

# PARISH NEWS



BLESSED SACRAMENT PARISH, HEAVITREE, EXETER

13 April 2025. *Holy Week Year C. Psalter 2*



# HOLY WEEK MASS TIMES

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## **Sunday 13 April** – Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

8.45am *Private Intention*  
10.45am *Michael Dorrian RIP*  
1.00pm *Syro-Malabar Rite Mass*  
6.00pm *People of the Parish*

## **Tuesday 15 April**

6.30pm *Roger Swift RIP*  
7.00pm-8.30pm *Confessions and Adoration*

## **Wednesday 16 April**

NO MASS  
12.00 Noon *Chrism Mass Plymouth Cathedral*

# THE SACRED PASCHAL TRIDUUM

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## **Thursday 17 April** – Maundy Thursday

7.00pm **Mass of the Lord's Supper**  
*Erasmus Nnaemeka Okafor RIP*  
*Watching at the Altar of Repose until 10.00pm*

## **Friday 18 April** – **Good Friday** *Day of Fasting and Abstinence*

9.30am *Office of Readings and Morning Prayer*  
*followed by Confessions*  
3.00pm **Celebration of the Lord's Passion**  
*followed by Confessions*

## **Saturday 19 April** – **Holy Saturday**

9.30am *Office of Readings and Morning Prayer*  
*followed by Confessions*  
5.00pm *Syro-Malabar Rite Mass*  
9.00pm **The Easter Vigil**

## **Sunday 20 April** – **Easter Sunday**

8.45am *Patrick Mason RIP*  
10.45am *The Jenkinson Family*  
2.00pm *Syro-Malabar Rite Mass*  
6.00pm **NO MASS**

The three days (Triduum) of the Lord's Passion, Death and Resurrection are the greatest celebration of the Christian calendar. We celebrate God's saving work and our Redemption through the gift of God's Son who humbled himself to come among us, suffer with us and show us the wonderful promise of Resurrection.

At the end of the Mass of the Lord's Supper on Maundy Thursday evening and the Celebration of the Lord's Passion on Good Friday there is no dismissal. This is because these liturgies, culminating in The Easter Vigil are seen as one continuous liturgy. Coming to all three is a wonderful opportunity to celebrate Easter most fully.

## **Monday 21 April – Easter Monday**

NO MASS

## **Tuesday 22 April – Easter Tuesday**

6.30pm *Beryl Anstey RIP*

## **Wednesday 23 April – Easter Wednesday**

9.30am *Penny Barrington RIP*

## **Thursday 24 April – Easter Thursday**

9.30am *Barbara Millen RIP*

6.00pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

## **Friday 25 April – Easter Friday** No Friday abstinence

6.30pm *Pablo Pena Torres RIP*

## **Saturday 26 April – Easter Saturday**

9.30am *Private Intention*

5.00pm Syro Malabar Rite Mass

## **Sunday 27 April – Second Sunday of Easter** Divine Mercy

8.45am *People of the Parish*

10.45am

2.30pm Confessions

3.00pm Divine Mercy Chaplet

6.00pm

**Confessions** Saturdays after 9.30am Mass or by appointment.

## **Confessions during Holy Week**

Tuesday 15 April 7.00-8.30pm

Good Friday after Morning Prayer and after the Celebration of the Lord's Passion.

Holy Saturday after Morning Prayer.

## **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.](#)

## **Easter Offerings**

Your gift to the priests of the parish. You can make your offering by using one of the envelopes available in the church, if you are a planned giver by using the envelope provided in your box, or by placing your offering directly in the collection. If you usually offer by standing order why not make a bank transfer: put 'Easter Offering' in the narrative. Thank you.

## **Holy Places Collection**

On Good Friday at the end of the Celebration of the Lord's Passion there will be the traditional retiring collection for the Holy Places in the Holy Land.

# NEWS & EVENTS

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## CAFOD Big Lent Walk

Marlen Siegert, one of the members of the Blessed Sacrament CAFOD group, is taking part in the **Big Lent Walk** and is raising money for CAFOD. Please sponsor her at: <https://walk.cafod.org.uk/fundraising//marlens-big-lent-walk>

It will mean so much to her to know that she has the support of fellow parishioners and friends. Good luck and thanks Marlen.

## Catholic South West

A monthly newspaper for Catholics in the Plymouth, Clifton and Portsmouth Dioceses. Copies of the March edition are in the porch, priced 50p. Please put your money in the box marked 'Books and newspapers'

## Word on Fire – The Mass

You are invited to watch a new six-part series from *Word on Fire*, in which Bishop Baron teaches on the Mass, with an online group, **Wednesday evenings at 7.00pm during Lent and Easter.**

Each one-hour session consists of a half hour film followed by prayer and reflection. For a link or for more information contact [deborah.vankroonenburg@prcdtr.org.uk](mailto:deborah.vankroonenburg@prcdtr.org.uk)

## Easter Bonnet Parade

On Easter Sunday at the end of the 10.45am Mass, we will have an Easter Bonnet Parade. The making and wearing of a specially decorated hat at Easter symbolises hope, joy, and new beginnings, and the promise of spiritual renewal and redemption. Jane, Stephanie and Anne sported their hats at the recent Spring Fayre and look forward to young and old, male and female, joining them.

## Parish Pilgrimage to Crediton



Everyone is invited to join a parish pilgrimage to St Boniface's Church, Crediton – one of the four pilgrimage sites in the diocese this Jubilee year. Saturday 26 April. You can choose to walk from Blessed Sacrament through the beautiful Devon countryside all the way to Crediton (c. 6 hrs); join halfway (c.2.5 hrs); or meet us at St Boniface for Mass at 4.00pm. For further information, please contact the parish office.

## Holy Washers!

The cloths that we use at Mass – the purificators which clean the chalices, the corporals which are placed on the altar during Mass, the altar cloths, the hand towels etc. all need to be washed. We are extremely grateful to the small team who have been doing this for some time, but we need more help. You need a washing machine, an iron and some time! We can show you exactly what needs to be done.

If you are able to help in this very practical way, please have a word with Fr Jonathan or speak to Catherine in the parish office. Thanks in advance.

## Diocese of Plymouth Vacancy

The Diocese of Plymouth currently has a vacancy for a Head of Caritas. Further information can be obtained by emailing [recruitment@prcdtr.org.uk](mailto:recruitment@prcdtr.org.uk). Please also see the advert in the church porch.

## Plymouth CAST Vacancy

There is a vacancy for a Headteacher at St Mary's Catholic Primary in Falmouth. The closing date for applications is the 22 April 2025. Please visit the Plymouth CAST website [by following this link](#) for details and recruitment pack.

## Diocese of Plymouth Newsletter

The latest newsletter includes a Lenten video message from Canon Paul, stories of hope and a list of upcoming events. It can be found [on this link](#)

## Diocesan Weekly Lenten Offerings

The Lenten offering for this week includes a reflection on the readings for the Fifth Sunday of Lent by Monsignor Robert Draper, and CAFOD's intercessory prayer.

[Find this week's Lenten offering at this link.](#)

Sign up [here](#) to receive our monthly diocesan newsletter

## Jubilee Year – Mass for Marriage 2025

Saturday 31 May 12.00pm

Cathedral Church of St Mary and St Boniface, Plymouth PL1 5HW. Marriage enriches us all. Let us know your anniversaries or intentions, or when your wedding will take place. For information contact [deborah.vankroonenburg@prcdtr.org.uk](mailto:deborah.vankroonenburg@prcdtr.org.uk)

## Caritas Social Action Network (CSAN) Diocese of Plymouth

### Caritas March Newsletter

Click [on this link](#) for news from Caritas about love in action around the diocese.

There are some paper copies of the newsletter in the church porch, as well as a special Jubilee edition about the environment. To subscribe [follow this link.](#)

## Catholic Bishops of England and Wales

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

## Catholic Children's Society

### 'Rise to Our Cause' on Ascension Thursday for the CCCP

Following the success of our two previous CCSP Ascension Day fundraisers, last year at St Mary's in Poole and the previous year at Buckfast Abbey, this year's 'Rise to Our Cause' event is being held at St Cuthbert Mayne in Launceston on Thursday, 29 May 2025. St Cuthbert Mayne Church in Launceston is a sacred site of pilgrimage for the Jubilee Year, and pilgrims can get their pilgrim passport stamped, and venerate the relic of Cuthbert Mayne.

The event will start with Holy Mass in the church at 12.30pm, followed by a two-course hot lunch kindly prepared by the parish. Following lunch, our guest speaker will be Phil McCarthy, the Hearts in Search of God project lead, who will describe his own walking pilgrimages to Rome and Istanbul and reflect on what it means to be a pilgrim of hope in this Jubilee year. To read more about Phil and the work he does promoting the Cornish pilgrimage, visit [www.pilgrimways.org.uk](http://www.pilgrimways.org.uk)

Tickets cost £15 and can be ordered by emailing [vicki.dunstone@ccsplymouth.org.uk](mailto:vicki.dunstone@ccsplymouth.org.uk) by calling the CCSP office on 01364 645420 or visiting the parish office at St Cuthbert Mayne. All proceeds from this event, will go towards helping vulnerable children and families living in our diocese. There will also be a raffle on the day to help raise money for CCSP to enable us to continue helping families of all faiths and none living throughout Devon, Cornwall and parts of Dorset.

## Diocese of Plymouth Youth Events

### Heatree 2025; May 23– 25.

This residential is open to young people **aged 10 – 12**. It is a great chance for young people to meet others from parishes across the Diocese. During the weekend we will explore the scripture John 14:23, whilst we try things like high ropes and raft making, games around the campfire, along with other activities (activities will be confirmed nearer the time). Cost £90 per person. To book: For further information please contact, Saskia: [youth@prcdtr.org.uk](mailto:youth@prcdtr.org.uk)

### Proclaim, Sclerder Abbey, 2025; June 20 – 22

Proclaim is aimed at young adults aged 18-30ish. It aims to encourage young adults to explore their faith and respond to Gods call. There are some great speakers, mostly linked to the Southwest. These include: Storyteller Martin Shaw, who will talk about the Celtic saints; Daniella Stephens and singer, song writer Jamaiah Paine. Anyone wishing to attend will need to sign up [here](#) This Saskia: [youth@prcdtr.org.uk](mailto:youth@prcdtr.org.uk)

Please pray for our young people and youth ministry in our diocese.

Many people pray for our young people and youth ministry in our diocese. Please contact me if you would like me to keep you up to date with information and things to focus our prayers on. Please contact me, Saskia Hogbin at [youth@prcdtr.org.uk](mailto:youth@prcdtr.org.uk)

## Marriage help – Retrouvaille

Retrouvaille helps couples find hope and healing for their marriage. Next date: 20-22 June [www.retrouvaille.org.uk](http://www.retrouvaille.org.uk) Tel: 0788 7296983



## Assisted Suicide

Cardinal Vincent Nichols, President of the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales, has written a pastoral letter urging Catholics to contact their MPs – even if they have done so already – to oppose the Bill that seeks to legalise assisted suicide. The letter can be read [at this link](#).

The important vote for all MPs on the assisted suicide legislation, known as the *Terminally Ill Adults (End of Life) Bill*, is likely to take place on 25<sup>th</sup> April. The charity Right to Life UK has a simple online mechanism to allow people to contact their Member of Parliament and it only takes a few moments to submit a message to ask an MP to stop assisted suicide being rushed into law. Access it [by following this link](#). You can also sign a petition from the Care Not Killing organization, online at [this link](#) and by emailing your MP. Care not Killing is supported by the Catholic Bishops of England and Wales. A range of resources on opposing assisted suicide [at this link](#).

## Celebrate the Jubilee at WeBelieve

An exciting Summer event in beautiful St Mary's College, Oscott, Birmingham. Celebrate the Jubilee at WeBelieve, a festival of Catholic Life gathering the Church to share the hope that we have in Christ. 25–28th July. Join us for four days of music, keynotes, conversation & worship.

Featuring Dr Gianna Emanuela Molla (daughter of St Gianna Molla), Fr Paul Murray, Msgr Michael Nazir-Ali, AnMari, Fr Toby Lees & many more.

Early Bird Tickets available now at [www.webelievefestival.com](http://www.webelievefestival.com)

## Exeter Foodbank

Donations of priority items are especially needed: vegetarian meals, pasta/noodle snacks, tinned vegetables, squash, small jars of coffee. There is a collection basket at the back of the church. Please email Mark at [info@exeterfoodbank.org.uk](mailto:info@exeterfoodbank.org.uk) to find out how you can help.

## GROWING IN FAITH TOGETHER

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### Forming in Faith

Please note that we will not meet on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> April and Monday 5<sup>th</sup> May due to Bank Holidays. We will reconvene on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> May every fortnight until Monday 28<sup>th</sup> July to watch and discuss Bishop Robert Barron's Mass film series. Join us in the Lower Room, Sacred Heart from 10:30-12:00.

### Baptism Preparation Courses 2025

Next Courses: 14 and 21 June 2025 and 11 and 18 October 2025, 10.10 am 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.

## 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 Chacko, Fitzpatrick, 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 25 April 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 10 May 2025 at St Nicholas School. Register for GIFT and GIFT Youth at the 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 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 Social

Next social is on Friday 25 April 7.30–9.30pm in the St Richard Reynolds Centre.

## GIFT youth – SPREE Festival Weekend

Westpoint Arena Exeter. SPREE is an exciting weekend festival for young people to build strong friendships and explore their Christian faith together. The festival is running from Friday 27 – Sunday 29 June. Early bird tickets cost £80, and parishes have kindly offered to subsidise youth tickets by 50%.

Have a look at Spree's 60 second promotional video [here](#).

Please note all youth attending must register with GIFT youth. If you are interested in attending, please get in touch with Maria for more information: [exeter-pastoral-assistant@prcdtr.org.uk](mailto:exeter-pastoral-assistant@prcdtr.org.uk)



## 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.

## 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

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### Divine Mercy Sunday Celebration

Sunday 27 April is Divine Mercy Sunday and Fr John Watkins will celebrate the Divine Mercy Chaplet at Blessed Sacrament at 3.00pm. Confessions at 2.30pm. All welcome.

## We commend to the Lord...

Pablo Pena Torres who has died. May he rest in peace. Please offer a prayer for the repose of his soul and the comfort and consolation of his family.

## We welcome into the life of grace...

Aiah Silos and Alexandria Rei Alvarez who will be baptised on Easter Tuesday evening (22 April) during the 6.30pm Mass. Please offer a prayer for them, their parents and Godparents. May they grow in knowledge and love of the Lord.

## Book of Intentions

You may remember that before COVID we had a Book of Intentions at church. We are delighted that this has now been reinstated. The book will be on the table at the back of the church. You are invited to enter any prayer intentions you may have. At each Mass it will be brought with the gifts and placed on the altar. In this way all our prayers are brought to the Lord together as we celebrate.

## Praying the Rosary

The Rosary is prayed at Blessed Sacrament Parish every first and third Wednesday after 9.30am Mass. All welcome.

## Pope's April Prayer Intention

For the use of the new technologies

Let us pray that the use of the new technologies will not replace human relationships, will respect the dignity of the person, and will help us face the crises of our times.

Pope Francis-April 2025 [The Pope Video](#)

## Christians Together Across Exeter CTaX

CTaX invite you to the: Good Friday United Service at 10.00am in Exeter Cathedral and afterwards on Cathedral Green. "To remember the crucifixion of Jesus and anticipate his resurrection." All Welcome.

## THE WORD

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### **Sunday 13 March – Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord**

**First Reading** Isaiah 50: 4-7

*I hid not my face from disgrace, and I know that I shall not be put to shame.*

**Psalm Response** My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?

**Second Reading** Philippians 2:6-11

*He humbled himself, therefore God has highly exalted him.*

**Gospel** Luke 22:14-23:56 The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ

### **Sunday 20 April – Easter Sunday**

**First Reading** Isaiah 4:3, 16-21.

*Behold, I am doing a new thing and I will give drink to my chosen people.*

**Psalm Response** What great deeds the Lord worked for us! Indeed we were glad.

**Second Reading** Philippians 3:8-14

*For the sake of Christ I have suffered the loss of all things, becoming like him in his death.*

**Gospel** John 8:1-11

*Let him who is without sin among you be the first to throw a stone at her.*

### **Sunday 27 April – Second Sunday of Easter Divine Mercy**

**First Reading** Acts 5:12-16

*More than ever believers were added to the Lord, multitudes of both men and women.*

**Psalm Response**

Give praise to the Lord for he is good, his mercy endures for ever.

**Second Reading** Revelation 1:9-11a, 12-13, 17-19

*I died and, and behold I am alive for evermore.*

**Gospel** John 20:19-31 Eight days later, Jesus came.



# HAPPY EASTER

In this powerful painting by the English painter William Holman-Hunt (1827-1910) we see the resurrected Christ standing in glory before the figures of Mary Magdalene and another disciple who adopt an attitude of humility, awe and wonder. Jesus is liberated from the bands of stuff in which his body was wrapped and surrounded by a rainbow, the symbol of God's eternal promise to his people. It is an image of triumph.

Fr John, Fr Jonathan and the parish team wish you a very Happy Easter. May the light of the Risen Christ enlighten your hearts and your homes this Easter and always.

# 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)

**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