

# PARISH NEWS



*BLESSED SACRAMENT PARISH, HEAVITREE, EXETER*

*17 August 2025. 20th week in Ordinary Time C1 Psalter 4*

*24 August 2025. 21st week in Ordinary Time Year C1 Psalter 1*

THE FIRE OF



GOD'S LOVE

When we consider the Christian life, we often think in positive terms: peace, light, joy, goodness, life. And yet, as the Scriptures remind us today, that Christian life must be lived in the midst of a world which is filled with more negative terms: division, distress, cruelty and death.

The words of the Gospel may appear shocking to us: Jesus says that he comes to bring “division, not peace”, and this seems totally contrary to the message of the Gospel! And yet, Jesus is not announcing his desire – of course he wants peace, not division – but showing his understanding of the world in which we live. He is inviting us to weigh up the cost of the Kingdom, a cost he was willing to embrace: as the second reading tells us: “... Jesus, for the sake of the joy which was still in the future, endured the cross...”

Whatever weighs us down, let us endure and persevere, so that the fire of God’s love may blaze over the whole earth! *Salford Office for Liturgy*

## MASS TIMES

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### **Sunday 17 August – 20th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

8.45am *Lucy RIP*  
10.45am *Those on holiday*  
2.00pm *Syro Malabar Rite Mass*  
6.00pm *People of the Parish*

### **Wednesday 20 August – St Bernard, Abbot & Doctor**

9.30am  
*Followed by refreshments in the St Richard Reynolds Centre. Holy Rosary after Mass*

### **Saturday 23 August**

9.30am  
4.00pm *Syro-Malabar Rite Mass*

### **Sunday 24 August – 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time**

8.45am *People of the Parish*  
10.45am *Daniel Docherty RIP*  
2.00pm *Syro Malabar Rite Mass*  
6.00pm

### **Wednesday 27 August – St Monica, Patron of mothers**

9.30am  
*Followed by refreshments in the St Richard Reynolds Centre*

### **Saturday 30 August**

9.30am *Giuseppe Giachino RIP*  
2.00pm *Syro-Malabar Rite Mass*

### **Sunday 31 August – 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time**

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

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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### Fr Emmanuel Uzoma

At the weekend of 6/7 September we will welcome Fr Emmanuel Uzoma to Exeter. Fr Emmanuel will be living at Sacred Heart but working in both Blessed Sacrament and Sacred Heart parishes. We are delighted to be able to welcome him and hope and pray that his time of ministry here in Exeter will be fruitful and rewarding. God bless you Fr Emmanuel.



### Alpha is coming – 16 September

We are delighted to announce that our next Alpha course will begin on Tuesday 16 September at 7.00pm in the St Richard Reynolds Centre. This exciting series will run on Tuesday evenings until November 25.

If you, and friends, would like to join us for this exploration of the basics of the Christian faith in an open friendly environment, share conversation and supper then [please click on this link to show your interest](#) and we will be in touch.

### Important Message: Nationwide Emergency Alert

Sunday 7 September 2025 at 3.00pm

The UK Government will sound the next Nationwide Emergency alert on Sunday 7 September 2025 at 3.00pm. This alert is designed to protect the public. However, for victims of domestic abuse, especially those living with a hidden or second mobile device, it can unintentionally put them at serious risk.

NOTE: The alert, which triggers a loud, unavoidable siren and message on all compatible mobile phones, **will sound even if a phone is on silent.**

[For more information please follow this link.](#)

For individuals currently managing their safety discreetly, especially those in coercive or controlling environments, this could expose a secret device or raise questions that could jeopardise their wellbeing.

### Important Safeguards to Take NOW

Disable alerts on any hidden device (Settings > Notifications > Advanced Settings > Emergency Alerts). Please note this varies by device / operating system. Detailed

instructions from the gov.uk website to “opt out” of the alerts: [can be found at this link](#). Consider turning off or powering down any secondary phone before the test.  
ACTION: Please circulate this information to anyone you believe may be at risk.

## Catholic Children's Society (Plymouth)

### Giving Hope To All- Putting All Children First

The annual appeal of the Catholic Children's Society is next weekend, 24 August. Please take an appeal envelope today and visit their website to understand the wonderful work the Society does to help struggling children and their families. Please give generously and keep them and their beneficiaries in your prayers. Your love, kindness and generosity will make a difference to them. Thank you so much and please remember to Gift Aid if you can!



## Accommodation required

A parishioner is seeking privately rented accommodation, ideally in Heavitree. The requirements are that the accommodation be ground floor, close to shops and bus stops, and preferably not a house share. The parishioner is a non-smoker, not a pet owner and is child free. Please contact the parish office if you can help.

## Father Jonathan's Silver Jubilee Celebration

Saturday 6 September

Fr Jonathan's celebrated the Silver Jubilee of his ordination to the priesthood on Tuesday 8 July. We will celebrate the anniversary as a parish with Mass at 11.00am on Saturday 6 September at Blessed Sacrament Church.

If you would like to, and are able, please make a donation. Cash donations can be made through the special envelopes that will be available in the church porch. Bank transfers may be made using these details: PRCDTR Heavitree RC Parish, A/C no 06036007, Sort Code: 52 41 60. Please mark this donation: 'Fr J Jubilee'. Alternatively, the card machine will be available for donations.

## Pinwood Pipes Concert

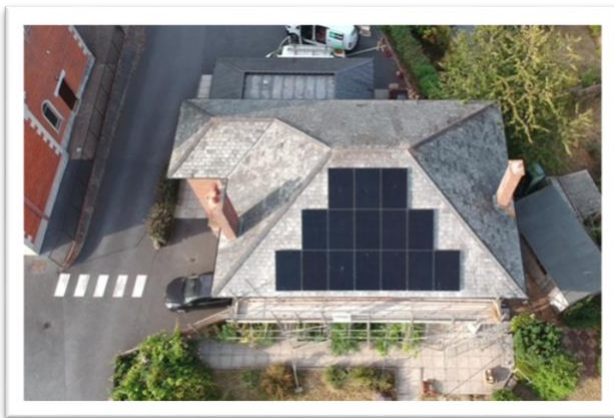
Saturday 13 September 2025, 7.00pm Blessed Sacrament Church

A programme of arrangements and original music for recorders from across the ages, including pieces by Handel, Mozart, Gounod, Schmelzer, Steve Marshall, Andrew Melville, Glen Shannon and more ...

Admission free, retiring collection in aid of [Balloons Charity](#). This is a local charity supporting bereaved children and young people: Please see the poster in the porch.

## Mad deacons at it again!

Deacons Brian and Kelvin are hoping to do a 100-mile tandem bike ride next summer, 2026. This cycling event will raise money to educate impoverished students in Kenya. Thank you.



## The Parish goes Solar!

This week the solar panels were fitted to the Presbytery by 365 Energy. They did a great job, with friendly efficiency and courtesy. So now the electricity used by the Presbytery and St Richard Reynolds Centre is powered by the sun!

A big thank you to everyone who was involved with getting this project completed, especially Chris Jones, Lesley Hooper, members of the Parish Buildings Committee and Catherine in the parish office.

## Parish pilgrimage to Launceston

On Saturday 11 October you are invited to join a pilgrimage to St Cuthbert Mayne Church in Launceston, one of the four designated pilgrimage sites in our diocese this Jubilee Year. Canon John Deeny will welcome us to mass at 11.00am before we have a chance to view the relic of St Cuthbert Mayne among others.

Find out about one of our region's patron saints, bring lunch to share in the parish centre, and follow an optional town trail around key sites related to St Cuthbert Mayne's life. And for those with Pilgrim Passports, you can add another stamp!

To register your interest and for more information, contact the Parish Office: [exeter-heavitree@prcdtr.org.uk](mailto:exeter-heavitree@prcdtr.org.uk).

In keeping with the Jubilee theme of Care for Creation, we would like to arrange a car share. So please let us know if you require a lift or could offer a number of seats to your fellow pilgrims.

## Plymouth CAST needs your help

Plymouth CAST is a Catholic multi-academy trust of 34 schools and 1 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.

We are looking to expand our Board of Directors. We are particularly interested in hearing from you if you have skills and current or recent experience of education at primary or secondary level, particularly within a multi-academy trust.

Please contact the Clerk to the Trust Board for further information, Mrs Leah Paiano [paiano@plymouthcast.org.uk](mailto:paiano@plymouthcast.org.uk)

## Season of Creation

1 September is the World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation and the beginning of the Season of Creation, which ends on 4 October (the Feast of St Francis of Assisi). For more information and inspiration, visit the diocesan website here:

[Season of Creation-Diocese of Plymouth](#)

## 2025 Diocesan Youth Rally

20 September, St Rita's, Honiton. 12.00–6.00pm

Aimed at those aged 6-16 years. Come as a team of 6 (over 12s or under 12s), or join a team. A fun way to meet others from across the Diocese, have a go at some of the challenges and maybe win a trophy. Coach transport will be available for attendees. To book note that coach transport will be available for attendees.

To book [please follow this link](#). For further information: [youth@prcdtr.org.uk](mailto:youth@prcdtr.org.uk)

## Unbound-Freedom in Christ

Prayer Conference September 20/21 St Boniface College. Plymouth.  
Deliverance. Freedom. Belonging.

- Negative thoughts, repetitive sins and unhealthy relationships.
- Destructive habits, idols, and false identities.
- Resentments and bitter wounds that never seem to heal.

What if you could reach out and touch God's love and never be the same?

Unbound is a non-confrontational freedom and inner healing ministry which helps people worldwide reclaim their true- identity in Christ.

Author and co-founder Matt Lozano will be speaking live from the USA.

Mass. Confessions. Adoration. Trained ministry teams. Praise and worship.

Booking essential tickets not available on the door. Over 18s only.

Tickets £40 via the link. [Book your ticket here](#)

For more details 01752 701660 or 07940 453607

## Year of Jubilee – Jubilee of Catechists

27 September at Buckfast Abbey 10.00am – 4.00pm.

A day for catechists and those interested in catechesis.

*"My teaching is not mine, but His who sent me."* John 7:16

Speakers include: Dr Pat McGovern and the LIFT Team from Truro and Deacon Tim van Kroonenburg from Newton Abbot parish.

To book please contact [plymouth-crownhill@prcdtr.org.uk](mailto:plymouth-crownhill@prcdtr.org.uk). If you would like to share gifts and experiences, displays, posters or presentations, please contact [deborah.vankroonenburg@prcdtr.org.uk](mailto:deborah.vankroonenburg@prcdtr.org.uk)

## Marriage help – Retrouvaille

Retrouvaille helps couples find hope and healing for their marriage. Next date: 17-19 October. [www.retrouvaille.org.uk](http://www.retrouvaille.org.uk) Tel: 0788 7296983

## Catholic South West

August edition is available in the porch, price 50p. Please put money in the box marked "books and papers".

## Diocese of Plymouth latest Newsletter...

...can be read [at this link](#)

## Caritas Plymouth Newsletter

[Click at this link](#) to read the latest edition of the Caritas Diocese of Plymouth newsletter, with news of love in action and upcoming events in our diocese

## Catholic Bishops of England and Wales

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

## Exeter Foodbank

The top five items needed this week are: Small jars of coffee, tinned meat meals, pasta/noodle snacks, vegetarian meals, pasta sauce, rice. There is a collection basket at the back of the church. [Exeter Food Bank](#)

## Going into Hospital?

Are you, or someone you know, going into hospital for any length of time, and would you 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.

## FORMING IN FAITH

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### Baptism Preparation Courses 2025

Next Course: 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.

### 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.

## Forming in Faith

Our fortnightly sessions held at Sacred Heart after the 10am Mass on Mondays from 10.30am-12.00pm, will not meet during August. Our next session will be on Monday 8 September in the Lower Room. All welcome!

## GROWING IN FAITH TOGETHER

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### 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. The next session will be on Saturday 13 September.

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 tots

If you and your little one(s) would like to join us, please register using this link:

[GIFT tots Registration Form](#)

Please note there are no GIFT Tots meetings in August. We will begin meeting every 2nd and 4th Friday in September, from 10.15am to 11.15am, beginning on Friday 12 September, in the St Richard Reynolds Centre.

### GIFT Youth Socials

Next social Friday 12 September 7.30–9.30pm in the St Richard Reynolds Centre.

### 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 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.



# PRAYER & LITURGY

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## We welcome to the Life of Grace...

Nyla, who was baptized on Saturday. Please pray for her family and Godparents. May she grow in love and knowledge of the Lord and be richly blessed.

**Rosary** Blessed Sacrament Church, first and third Wednesday after 9.30am Mass.

## Pope's August Prayer Intention

For formation in discernment

For mutual coexistence. Let us pray that societies where coexistence seems more difficult might not succumb to the temptation of confrontation for ethnic, political, religious or ideological reasons. [The Pope Video](#)

# THE WORD

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## Sunday 17 August – 20th Sunday in Ordinary Time

**First Reading** Jeremiah 38: 4-6, 8-10

*You bore me, a man of contention to the whole land.*

**Psalm Response** Lord, Make haste to help me!

**Second Reading** Hebrews 12:1- 4

*Let us run with endurance the race that is set before us.*

**Gospel** Luke 12:49-53 *I have not come to give peace but division.*

## Sunday 24 August – 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

**First Reading** Isaiah 66: 18-21

*They shall bring all your brothers from all the nations.*

**Psalm Response** Go into all the world and proclaim the good news.

**Second Reading** Hebrews 12: 5-7, 11-13

*The Lord disciplines the ones he loves.*

**Gospel** Luke 13:22-30

*People will come from east and west and recline at table in the kingdom of God.*

## Sunday 31 August – 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

**First Reading** Sirach 3: 17-18, 20, 28-29

*Humble yourself so you will find favour in the sight of the Lord.*

**Psalm Response** In your goodness, O God, you provided a home for the poor.

**Second Reading** Hebrews 12:18 -19, 22-24a

*You have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God.*

**Gospel** Luke 14:1, 7-14 *Who can discern what the Lord wills?*



## Parish Instagram

Blessed Sacrament's Instagram page is active! Please visit and follow us at the link below or by clicking the Instagram symbol. We are pleased that social media is offering parishioners the opportunity to exercise their creative charisms. [Blessed Sacrament Instagram](#)

# 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)

Parish Instagram [blessedsacramentexeter](https://www.instagram.com/blessedsacramentexeter)

**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

