet of prayer. Let Life Flourish! Shared table lunch afterwards at Holy Angels Church Hall, Chelston, Torquay.

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](#).

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 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.

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.

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 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!

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.

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.

Rise to Our Cause on Ascension Thursday Following the success of our inaugural CCSP Ascension Day fundraiser last year at Buckfast Abbey, this year's 'Rise to Our Cause' event is being held at St Mary's in Poole on Ascension Thursday, 9 May 2024. The event will start with Holy Mass in the church at **12 noon**, followed by a buffet lunch in the church hall before this year's Guest Speaker, the hugely popular David Wells, who has talked at many events in the past all across the Diocese. There will also be a raffle to help raise money for CCSP to continue to help families of all faiths and none. Tickets are now on sale for £10 with all proceeds going towards helping vulnerable children and families living in our Diocese. To purchase your tickets, [please use this link](#)



Or you can visit the events page of our website – www.ccsplymouth.org.uk or please scan this QR code.

Alternatively, if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call the office on **01364 645420** or email

andrea.rodgers@ccsplymouth.org.uk

Catholic Bishops' Conference

The latest news from the Catholic Bishops' conference can be accessed here [here](#).

Caritas Diocese of Plymouth Upcoming Events

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

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](#).

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, rice pudding, small jars of coffee.

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.

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:

Senior Camp (Yrs 7-10) 28 July – 2 August

St. Petroc's Camp (Yrs 11 & 12) 31 July – 2 August

Junior Camp (Yrs 3-6) 4 August – 8 August

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

The Diocese of Plymouth SUMMER CAMPS 2024

2024 EST. 1952

OUR FATHER, WHO ART IN HEAVEN,
Hallowed be thy name; thy
kingdom come, thy will be done
as it is in heaven. Give us
this day our daily bread. And
lead us not into temptation, but
deliver us from evil. Amen.

ART IN HEAVEN,
Hallowed be thy name; thy
kingdom come, thy will be done
as it is in heaven. Give us
this day our daily bread. And
lead us not into temptation, but
deliver us from evil. Amen.

THIS YEAR'S DATES ARE:

- SENIOR CAMP: 28TH JULY - 2ND AUGUST £200.00 (SCHOOL YEARS 7-10)
- ST. PETROC'S CAMP: 31ST JULY - 2ND AUGUST £100.00 (SCHOOL YEARS 11-13)
- JUNIOR CAMP: 4TH - 8TH AUGUST £200.00 (SCHOOL YEARS 3-6)

NO TENT REQUIRED

SCAN TO APPLY

FIND US ON SOCIAL MEDIA

@PLYMOUTHDIOCESESUMMERCAMPS

WWW.PLYMOUTH-DIOCESE.ORG.UK/PASTORAL-CARE/CARING-FOR-THE-YOUNG

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.

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 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.

Table top 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.

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

PRAYER & LITURGY

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

For the role of women. Let us pray that the dignity and worth of women be recognised in every culture, and for an end to the discrimination they face in various parts of the world.

We commend to the Lord...

the souls of Michael Dorrian, Roger Swift and Stella Landers.

Michael's funeral will take place at 2.00pm on Tuesday 5 May at Exeter and Devon Crematorium. Roger's funeral will take place at 11.00am on Friday 10 May at Blessed Sacrament Church, followed by interment at Topsham Cemetery.

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

GIFT tots

Next session: **Friday 10 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 11th May 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 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 some time and would like the Chaplaincy team to be informed 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. We are now taking bookings for the April 2024 course. [Baptism Enquiry form](#)

THE WORD

Sunday 5 May – Sixth Sunday of Easter

First Reading: Acts 10: 25-26. 34-35 44-48

The Holy spirit has been poured out on the pagans too.

Psalm Response: The Lord has shown his salvation to the nations.

Second Reading: John 4: 7-10 *God is love.*

Gospel: John 15: 9-17

A man can have no greater love than to lay down his life for his friends.

Sunday 12 May – Seventh Sunday of Easter

First Reading: Acts 15: 1-2. 22-29

It has been decided by the Holy Spirit and by ourselves not to saddle you with any burden beyond these essentials.

Psalm Response: Let the peoples praise you, Oh God; let all the peoples praise you.

Second Reading: John 21:10-14. 22-23

He showed me the holy city coming out of heaven.

Gospel John 14: 23-29 *The Holy Spirit will remind you of all that I have said to you.*

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 *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](#)