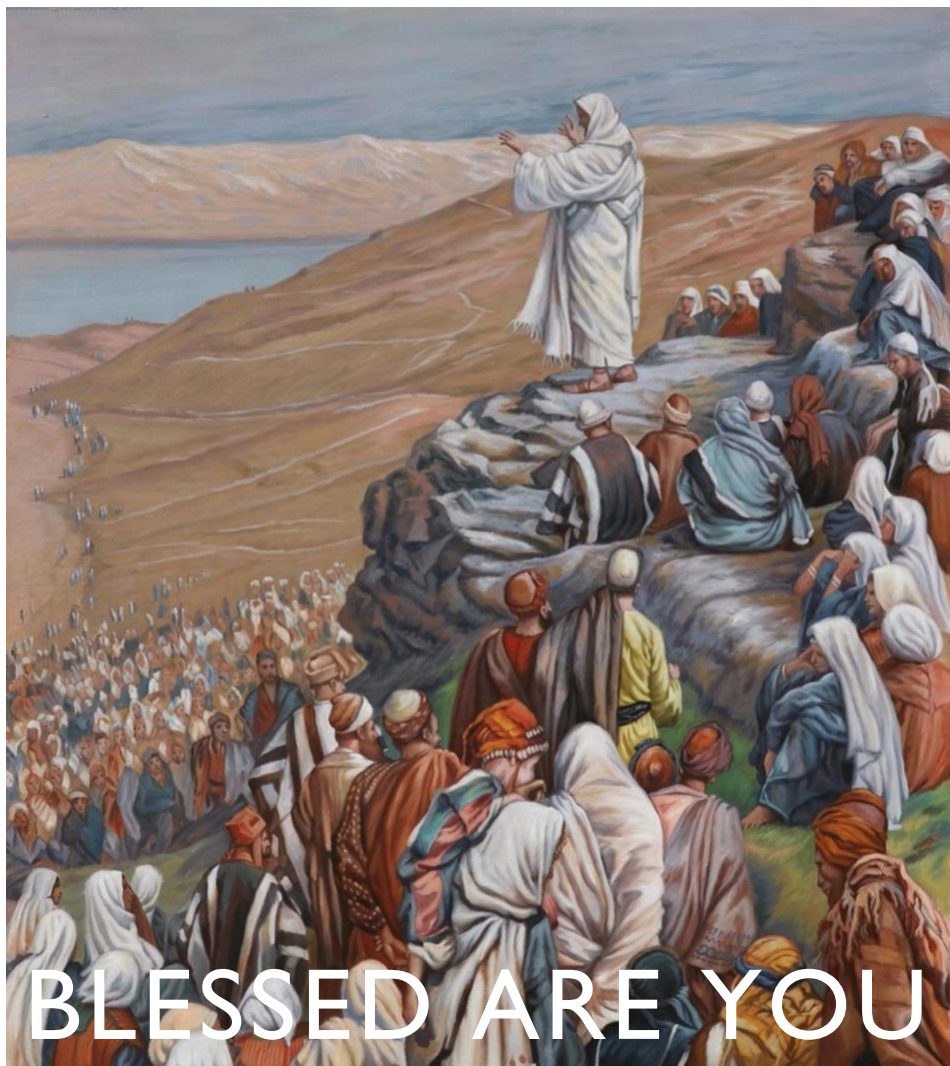


PARISH NEWS



BLESSED SACRAMENT PARISH, HEAVITREE, EXETER

16 February 2025. 6th week in Ordinary Time. Year C1. Psalter 2



BLESSED ARE YOU

MASS TIMES

Sunday 16 February – Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Racial Justice Sunday

8.45am *People of the Parish*
10.45am *For an end to racial prejudice*
6.00pm *John Landers RIP*

Tuesday 18 February

No Mass

Wednesday 19 February

9.30am
Followed by refreshments in St Richard Reynold Centre
Holy Rosary after Mass

Thursday 20 February

9.30am *Private Intention*
6.00pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Friday 21 February

11.30am Funeral Mass – *Pamela Coughlin RIP*

No 6.30pm Mass

Saturday 22 February

9.30am *John Landers RIP*

Sunday 23 February – Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

Feast of the Chair of St Peter, Apostle

8.45am *Vivian Laydon RIP*
10.45am *People of the Parish*
6.00pm

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. If you feel called to help our young children hear the Word of God and grow to love it, please speak to one of the catechists.

Confessions Saturdays after 9.30am Mass or by appointment.

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

NEWS & EVENTS

Journeying Together towards Racial Justice

Today is Racial Justice Sunday. The theme for the 30th anniversary of Racial Justice Sunday in this Jubilee year is: *“Pilgrims of Hope: Our Journey Together Towards Racial*

Justice". Catholics across England and Wales are invited to reflect on the collective journey towards racial justice in our schools, parishes and the wider society.

Bishop Paul McAleenan, lead Bishop for Racial Justice, said: "This year, we invite the Catholic community to reflect on the journey towards racial justice - past, present and future - by asking: 'How far have we come, where are we now and what remains to be achieved?'

Just as pilgrims must prepare for their journey and be properly equipped, we, too, need all that is necessary to propel us towards racial justice - the mind of Christ; examination of our progress and of the challenges that remain; a willingness to learn from one another together; and prayers for and on the journey."

We are richly blessed in our parish community by the presence of people and families from around the world. Let us be *Pilgrims of Hope* as we welcome newcomers and address challenges and opportunities and be *Pilgrims of Hope* towards racial justice in society, by advocating for racial justice and calling out racial injustice where we live.

There will be a retiring collection at all Masses this Sunday for the work of the **Catholic Association for Racial Justice CARJ**. Thank you in anticipation.

Vision into Action

One of the aims of our Parish Vision is that we are all 'welcomed, known and loved'. To this end we are working towards introducing a way of creating community by the creation of **Parish Evangelisation Cells**. These 'cells' will be made up of small groups of parishioners who will meet on a regular basis in one another's homes. They will support us spiritually and help nourish our faith, but most importantly be a place to which we can invite friends, family and others so that they may encounter God and become part of the faith community. More about this in the coming weeks.

We are also working towards creating a **Guide to Ministry** in the parish. This will include a list of the huge variety of ministries which are currently being exercised by a large number of people and an invitation to join them.

We are also looking forward to publishing a **Calendar of Events** for the year. This will enable us to know when things are taking place and to take part in the huge variety of events which take place during the year.

Safeguarding our Children

We want everyone who comes to Mass at Blessed Sacrament to be safe at all times. The welcomers have been concerned that children are often unaccompanied when going to the toilet. Please ensure that a parent or an adult who has responsibility for the child accompanies them. Thank you for your vigilance and care.

Force Spring Fayre with Breakfast

8 March 11.00am at the URC in aid of Force Cancer Charity. Breakfast offerings, raffles, tombolas, bric a brac, books, jewellery, jigsaws and lots of singing and games. Many of our parishioners are helping out and it would be lovely if as many of you as possible could come along and support us. Thank you, Jane and Gary (07890 37317)

St Vincent de Paul Society

Seeking help from any care sector employers –Sponsorship?

The SVP team are aware that a person within our community needs to transfer their certificate of sponsorship from a care provider in the north of England to here in Exeter where the family resides. The current hours of sponsorship are 20 hours per week and the SVP team are trying to facilitate a new position within a care residential setting that could take on this person's sponsorship. Once the hours are transferred, the person is willing to work more hours per week. If there are any care providers in our parishes that would like to chat informally to an SVP team member about the sponsorship, please contact one of us at the address below. Contact Peter on pschranz5@gmail.com or Imelda on imelda.wightman@gmail.com

St Nicholas School News

If you wish to have a tour of the school or to find out more about joining our community, please email Mrs Brocksom, Senior Administrator, by emailing school@stnics.uk.

Lost and Found

A ring recently found after a 10.45 Mass. Please contact the office.

Catholic Women's League

Calling all ladies. The Catholic Women's League is urgently seeking new members. Our mantras are Charity Work and Loyalty and Caring with Love. This includes caring for and loyalty towards each other, as well as to others who need us. The more of us there are the more we can achieve, so please come to our next meeting of the Exeter Section on **Tuesday 25 February** in the Lower Room, Sacred Heart Church, South Street at 2.00pm. The business meeting will be short because Mr Keith Green is coming to give a talk about his career working for Customs and Excise and the Border Force.

Anyone interested including men are welcome to come to the talk.

Enquiries to Frances 01392 209542. email francesandedward@blueyonder.co.uk

Assisted Suicide Bill

What you can do to defeat the Leadbeater Bill

MPs voted for the Terminally Ill Adults (End of Life) Bill to pass its Second Reading in November. This bill can still be defeated when MPs next vote at the end of April, but we need your help. To find out how to best lobby your MP on this issue, please attend a meeting by the SPUC South Devon branch on **Friday 28 February 7.00pm** at St Peter's Church, St Boniface Lane, Plymouth, PL5 3AX or on **Saturday 1 March at 10.30am** at St Joseph's RC Church Hall, 96 Queen St, Newton Abbot. TQ12 2ET. To book or for information contact:

Plymouth – Christine Hudson: chrishud78@gmail.com

Newton Abbot – Deborah van Kroonenburg:

deborah.vankroonenburg@prcdtr.org.uk or newtonabbot@prcdtr.org.uk

The Book of Revelation

In this Jubilee year where Pope Francis has asked us to be active “Pilgrims of Hope,” renowned scripture scholar and author, Fr. Nicholas King SJ, will lead us to understand the Book of Revelation and how the Word of God is our power for Mission. This event will be held at Buckfast Abbey Conference Centre on **Saturday 15 March 10.00am–4.00pm** (Dart View Room 4). There will be an opportunity to attend the Abbey Mass at noon. Booking is essential through plymouth-crownhill@prcdtr.org.uk Enquiries: 01752 701660. We look forward to seeing you at this inspiring day.

Young Adults Pilgrimage to Rome

Do you want to deepen your faith and engage more fully in your Catholic community? Come and encounter the breadth and depth of the Catholic Church with a Pilgrimage to Rome **28 July – 4 August 2025 for 20-35 year olds**. As well as Mass with Pope Francis, you will experience the vibrancy of the Church as you are surrounded by thousands of young pilgrims from around the world, glorifying God. You will then be able to share this unique experience by giving back to your community from the riches that God wills to give to you. For more information and to register your interest by **17 February**. [For more information follow this link.](#)

Plymouth CAST vacancy – Headteacher

Plymouth CAST is seeking to appoint an experienced headteacher. Plymouth CAST is a Multi-Academy Trust comprising thirty-four schools plus a nursery situated within the Catholic Diocese of Plymouth with whom there is a close working relationship. The Trust is seeking to appoint a dynamic, strategic, and practicing Catholic Headteacher at St Mary’s Catholic Primary School Bodmin.

Job Title: Headteacher. Remuneration: L11- L16 and appropriate pension scheme
Main Location: St Mary’s Catholic Primary School, Bodmin, Cornwall.
Required for September 2025. Relocation Expenses: Relocation expenses of up to £8,000 can be claimed for qualifying cost. Closing Date: 24 February 2025
For further information and application pack contact: careers@plymouthcast.org

Diocese of Plymouth newsletter can be found at [this link](#).

Please sign up [here](#) to receive newsletters and Jubilee 2025 related content.



Lent Calendar Emails

Our Lent calendar emails offer daily prayers and reflections through your Lenten journey, alongside information about ways in which you and the wider CAFOD family can support our ongoing activities. Sign up [here](#).

The CAFOD Big Lent Walk

Challenge yourself and take on The CAFOD Big Lent Walk! Walk when and where you choose over 40 days, alone or with friends. Raise money to help people as they overcome poverty. Sign up [here](#).

We Dare to Hope – Sharing Faith in Lent

As part of the Jubilee Year, as Pilgrims of Hope, you are invited to join a faith sharing group to reflect on Hope and what it means to us as Christians. Themes for reflection will include Christian Hope, The Decision to Hope, The Prayer of Hope. We will meet on 5 Tuesdays in Lent: 11, 18, 25 March and 1, 8 April in the St Richard Reynolds Centre at 7.15pm. All welcome.

We will be using a resource prepared by the Archdiocese of Southwark. You can access the resource [by following this link](#). We look forward to seeing you there.

Caritas Diocese of Plymouth Newsletter

To read more about love in action around the diocese please [visit this link](#).

To subscribe to the Caritas newsletter please [follow this link](#).

There are some paper copies of the newsletter in the church porch, as well as a special Jubilee edition about the environment.

Saying Goodbye – Remembrance Service Exeter Cathedral 1 March 2025, 12.30pm

For anyone who has either personally lost a baby at any stage of pregnancy, at birth, or in early years, or who has been affected by family members' or friends' loss. Whether the loss was recent or many years ago, everyone is welcome to attend. We have also extended the services, and gladly welcome anyone who is grieving the fact that they haven't had children. This may be due to circumstance, infertility, or for other reasons - but all are welcome. Babies and children are also invited to come with their families, as the Saying Goodbye service is truly a family event for all. Please see www.sayinggoodbye.org

Exeter Foodbank

Donations of priority items are especially needed: tins of meat, tins of vegetarian meals, sugar, squash, toiletries and tea bags. There is a collection basket at the back of the church. Please email Mark at info@exeterfoodbank.org.uk to find out how you can help. More information about the Food Bank can be found at [this link](#).

World Day of Prayer Friday 7 March

This annual women-led, global, ecumenical service will be at St Stephen's church at 11am with refreshments from 10.30am. The theme this year is *I made you wonderful* from Psalm 139 and has been prepared by the women of the Cook Islands.

GROWING IN FAITH TOGETHER

Forming in Faith

Join us as we explore the richness of the Vatican II documents through video and discussion. We will focus on Lumen Gentium on **Monday 24th February 10.30-12.00** in the Lower Room, Sacred Heart. All welcome.

Baptism Preparation Courses 2025

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

Grow In Faith Together (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 Sacrament Families

We continue to pray for the Ajayi, FitzPatrick, Peri, Matawaran Vingo, Wos, Specchia, Goldsmith, Adamik, Bisogno and DePaula families as they prepare their children to receive the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Holy Communion.

GIFT tots

Our next session will be on **Friday 14 March** 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. Next GIFT session: **Saturday 1 March 2025** at St Nicholas School. Register for GIFT and GIFT Youth at the links:

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

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

Please note Parents of any young person wishing to come to GIFT Youth socials please register them before they attend by using the link above. This helps ensure everyone's safety. If you've signed up for GIFT Youth, details of the next session will be sent to you.

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.

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

We commend to the Lord...

the soul of **John Landers** who has died. Please keep his family and all those who mourn his loss in your prayers. May he rest in peace and rise in glory. More information about John's funeral to follow.

Worship Thursday

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament in church each Thursday 6.00–7.00pm.

Pope's February Prayer Intention – Pilgrims of Hope.

Let us pray that the ecclesial community might welcome the desires and doubts of those young people who feel a call to serve Christ's mission in the priesthood and religious life. Pope Francis – February 2025 [The Pope Video](#)

THE WORD

Sunday 16 February – Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

First Reading Jeremiah 17:5-8.

Cursed is the man who trusts in man; blessed is the man who trusts in the Lord.

Psalms Response Blessed the man who has placed his trust in the Lord.

Second Reading I Corinthians 15-12, 16-20.

If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile.

Gospel Luke 6:17, 20-26. *Blessed are you who are poor. Woe to you who are rich.*

Sunday 23 February – Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

First Reading Samuel 26:2, 7-9, 12-13, 22-23:1-2a, 3-8. *The Lord gave you into my hand today, and I would not put out my hand against the LORD'S anointed.*

Psalms Response The Lord is compassionate and gracious.

Second Reading I Corinthians 15: 45-49. *Just as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we shall also bear the image of the man of heaven.*

Gospel Luke 6: 27-38. *Be merciful, even as your Father is merciful.*

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)

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

www.st-nicholas-exeter.devon.sch.uk

Head Teacher Mr D Railston