



# Parish of the Sacred Heart

Sunday 13th June 2021

PSALTER 3 Year B1 Eleventh Week in Ordinary Time

*'It is good to give you thanks, O Lord.'*

## Confessions

Sat 5.00pm-5.20pm

Weds 9.30am - 9.50am

On reasonable request

|                |         |  |  |
|----------------|---------|--|--|
| Sun 13th June  | 5.30pm  | First Mass of Sunday -<br>Saturday Evening | Keith & Cecilia Browing<br>Golden Wedding<br>Anniversary |
|                | 9.15am  | Holy Mass                                  | Pam Burdon RIP   |
|                | 11.15am | Holy Mass                                  | People and the Parish                                    |
| Mon 14th June  | 10.00am | Holy Mass                                  | For Christopher & Iwona<br>Magier                        |
| Tues 15th June | 10.00am | Holy Mass                                  | Holy Souls   |
| Wed 16th June  | 10.00am | Holy Mass                                  | For all those killed in the<br>Indian train accident     |
| Thu 17th June  | 10.00am | Holy Mass                                  | Private Intention  |
| Fri 18th June  | 10.00am | Holy Mass                                  | Private Intention  |

## Question of the Week

“What resources and talents do I have that I can use to build the kingdom of God to grow like a fruitful plant.”

All Masses and Liturgies are now being live-streamed. **CLICK HERE** or go to <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCqZLydKWQ6CqG2utRNBeKmA>

## Scripture references

Ezekiel 17:22-24

2 Corinthians 5:6-10

Psalm 91(92):2-3,13-16

Mark 4:26-34

### THE SEED OF GOD.

My dear friends, today's readings call for reflection on the kingdom of God and what it looks like. Chapter four of Mark's gospel from where today's gospel is taken has three parables of the seed about the kingdom of God. The first parable tells us about the farmer who planted seed in which some fell on good soil and others on bad soil but only the ones that fell on good soil bore fruit. That is to say that the seed of the kingdom of God can grow only in good heart – hearts that are open to it. The second parable, which we have just read in today's gospel, tells us how the seed grows beneath the soil which the farmer cannot explain. It is simply a mystery. It demonstrates how God's words, his kingdom gradually grow in our hearts even without our noticing it. The third parable which is also part of today's gospel, contrasts the tiny seed to the large beautiful plant that grows from it. That is how the word of God and his kingdom can eventually grow in our hearts if we are open to it for God indeed works in mysterious ways.

Following the planting of seeds, a Chinese proverb says: "if you plant for a year, plant grain; if you plant for ten years, plant trees; if you plant for hundred years, plant men". We can also add, "if you want to plant for eternity, plant the Word". The Word of God is the seed of our hearts. We received it and it is planted in our hearts at baptism and it is growing within us.

Anyone who has ever sown a seed knows how humble, how insignificant the seed is. Some are usually quite small like the mustard seed. But then if the circumstances are right – good soil, sufficient moisture and sunshine – the humble seed usually grows into a respectable plant with branches where the birds of the air can shelter. And farmers, as we know, are always patient with their seeds when they plant them. And that is how God is also patient with us who have received him at baptism. He is patient with us in our spiritual journey to bear fruit. How the seed of life implanted in us grows is, of course, a mystery. But however mysterious it is, the truth still remains that it is growing within us and God expects it to grow into shrubs that would bear good fruit. Our duty is to ensure that the seed of the word in our hearts is nurtured well through prayer and the Sacraments in patient and confident trust in the Lord who leads us. Therefore, we should not be discouraged when the going of our spiritual life is tough. God is doing something new in our heart through the seed he had sown in us. As the farmer patiently waits on the seeds, so does God wait on us. He is trying to do something special in us – something beautiful. If we trust Him and remain patient, things will work out well for us in his own way and time.



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## The Pope's Intentions - June

Intention for Evangelization - The beauty of marriage. Let us pray for young people who are preparing for marriage with the support of a Christian community: may they grow in love, with generosity, faithfulness and patience.

### Caritas Project Lead – Diocese of Plymouth: Fixed Term Contract (15 months)

Location: Plymouth

Hours: 28 hours per week

Salary Range: £26,000 - £30,00 per annum FTE pro-rata'd to the 28 hours per week plus mobile phone allowance and pension scheme (subject to eligibility).

Caritas Plymouth has a vacancy to lead a new project to develop social action in our Plymouth Parishes. The role will involve mapping current social action and community engagement, identifying gaps and opportunities and testing and learning from pilot projects.

The job description is obtainable from the Human Resources Department on 01364 645383, email [recruitment@prcdtr.org.uk](mailto:recruitment@prcdtr.org.uk). Applications by application form and covering letter. Closing date 4 July 2021, first interviews w/c 12th July 2021.

For further information: [www.plymouth-diocese.org.uk](http://www.plymouth-diocese.org.uk) click on Careers under The Diocese tab or contact Deborah Fisher for a chat about the role on 01364 645421.

Registered Charity Number: 213227

### Sacred Heart Parish Three-Minute Survey

Please could you take the time to fill in this very short survey. It would be wonderful to be aware of the vast range of skills within our parish and perhaps a time for you to reflect on your gifts and skills.

**CLICK HERE** for a direct link to the form or go to the website. A paper copy is also available at the back of the church.

**As announced last Sunday, Fr Cyriacus has been appointed parish priest of Yelverton and Tavistock with effect from September. Fr Albert Lawes has been appointed assistant priest at Sacred Heart. We wish them every blessing in their ministries.**

Online Event: The God Who Speaks Through Creation

Following the launch of the Diocesan Environmental Policy, you are invited to join Caritas Plymouth at an online reflection and discussion on how God speaks to us through His creation. This event will be on Saturday 17th July at 10-11.30am via Zoom. Join Bishop Mark O'Toole to reflect on climate change, our Diocesan Environment Policy and the call to be Stewards of Creation. The Guest Speaker is Sister Margaret Atkins OSA, a Canoness of St Augustine in the community at Boarbank Hall, Cumbria. She is a lecturer and author in theology with special interest in the ethics of the environment.

To register for this event please visit: <https://forms.office.com/r/6zMtmFn2fj> or email [caritas@prcdtr.org.uk](mailto:caritas@prcdtr.org.uk) or call 01364 653421.

We Cannot Walk Alone

REFUGEE WEEK is 14-20 June, a festival celebrating the contributions, creativity and resilience of refugees and people seeking sanctuary. Anyone can get involved by holding or taking part in an event or activity. <https://refugeeweek.org.uk/> This website by Counterpoint Arts is a focus and home to the coordination of many ideas, events, getting involved, simple acts with this year's theme "We cannot walk alone" in mind.

Exeter WAYmakers the Catholic Exeter, Community Sponsorship Group are pleased to share some ways in which we can pull together, to partner in Refugee Week. The week extends as DESTINATION DEVON into the following weekend with Exeter Refugee activities as a City of Sanctuary on the quay.

FYI: If you would like to speak to someone about Refugee Week, these activities, or EXETER WAYmakers then please contact Chris Lee M: 07702 435890. Thank you.



Dear Brother Bishops,

I am writing to inform about the Day for Life which is to be held during the weekend of 19<sup>th</sup> / 20<sup>th</sup> June 2021. This day, inaugurated by St. John Paul II, presents an opportunity to pray for the gift of life from conception to natural death, to raise awareness of the precious gift of life, and to support the work of protecting life in its most vulnerable stages through the annual collection. This assists prolife organisations who raise awareness, engage in parliamentary work and pastoral outreach.

The fragility of life and the reality of death has been brought into sharp focus during the Covid-19 pandemic. In the UK alone, more than 126,000 people have died from Covid-19. Yet in the face of such suffering and death, we have also witnessed the extraordinary dedication of healthcare professionals and their loving care for the sick and dying. We too have each made sacrifices for the greater good during this pandemic. These acts of heroic love are a powerful testimony to the fundamental dignity of the human person and to the respect owed to each life, particularly through proper care and love in the last moments of life.

Against this backdrop of loving care, we are now faced with the very real threat of the legalisation of 'assisted suicide' in our country. It is not a question of 'if' this challenge will come, it is now a question of 'when?' There is now a Private Members Bill in the House of Lords on so-called 'Assisted Dying' and it is only a matter of time before the issue is back in the House of Commons.

This year's theme for 'Day for Life' focuses on assisted suicide and the respect owed to life. The online resources are produced to inform Catholics about this threat to life and to share with people our response to such a threat: a true compassion as the just response to the immense value of the human person.

'Day for Life' adds an authenticity to our witness to the dignity of life and this is enabled by the generosity of people in the pews supporting our work. In 2020, we were unable to hold our annual 'Day for Life' collection due to the pandemic, our funds are very much depleted and the threats to life have never been greater. 'Day for Life' is a simple practical response which pushes back against 'the use and throwaway logic' often at the heart of a culture which seeks to abandon its elderly, sick and dying when 'they no longer serve our interests.'

I would be grateful if you could promote this day in your dioceses.

Yours fraternally,

**The Rt Rev John Sherrington,  
Auxiliary Bishop of Westminster, Bishop for Life Issues**

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DAY for  
LIFE

# Caring for the sick and dying: the respect owed to life

## Day for Life - Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> June 2021

The fragility of life and the reality of death have been brought into sharp focus during the Covid-19 pandemic. In the UK alone, more than 126,000 people have died from Covid-19. Each of these lives is precious and every life matters. Behind each statistic there is a person, with a family, with friends, with a story, with a life of infinite value and worth. Each death has rightly been mourned as a tragedy. This tragedy has been further compounded by the inability to be physically present with loved ones at the end of their life, due to the restrictions of the pandemic. The pain of this separation and the preciousness of a loved one's final moments has been keenly felt by many.

Yet against this bleak backdrop of suffering and separation, we have witnessed the extraordinary dedication of healthcare professionals and their loving care for the sick and dying. Their presence at the side of a dying loved one has been a source of comfort and consolation for many grieving families.

*"Jesus is the Good Shepherd who came for the wounded sheep and comforts the sick. He is the Good Samaritan who does not pass by the injured person lying by the roadside, but who, moved to compassion, takes care of and assists him." (cf. Lk 10:33-34)*

Pope Francis

As a nation, we have celebrated the care and commitment of those on the front lines during this pandemic. We too have each played a part in tackling this pandemic through our collective effort and sacrifice to 'stay home and save lives.' These acts of heroic love are a powerful testimony to the fundamental dignity of the human person and to the respect owed to each life, particularly through proper care and love in the last moments of life.

However, once again, this gift of life in all its beauty and fragility now faces a profound challenge through attempts to legalise 'assisted suicide.' That legislation which proposes hastening death is now being seriously contemplated, is deeply alarming following a year of pandemic which has caused the untimely deaths of millions around the world.

*"People who suffer become similar to one another through the analogy of their situation, the trial of their destiny, or through their need for understanding and care, and perhaps above all through the persistent question of the meaning of suffering."*

Pope St John Paul II

Assisted suicide, as Pope Francis reminds us, is a 'false compassion' and its remedy is one of true compassion, a patient 'suffering with' the vulnerable, sick and dying. A 'true compassion', he says, is 'the just response to the immense value of the sick person.' This is a compassion which finds expression in treating the dying person with love, with dignity and by making use of appropriate palliative care. Life is a gift to be valued until its last breath and countless people have witnessed to this holistic vision of dying, encompassing the relational, spiritual, emotional and physical dimensions of a person and their family.

We ask all Catholics to pray for a culture where life, in all its vulnerability, is cherished and to work to promote authentic compassion in the treatment of those who are sick or dying.

*'Each life has the same value and dignity for everyone: the respect of the life of another is the same as the respect owed to one's own life'*

**Samaritanus Bonus: On the Care of Persons in the Critical and Terminal Phases of Life, CDF**

This pandemic has shown us just how much we value life as a society. Please help us to build on this and fight against the legalisation of assisted suicide by donating to Day for Life. Your donations will support the work of pro-life organisations as they seek to promote and protect life from conception until its natural death. You can donate to Day for Life via the QR code on the right.





## Alpha Online

We are planning to run the next Alpha in early autumn. If you would like to know more or to be put on a waiting list, please contact us

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdk\\_FSE4N7GOzNKIfkfibJwu3zkFISFDBh6tiL8yc3vaqtnEg/viewform](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdk_FSE4N7GOzNKIfkfibJwu3zkFISFDBh6tiL8yc3vaqtnEg/viewform)

## St Nicholas Catholic Primary School News

We are pleased to be back at School after our sunny half term break and looking forward to what the last half term before Summer will bring. Yr 6 will go to their residential at Kilve to take part in many outdoor activities such as archery, high ropes, beach walks and mountain biking. We are planning a COVID friendly sports day where we will be able to use our new running track. Our new outdoor classroom should also be completed by the end of term to offer all children fantastic opportunities for outdoor learning.

For information about joining St Nicholas school, from Nursery to Yr 6, please contact Mrs Brocksom (abrocksom@stncs.uk)

## On the Sacred Heart Website

Evangelium June 2021

Alpha Online

Safe Spaces

Three-Minute Survey (PDF)

Look and Ichthus PDF's (Children's Sunday Sheets) for June

Cafod G7 Link

Summer Camps

Catholic Children Society - Feedback Form and Quiz Poster

### Online donations

It is now possible to make your weekly loose plate offering and other donations on-line. **\*\*All donations are anonymous.\*\***

Please use this link to make your online donation;

**<https://givealittle.co/campaigns/f94e8739-d2fd-4ce6-9fca-60470ef39403>**

**Alternatively**, you can go to the website; **<https://www.sacredheartexeter.org/>**  
Scroll down to the 'Parish News' section and click the highlighted 'Donate Here' text.

There is also a link on our Facebook Page; **<https://www.facebook.com/Sacred-Heart-Catholic-Church-Exeter-422138011310698>**

If you need further guidance please email the Church Office.



### Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that you are present in this Holy Sacrament of the Altar. I love you above all things and I passionately desire to receive you into my soul. Since I cannot now receive you Sacramentally, come spiritually into my soul so that I may unite myself wholly to you now and forever. Amen.

## Contact Details

### **Parish of the Sacred Heart**

**25 South Street, Exeter, EX1 1EB**

**Parish Priest: Fr Kieran Kirby**

Assistant Priest: Fr Cyriacus Uzochukwu

Deacons: Delian Bower and Kelvin Russell

Parish Sister: Sr Anna Maria

Parish Secretary: Karmen Trice

Parish Telephone: 01392 272815 Email: [exeter-sacredheart@prcdtr.org.uk](mailto:exeter-sacredheart@prcdtr.org.uk)

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Exeter Pastoral Assistant: Maria Quinn email: [exeter-pastoral-assistant@prcdtr.org.uk](mailto:exeter-pastoral-assistant@prcdtr.org.uk)

Exeter Youth Worker: Erik Renz email: [exeter-youth-worker@prcdtr.org.uk](mailto:exeter-youth-worker@prcdtr.org.uk)

Safeguarding Rep: Karmen Trice Email: [karmen.trice@prcdtr.org.uk](mailto:karmen.trice@prcdtr.org.uk)

St Nicholas Catholic Primary School: Head Teacher: Mrs Angela Folland 01392 445403

