

PARISH NEWS



BLESSED SACRAMENT PARISH, HEAVITREE, EXETER

6 September 2026. 23rd Week in Ordinary Time Year A2. Psalm 3

13 September 2026. 24th Week in Ordinary Time. Year A2. Psalm 4



GATHERED

IN MY NAME

No man is an island..." How true this is for those who follow Christ: each of us has responsibilities towards each other, based on our 'debt of mutual love'. When we see wickedness and wrongdoing, then because of our privileged position of following the Lord Jesus, we have a duty to speak out. This will not always be easy – remember the prophet Jeremiah last week – but this was the mission of the Lord Jesus himself, and as his followers, it is our mission too. As with everything, love is 'the answer to every one of the commandments.' *Salford Office for Liturgy*

MASS TIMES

Sunday 6 September – 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time.

8.45am

10.45am *Mo Flavin RIP*

2.00pm *Syro-Malabar Rite Mass*

6.00pm *People of the Parish*

Tuesday 8 September – The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary

6.30pm *Harold Holding RIP*

Wednesday 9 September – Weekday

9.30am *In Reparation*

Followed by refreshments in the St Richard Reynolds Centre. All welcome

Thursday 10 September – Weekday

9.30am

Friday 11 September – Weekday

6.30pm *Ian Johnstone RIP*

Saturday 12 September – Weekday

9.30am *Private Intention*

Sunday 13 September – 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time.

Education Sunday

8.45am *Geoff Harding RIP*

10.45am *People of the Parish*

2.00pm *Syro-Malabar Rite Mass*

6.00pm *All those in Education*

Tuesday 15 September – Our Lady of Sorrows

6.30pm

Wednesday 16 September – St Cornelius, Pope & Martyr

9.30am

Followed by refreshments in the St Richard Reynolds Centre. All welcome

Holy Rosary after Mass

Thursday 17 September – Weekday

9.30am *Mr Sammon RIP*

6.00pm *Adoration*

Friday 18 September – Weekday

6.30pm

Saturday 19 September – Weekday

No Mass

Sunday 20 September – 25th 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.

Adoration Thursdays 6.00pm in church.

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

Blessed Sacrament International Mass

We are all looking forward to the International Mass at Blessed Sacrament Church on Sunday 13 September at 10.45am. The Mass will reflect the beauty and rich cultural mix of the parish and our global Church. Join us to celebrate and stay for an International Lunch in the St Richard Reynolds Centre and Garden afterwards.

Parish Vision Team News

The Parish Vision Team was set up to promote the vision of our parish and to look to the future and consider what kind of community the Lord is calling us to be. We meet regularly and our most recent meeting was on Thursday last week.

We discussed three major things: 1) A toolkit to help parishes become racially and culturally inclusive, 2) the upcoming Open House which we are hosting on Saturday 10 October at St Nicholas' School (see below) and 3) a Vision Team away day when we will have the opportunity to consider how the team is functioning and what the Holy Spirit is calling us to do and to be.

The members of the Vision Team are currently: Fr Jonathan, Angela Bosley (Chair), Jess Lynde, Kelly Dunne, Ola Godbeer, Angela Folland, Nick Gill, Sheila Hosker and Clare Simpson. Please keep us in your prayers and talk to us to find out more.

Divine Renovation Open House at Blessed Sacrament

Saturday 10 October 10.00am – 5.00pm at St Nicholas School



For some years now parishes around the country have been opening their doors and inviting others to come and share their experiences of renewal, supported by Divine Renovation. We are delighted that we are one of those parishes!

The day will begin with worship followed by a keynote from Fr Damian Ryan, a priest of the Archdiocese of Westminster whose parish is on a journey of renewal. Lunch is provided and then there will be 3 workshops:

Struggling to Lead: hear how we are forming and developing a culture of shared, skills-based leadership to support ministry within the parish.

Experiencing Sunday: hear how we are working to bring our parish vision of being *'a welcoming, lively and inclusive faith community where all are known and loved and inspired and encouraged to be disciples of Jesus Christ. We are committed to uplifting worship, generous giving, serving those in need and the joyful proclamation of the Gospel'* into a lived reality.

GIFT (Growing in Faith Together): Breathing Life into Family Catechesis.

You are welcome to join us, but you will need to register by using the QR code above and you will need to pay! It's only £15 and lunch is provided. See you there.

Thinking of becoming a Catholic?

Want to know more about the Catholic Faith?

You are warmly invited to **Gateway**. First meeting after 11.15am Mass on Sunday 27 September at Sacred Heart Church, South Street Exeter. Everyone is welcome. Whether you are curious, have questions or are ready to take the next step, we would love to meet you.

What to expect. Friendly and informal conversations, the chance to ask questions openly, guidance through the journey of faith, preparation for the sacraments of baptism, confirmation or reception into the Church if desired.

Interested? Contact us by email at exeter-sacredheart@prcdtr.org.uk or exeter-sacredheart-gateway@prcdtr.org.uk or just come and see.

Set them up for Summer!

Please support our summer campaign for Exeter Foodbank, as they help and support people in crisis across the city. Our summer-themed collection crate is ready for your food donations. Online donations can be made direct to the Foodbank via the [Exeter Foodbank JustGiving page](#)

Current priority items: tinned meat, tinned vegetables, tinned potatoes, tinned fruit, noodle snacks (i.e. Pot Noodle/ Mug Shot/ Pasta 'n' Sauce), small jars of coffee.

Studying at the University of Exeter this year?

We would like to invite you to come to our Catholic Chaplaincy, located at Boniface House, Glenthorne road, EX4 4QU, close to the Birks Grange Village hall of residence; you can find further information and directions here:

[Catholic Chaplaincy in Exeter](#)

Exeter University Catholic Chaplaincy is a faith-filled and lively community. Exeter Catholic Society meets at the Catholic Chaplaincy every week during term time for a range of activities, from various socials to talks and society trips, in a friendly environment where students can grow in faith while having fun and making new friends. Masses at the Catholic Chaplaincy are celebrated during term time on Sundays at 11:30am (followed by a free lunch), on Tuesdays at 7.00pm and on Thursdays at 12.00pm (followed by a free lunch).

For further details about the events taking place, you can visit our Instagram page [at this link](#) or get in touch with our Chaplaincy Assistant, Dr Maria Gisella Giannone, at m.g.giannone@exeter.ac.uk. We look forward to meeting you!

Stop assisted suicide being legalised

Your MP could be one of the 12

Only 12 MPs need to switch for the assisted suicide Bill to be defeated on 11 September. A face-to-face meeting can make a real difference to how your MP votes. Right To Life UK's simple tool lets you request a meeting in just 30 seconds and gives you everything you need to prepare, including a short video guide.

Ask your MP for a meeting and urge them to vote NO to assisted suicide: [at this link](#)

Society of St Vincent de Paul (SVP)

September is SVP Awareness month so here is an update on what we've been up to.



Our small local SVP team has continued to support and befriend 25 lonely, needy or marginalised people, from the Exeter parishes and beyond. We regularly visit people at home, in care homes or in hospital. We've offered practical help with shopping, clothing and food vouchers,

furniture purchase, transport to hospital.

Our weekly Wednesday morning Outreach Chatter cafe continues to welcome and support a growing group of walk-ins as well as serving our parishioners.

We continue to support our local asylum seeker community as well as Exeter's homeless community through collaboration with Refugee Support Devon, St Petrock's and CoLab.

We are immensely grateful to our volunteers and those of you who support us in our work by one-off or regular donations. We are now also able to accept donations on the contactless giving machine in the church porch.

Catholic South West

The paper is for Catholics in the Plymouth, Clifton and Portsmouth Dioceses. Copies of the September edition are in the porch price 50p. Please put your money in the box marked 'books and newspapers'.



Catholic Agency for
Overseas Development



food and safe water. Your gift can support children like Tayla in Zimbabwe to stay in school by helping communities and schools provide nourishing meals, improve access to water and grow food in school gardens. Use the CAFOD envelope in church, donate online at

cafod.org.uk/envelope, call **0303 303 3030** or use the **QR code above**.

CAFOD Family Fast Day Appeal this Harvest, 2 October

Please donate to our *Family Fast Day* parish collection. Put your faith into action and share the Lord's love by supporting our global neighbours experiencing shortages of

UNBOUND Freedom in Christ.

Prayer Conference. Buckfast Abbey, Saturday Oct 31 & Dec 1 2026

A weekend immersion in the inspirational teaching of UNBOUND Deliverance Ministry. A safe, gentle and non-confrontational freedom and inner healing ministry model which helps people reclaim their true identity in Christ. Come and join us as we unpack each of the key themes of the ministry; Repentance & Faith, Forgiveness, Renunciation, Authority, and the Father's Blessing. With an opportunity for a personal prayer session and the chance to claim true freedom in Christ.

Weekend tickets from £65.

To book [please follow this link](#).

Call or email Michele Thompson, Officer for Evangelisation for more information 07940 453607 michele.thompson@prcdtr.org.uk

For more information on Unbound Ministry [please follow the link](#).

We're Hiring a Parish Secretary

St John & St James Church, Tiverton

We are recruiting a Parish Secretary for St John & St James Church, 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 ministry and parish responsibilities.

If you have good knowledge of and experience using Microsoft Office applications, including Word, Outlook and Teams, along with excellent organisational 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 a week (Tuesday-Friday). **Location:** St John & St James Church, 40 Old Road, Tiverton, EX16 4HJ. **Salary:** £14.50 an hour. **Closing date:** Wednesday 16 September 2026

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

See, Speak, Act: Faith in Action Against Modern Slavery

Wednesday 14 October 2026 | 1.00–5.00pm | Plymouth Methodist Central Hall

"He has sent me... to set the oppressed free." (Luke 4:18)

Sadly, Modern Slavery is happening in communities across the UK, including here in the Diocese of Plymouth. It is often hidden in plain sight, and we may well encounter people affected by exploitation, making this a relevant issue for our community, as both a practical safeguarding matter and an explicit response to the Gospel.

[Caritas Diocese of Plymouth](#) has for some time been raising awareness of Human Trafficking and Modern Slavery, and alongside [The Clewer Initiative](#), we have arranged an ecumenical event to support Catholic and other Christian communities to respond to this modern manifestation of exploitation and slavery.

Through practical talks and workshops, participants will learn how to recognise the signs of modern slavery, report concerns safely, and enable church communities to respond with compassion, justice, and hope. Together, we can equip our congregations to respond faithfully and effectively to one of the most pressing human rights issues of our time. Please see the poster in the porch to register.

Bible Alive

Copies of the September/ October edition are in the porch, price £6.50.

Please put your money in the box marked "books and newspapers"

CAST Message for Education Sunday - 13 September 2026



At the heart of our Diocese is Plymouth CAST, a family of 34 Catholic schools and one nursery spanning Cornwall, Devon, and Dorset. The Trust exists to ensure that our young people flourish in environments that are safe, happy, and intellectually stimulating.

As state-funded academies, Plymouth CAST schools provide a high-quality Catholic education that is free and accessible to all families. When a family chooses a Plymouth CAST school, they are joining a community that is:

- **Faith-led:** Everything is rooted in the Gospel. We don't just teach subjects; we inspire children to live with integrity, kindness, and a commitment to social justice.
- **Ambitious for All:** We hold the highest expectations for every child, empowering them to exceed their potential and discover their unique, God-given talents.
- **One Team:** As a Trust, our schools work as one. By sharing expertise and resources, we ensure that every child, regardless of their starting point, benefits from the collective strength of the whole family of schools.

The goal for every pupil in a CAST school is that they leave with the "knowledge, skills, personal qualities, and aspirations to make the world a better place." We are not just educating students for exams; we are nurturing future leaders who are confident, compassionate, and ready to build a brighter tomorrow.

If you are seeking an education for your child that prioritises both academic excellence and spiritual growth, we warmly encourage you to consider your local Plymouth CAST school.

We are also welcoming of anyone who would like to explore what it means to be a governor within one of our Plymouth CAST schools. If you are interested, our schools would love to hear from you! Please contact your nearest Plymouth CAST school in the first instance so that the teams can put you in touch with the Chair of the Local CAST Board for an informal conversation.

The Pope's Intention for August

For the care of water. Let us pray for a just and sustainable management of water, a vital resource, so that everyone may have equal access to it.

[Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network](#)

[Diocese of Plymouth News](#)

[Catholic Bishops' Conference News](#)

St Nicholas School

For information about joining our school community please email admissions@stnics.plymouthcast.com

Refreshments after Mass

Please join us for refreshments in the St Richard Reynolds Rooms after the 9.30am Mass on Wednesday mornings and the 10.45am Mass on Sundays. All are warmly invited to stay to chat, catch up with old friends or to meet someone new.

FORMING IN FAITH

Gift Growing in Faith Together

Information Evening Wednesday 9 September from 7.00-7.45pm.

GIFT supports families in their everyday faith journey and also accompanies parents to prepare their children for the sacraments. If you are new to GIFT, recently registered, and/or interested in finding out more, come along to our online GIFT information evening. Please use this link: [GIFT Information Evening](#)

Next GIFT session Saturday 3 October at St Nicholas School. All welcome. If you haven't already done so, please register at this link: [GIFT Registration Form](#)

Gift tots

Families with children 0-4 years meet twice monthly to pray, sing, explore and create the Good News. We will re-commence at the start of the school year on Monday 14 September. GIFT tots meet on the second and fourth Monday of every month from

10.00-11.00am in the Sacred Heart lower room. Please register for GIFT tots using this link: [GIFT tots Registration](#)

GIFT Youth

We encourage all young people, especially those considering the Sacrament of Confirmation, to register for and attend GIFT Youth which meets monthly on a Saturday morning. To register for GIFT Youth please click on the appropriate link below:

GIFT Youth (school years 7-9) [GIFT Youth Registration](#)

GIFT Youth Caritas This group is open for all young people entering School Year 10 through to 17 years of age. Their first session of the new academic year will be on Friday 2 October from 19:30-21:30 in the RRC. [GIFT Youth Caritas Registration](#)

GIFT Youth Socials School Years 7-9 Our first meeting will be on Friday 11 September. If your child has just entered Year 7, they are very welcome. Please register them for GIFT Youth using this link. In accordance with safeguarding, this must be done before the 11 September:

[GIFT Youth Socials Registration](#)

Forming in Faith

Forming in Faith meets the first and third Monday of every month from 10:30-12:00 in the Sacred Heart lower room after the 10:00 Mass. We will re-commence after the summer on Monday 7 September. All are very welcome.

Baptism Preparation Courses 2026

Next Course: 14 and 28 November 2026, 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.

PRAYER & LITURGY

We commend to the Lord...

... all those who have died and whose anniversaries occur around this time. May they rest in peace and rise in glory

We welcome into the life of faith...

...Kainyechiekene Michael Ofomata who will be baptised this weekend. Please keep Michael, his parents and Godparents in your prayers.

Online prayer and fellowship

Are you housebound? Do you find it difficult to get to Mass on a regular basis because of health issues or age?

Join us for a time of online prayer and fellowship every Friday from 11:00-11:45am.

The session is run via Zoom and an email sent every Thursday with joining instructions. Please get in touch if you or someone you know would enjoy this session. We can support you with setting up Zoom on a device. Contact Maria Exeter-pastoral-assistant@prcdtr.org.uk.

Praying the Rosary first and third Wednesday after 9.30am Mass

Encountering the Word of God

How do you discern what God is saying to you? Do you long to reflect more deeply on his Word? Have you ever wanted to share your thoughts with others and listen to their reflections?

A group of us meet every Wednesday afternoon at 2.00pm via Zoom to do just that. This 'lectio divina; (divine reading) helps deepen our experience of God's Word and how it impacts our lives. We are not 'experts', we just want to open our hearts and listen to God and respond generously to all he says to us..

You would be most welcome to join us. Contact our Parish Pastoral Assistant Maria at Exeter-pastoral-assistant@prcdtr.org.uk. We look forward to welcoming you.

THE WORD

Sunday 6 September – 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

First Reading Ezekiel 33:7-9

If you do not speak to warn the wicked, his blood I will require at your hand.

Psalm Response

O that today you would listen to his voice! "Harden not your hearts."

Second Reading Romans 13:8-10 *Love is the fulfilling of the law.*

Gospel Matthew 18: 15-20 *If he listens to you, you have gained your brother.*

Sunday 13 September – 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

First Reading Sirach 27:30-28:7 *Forgive your neighbour the wrong things he has done, and then your sins will be pardoned when you pray.*

Psalm Response

The Lord is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger and rich in mercy.

Second Reading Romans 14:7-9 *Whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's.*

Gospel Matthew 18: 21-35 *I do not say to you seven times, but seventy times seven.*

Sunday 20 September – 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

First Reading Isaiah 55: 6-9 *My thoughts are not your thoughts.*

Psalm Response The Lord is close to all who call him.

Second Reading Philippians 1:20c-24, 27a *For to me to live is Christ.*

Gospel Matthew 20:1-16 *Do you begrudge my generosity?*

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*

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

Angela Folland

Catherine Odams 01392 274724

St Nicholas School

St Nicholas Catholic Primary School,
Ringswell Avenue, Exeter EX1 3EG
01392 445403. admin@stncs.uk
www.st-nicholas-exeter.devon.sch.uk

Head Teacher Mr Damian Railston



Blessed Sacrament Parish is part of the Diocese of Plymouth