

PARISH OF ST JAMES & ST BONIFACE
with St John's RC Primary School
The Catholic Community in the Heart of Mid Devon

NEWSLETTER

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT (B)
Sunday 6 December 2020



YEAR OF THE WORD
2020
THE GOD WHO
SPEAKS

Parish Clergy:

Canon Kristian Paver - Parish Priest
Rev Michael Tosh – Deacon
Rev Peter Found - Deacon

Parish Office:

Parish Secretary: Rosie Croker
40 Old Road, Tiverton EX16 4HJ
Telephone: (01884) 252292
Email: tiverton@prcdtr.org.uk

Parish Office Hours

Mon-Thurs 10am-1pm
Fri 10am-2pm

www.stjameschurchtiverton.org.uk

Twitter: @StJamesRCTiv

Facebook: Parish of St James and
St Boniface, Mid-Devon

St James' Church

Old Road, Tiverton EX16 4HJ

St Boniface's Church

Crow Green
Cullompton EX15 1EW
Old Road, Tiverton

St John's RC School

Melbourne Street
Tiverton EX16 5LA
www.stjohnstiverton.co.uk
Tel: (01884) 253630

**Parish Safeguarding
Representatives**

Siobhan Gilroy (07809 341603)
Marian Coombs
Iwona Pacosz

Coming to Mass

As you know, happily public Masses have restarted, although we are still limited in terms of numbers for each Mass due to social distancing regulations. Therefore, please contact Rosie at the Parish Office, either by telephone (the office hours on the front of the Newsletter) or by email if you would like to come to a particular Mass, so that she can ensure that there is a space for you, especially at the weekend Masses.

Both St James and St Boniface have their own QR code for use with the NHS App and these are posted at the entrance and exit of each church. We have been asked to continue to take people's details manually as well. Thank you for your co-operation and to our stewards for their great commitment.

Collection for Christmas Flowers

This weekend there will be a second collection for the flowers that will adorn our churches over the Christmas period.

Tiverton Virtual Advent Calendar

Some of the local churches have got together to produce a [Tiverton Online Advent Calendar](#) that anyone and everyone can access. It features short 2-3 minute videos about different aspects of Christmas. Each day a different numbered door will be posted online so that anyone of any age can enjoy and anticipate the festive season. For a bit of puzzle fun, each day's door has been photographed from around Tiverton, but can you guess where they are?

From our Young People for Advent and Christmas

Some young people of our diocese have produced an alternative online Nativity Play and daily reflections or clips on Advent and Christmas activities. They can be found on [Diocese of Plymouth Youth Events Facebook page](#) and the [Diocese of Plymouth Youth YouTube](#) channel.

If you would like to hear about future events or have a skill to offer the young people in our diocese, please contact Saskia at youth@prcdtr.org.uk.

Sacramental Preparation 2021

Parents who would like their children (aged 7 and over) to make their **First Holy Communion** in 2021 are asked to fill out the [Application Form](#) and to return it to the Parish Office as soon as possible. If you are 12 or older – or have a young person of this age – and would like to be **confirmed** by the Bishop in July 2021, please complete the [Application Form](#) and return it to the Parish Office as soon as possible.

Celebration of the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the First Time

Next Saturday, 12 December, our children, who should have received First Communion before the summer, will be celebrating the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time in preparation for First Communion during January 2020. Please keep them and their families in your prayers.

Caritas Plymouth Christmas Newsletter

We are all called to "Welcome the Stranger", but many people are unsure how they can help others during this time of restrictions due to the pandemic. *Caritas* has produced a [Christmas Newsletter](#) which offers some practical suggestions for action and links to prayer resources.

Remembering the Christians of the Holy Land

Our own Deacon Michael Tosh is the Diocesan Representative for the **Friends of the Holy Land** (FHL). The primary mission of FHL is to secure and support a resilient and enduring community of Christians in the West Bank, Gaza, Israel and Jordan.

As we approach Christmas, he asks the parish communities of our diocese to have a special thought for our brothers and sisters in the Lands of the Bible. Those from the diocese who had the joy of joining the Diocesan Pilgrimage to the Holy Land in 2019 will remember the crowds thronging all the sites that they visited. At this time of year there are usually over a million pilgrims and tourists in the Holy Land, but coronavirus restrictions have completely shut down the tourist industry - and no Christmas tourism means no income for 80% of the people in Bethlehem alone. Moreover, as things are at the moment, it is unlikely that there will be much improvement in 2021.

So, please remember the Christians of the Holy Land in your prayers and visit the [Friends of the Holy Land](#) website to find out more about its work and how you can support it.

Fund-raising for the Parish and Donations to CHAT

Easyfundraising is an easy way of raising funds for the parish when buying from some of the most frequently used online sales websites. All you need to do is to [sign up](#). Why not take a look and join other parishioners who donate while they shop?

This week is your last opportunity to buy raffle tickets (£1 each) to win "**Canon Kristian's Christmas Cake**" (a picture is attached to the Newsletter). The draw will be made next weekend, 13 December 2020!

Some lovely [Christmas Novelties](#) are on sale at St James. Orders for these can also be emailed to the Parish Office and Margaret Found will put them together for you ready to pick up at church. Payment can be made by cash, cheque or card via our contactless facility. There are also some beautiful **Christmas Wreathes** made by Babs Jones and some pretty **Christmas Candle Melts** made by Andrea Teiermayer.

Christine Pickford has kindly offered to make **bespoke face coverings** in "Christmassy" fabrics, £2.50 each. Samples of the materials can be found at the entrance to St James, together with an envelope in which to place your order. Proceeds to CHAT. You can also donate to the [CHAT Christmas Foodbank appeal](#) and take part in their **Reverse Advent Calendar**.

Changing to Gift Aid Envelopes to Standing Orders

This is the final week to make the change from using Gift Aid Envelopes to setting up a Standing Order, primarily for the health and safety of our counters, but it will also reduce expenditure. Please email our Treasurer, Margaret Found, at tiverton@prcdtr.org.uk for further information or to let us know.

Diocese of Plymouth Yearbook 2021

The new Diocesan Yearbook, containing information about our diocese, its parishes and its schools is available at the entrance to church, price £4.00.

Holy Mass and Events this week

Saturday 5 December – Advent Weekday

- Holy Mass at 6pm (Vigil Mass)

Sunday 6 December – Second Sunday of Advent (B)

- Holy Mass at 10.00am *Pro Populo*
- Holy Mass at 11.30am (St Boniface)

Tuesday 8 December – Immaculate Conception of the BVM

- Holy Mass at 10.00am *Geoffrey Xavier RIP (anniv)*

Wednesday 9 December – Advent Weekday

- Holy Mass at 12noon (St Boniface)

Thursday 10 December – Advent Weekday (Our Lady of Loreto)

- Coffee Morning on Zoom at 11.00am
- Holy Mass at 6.30pm

Friday 11 December – Advent Weekday

- Holy Mass at 12noon

Saturday 12 December – Our Lady of Guadalupe

- Holy Mass at 6.00pm (Vigil Mass)

Second Collection next week: Apostleship of the Sea