

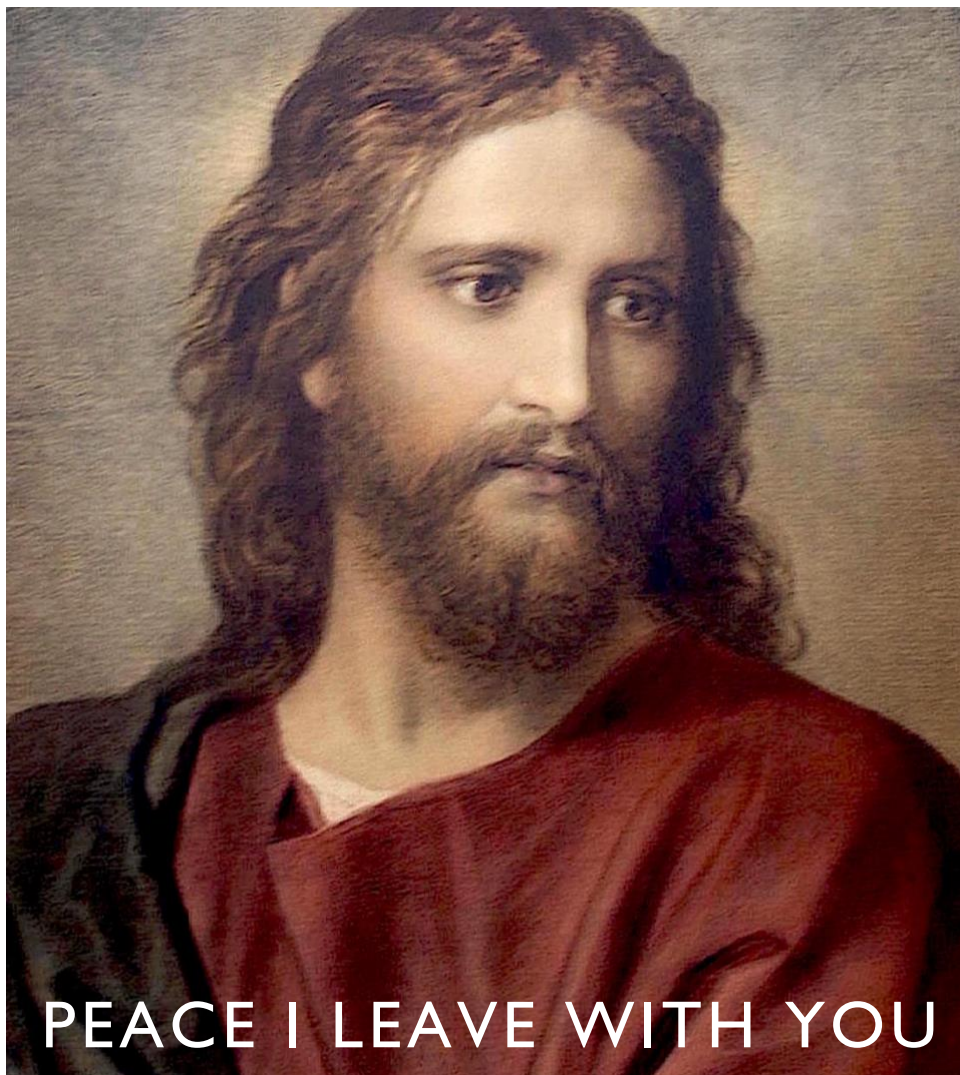
# PARISH NEWS



BLESSED SACRAMENT PARISH, HEAVITREE, EXETER

25 May 2025. *Sixth Week of Easter Year C. Psalter 2*

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PEACE I LEAVE WITH YOU

# MASS TIMES

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## **Sunday 25 May – Sixth Sunday of Easter**

8.45am *Ellen Daly RIP*  
10.45am *People of the Parish*  
3.00pm *Syro-Malabar Rite Mass*  
6.00pm

## **Tuesday 27 May – St Augustine of Canterbury, Bishop**

6.30pm *Guisepppe Giachomo RIP*

## **Wednesday 28 May**

9.30am *For those who pray for others*  
*Followed by refreshments in St Richard Reynold Centre.*

## **Thursday 29 May – The Ascension of the Lord**

Holy Day of Obligation

9.30am *People of the Parish*  
7.00pm *For a new bishop*  
*NB No Adoration this evening.*

## **Friday 30 May**

6.30pm *For those who pray for others.*

## **Saturday 31 May – The Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary**

9.30am *Special Intentions of the Miele Family*  
*Followed by Confessions*  
5.00pm *Syro-Malabar Rite Mass*

## **Sunday 1 June – Seventh Sunday of Easter**

World Communications Sunday

8.45am *Isabelle Charpenay RIP*  
10.45am  
2.00pm *Syro-Malabar Rite Mass*  
6.00pm *People of the Parish*

**Confessions** Saturdays after 9.30am Mass or by appointment.

## **Liturgy of the Word for Children**

During term time at 10.45am Mass on Sunday. For children aged 3 – School Year 3.  
Please register as you arrive at church.

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

# NEWS & EVENTS

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## World Communications Sunday 1 June

The theme of this year's World Communications Day: *Share with gentleness the hope that is in your hearts* (cf. 1 Pet 3:15-16)

I dream of a communication that does not peddle illusions of fears, but is able to give reasons of hope. *Pope Francis*

Read Pope Francis' message for the day, visit a page of [prayers and intercessions](#), and, if you feel you can, [support the work](#) of the Communications Directorate of the Bishops' Conference. There will be a second collection on this day.



### CAFOD parish group

We are renewing the CAFOD parish group and have arranged a meeting for Thursday 12th June 7pm-9pm in the St Richard Reynold Centre. Simon Giarchi, our diocesan CAFOD Community Participation Coordinator will be attending to speak

about CAFOD, especially to those who are interested in becoming new members of the group. However existing members are also very welcome as it will be a great opportunity to spend time together. Light refreshments will be available. Please [contact Petra Osborne at this address](#) if interested in attending.

## CAFOD Jubilee Reflection Day & Diocesan Launch of the Worldwide Church Debt Campaign

Venue: Buckfast Abbey, Schiller Hall, Saturday 31 May, 10.30am–3.00pm

Join us to pray and reflect on CAFOD's Jubilee themes and be inspired to take action on the worldwide Church debt campaign, with a *live* Link to Kenya!

In the last year of his life, Pope Francis repeatedly spoke about the global debt crisis impacting many of the world's poorest countries. Calling for urgent action to be taken in this Jubilee Year, he said, "More than a question of generosity, this is a matter of justice". At his request, the Church has launched a worldwide debt campaign. Join CAFOD to find out more about the campaign and what you can do to answer Pope Francis' call to action.

Keynote speaker live from Kenya: Fr Charlie Chilufya SJ, Jesuit priest based in Kenya, who is an expert on the debt crisis and on the human suffering that this is causing in Kenya. Fr Charlie is Director of JENA (Jesuit Justice and Ecology Network, Africa) he fosters and coordinates the Jesuits' work in economic, social, migration, juvenile, gender, and climate justice in Africa. He speaks globally at the African Union, United Nations, G20, and IMF/World Bank meetings, advocating for debt relief, climate justice, and economic systems that serve people over profit.

All welcome. Booking is not necessary, but appreciated: Tel: 01752 268 768

## Reading the Final Synod Document Together - the *School for Synodality's Online Book Club*

After four weeks of listening, discerning and writing in October 2024, the final day of the Rome Synod Assembly brought a dramatic surprise from Pope Francis - that the recommendations of the Assembly would become Church teaching. The three-year listening process was over, and it was now time to get on with implementing it.

The [Final Synod Document](#) (officially '*For a Synodal Church: Communion, Participation, and Mission*') is our guide to the implementation, and while beautiful and inspiring, can be rather technical in places.

To enable us to reflect on the document in more depth, the School for Synodality has organised an online book club with a stellar cast of experts. Each week we will unpack a different section of the Final Synod Document, reflecting on its theological and practical implications, with time for questions afterwards.

To watch live, register for the [link](#) for the webinars on YouTube. The sessions will also be available on YouTube and on our Podcast afterwards at your convenience.

You are invited to join us to watch the next five sessions in the St Richard Reynolds Centre at 7.30pm each Wednesday evening 28 May, 4, 11, 18, 25 June. All welcome.

## Feast of St Boniface

To celebrate the feast of St Boniface, Patron Saint of our Diocese, there will be Mass on Thursday, 5 June, at 4.00pm at St Boniface Church in Crediton. All are welcome. Please see the poster in the porch.

## A Window on St Boniface

The Sacred Heart Art's Group invite you to an evening of insight into the extraordinary life of St Boniface. We are blessed with a beautiful stained-glass window in Sacred Heart church, which attests to his life and work. This 30-45 minute presentation will be followed by drinks and nibbles. Donations in favour of the Church building fund.

6 June 2025 at 6.30pm at Sacred Heart Church. All welcome.

## St Nicholas School News

We have spaces in our Nursery for 3-4 year-olds from September. We offer 15 and 30 hours (extended) funding and additional hours are only £5.50 per hour. We can also offer wraparound care in our Breakfast and After School Club. Please contact the school on 01392 445403, to find out more about our Nursery provision and to book a tour!

Last Thursday we celebrated a beautiful liturgy led by the youngest children in the school during which our statue of Mary was crowned with flowers. Parents joined us to celebrate the month of May and honour to the mother of Jesus. Fr Jonathan and Maria Quinn also joined us and helped lead the liturgy which was appreciated by everyone present.

Please keep our school and all who work, study and support us in your prayers.



## Kenyan Educational Sponsorship

What's going on here?

### Two Exhausted Deacons

I, Deacon Kelvin Russell, 70 years old this year, am currently training to run the Great West Run, a half marathon on 25 May, with my fellow Deacon Brian Bargent. We will be running to raise funds for Kenyan Educational Sponsorship, which is dedicated to helping young people in Kenya achieve their academic potential, enabling them to realise their

ambitions and make the most of life. Currently we are sponsoring 10 high school students (4 boys and 6 girls). Four of these students are aiming to study medicine next year, three wish to become civil engineers, one a dentist, one a pharmacist and the other is yet to decide. Without the help of Kenyan Educational Sponsorship these students would be unable to study at all.

Please [click on this link](#) or use the QR code to sponsor us.

There is also a paper copy of the sponsorship form and leaflets in the church porch. Many thanks for your support.



## Retrouvaille – supporting marriages

Considering separation or are already divorced? If you are open to trying again Retrouvaille could be the solution. Ring 0797 338 0443 for more information or visit our website at [www.retrouvaille.org.uk](http://www.retrouvaille.org.uk)

## Smart Loving Marriage Preparation

To celebrate the Jubilee Year which is marked as a time to re-establish a proper relationship with God and one another, Catholic marriage ministry, SmartLoving, is offering its BreakThrough online course as a free gift.

The course is designed to help an individual to understand the struggles they are facing in their marriage, and to equip them with powerful tools to restore love, communication, and connection.

Use Coupon code: Jubilee2025 for FREE access to breakthrough. The offer is available from now until the Feast of Pentecost. Visit: [www.smartloving.org/jubilee](http://www.smartloving.org/jubilee)

## Mass for Marriage 2025

Saturday 31 May 12.00pm Cathedral Church of St Mary and St Boniface, Plymouth. Let us know your anniversaries or intentions, or when your wedding will take place. For information contact [deborah.vankroonenburg@prcdtr.org.uk](mailto:deborah.vankroonenburg@prcdtr.org.uk) and see the poster.

## Exeter Foodbank

Donations of priority items are especially needed: Tinned meat meals, tinned vegetarian meals, pasta/noodle snacks, tinned potatoes, tinned fruit, tinned vegetables, biscuits, 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.



## Parish Picnic at Pentecost

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 on Sunday 8 June. 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.

Could bake a cake or cakes that we could share with others in the park? We found it was a great way to engage people in conversation and to tell them about who we are and what we are celebrating.

You may like to leave your picnic and cakes in the St Richard Reynolds Centre before Mass to save you going home to collect it before joining us. We look forward to seeing you there.

## Catholic Children's Society (Plymouth) (CCSP)

### CCSP Spring Newsletter

Copies of the latest edition of our 'Children First' newsletter are in the porch.

### Proclaim 2025 – Sclerder Abbey June 20 – 22

Proclaim is aimed at young adults aged 18-30ish. It aims to encourage young adults to explore their faith and respond to Gods call. Speakers include: Storyteller Martin Shaw, who will talk about the Celtic saints; Daniella Stephens and singer, song writer Jamaiah Paine. You will need to register. Contact Saskia: [youth@prcdtr.org.uk](mailto:youth@prcdtr.org.uk)

Please pray for our young people and youth ministry in our diocese.

Please contact me if you would like me to keep you up to date with information and things to focus our prayers on. Saskia Hogbin [youth@prcdtr.org.uk](mailto:youth@prcdtr.org.uk)

## Aid to the Church in Need (CAN)

We are excited to invite you to the ACN Pilgrimage 2025, taking place from 21–26 July in York and the surrounding area. This pilgrimage, themed 'Heartland of Faith and Hope,' will explore the rich Christian heritage of York and Yorkshire, focusing on the foundation, reformation, persecution, and revival of faith in this region.

For more information or to book your place, please contact Bridget Teasdale at [bridget.teasdale@acnuk.org](mailto:bridget.teasdale@acnuk.org). A non-refundable deposit of £90 is required to secure your spot, with the total pilgrimage cost being £285. Please see the poster and additional details in the porch.



# Laudato Si' Week 2025



*“The work of the Church seeks not only to remind everyone of the duty to care for nature, but at the same time she must above all protect mankind from self-destruction.” Laudato Si’ 79*

Canon Paul Cummins, our Diocesan Administrator writes: 2025 is a significant year for creation, with the Tenth anniversary of Laudato Si’ in May and a global Jubilee. Care for Creation is one of the six social action themes chosen by Pope Francis as areas for prayer and reflection during this Jubilee Year.

Pope Leo XIV is believed to share Pope Francis’ stance on environmental issues. We know we face urgent challenges. “The impact of climate change will increasingly prejudice the lives and families of many persons. We will feel its effects in the areas of healthcare, sources of employment, access to resources, housing, forced migrations, etc.” *Laudate Deum* #2.

Pope Francis’ encyclical Laudato Si’ is a prophetic call for us to rediscover our relationship with creation, God, and one another. This message is further deepened in Pope Francis’ encyclical Laudate Deum, which calls for urgent action to steward the earth’s resources for future generations.

As we continue to celebrate the Jubilee of Hope this year, we are inspired by the words of St. Paul to the Romans, that “...afflictions produce endurance, and endurance proven character, and proven character hope. And hope does not disappoint...” (*Rom 5:5*). Christian hope calls us to engage actively in the safeguarding of creation and healing the wounds of our world.

We are invited during Laudato Si’ Week to reflect on the ecological challenges we are facing – not as reasons to despair but as an invitation to action and hope rooted in Christ. This is an opportunity to deepen our spiritual and ecological renewal by:

- Finding out more about how we can meet our environmental responsibilities as individuals and as a community. Caritas Plymouth and CAFOD have resources to support us. [You can access them here.](#)
- Adopt more sustainable lifestyles. We are all encouraged to continue the Live Simply journey in our parish and at home and there are resources available from [CAFOD](#).



I would also invite you to read the latest [Diocesan Annual Environment Report](#). This tells you what actions we are taking as a diocese to care for creation. It shows how we can take simple steps to promote a loving care for “our common home” and meet the ecological challenges which we all face.

Let us walk the Pilgrimage of Hope together, responding with faith and courage. We trust that Christ walks with us, renewing the face of the earth through our collective efforts. Thank you for all you do and will do in the future. *Canon Paul*.

## Diocese of Plymouth Newsletter

The Diocesan newsletter for May can be read by clicking this link:

<https://email.workwithgusto.co.uk/t/t-4A106CCA7386F8E42540EF23F30FEDED>

## Catholic Bishops of England and Wales

For the latest news from the Bishops' Conference [please click here](#)

## Christians Together Across Exeter

Does anyone know of a 3-bedroom house in Exeter available for rent for a refugee family? They are in receipt of Housing Benefit and are being assisted by a refugee support worker. Please contact Sandy at [admin@exwickcommunitychurch.org.uk](mailto:admin@exwickcommunitychurch.org.uk)

## FORMING IN FAITH TOGETHER

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### Bishop Robert Barron's The Mass

Join us for Bishop Robert Barron's six-part film series: The Mass. This fascinating and highly informative series explores the Mass in wonderful detail, opening up the treasures of what we understand as the source and summit of our faith.

The meetings will be fortnightly, and the episodes will be shown at two locations:

**Monday morning** Next meeting 2 June, 10.30am-12.00pm in the Lower Room at Sacred Heart .

**Tuesday evening** 3 June 7.15-9.00pm at St Richard Reynolds Centre at Blessed Sacrament.

### Baptism Preparation Courses 2025

Next Courses: 14 and 21 June 2025 and 11 and 18 October 2025, 10.10am to 12.15pm. Godparents are especially welcome to attend the course as their role is explored. Click [Baptism Enquiry form](#) to register. If you have any problem accessing this, contact the parish office at [Exeter-heavitree@prcdtr.org.uk](mailto:Exeter-heavitree@prcdtr.org.uk) or 01392 274724.

### GIFT Join the team

We'd love you to help us; get in touch if you could offer one Saturday morning, a month to join the catechist teams or volunteer to serve refreshments.

### GIFT tots

Our next session will be on Friday 13 June in the St Richard Reynolds Centre. If you and your little one(s) would like to join us, please register using this link: [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 Family and Youth Pilgrimage

Our next GIFT on the 7 June will be on pilgrimage to the St Boniface Shrine, Crediton. Join us at 10:00 to journey around the St Boniface Trail, Crediton at your own pace. The trail ends at the St Boniface Shrine, located in the St Boniface Catholic Church, where we will gather at 12:15 for GIFT Mass with Fr Jonathan. All are welcome. Information will be sent via email. If you aren't registered with GIFT to receive our emails, get in touch with Maria who will ensure you have all the information needed for a smooth and enjoyable family pilgrimage.

[Exeter-pastoral-assistant@prcdtr.org.uk](mailto:Exeter-pastoral-assistant@prcdtr.org.uk)

Register for GIFT and GIFT Youth at these links:

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

## Mark 10 Mission

This website offers short children's liturgy videos for both under 8s and 8-12 year olds to help families engage with the Sunday Gospel. You can use this to help your children prepare for and engage with the Sunday Mass. Check out the [website here](#).

## GIFT Youth – Sacrament of Confirmation

Growing in faith, attending GIFT Youth sessions and participating in Sunday Mass are all key elements of a deepening faith. If you are interested in receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation this year, please get in touch with the parish office.

## GIFT Youth Socials

Next social is on Friday 20 June 7.30–9.30pm in the St Richard Reynolds Centre.

## GIFT Youth – SPREE Festival Weekend

Westpoint Arena Exeter. SPREE is an exciting weekend festival for young people to build strong friendships and explore their Christian faith together. The festival is running from Friday 27 – Sunday 29 June. Early bird tickets cost £80, and parishes have kindly offered to subsidise youth tickets by 50%.

Have a look at Spree's 60 second promotional video [here](#).

Please note all youth attending must register with GIFT youth. If you are interested in attending, please get in touch with Maria for more information: [exeter-pastoral-assistant@prcdtr.org.uk](mailto:exeter-pastoral-assistant@prcdtr.org.uk)

## Wednesday Word Scripture Reflection

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. Contact Maria [exeter-pastoral-assistant@prcdtr.org.uk](mailto:exeter-pastoral-assistant@prcdtr.org.uk) if you would like to join us.

## 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.

## PRAYER & LITURGY

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### We commend to the Lord...

Margaret Hayman who has died. May she rest in peace. Please offer a prayer for the repose of her soul and the comfort and consolation of her family.

Margaret's funeral Mass will be on 11 June at 9.30am at Blessed Sacrament Church.

### We welcome into the life of grace...

Elijah and Louis who will be baptised this weekend. Please offer a prayer for them, their parents and Godparents. May they grow in knowledge and love of the Lord.

### Congratulations...

to Laura and Giuseppe who will be married at the end of May and to Marian and Chris who will be married in July. We wish them every blessing as they prepare for their very special day and for their future marriages.

### Praying the Rosary

The Rosary is prayed at Blessed Sacrament Parish every first and third Wednesday after 9.30am Mass. All welcome.

### Pope's May Prayer Intention – For working conditions

Let us pray that the use of the new technologies will not replace human relationships, will respect the dignity of the person, and will help us face the crises of our times.

[The Pope Video](#)

### Priests' Jubilee Celebration

Our Parish Priest Fr Jonathan and Fr Anthony Onuoha, parish priest of St Joseph's Newton Abbot are both celebrating the 25th Anniversary of their ordination to the priesthood this year. The annual diocesan celebration of Jubilees will be at Buckfast Abbey's Blessed Sacrament Chapel on Friday 13 June. Mass will be celebrated at 12.00pm and it would be wonderful if some of you were able to be with us.

# THE WORD

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## **Sunday 25 May – Sixth Sunday of Easter**

**First Reading** Acts 15:1-2, 22-29

*It has seemed good to the Holy Spirit and to us to lay on you no greater burden than these requirements.*

**Psalms Response** Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you.

**Second Reading** Revelation 21:10-14, 22-23

*He showed me the holy city coming down out of heaven.*

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

## **Thursday 29 May – The Ascension of the Lord**

**First Reading** Acts 1:1-11. *As they were looking on, he was lifted up.*

**Psalms Response** God has gone up with shouts of joy. The Lord goes up with trumpet blast.

**Second Reading** Hebrews 9:24-28; 10:19-23. *Christ has entered into heaven itself.*

**Gospel** Luke 24:46-53. *While he blessed them, he was carried up into heaven*

## **Sunday 1 June – Seventh Sunday of Easter**

**First Reading** Acts 7: 55-60. *I see the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God.*

**Psalms Response** The Lord is king, most high above all the earth.

**Second Reading** Revelation 22:12-14, 16-17, 20. *Come, Lord Jesus!*

**Gospel** John 17: 20-26. *May they become perfectly one.*

# 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*

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

Parish Secretary *Catherine Odams*

Parish Office *Open Tuesday – Friday 10.00am–4.00pm*  
Gift Aid enquiries: [Exeter-heavitree-giftaid@prcdtr.org.uk](mailto:Exeter-heavitree-giftaid@prcdtr.org.uk)

Parish website [blessedsacrament.org.uk](http://blessedsacrament.org.uk)

Parish 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

*Maria Edwards 07870 696530  
& Catherine Odams 01392 274724*

## 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)

Head Teacher Mr Damian Railston



**DIOCESE OF PLYMOUTH**

Blessed Sacrament Parish is part of the Diocese of Plymouth.