

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

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# NEWSLETTER

**Second Sunday after the Nativity (B)**  
**Sunday 3 January 2021**



**Parish Clergy:**

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

**Parish Secretary:** Rosie Croker

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**Parish Office**  
**Telephone or email only**  
**Tues-Fri 10.30-**  
**11.30am**

[www.stjameschurchtiverton.org.uk](http://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  
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**Parish Safeguarding  
Representatives**

Siobhan Gilroy (07809 341603)  
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## Coming to Mass in Tier 3 Restrictions

Devon was moved into Tier 3 Restrictions this week. Whilst collective worship, such as Mass, can continue, great care must be taken to observe the social distancing rules, to wear face coverings (unless you are exempt) and to sanitise hands frequently whilst in church. Moreover, as it is not permitted to mix with people from outside your household or support bubble – even outdoors – in Tier 3 areas, please refrain from engaging others in extended conversation and maintain an appropriate distance from others at all times, both inside the church and outside in the carpark.

If you would like to come to **Mass at the weekends**, please contact the Parish Office, either by telephone on weekdays between 10.30-11.30am, or by email, so that we can ensure that there is a space for you.

As there are always spaces available, it is no longer necessary to book a place for at a weekday Mass. However, on arrival at church, please remember to fill in a track and trace slip or to give your details to one of the stewards.

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.

## Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord

In more “normal” times, the Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord is a Holy Day of Obligation which means that, amongst other things, Catholics are asked to go to Mass on that day. Due to the pandemic, our Bishops have relaxed this obligation. However, as the Epiphany is one of the most important liturgical feasts of the Church Year and to give the opportunity for as many parishioners who desire it to be able to come to Mass on that day, the usual Mass schedule for Holy Days will be followed: a Vigil Mass at 6pm on 5 January in St James and a Mass at 10am (St James) and 12noon (St Boniface) on 6 January.

## First Holy Communion Masses in January

At the **11.30am Mass at St Boniface on each Sunday throughout January**, a number of our children will be receiving their First Holy Communion. This will mean that space for parishioners to attend that Mass will be even more limited than usual, so do please make sure you check with the Parish Office that there is space available for you as, unfortunately, there is no “overflow” seating at St Boniface.

The children preparing for First Communion at St James will be celebrating their First Communion at Mass on the last weekend of January.

**Please keep all our First Holy Communion Children  
in your prayers**

## 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.

## Year of St Joseph 2020-2021

On 8 December Pope Francis issued an Apostolic Letter, *Patris corde* ("With a father's heart"), to mark the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Blessed Pope Pius IX's declaration of St Joseph as Patron of the Universal Church. To celebrate that anniversary, Pope Francis has proclaimed a special "Year of St Joseph", which began on the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception this year and extends to 8 December 2021. The Letter is well worth a read!

The Holy Father wrote his Letter against the backdrop of the Covid-19 pandemic which, he says, helped us to see more clearly the importance of "ordinary" people who, though far from the limelight, exercise patience and offer hope every day. In this, they resemble St Joseph, "*the man who goes unnoticed, a daily discreet and hidden presence*", who nonetheless played "*an incomparable role in the history of salvation*".

## Diocesan Devotion to St Joseph during the Year of St Joseph

Throughout the Year of St Joseph, Bishop Mark is asking all parishes to seek St Joseph's intercession every Wednesday, the day normally dedicated to him, and on the 19<sup>th</sup> day of each month. In particular, on those days, he asks that the prayer to St Joseph, given in the Holy Father's Apostolic Letter be said at Mass:

*Hail, Guardian of the Redeemer,  
Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary.  
To you God entrusted his only Son;  
in you Mary placed her trust;  
with you Christ became man.  
Blessed Joseph, to us too,  
show yourself a father  
and guide us in the path of life.  
Obtain for us grace, mercy and courage,  
and defend us from every evil. Amen.*

## The Epiphany Proclamation

The proclamation of the date of Easter and the other moveable feasts on Epiphany by the deacon after the Gospel dates from a time when calendars were not readily available. Although calendars now give these dates, the ancient proclamation still has value. It is a reminder of the centrality of the resurrection of the Lord in our year and the importance of the great mysteries of faith which are celebrated each year:

*Know, dear brothers and sisters,  
that, as we have rejoiced at the Nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
so by leave of God's mercy we announce to you also the joy of his  
Resurrection, who is our Saviour.*

*On the 17<sup>th</sup> day of February will fall Ash Wednesday, the beginning of the fast  
of the most sacred Lenten season.*

*On the 4<sup>th</sup> day of April you will celebrate with joy Easter Day, the Holy  
Passover of our Lord Jesus Christ.*

*On the 13<sup>th</sup> day of May will be the Ascension of our Lord Jesus Christ.*

*On the 23<sup>rd</sup> day of May, the feast of Pentecost.*

*On the 6<sup>th</sup> day of June, the feast of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ.*

*On the 28<sup>th</sup> day of November, the First Sunday of the Advent  
of our Lord Jesus Christ,*

*to whom is honour and glory for ever and ever.*

*Amen.*

## Holy Mass this week

### **Saturday 2 January – St Basil and St Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops**

- Holy Mass at 6.00pm (Vigil Mass)

### **Sunday 3 January – Second Sunday after the Nativity**

- Holy Mass at 10.00am *Pro Populo*
- Holy Mass at 11.30am

### **Tuesday 5 January – Christmas Weekday**

- Holy Mass at 10.00am
- Holy Mass at 6.00pm (Vigil Mass of the Epiphany of the Lord)

### **Wednesday 6 January – The Epiphany of the Lord**

- Holy Mass at 10.00am
- Holy Mass at 12noon (St Boniface)

### **Thursday 7 January – Christmas Weekday**

- Holy Mass at 6.00pm

### **Friday 8 January – Christmas Weekday**

- Holy Mass at 12noon *Perpetua Menezes RIP (1<sup>st</sup> anniv)*

### **Saturday 9 January – Christmas Weekday**

- Holy Mass at 6.00pm (Vigil Mass)