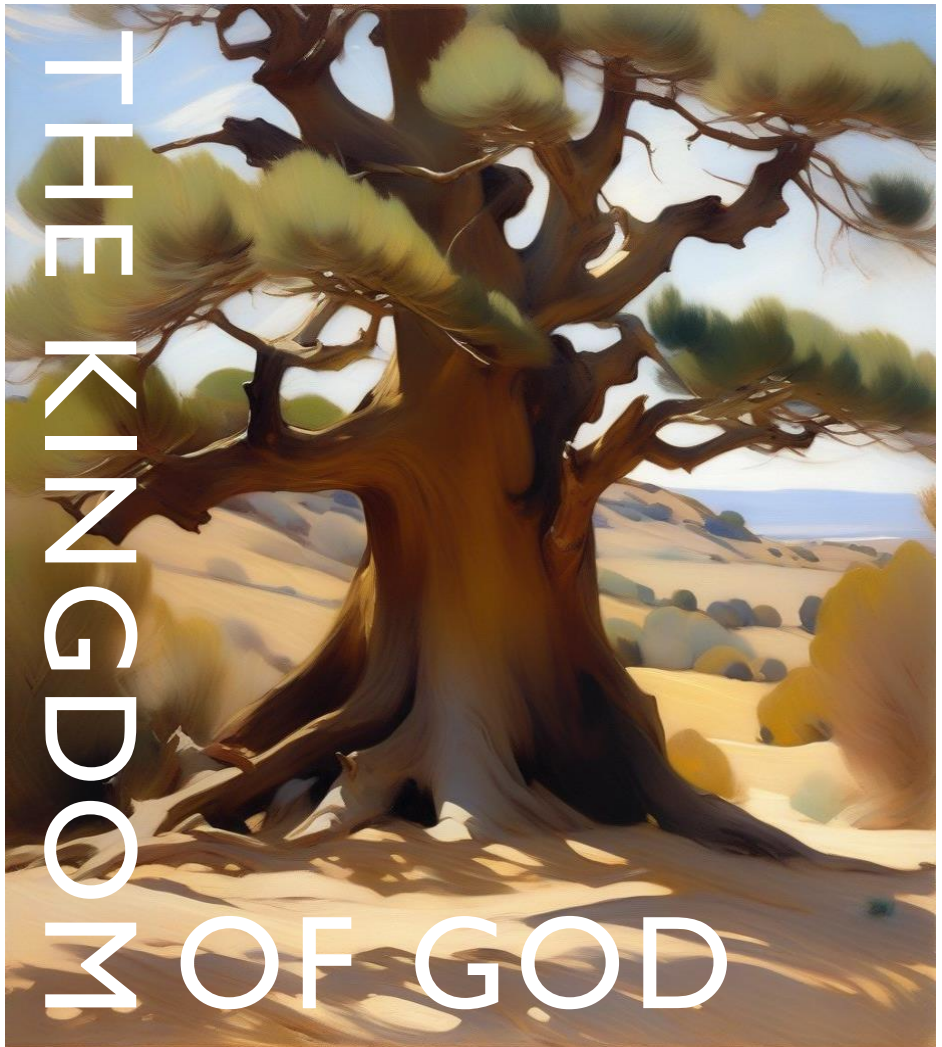


PARISH NEWS



BLESSED SACRAMENT PARISH, HEAVITREE, EXETER
16 June 2024. *Eleventh Sunday in Ordinary Time. Year B. Psalter 3*



How does a tree grow? The scientists can give us their answers, but the miracle of life on our earth, in all its dazzling complexity and variety is exactly that - a miracle. God is responsible for the miracle of Nature and growth - how, we don't know, but we accept God's guiding hand as a fact of our faith. This mysterious growth in Nature is used as a parable today, for the life of the Church and the Kingdom of God. Just as a seed, planted and watered, turns by miraculous processes into something different and bigger and beautiful, so the seed of the Gospel will grow into something else, by some means we can never fully understand. And that is the grace of God, encouraging, prompting and helping all men and women of good will to swell the coming Kingdom of our God. *Salford Office for Liturgy*

MASS TIMES

Sunday 16 June Eleventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

8.45am *Private Intention*

10.45am *People of the Parish*

Followed by refreshments in St Richard Reynolds Centre

6.00pm *For the Young People of the parish*

Tuesday 18 June

No Mass

Wednesday 19 June

9.30am *Margaret Leonard RIP*

Rosary after Mass

Followed by refreshments in St Richard Reynolds Centre

Thursday 20 June

No Mass

6.00pm *Adoration with Taizé*

Friday 21 June—St Aloysius Gonzaga, Religious

No Mass

Saturday 22 June — St John Fisher, Bishop, Martyr and St Thomas More, Martyr

9.30am

Sunday 23 June – Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time

8.45am

10.45am *Thomas and Mary O'Halloran RIP, and deceased members of both families*

6.00pm

Liturgy of the Word for Children

During term time at 10.45am Mass on Sunday.

Live stream Mass [Access the parish YouTube page at this link.](#)

Confessions Saturdays after 9.30am Mass.

NEWS & EVENTS

General Election 2024

The Prime Minister has called a general election for **Thursday 4 July**. There is a range of information and guidance on key issues of importance to us, as Catholics, to help inform how we vote. Gospel values inform how we look at the world as Christians. These values can also offer a different way of looking at politics, a way that puts the common good before self-interest.

The Catholic Bishops' Conference has guidance on issues such as criminal justice, poverty, migration, education, international relations, life issues and the environment [Please visit this link.](#)

CAFOD and SVP have also produced a joint resource 'Year of Encounter' with a range of questions to ask potential candidates [Please visit this link.](#)

CSAN have launched a number of resources to help Catholics inform their conscience and navigate the political landscape at this time, find more at [this link.](#)

If you haven't registered to vote in the general election, you must do so by **23:59 on Tuesday, 18 June 2024**. If you are eligible, you can do so [by visiting this link.](#) You can also apply for a postal vote if eligible. Photo ID is necessary in order to be permitted to vote. [More information at this link.](#)

Hustings at Exeter Cathedral

Wednesday 26 June at 7.00pm.

An opportunity to hear from local candidates representing the main political parties, and to propose any questions that you would like them to answer. It will be free to attend, but advance online booking will be required. Tickets will be available from next week – please check the Cathedral website for latest details.

Why not prayerfully consider what you might like to ask the candidates? Send us your questions, indicating whether you might be willing to ask one yourself at a hustings, or would prefer a rep to put the question to the candidates on your behalf.

ctaxexeter@gmail.com>

Housing & Homelessness Hustings

Organised by St Petrock's Hosted at South Street Baptist Church on Thursday 27 June at 7.00pm. Your opportunity to ask questions of your general election candidates about the urgent subject of poverty in our city and beyond.

More info [here:](#)

Caritas Diocese of Plymouth

Caritas Anniversary Newsletter

This May marked the fifth anniversary of Caritas Diocese of Plymouth's launch. Read about the work they have done and continue to do [at this link.](#) Alternatively, there is a copy of the newsletter in the church porch.



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 is held once a month on a Saturday morning (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 22 June**. We look forward to seeing you.

CAFOD Pyramid Boxes

We will be emptying Pyramid Boxes at all Masses on **Sunday 23 June**. It doesn't matter if your box is full or not, every penny helps and it all adds up. Each year we raise around £500 from the box collections. When we consider that 700 million people around the world live in extreme poverty i.e., on less than £1.50 a day our small change goes a long way.

Gardening at the Convent in Lynton

Last year we ventured to North Devon to help the Sisters of Mary Morning Star tend their wonderful, and very large garden. Please join us this year on **Saturday 29 June** as we head north once more to do what we can to help. If you would like to come with us, please let Catherine in the Parish Office know as soon as possible so the we can organise transport.

Catholic Children's Society (Plymouth)

The latest "Children First" **newsletter** can be found in the church porch. The CCSP has teamed up with Tozers Solicitors who have a long history of being legal advisers to the Diocese of Plymouth and CCSP and will be holding their first ever **Wills Week w/c 17 June 2024**. Tozers have offices in Exeter, Newton Abbot and Teignmouth and they have kindly offered us 10 appointments for our parishioners to make a simple will to provide security for themselves, their loved ones, and the children of the future. Tozers have suggested a small donation be made to CCSP and they will then waive their usual fee which is considerably more. They have suggested a donation of £300 and this payment would be made to Tozers during the appointment and then they will ensure the payment is sent to CCSP. To request more information, or to book an appointment to make a simple will with a member of the team from Tozers, please email enquiries@tozers.co.uk or call **01392 207020**. Appointments during Wills Week will be offered on a first come first served basis, although if you are unable to make w/c 17 June, Tozers can offer a little flexibility in their appointment schedule.

Recycle your ink cartridges and help support CCSP. Please pop your used ink cartridges in the box situated in the Baptistery 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 Centre 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.

The Shape of Authentic Hope:

In this difficult, disillusioned age, why do we *need* the Church?

In preparing for the Jubilee year 2025, Pope Francis has asked us to explore the key documents of Vatican II. Bill Keimig, Deputy Director of the Catechetical Institute Franciscan University of Steubenville, in his visit to the UK, will be speaking to us on the document on the Church (Lumen Gentium: A light to all peoples). Come and join us at **Schiller Hall, Buckfast Abbey on Wednesday June 26 6.00-8.00pm**. The event will begin at 5.00pm with tea/coffee and chance to connect and chat with Bill and his team. [Contact here](#) to reserve a place.

Plymouth Diocese Catholic Charismatic Renewal

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 on 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!

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

Diocese of Plymouth Newsletter

The newsletter for May can be accessed [at this link](#).

Catholic Bishops' Conference

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

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

School Transport grants for the academic year 2024-25

The Diocese of Plymouth is now taking applications from parents/guardians wishing to apply for grants for transport to a Catholic or Catholic/CofE school situated in the Diocese of Plymouth. Applications for the academic year 2024-5 must be submitted in writing and be signed by the Parish Priest. Families will be notified at the start of the Autumn term if their application has been successful.

There are limited funds and not all applications may be successful.

You can obtain an application form from the parish office.

Bible Alive

There are 4 free copies of the latest editions of this publication in the church porch. Please help yourself. If you would like to make a contribution please put your money in the wall box marked 'books'.

The Relic Image of Our Lady of Guadalupe visits St Joseph and St Walburga, Poole, from 28 - 30 June 2024.

Mass of Reception is 6.00pm followed by refreshments. This will also begin Forty Hours of Adoration as part of the Knights of St Columba 'Bouquet of Prayer' with prayers also offered to celebrate life. Please see poster in porch for more details. All welcome.

Parachuting Deacons!!



Did you know that two deacons, Kelvin Russell and Brian Bargent, are each doing a parachute jump on July 11 to raise money to support talented but impoverished students through high school in Kenya? Please support us with your prayers (we'll need them!) and, if possible, by sponsoring us. Every penny goes directly to the students, whose only chance in life is through education. To sponsor [click here](#)

Laudato Si – Exeter

The Diocese is reminding us of Pope Francis's Letters, 'Laudato Si' and more recently 'Laudate Deum'. The Holy Father uses words from the great Canticum of St Francis of Assisi to ask us to consider our care for the Earth and its diversity of life, and for people threatened by the very serious environmental problems we face together.

We propose to reflect on the Pope's teaching documents and what they might mean for our lives and wider social responsibilities, drawing on the strengths of all three Parishes. If this interests you, can you please share your name and contact details with Coral Mortier, Parish Secretary at South Street (Phone, email). Your support will help us organise a combined 'Laudato Si' meeting for Exeter. Watch this space for more details.

Local Ignatian Summer Retreats

A number of individually guided, Ignatian silent retreats are available locally in the diocese this summer. There has been a change from the original summer programme sent out earlier in the year.

Sclerder Summer Retreats

5 – 7 July (Fri – Sun) Weekend Retreat (£140)

5 – 9 July (Fri – Tues) Extended Weekend Retreat (£280)

The recommended donation includes full board & lodging. If anyone would like to go on retreat, but has difficulty meeting the cost, this can be offset if they get in touch.

Sclerder Abbey, a retreat house for our summer retreats situated near Looe in Cornwall has a large garden with views of the sea and pleasant rural walks nearby.

Please contact Plymouth Diocesan Ignatian Spirituality Group at

diocesan-ignatian-retreats@prcdtr.org.uk or phone 01752 769164 Or 07823 447637 for further information or booking form. See the poster in the porch.

Exeter Foodbank

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

The Shape of Authentic Hope

In this difficult, disillusioned age, why do we *need* the Church? In preparing for the Jubilee year 2025, Pope Francis has asked us to explore the key documents of Vatican II. Bill Keimig, Deputy Director of the Catechetical Institute Franciscan University of Steubenville, in his visit to the UK, will be speaking to us on the document on the Church (Lumen Gentium: A light to all peoples).

Come and join us at Schiller Hall, Buckfast Abbey on **Wednesday June 26 6.00 – 8.00pm**. The event will begin at 5.00pm with tea/coffee and a chance to connect and chat with Bill and his team. [Contact here](#) to reserve a place.

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.

Christians Together in Exeter-Volunteering Opportunities

Have you ever felt called to volunteer with prisoners and their families? If so, please follow this link to learn more:

Family Services Volunteer (HMP Exeter) | Prison Advice and Care Trust Volunteering (goassemble.com) | South West Community Chaplaincy (<https://southwestcc.org.uk/making-new-start-possible>)

St Nicholas School News

We held Sports Day on Friday and the children enjoyed rocket lollies after their races and activities. It was a fun morning. Our Yr6 children are off for their residential next week at Kilve Court and the school will seem very quiet.

Last week we were delighted that Fr Jonathan could come in again to deliver a teaching mass to one of our classes. Father Jonathan explained the symbolism of the mass and what each item used during the mass means. The children engaged respectfully and were so keen to learn.

If you are interested in finding out more about joining our school community from Nursery to Yr6 please contact admissions@stncls.uk

Plymouth Cast – We need you!

Plymouth CAST is a Catholic multi-academy trust of 34 schools and one nursery, spanning the Diocese of Plymouth. Our mission is to be a community of outstanding schools in which our pupils flourish in safe, happy, and stimulating environments and leave us with the knowledge and skills, personal qualities, and aspirations, to make the world a better place, inspired by the Gospel.

Plymouth CAST is currently recruiting to expand its Board of Directors. We are particularly interested in hearing from you if you have skills and experience in Finance, HR, and/or Education. Please contact the Clerk to the Trust Board for further information, Mrs Leah Paiano lpaiano@plymouthcast.org.uk

Lay Dominican South West Regional Day

Any Catholics in the diocese who may be interested in joining the Lay Dominicans, or simply wish to find out who we are and what we are about are very warmly invited to the Lay Dominican South West Regional Day **Saturday 20 July 2024**

10.00am—5.00 pm at Our Lady & the Angels, Saltash.

The day will include a talk from Fr Thomas-Thérèse Mannion OP, National Promoter of the Lay Dominicans. Registration is not strictly necessary, but it would help for organisational purposes. If you would like to register or receive further information, contact **Geraldine on geraldinetaylor2016@hotmail.com**

Light refreshments provided. Please bring a packed lunch.

Free; donations welcome. See the poster in the porch.

St Petrock's

St Petrock's has created a simple survey to help raise awareness of the issues faced by people without a home in Exeter, and we'd love it if this could be shared.

We think it's the first opinion gathering poll of its kind in the city and hope it will provide valuable information about people's attitudes and knowledge about rough sleepers and the causes of homelessness, which will help inform our communications and fundraising plans.

We'd like as many people as possible to complete it as it will help us with our work, so please do share this post and/or pass on to colleagues so we can get as wide a picture of people's views.

If you include your email, we will enter you into a prize draw to win £50 of Petrock's Place vouchers - our vintage clothing shop in Paris Street!
Here's the survey! [surveymonkey.com/r/FFLT3RV](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/FFLT3RV)

Plymouth Diocese Vacancies

We're recruiting the following:

A Deanery Bookkeeper reporting to the Parish Finance Team Leader, with responsibilities that range from entering monthly receipts/payments on to an online accounting system to training non-financial team members.

If you have a bookkeeping qualification and/or sufficient relevant experience, excellent organisational skills and the ability to act as a key representative for the Diocese of Plymouth we would love to hear from you!

Location; Homebased in Exeter/Torbay with regular travel across Devon
(Mileage and travel time paid)

Hours; 17.5 hours per week. Flexible working days & hours but must be between Monday-Friday 9.00am-5.00pm.

Salary: Hourly rate £17.67 per hour, actual salary for 17.5 hours is £16,079.70

Closing date: **24 June 2024**

For more information or to obtain a full job description please visit the careers page on the Diocese of Plymouth website. To apply please send your application form (available from recruitment@prcdtr.org.uk) and covering letter to recruitment@prcdtr.org.uk

A Parish Secretary

We are recruiting a Parish Secretary for the Parish of St. James & St. Boniface, Tiverton, reporting to the Parish Priest.

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.

The post holder will be given scope to develop the role, review essential processes and improve them where necessary to ensure the effective provision of support for Parish activities. If you are competent in the use of Microsoft office systems such as Word, Outlook, MS Teams and MS publisher, excellent organizational skills and the ability to act as a key representative for the Diocese of Plymouth we would love to hear from you!

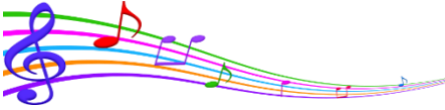
Hours; 16 hours per week, Tuesday to Friday.

Location; St. James and St. Boniface, The Presbytery, 40 Old Road Tiverton, EX16 4HJ

Closing date; **Monday 1 July**

To apply please contact recruitment@prcdtr.org.uk to obtain an application form and job description. Applications are by covering letter and application form to recruitment@prcdtr.org.uk

Blessed Sacrament Music Collective



We aim to play a range of music from traditional hymns of the church to modern worship music at every Sunday Mass. We have had very successful BS Collective

music 'jams' since November. These are a chance to learn new music and get to know one another. The next 'jams' are: **Saturday 5 October - 10.30am - 1.30pm** in the Richard Reynolds Centre **Saturday 23 November - 10.30am - 1.30pm** in the church. We would love to hear from anyone who would like to play with us, whether you attend at the 8.45am, 10.45am, 6.00pm, or a mixture. We need your gifts and talents to help our parish lift their hearts and voices in praise and worship. If you are interested in finding out more or coming to one of the 'jams', please email angelajfolland@gmail.com or angela.bosley@btinternet.com

GROWING IN FAITH TOGETHER

GIFT tots

GIFT tots will not meet throughout June, July and August. Our next session will be on **Friday 13 September** in the St Richard Reynolds Centre. If you and your little one(s) would like to join us please register using the link below.

[GIFT Tots Registration Form](#)

GIFT families and youth

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 6 July: Change of Venue/Time

GIFT and GIFT Youth will meet on 6 July at Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church.

We will begin with Mass at 9.30am and our session will end at 12.00 noon.

We look forward to seeing you there. Register for GIFT and GIFT Youth:

[GIFT Registration Form.](#) [GIFT Youth Registration Form](#)

GIFT youth socials

We ask that parents of any young person wishing to come to GIFT Youth socials have registered them before they attend. Please use the link above. This helps ensure everyone's safety. The next GIFT Youth Social scheduled for 21 June will not take place due to the SPREE Faith Festival. If you've signed up for GIFT Youth, details of the next session will be sent to you.

Wednesday Word Scripture Reflection

Prayerfully Preparing for the Proclamation of Sunday's Gospel

Wednesdays 2.00 – 3.00pm via zoom. We meet to pray, read, meditate and reflect 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. Next meeting Monday **17 June**.

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 Catherine in the parish office on 01392 274724 or exeter-heavitree@prcdtr.org.uk. We are now taking bookings for the July 2024 course. [Baptism Enquiry form](#)

PRAYER & LITURGY

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

With this month's prayer intention, Pope Francis invites us to pray for those people who are fleeing from their own countries – our brothers and sisters who are forced to leave their homeland. The Pope Video, produced by the Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network, helps us think about migrants: "Whoever welcomes a migrant welcomes Christ." As Christians, we cannot remain indifferent regarding the "walls separating families, and the walls in hearts." "A migrant needs to be accompanied, promoted, and integrated." Let us together pray that migrants fleeing from war or hunger, forced to undertake journeys fraught with danger and violence, may find welcome and new living opportunities in the countries that welcome them.

We commend to the Lord...

Rosemary Castlehouse and all who has died recently. Please keep her and her family and friends in your prayers. May she rest in peace and rise in glory.

Worship Thursdays

Adoration in church each Thursday 7.00-8.00pm.

Holy Rosary is prayed after Mass every first and third Wednesday.

THE WORD

Sunday 16 June – Eleventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

First Reading: Ezekial 17: 22-24

I make low trees grow.

Psalm Response: It is good to give you thanks, O Lord.

Second Reading: 2 Corinthians 5:6-10

We believe, and therefore we speak.

Gospel: Mark 4:26-34

It is the smallest of all the seeds; yet it grows into the biggest shrub of them all.

Sunday 23 June – Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time

First Reading: Job 3:1.8-11

Here your proud waves shall break.

Psalm Response: O give thanks to the Lord, for his love endures forever.

Second Reading: 2 Corinthians 5:14-17

Now the new creation is here.

Gospel: Mark 4:35-41

Who can this be? Even the wind and the sea obey him.

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

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](#)