

PARISH NEWS



BLESSED SACRAMENT PARISH, HEAVITREE, EXETER

16 November 2025. 33rd Week in Ordinary Time. Year C1 Psalter 1

23 November 2025. 34th Week in Ordinary Time. Year C1 Psalter 2



As we approach the end of that part of Saint Luke's Gospel before the Passion narratives, and approach the end of the Church's year, our thoughts are turned towards the end of time and the Second Coming of the Lord – this will lead us into Advent in two weeks time. Saint Luke's message is very distinctive: the Lord will come, but there is a lot to be lived through first.

The coming of the Lord is not going to be a "quick fix" – we will have to live through (and endure) all the mess of human joy and suffering. The Lord is clear too that we have to be aware of the personal cost of belonging to him – think back to last week's readings, and the stories of religious persecution from every place and every age, even to this day. Even as this sounds gloomy and depressing, it is worth noting where the Gospel passage starts – in the material beauty of the Temple – and where it ends – something far more precious will be saved: our lives. *Salford Office for Liturgy*

MASS TIMES

Sunday 16 November – 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

World Day of the Poor

8.45am

10.45am

2.00pm Syro Malabar Rite Mass

6.00pm *People of the Parish*

Tuesday 18 November

6.30pm

Wednesday 19 November

9.30am *Mrs B. Billson RIP*

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

Thursday 20 November

No Mass. Clergy Requiem Plymouth Cathedral 12.00pm. All welcome.

6.00pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Friday 21 November – The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

6.30pm

Saturday 22 November – St Cecilia, Virgin & Martyr

9.30am *Fred Morgan RIP*

Sunday 23 November – Christ the King

National Youth Sunday

8.45am *People of the Parish*

10.45am

2.00pm Syro Malabar Rite Mass

6.00pm

Tuesday 25 November

6.30pm

Wednesday 26 November

9.30am

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

Thursday 27 November

9.30am

6.00pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Friday 28 November

11.00am Funeral Mass – Julie Whiting RIP

No 6.30pm Mass

Saturday 29 November – St Cuthbert Mayne, Priest & Martyr. *Secondary*
Patron of the Diocese

No Mass. Installation of Bishop Nicholas as Bishop of Plymouth.

Sunday 30 November – 1st Sunday of Advent

8.45am

10.45am *People of the Parish*

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

World Day of the Poor

In this year's celebration we are invited to reflect on the words of [Pope Leo XIV's message for the World Day of the Poor the Day](#) and his recent, and first, [Apostolic Exhortation: Dilexi te](#) ("I have loved you"). He reminds us that true faith in Christ cannot be separated from love for those who suffer, and that the Church is called to recognise in the poor not simply recipients of our help, but in some way our teachers in the Gospel.

On this day let us open our hearts and our parish life more deeply to the cry of the poor, mindful that in serving them we serve Christ himself.

Prayer for the Day

Loving Father,
you gaze with compassion on all who are poor and vulnerable;
fill our hearts with your love, that we may see your face
in every brother and sister who lacks.
Inspire us to a love that reaches out,
a faith that acts, and a Church that walks humbly with the poor.
Grant us courage to bear witness to your justice,
and the grace to share our gifts with generous hearts.
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Announcement of a new Bishop of Plymouth

Following the announcement of Bishop Nicholas Hudson as our new bishop, the Diocese has issued the latest special edition newsletter. Ahead of his installation on Saturday 29 November, he speaks to us about his new appointment.

[You can read the newsletter by following this link.](#)

Thank You for Your Generosity

We are deeply grateful for the continued generosity of our parishioners. Your support enables our parish to thrive and serve the community in so many ways. As we look to the future, we encourage those who are able to consider switching to bank Standing Order or the Sum Up machine for their donations. This helps us plan and steward our resources more effectively.

If you are a UK taxpayer, pay sufficient* tax and haven't yet signed up for Gift Aid, we invite you to do so. Gift aid allows us to claim an extra 25p for every £1 you give, at no extra cost to you. It's a simple way to make your generosity go even further.

Bank standing order, Gift Aid donor forms and Information on how to donate via your mobile or computer are permanently available in the church porch.

** Guidance from HMRC: If the amount of Income Tax that you're due to pay for a tax year is less than the tax reclaimed for the year on your gifts by ALL the charities to which you've made Gift Aid donations, you may have to pay an additional amount of Income Tax.*

Ann Edwards, Parish Treasurer

GIFT Youth Caritas

The GIFT Caritas Youth Group want to thank everyone who attended their bake sale for St Petrock's homelessness charity last Sunday. Through your generous donations and purchases, the group raised over £500 between both parishes - enough to sponsor the sleeping bag several times over!

The GIFT Caritas Youth group are really inspired by your support and, after a social activity to celebrate, will be back to planning their next social action next term. All in school years 10-13 are welcome to join the group, which meets monthly in term time. Please register here: [GIFT Youth Registration Form](#)

Sacrament of Confirmation

We're delighted that 18 of our young parishioners across Catholic Exeter are preparing to be confirmed on Saturday 22 November at the 17:30 Vigil Mass, Sacred Heart. Please keep these young people, their families and catechists in your prayers.

Hosanah House and Children's Pilgrimage Trust (HCPT)

Every year we travel to Lourdes, France, on pilgrimage for around a week and care for a group of children from several different backgrounds, life experiences, and who may have a physical, psychological and/or social need.

There will be a bake sale after 10:45am Mass on Sunday 16 November in aid of the HCPT Group 141 Group Fund. The Group Fund covers the cost of each child that travels with the group (£1393 per child including accommodation, food, and flights). In addition to the children's fares, we are raising money for group activities and travel. If you are unable to attend but would still like to donate to Group 141, they have a Go Fund Me page: [please click here](#)

[HCPT website](#) Thank you in advance     

RCIA Journey in Faith

Are you, or is someone you know, interested in becoming a Catholic? We regularly have requests from people who want to know more about the Catholic Faith because they are experiencing a call to be a part of the Church. They come from all walks of life and are different ages. The Holy Spirit is at work!

We support those who want to join us by meeting regularly and discussing what it means to be a Catholic Christian. We call this journey RCIA – The Rite of Christian Initiation in Adults. Whilst it was originally formulated to receive those who had never been baptised, many of those who now come along have already been initiated into another tradition. We are all on a journey of faith. Our meetings are designed to support and encourage those who are not yet Catholic and to accompany them.

We are hoping to begin the meetings in the second week of October. If you are interested in knowing more, please contact Sacred Heart Parish on 01392 642389. Please watch this space for more details.

Christmas Fayre in aid of Force Cancer Charity

We need your help!

Jane and Gary are organizing the fayre, which is being held in the United Reformed Church church just down the road on December 13 at 11.00am until 2.00pm.

They would like some help please! Particularly lovely volunteers to work on stalls, but also donations of books, jigsaws, toys, games, bottles, tombola prizes and baked cakes. If you can help please call Jane on 07890373617.

Key holders to church property.

We are required by the diocese to compile a list of everyone who has access to the church premises with a key, a fob or the code to the sacristy door.

If this includes you, please complete a form, signed and returned to the Parish Office. You can collect a form from the church porch or the office. If you have any questions, please contact Catherine in the office on 01392274724, or exeter-heavitree@prcdtr.org.

Accommodation sought

A parishioner is looking for accommodation to rent privately. No pets, non smoking. Please contact the parish office if you can help.

Holy Boy: A Musical Nativity

We are still seeking more children and young people to take part in this nativity. The performance is scheduled for December 14 at 4.00pm. in the Sacred Heart Church. Rehearsals are on Saturdays 22, 29 and 13 December 11.00 am -12.15pm at the Sacred Heart. For further information please email or text Dorf Ruscoe (ruscoe@talk.net / 07837 020897) or Gerry Hinton (gerryhinton@aol.com / 07970042641). You will be very welcome to join us.

URAFIKI Booksale and Coffee Morning

Saturday 22 November 10.00-12.30. 2, The Quadrangle, EX4 4UX

Last year we raised £1,600 which paid for disabled Visia Bellis to finish his practical building course and Joylene Chepkoech who will shortly be graduating as a nurse!

This year, the raised money will help 4 URAFIKI students: Ian Muhupatisi 1/5 children without a father who is struggling to pay his school fees; Tracey Muteizi: in her final year of school, but without the money for her fees; Susan Owino: a polytechnic student studying Food and Beverages; Faith Shikewa: has no support for her junior school fees and would otherwise be thrown out of school.

The Accessories Stall was very popular again last year so donations of gloves, hats, scarves, belts, bags jigsaws etc. would be very welcome. Maggie can pick them up. (please call 07539175058) We also have hundreds of fabulous books for you to browse through as well as coffee cake, raffle and chat.

We are really looking forward to seeing you again, please bring along any friends who you think might enjoy the event. (URAFIKI registered charity no. **1078505**. does not spend even one penny of donated money on administration).

St Nicholas School News

We have Nursery spaces for 3–4-year-olds from January 2026 and can offer both 30 and 15 hours funding and wrap around care in our Breakfast and After school Clubs. Contact admissions@stnics.uk for more information and to find out how to apply. Please see our school website [here](#) to find out more about St Nicholas.

Bible Reflection

Truly I say to you, heaven and earth will pass away but my words will not pass away. (*Matthew 24:35*)

Come and join us for a every Saturday 2.30–4.00 pm at the Lower Room, Sacred Heart Church, and encounter Jesus through scriptures. Not mandatory to attend every week, come anytime you can!

We start the session with invoking the Holy Spirit Prayer to guide us and followed by thematic reading of the scriptures, which include part of the Gospel, foreshadow with Old Testament/epistle/Book of Revelation, psalm, and reflection on a Christian Art related to the theme, interlaced with thought provoking questions and reflections which help us to relate the word of God and reflect this in our lives. We will then further discuss and share our reflection, experiences, and faith within the Group. For further information, please contact Hanny (hhanny1358@gmail.com) or Krystal (krystaljovanandrea@gmail.com).

Advent Retreat Day

Saturday, 6 December 2025 at St Rita's Centre

"From Captivity to Freedom: An Advent Journey of Hope" led by Deacon Kelvin Russell and Fr. Jose Romero OAR

The day will begin with coffee/tea on arrival at 9.30am. The first talk will start at 10am. The second talk will be at 11am. Adoration in silence (with an opportunity for Confession) will be at 12.00pm. Lunch will be served at 1pm. Holy Mass at 2.45pm. Depart at 3.30pm. The charge for the day, including lunch, is just £25.00. To register, please complete the application form and let us know of any dietary requirements. You can contact St Rita's Centre by phone at 01404 42635, by email at admin@stritascentre.org, or via our website: [register online here](#). Payment can be made in advance or on the day.

Advent Festival

St Mary and St George Church, Totnes

Address: Station Road, Totnes, TQ9 5HW

We will be holding an Advent Festival over the weekend of Saturday 6 and Sunday 7 December.

Saturday 6 December

10:30am: Performance by the *Berry Pomeroy Handbell Ringers*

3:00pm: Music from *Gemstones*, a chamber wind group

Hot drinks and cakes will be available.

Sunday 7 December

9:30am: Parish Mass

3:00pm: *Carol Service* featuring the *Totnes and Bridgetown Community Choir*

Afterwards, enjoy mince pies and mulled wine.

Throughout the weekend, visitors can admire our beautiful display of family cribs, browse craft tables with handmade goods, and take part in our raffle with many great prizes.

Everyone is warmly invited to come along and join in the festive fun!

If you're interested in having a stall on either day, please contact the parish office at totnes@prcdtr.org.uk.

We are supporting The Red Cross (Plymouth), CAFOD and Rowcroft Hospice.

UNBOUND Prayer Ministry...

... available in this Diocese. If you feel in need of freedom and inner healing through prayer, and desire a deeper relationship with Jesus, we have ministers trained to help you. Please contact unboundprayerdop@gmail.co or see the poster displayed in the porch for more information.



Catholic Children's Society

Do you have any of the following items that you would be happy to donate to CCSP?

Stamp collections, first day covers or old envelopes and postcards pre 1950, **Coins and banknotes** – any and all, old and new, from all over the world, obsolete or otherwise,

Precious metals including broken jewellery, old trophies, gold, silver etc., **Metals including ornaments**, metal toys, keys and

locks, metal cutlery – any age and any condition. **Costume jewellery, Medals, Small antiques and collectibles, Watches** – digital, quartz or manual wind – working or not, **Any Catholic religious memorabilia** such as rosaries, crucifixes, medals etc

Please bring them to church and put them in our parish Orange Box which can be found in the St Richard Reynolds Centre.

Diocese of Plymouth latest Newsletter...

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

Caritas Plymouth Newsletter

[Click on 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 South West

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

Catholic Bishops of England and Wales

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

A national tragedy: 58 years of the Abortion Act

Please take 30 seconds to share a commemorative graphic online to mark 58 years since the passing of the Abortion Act. This small act is a powerful way to remember the 10,880,563 lives lost and to raise awareness of the ongoing impact of abortion in our society.

Please visit <http://righttolife.org.uk/58years> to find out more and share a commemorative graphic on social media

Exeter Foodbank

The top five items needed this week are: tinned meat meals, small jars of coffee, noodle snacks, tea bags, rice pudding, deoderant. There is a collection basket at the back of the church. Thank you. [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

Baptism Preparation Courses 2025

Next course 14 and 28 March (split Saturdays), 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 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 if you would like to join us.

Forming in Faith

'From Rome to Home'

Come along to our next session on Monday 17 November. We will watch and discuss the School of Synodality's interview with Bishop-elect Nicholas when he returned home from the Synod on Synodality in Rome. Please join us after morning Mass from 10:30-12:00 in the lower room. Forming in Faith meets on the 1st and 3rd Monday of every month in Sacred Heart Lower Room. All are welcome.

GROWING IN FAITH TOGETHER

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 is on Saturday 6 December at St Nicholas School.

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: New day and venue

From November, GIFT tots will meet on the 2nd and 4th Monday of every month in the Sacred Heart Lower Room. Please get in touch with Maria if you would like to register and attend: Exeter-pastoral-assistant@prcdtr.org.uk

GIFT Youth Socials: School Years 7-9

The next social will be on Friday 12 December in the St Richard Reynolds Rooms at the new time of 7.00pm - 8.30pm

If you haven't already registered, please register here: [GIFT Youth Registration Form](#)

GIFT Youth Caritas for School Years 10-13

Next session Friday 5 December 7.30pm -9.30pm Please register before attending.

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

We commend to the Lord...

...Julie Whiting RIP. Julie's funeral Mass will be held on Friday 28 November at 11.00am. Please pray for Julie, her family and friends. May she rest in peace and rise in glory.

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

Pope's Prayer Intention for November

For the prevention of suicide

Let us pray that those who are struggling with suicidal thoughts might find the support, care and love they need in their community, and be open to the beauty of life. [The Pope Video](#)

PARISH NEWS

If you have any items for Parish news, please ensure they are sent to the office in plenty of time. The best way to do this is by email: exeter-heavitree@prcdtr.org.uk.

Many thanks for your understanding and cooperation.

THE WORD

Sunday 16 November – 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

First Reading Malachi 4:1-2a. *For you the sun of righteousness shall rise.*

Psalm Response The Lord comes to judge the peoples with fairness.

Second Reading 2 Thessalonians 3:7-12

If anyone is not willing to work, let him not eat.

Gospel Luke 21: 5 -19. *By your endurance you will gain your lives.*

Sunday 23 November – 34th Sunday in Ordinary Time

First Reading 2 Samuel 5:1-3. *They annointed David king over Israel*

Psalm Response Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.

Second Reading Colossians 1:12-20

He has transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved son.

Gospel Luke 23: 35-43 *Lord, remember me when you come into your kingdom.*

Sunday 30 November – 1st Sunday of Advent

First Reading Isaiah 2:1-5

The Lord gathers all nations together into the eternal peace of the Kingdom of God.

Psalm Response Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.

Second Reading Romans 13:11-14a. *Salvation is nearer to us now.*

Gospel Matthew 24: 37- 44. *Stay awake that you may be ready.*

CONTACT US

Blessed Sacrament Parish

29 Fore Street, Heavitree, Exeter EX1 2QJ
01392 274724 exeter-heavitree@prcdtr.org.uk

Parish Priest *Fr Jonathan Stewart*

Assistant Priest *Fr Emmanuel Ozuma*

Priest in retirement *Fr John Watkins*

Pastoral Assistant *Maria Quinn*
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

Parish Website 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*

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

School Website 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