

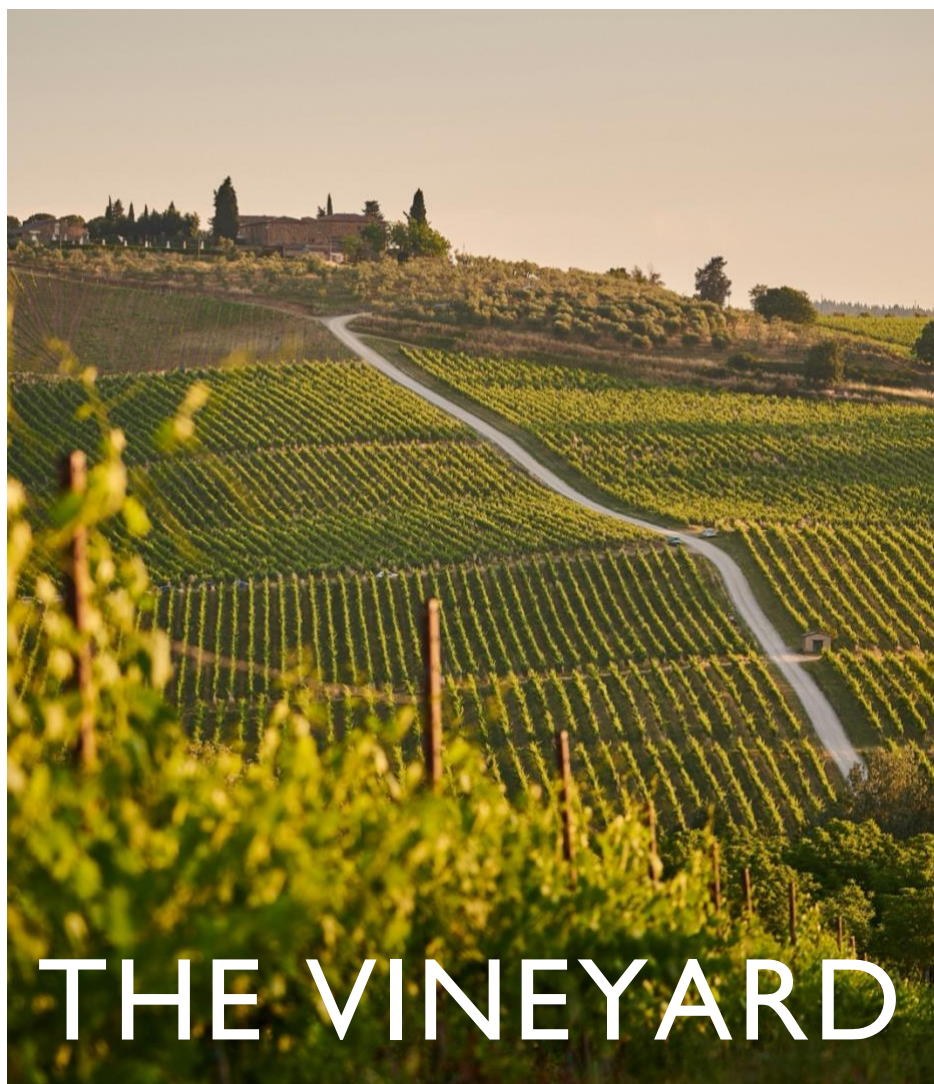
PARISH NEWS



BLESSED SACRAMENT PARISH, HEAVITREE, EXETER

4 October 2026. 25th Week in Ordinary Time Year A2. Psalter 3

11 October 2026. 26th Week in Ordinary Time. Year A2. Psalter 4



MASS TIMES

Sunday 4 October – 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time.

8.45am *Private Intention*
10.45am *John Blaskett RIP*
2.00pm *Syro-Malabar Rite Mass*
6.00pm *People of the Parish*

Tuesday 6 October – Weekday

6.30pm *Private Intention*

Wednesday 7 October – Our Lady of the Rosary

9.30am *Tim's Intention*
Holy Rosary after Mass. Refreshments in St Richard Reynolds Centre.

Thursday 8 October – Weekday

9.30am *Tim's Intention*

Friday 9 October – John Henry Newman, Priest

6.30pm

Saturday 10 October – Weekday

No Mass

Sunday 11 October – 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time.

Prisoners Sunday. Prisons Week-Prayer for Prisoners and their Dependants

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

Tuesday 13 October – Weekday

6.30pm

Wednesday 14 October – Weekday

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

Thursday 15 October – St Teresa of Jesus, Virgin & Doctor

9.30am *For the Tapp Family*
6.00pm *Adoration*

Friday 16 October – Weekday

6.30pm

Saturday 17 October – St Ignatius of Antioch, Bishop & Martyr

9.30am

Sunday 18 October – 29th Sunday in Ordinary Time.

World Mission Day

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

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

World Day of Migrants and Refugees

Sunday 27 was the 112th World Day of Migrants and Refugees.

'Even just one of these children' is the theme for [Pope Leo XIV's message](#). He calls us to reflect on the experiences of young migrants and refugees, and to avoid making calculations but instead to see the inherent dignity of each child and person.

[Read the special newletter from Caritas Social Action](#)

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 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.

Parish Vision Team

We met on Thursday last week and had a full and varied conversation.

We begin every meeting with Lectio Divina, a reflective practice of prayer when we contemplate the Gospel of the day and how it informs and inspires us as a team.

We discussed arrangements for the Open House on 10 October, which we are all participating in, using our various charisms. We are focused on Mission and how we can reach out to members of the parish and the wider community. We are hoping to offer the Called & Gifted process to the parish once more early next year and we hope lots of you will want to participate. Please keep us in your prayers.

Young Adults Tea and cake Social

Sunday 10 October after 6.00pm Mass. All young adults are welcome.

Prisons Week

11 to 17 October 2026 Jesus said: "I was in Prison and you came to me."

The Prison Advice and Care Trust is the national Catholic Charity working to support prisoners and their families in England and Wales.

On Sunday 11 October we will remember prisoners and their families at Mass. There will be a second collection to support Pact's important work in the year ahead.

Alternatively, [you can follow this link to donate](#):

Click to find out more about PACT: [Home - Prison Advice and Care Trust](#)

World Mission Sunday 18 October

The Holy Father invites all Catholics to support Missio, his charity for world Mission, through a special collection. This day of prayer, solidarity and giving unites Catholics worldwide to share the Good News of God's love which has the power to transform lives and heal our world. To donate, use the Missio envelopes, call 02078219755 (office hours) or visit [The Missio website](#) to give a gift, set up a Direct Debit and Gift Aid your donation if possible

Vocations Day of Reflection

Saturday 17 October at St Mary & St Petroc Church, Bodmin

Have you ever asked the question, Is God calling me to Priesthood or to the Religious life? This day of reflection for men will be held from 10.00am to 3.00pm at St Mary's Parish Centre, St Mary's Road, Bodmin PL31 1HF.

The day will include the celebration of Mass, a time of Adoration, a short conference, an opportunity for Confession and one to one talks with serving priests from our diocese. Food will be provided – let us know of special dietary requirements. Under 18s are welcome to attend with parents' permission. If travelling by train, we can collect you from Bodmin Parkway Station with prior notice.

For more information and to register your interest please contact Fr. Jacek Kostuch on jacek.kostuch@prcdtr.org.uk or Fr. Ralph Candy on vocation@prcdtr.org.uk

Sisters of Mary Morning Star Vocations Retreat

A Come & See retreat on 16-18 October, for young women aged 18-35 who may be discerning a vocation to the contemplative life. Lifts are available from Tiverton Parkway Railway Station. Please see the poster in the porch and join them in praying for vocations. [Sisters of Mary Morning Star](#)

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.

Diocesan Catechists Fair

Saturday October 17, Buckfast Abbey Conference Centre

'I received from the Lord what I also delivered to you'

The day runs from 10.00am – 4.00pm. (Lunch not included)

Come and share your experiences of sharing faith and bringing people ever closer to Our Lord Jesus Christ. Topics will include: Growing Family Catechesis, the Link between Liturgy and Catechesis, Catechists Demonstrations. Beautiful discounted books available from the Isaiah Books Mission. More details to follow.

To book or for information contact deborah.vankroonenburg@prcdtr.org.uk

UNBOUND Freedom in Christ.

Buckfast Abbey, Saturday Oct 31 & Sunday 1 November 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 complete this booking form](#)

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 this link](#)

Accommodation required

Hello, I'm Fidelia, a university student seeking accommodation in Exeter. My budget is £500-£650 PCM. I am tidy and love to share. Please contact the parish office if you have anything available or know anywhere available. Thank you.



Catholic Children's Society (Plymouth)

We are going orange for October

Do you have any of the following: 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 jewelry, old trophies, gold, silver, 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, Catholic items such as rosaries, crucifixes, medals but not books.

Please bring them in and pop them in your parish's Orange Box, which is in the St Richard Reynolds Centre.

Thank you to all our parishes, schools and individual loyal supporters for your continued support of our small children's charity. Without your generosity, we would not be able to continue supporting so many families of all faiths and none who are struggling to provide the basic essentials of life for their children.

It's hard to imagine that there are children sleeping on the floor or sharing beds with a sibling or even a parent, and by applying for a grant through our Essential Grants programme with the support of a professional worker supporting the family, we can purchase beds for these families, school uniform or white goods such as cookers, washing machines and fridge/freezers. For more information, please [visit our website](#) or call 01364 645420.

Tenth World Day of the Poor Event

The Lord is the Refuge of the Poor

Join Caritas Diocese of Plymouth to celebrate the 10th World Day of the Poor on Saturday 14 November 2026, 11.00am – 4.30pm at the newly opened St James Catholic Church, 40 Old Road, Tiverton, Devon, EX16 4H J. Bishop Nicholas will open the day and it will end with Mass.

Keynote speaker David Wells will reflect on Pope Leo's message for this year and Canon Kristian Paver will speak about the new church. Registration for this free event and early booking is advised. To register, click [10th World Day of the Poor Event](#), email caritas@prcdtr.org.uk or telephone 01364 645440

The Pope's Intention for October

For mental health ministry. Let us pray that the mental health ministry be established throughout the Church, helping to overcome the stigma and discrimination of persons with mental illnesses. [Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network](#)

[Diocese of Plymouth News](#)

[Catholic Bishops' Conference News](#)

St Nicholas School News

We started off the year asking the children to shine their light bright! This week we are focusing on peace! This is a rather difficult concept for children as immediately we think of conflict! However, in our search for a good relationship with God and our community we must understand that before we find peace in the world we must have peace in ourself and that peace comes from contentment and the understanding that we are trying our best. Children need to understand how peace in themselves

creates time and space to quiet the world and listen for God's message. That quiet and stillness gives us respite from the constant noise of the Internet, the TV, Sports etc. and a chance to recover. The opportunity for our brain to slow and recover from the day!

On Thursday last week at our New School Year Mass we commissioned 6 new School Chaplains. We are sure they will all 'shine their light bright' and demonstrate the values of St Nicholas School.

To find out more about joining our school community, from Nursery to Yr 6, please email admissions@stncls.plymouthcast.com

Plymouth Diocesan Ignatian Spirituality Group Retreats

Ignatian silent retreats are taking place throughout 2026/27. Provide an opportunity to step back from the busyness of everyday life to make a little extra space and time for God. Please see the poster in the porch for more information including dates. For further details and bookings contact diocesan-ignatian-retreats@prcdtr.org.uk or phone 01752 769164 or 07823 447637

Parish Secretary Vacancy

Parish of Most Precious Blood, Sidmouth...

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 • Location: Church of Most Precious Blood, Radway, Sidmouth, EX10 8TW • Salary: £14.50 an hour • Closing date: 20 October 2026

Application form and job description from recruitment@prcdtr.org.uk. Applications are by covering letter and application form to recruitment@prcdtr.org.uk

Deputy Headteacher Vacancy

Cathedral School of St Mary, Plymouth

Do you have the vision, drive, and leadership skills to make a lasting difference in the lives of young people? We are seeking an inspirational and strategic leader to join our senior leadership team. This is an exciting opportunity to shape the future direction of our school, working closely with colleagues, pupils, families, and the wider Trust to secure excellence in teaching, learning, and pastoral care.

Full details, job description, recruitment pack and application form at this link: [Deputy Headteacher | SAMpeople Recruit](#)

Catholic South West available in the porch. Price 50p

Exeter Food Bank

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. Items can be placed in the basket in the back of the church. Thank you.

Refreshments after Mass

Please join us for refreshments in the St Richard Reynolds Rooms after the 10.45am Mass on Sundays and the 9.30am Mass on Wednesday mornings. 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

Next GIFT session Saturday 7 November 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 this link: [GIFT Youth Registration](#)

GIFT Youth Socials (school years 7-9)

If your child has just entered Year 7, they are very welcome. Please register them for GIFT Youth using this link: [GIFT Youth Registration](#)

GIFT Youth Caritas

This group is open for all young people entering School Year 10 through to 17 years of age. [GIFT Youth Registration](#)

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...

...Catherine Alexander-Clarke who has died. May she rest in peace. Please keep Catherine's family and friends in your prayers. Her funeral will be held at East Devon Crematorium on Friday 23 October 2026 at 10:00am

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

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 are invited 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 4 October – 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time

First Reading Isaiah 5:1-7 *The vineyard of the Lord of hosts is the house of Israel.*

Psalm Response The vineyard of the Lord is the house of Israel.

Second Reading Philippians 4:6-9

Practice these things, and the God of peace will be with you.

Gospel Matthew 21: 33-43 *He will let out the vineyard to other tenants.*

Today we focus on the vineyard: frequently we see the vineyard as an image or parable of the Kingdom of God. A vineyard takes a great deal of work, throughout the year; it must be tended, watered, pruned, cared for if there is to be any fruit - there are no quick results with vines. So the financial and labour investments made would create high expectations for a good crop. How heartbreaking when the fruit is as sour as vinegar!

So it was with God and his people: he invested immense care and love on them, tending then and giving them what they needed - but the fruit was rotten and sour. What can God do? Hand the vineyard over to some tenants who will bring in a harvest. That is us, the new people of Israel: but what sort of harvest will we produce?. *Salford Office for Liturgy*

Sunday 11 October – 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time

First Reading Isaiah 25: 6-10a

The Lord will make a feast, and he will wipe away tears from all faces.

Psalm Response In the Lord's own house shall I dwell for length of days unending.

Second Reading Philippians 4:12-14, 19-20

I can do all things through him who strengthens me.

Gospel Matthew 22:1-14 *Invite to the wedding feast as many as you find.*

Sunday 18 October – 29th Sunday in Ordinary Time

First Reading Isaiah 45:1, 4-6

I have grasped the right hand of Cyrus to subdue nations before him.

Psalm Response Ascribe to the Lord glory and power.

Second Reading 1 Thessalonians 1:1-5b *Remembering your faith, love and hope.*

Gospel Matthew 22: 15-21

Render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's

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 Representative
Catherine Odams 01392 274724

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

Head Teacher *Damian Railston*



Blessed Sacrament Parish is part of the Diocese of Plymouth